

Becket Keys Church of England School

17th October 2025

CULTURE DAY – READ MORE ON PAGES 3 -5

Mr Scott-Evans writes.....

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we continue to strive to 'bear fruit – fruit that will last' (John 15v16-17) at Becket Keys Church of England School, I am delighted to share with you again our Behaviour Policy. We write to you each year to share the policy, which you can access on our website here; it reflects our core values and dedication to character education.



At Becket Keys, we believe that character education is fundamental to the fruitful development of our students. Our approach is encapsulated in the PRIME model, which stands for:

Priority: We prioritise the character development of each student.

Relationships: We seek to establish strong, respectful relationships between students and staff.

Intrinsic: We encourage intrinsic motivation, helping students to develop self-discipline and responsibility.

Modelling: We model our Christian values for our students to emulate

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Culture Day

A wonderful event organised by the Sixth Form students, raising awareness and funds for their chosen charities.

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Club of the Week

This week we celebrate Art Club.

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English Department

Find out more about the recent library visits and the Jack Petchey workshop.

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Art & Textiles Department
Excellent work from our talented students.

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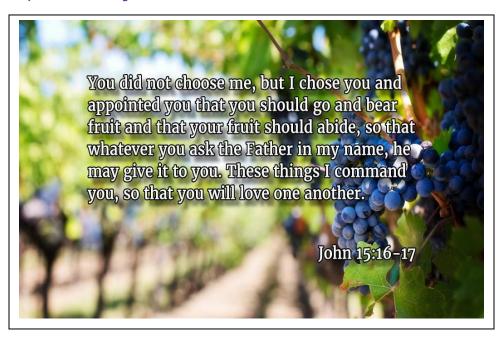
Empowerment: We empower students to take charge of their own learning and conduct and to speak up when they see things that are not right.

Our <u>Behaviour Policy</u> outlines the high standards of conduct we expect from all our students, as well as the support and interventions we provide when these expectations are not met. It is designed to create a calm, safe, and conducive environment for learning, preparing our students for life beyond the school gates.



You will remember the behaviour of students at Becket Keys was warmly praised in the OfSTED inspection earlier this year which said:

"The school's Christian ethos is at the heart of everything it does. Pupils live out the Gospel values to 'love one another' (John 15:17), treating others with care and respect. Their behaviour is exemplary. Lessons are calm, focused and free from disruption. Pupils listen attentively. They work hard and encourage one another to do their best. Beyond the classroom, pupils continue to uphold the school's high expectations. During social times, they are considerate and friendly,



creating a positive atmosphere in which everyone feels included."

"Pupils' behaviour is exemplary. They listen attentively, remain highly focused, and approach their work with determination. Pupils support one another and celebrate each other's successes. This courtesy and maturity extends beyond the classroom. Social times are calm and positive, with pupils showing genuine pride in their school community. They embrace diversity and enjoy opportunities to celebrate different cultures, such as through the popular culture day. Sixth-form students play a significant role in shaping the school's ethos. They take on important responsibilities as prefects and peer mentors, run clubs, and support younger pupils in lessons."

To ensure that our high standards continue to be upheld, I strongly encourage all parents and carers to take a few moments to read our <u>Behaviour Policy</u> in full. It is vital that both you and your

expectations we have and the support we offer. When everyone is informed and aligned, it helps prevent surprises and ensures consistency across our community. Your partnership in this is invaluable — together, we can maintain the calm, respectful and purposeful environment that makes Becket Keys so special.

children understand the

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Andy Scott-Evans Head Teacher



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Cultural Day — 10th October 2025

Last year when I participated in the school's first ever Cultural Day in a dance and the Fashion show. It was my first taste of what it felt like to show off who I am. It was exhilarating. I never felt so seen, appreciated, or fulfilled. Ever since that day I knew I had to recreate that moment on the stage where I felt so free.

In the summer of Year 12 I decided to start to make my experience that was now a memory back to reality. My first step was to assemble a team of reliable and experienced Year 13s; This team was a great support throughout the entire process which included, team meetings, logistics, the aesthetics of the show, recruitment, rehearsals and running the entire production! These students were Kian, Layo, Oreoluwa, and Philippa. I cannot emphasise how incredibly grateful I am for their immense help and dedication.

Here is what Cultural Day means to each of us and how it felt when the combined hard work paid off.

> Azaria Williams-Carnegie Year 13





Cultural Day at Becket Keys was more than just an event, it was a celebration of identity, unity, and self-confidence. I was truly honoured to have the opportunity to help plan and lead such a meaningful occasion. Sharing the richness of different cultures with our school community was a privilege, and seeing everyone come together with joy and appreciation made every moment of preparation worthwhile. From the vibrant performances to the beautiful displays, it was incredible to witness how our hard work transformed into something so powerful and memorable.

I am deeply grateful for the support and enthusiasm from students and staff, and I'll always cherish the experience of helping bring Cultural Day to life.

Philippa Gichimu Year 13

Despite the challenge of balancing after-school rehearsals with schoolwork, helping plan and organise Culture Day was an unforgettable experience. The late afternoons were busy but full of laughter, teamwork, and creativity. Seeing everything come together on the 10th of October, the performances, vibrant outfits, and shared pride, made all the effort completely worth it. It was truly amazing to witness our hard work shine.

Oreoluwa Oguntuga Year 13

















Planning our cultural event meant a lot to me. It wasn't just about organising dances or food; it was about reconnecting with my roots and showing others the beauty of who we are. Being involved gave me a deeper sense of pride in my heritage and reminded me that our cultures deserve to be celebrated, not hidden. Seeing everyone come together, wearing their colours and enjoying the performance of the day made me feel so happy that everyone enjoyed the day me and my friends planned.

Layo Tetede Year 13



Culture Day was a challenging endeavour for me, and at first it seemed quite daunting. We were the ones organising the performances and culture day activities, and on top of our preexisting schedules it looked insurmountable. However, as we gathered culture day together it proved to me an incredible experience. We learnt how to collaborate and share creative ideas, as well as embrace the beauty of our various cultures. I was proud to show off my Ugandan heritage and work together with my friends to create a tradition that we hope will continue in Becket Keys for years to come.

> Kian Muwenda Simbwa Year 13

For me, Cultural Day is a day where I can let loose and have a lot of fun with my friends and raise money for an amazing cause. The two Charities we donated our funds to were Meningitis Now and Body and Souls we decided on these Charities to honour Isabel Taylor a former student that that lost their life due to Meningitis and to help spread the word of the dangers of Meningitis in young people. We chose Body & Soul to highlight the scientific accomplishments of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Treatment that Emma Cole a HIV survivor spoke to us about in Collective Worship. It was important for me to advocate about the amazing work these charities are doing to Becket Keys. Furthermore, it was my pleasure to lead this event alongside my friends and bring about Cultural Representation within Becket Keys.

> Azaria Williams- Carnegie Year 13

To conclude, we have kind words from a younger student in secondary that has participated in the Cultural Day each year.

This year, I took part in culture day. I did it last year as well. I really enjoy doing culture day and I have made so many new friends just by taking part. It is such a fun experience backstage, on stage and all the in between. Last year I represented India, and this year I represented Wales from the other side of my family heritage.

Alex Brown Year 8



TOTAL MONEY RAISED: £1245!

To find out more about the two charities we are supporting, you can check out their websites below:



Meningitis Now is the first meningitis patient group in the world, founders of the meningitis movement and the only charity dedicated to fighting meningitis in the UK. Over their 30 year history, they have invested over £12.7m in early stage research that has played a critical part in the introduction of five life-saving vaccines

Meningitis Now | Meningitis charity | Research and awareness



Body & Soul work with a number of organisations who help and support young people with mental health issues and those living with HIV.

Body & Soul Charity

Harvest Collection

Every year at this time, we turn our attention to supporting Brentwood Foodbank through a school-wide donation appeal. We invite students, staff and families to join us in a meaningful act of generosity and compassion. By donating, we become part of a story of kindness, dignity and love. We live out our Christian calling to care for our neighbours and to be a light in times of darkness.

How you can help

We will be receiving donations for Brentwood Foodbank from Monday 6th October to Wednesday 16th October.

Suggested items to donate are on the shopping list noted here.

Whether you give a single tin or a full bag, your generosity will help feed a family, comfort a child and remind someone that they are not alone. Together, we can make a real difference.

Please bring your contributions to the collection point in Main Reception. Every item donated is a seed of hope.

> Mrs Sharp Deputy Headteacher





Shopping list

- Tinned Corned Beef/Ham
- Tinned Hotdogs
- Tinned Tuna/Salmon
- Tinned Sardines/Mackerel
- Tinned Ravioli/Macaroni Cheese
- Tinned Chilli Con Carne/ Mince & Onion
- Tinned Beans & Sausages
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Mixed Vegetables
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Rice Bags/Pouches/Savoury Rice
- Pasta
- Tinned Custard
- Tinned Rice Pudding
- Tinned Fruit
- Jams/Chocolate/Peanut Spread
- Biscuits
- Tea/Coffee
- Sugar
- · Bottles of Squash
- Laundry Gel
- Shampoo
- Shower Gel
- Toothpaste
- · Washing Up Liquid

English Department

Library Visits

All of our Year 7, 8 and 9 classes have been to Brentwood Library this term. Each English class has enjoyed a chance to explore our local library, become familiar with the resources available and borrow books.

Whilst there, students used their book bingo cards to fully investigate all the books on offer, finding lots of new great reads and resources along the way. Many students were keen to learn how their library card is not just for borrowing books but allows them to access a range of great resources online from their own homes. These resources will be invaluable for students when completing homework.

Lots of our students excitedly brought borrowed books back to school and have been devouring them in tutor times, English lessons and at home. Students have been begging to return, and many students have navigated their way back to Brentwood library after school to swap their books for something else.

We hope students continue to use this fantastic free resource which is practically on our doorstep. If you are unsure of what Essex Libraries offer, here is a snapshot of what your son/daughter discovered on their visit. With a library ticket you can borrow books, films and music, have free use of the Internet, get



















information for homework or leisure activities and use the online services (which include ebooks, e-audio, e-comics, enewspapers, e-magazines, the reference library online and online courses) from home at: https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/ If your son/daughter did not have a library card in time for these trips, it is not too late to sign up. You can sign up via the Essex Libraries website:

https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/join-the-library

Talk The Talk

CONFIDENT COMMUNICATION FOR LIFE





Year 7 Talk the Talk

This week 60 selected Year 7 students took part in the Talk The Talk workshop funded by Jack Petchey.

Talk The Talk's mission is to develop students' oracy skills and communication confidence to support positive interaction in all life situations and improved social outcomes.

This Talk About Transition workshop uses oracy-based activities and strategies to help students develop greater selfconfidence and resilience.
Delivered as a half day workshop and packed full of engaging activities to promote students' confidence, self-esteem and help build relationships with their new peers, Talk About Transition supports students in a successful transition from primary to secondary school.

The workshop provider says that:

'Transition to secondary school involves changes that can be both exciting and a cause of concern to students. Successful transition is vital to the development of

students' self-confidence, self-esteem and academic competence. Moving on from the safe haven of primary school - one classroom and often one teacher - to a much larger school and the feeling of being a 'small fish in a large pond' can cause worry and anxiety. This programme embraces this change and allows students to talk about their concerns and how to overcome them – but also the fantastic opportunities that await them – and how best to embrace these.'

Throughout their workshop, students learnt important skills for when speaking and listening. Every student who took part had to learn all about someone they had never spoken to before and then introduce them to the group, which was a fantastic way for students to make new friends and for us all to find out some interesting facts about each other. Then, students went on to develop and present a short talk which focused on the exciting new opportunities that secondary school has provided, as well as the challenges they have faced and how they have overcome these.

The workshop has helped students to be more confident in talking to new people as well as allowed them to explore how the opening term of Year 7 has gone. Everyone was supportive and embraced the opportunity provided to them.

Miss White Teacher of English and Key Stage 3 English Co-ordinator

Wool and Craft Club has been a tremendous success and extremely well attended, and we are now appealing for any crafting supply donations to ensure that students can keep creating lots of wonderful crafts. Do you have any crafting items that could be used for Wool and Craft Club? We are particularly looking for donations of any of the following: Blank cards with envelopes Plain and patterned craft paper pads Pipe cleaners Crafting beads Crafting beads Crafting scissors Wool Ribbon & coloured cord Pine Cones OR anything else that would be suitable to craft with. Donations can be left in Main Reception for the attention of Mrs Simmons

THANK YOU



If you wish to play football on the Astroturf at lunchtime you will need to bring in your trainers. The surface has been recently replaced and so only trainers are allowed on there and no food is to be consumed. Students are not permitted to play in their socks.





Please make sure that **EVERY** item of uniform, PE Kit and equipment is named. There are over a thousand students at the school all wearing the same uniform.

There are many items that we are unable to return as we do not know to whom they belong.

Lost Property can be collected from Reception.

Club of the Week

Art Club with Mrs Brassett

Art Club is first lunch every Thursday and any student who has lunch at that time is welcome to join Mrs Brassett in R12 to take part in a number of different artistic ventures.

Mrs Brassett shares.....

This week Art Club were working on developing their skills in Graffiti, we previously looked at artists such as Banksy and Basquiat for inspiration. Students are creating graffiti style names with use of contrasting colours and highlights with the Posca Pens.

Next week we will move onto a ceramic project where we will be creating imaginative monsters, we will then be firing these in our kiln and decorating with glazes.

In the future in Art Club, we will be designing and creating the set for the Drama production, creating a 3D sculpture and creating some abstract art pieces.

We have regular Year 8 attenders. Year 9 are also very welcome. Sixth Form students Krasi Davena and Beau Ayres regularly support in this session. The students were really enjoying working with the Posca Pens this week and they will be moving onto ceramics next week.

Year 8 R12 Mrs. Brassett Every Thursday 4.1 lunchtime



Many of the students were in a similar club last year and so are building on their skills this year. Cleo Grimshaw in Year 8 stated that 'This club is one of the best ways to express my creativity.'

Sam Anderson thinks that 'This is the best way to spend a lunchtime' and Ethan Wilson said 'I look forward to Thursday every week".



Whether you are interested in developing your artistic skills or if you are studying Art and wish to have a space to work on your creations then grab your lunch and head to R12 every Thursday.









Minibus on the Way – Thank You for Making It Happen!

Dear Families,

Thanks to your incredible generosity and support during last year's fundraising efforts, we are delighted to announce that Becket Keys has purchased a new minibus, which will be arriving this November!

This is a fantastic achievement and a real testament to the strength of our school community. Now to make the most of it, we would like some parents to help drive students to sporting fixtures and other events.

Can You Help Us Drive It?

We are looking to build a rota of parent volunteers who would be willing to help drive the minibus.

You can sign up to drive:

- When your child is selected for a team or trip
- Or just to help out generally, even if your child isn't involved We will provide:
 - Full training
 - Insurance cover
 - Support from our team

If you're interested in helping, please complete this short form to let us know your availability and preferences: Click here to express your interest: https://forms.office.com/e/WdSpA8PDMJ

Thank you once again for your continued support. Together, we're making Becket Keys even better.

Warm regards,

Mr Andy Scott-Evans - Head Teacher

Previously Looked After Children



If your child has previously been in the care of a Local Authority in England or Wales and has an adoption, Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order, they are entitled to extra support through Pupil Premium Plus funding. Currently, the amount is £2,630 per student and it must be spent to improve outcomes for previously looked after children. It is important to note that the funding is not ring-fenced for the individual child, which allows the school flexibility to ensure it has maximum impact. As the parent or carer, you must declare your child's status and provide evidence of the legal order to us in order for us to claim the funding. You and your child are also entitled to support from our Designated Teacher (Mrs Claire Dowsett), and from the Essex Virtual School. If you wish to have a conversation about your child, we will treat the information with the strictest confidence. Please contact the school by Friday 24th October to confirm your child's status by phone on 01277 286600 or by email

office@becketkeys.org.

Student Achievement



The Summer Reading Challenge is organised each year by Essex Libraries. Children of all ages are encouraged to read six library books. Volunteers work with the children and their parents and carers to encourage them to join the challenge and talk to them about the books they have been reading.

As well as being something fun to do during the summer volunteers you also gain valuable experience and new skills and gain confidence in talking to children and adults.

Two of our students who were involved this year talk about their experience:

I really enjoyed doing the summer reading challenge because I gained valuable communication and listening skills. I had to speak to young people and children and their parents about the summer reading challenge and listen as the children talked me about their book.

Some of the children I spoke with were shy, but I was able to talk to them and ask questions that made them more comfortable. I really enjoyed the experience, and I think it's a great way to get some work experience and this volunteering can be noted on your CV. The experience make you stand out when applying for other opportunities in the future.



Rubi Chiroma Year 10



This summer I took part in the summer reading challenge this is a library funded event to promote academic growth and reading. I gained fundamental skills like patience when waiting for young children to speak up or feel comfortable and the necessary skill of helpfulness when encouraging others to read. I participated in the challenge in order to help young children foster a love of reading as I did when I was younger. The experience also taught me discipline and the value of consistent self-driven learning.

> Daniel Otsapa Year 10



Daniel Otsapa has been involved with The Summer Reading Challenge since he was 4 years old and he is also a Library Ambassador. Daniel was invited to a Celebratory event last night, where the Mayor of Thurrock presented him with certificate.

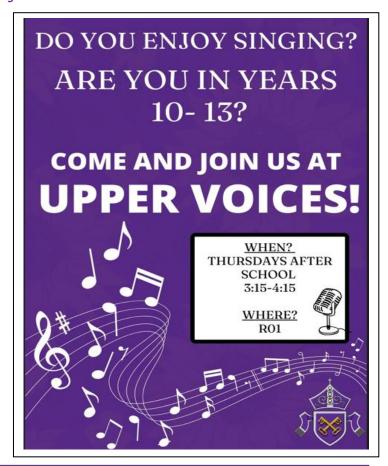
Daniel and family had a wonderful evening and it was reported that in Thurrock libraries, 61 volunteers put in over 12,000 hours in 9 libraries. 2340 children started the Reading Challenge, and 1457 children finished reading 6 to 8 books, with 32,500 books issued between July and August 2025!





Many thanks to all those who supported the Pre-loved Uniform Sale last week. We raised £564.

Remember that you can donate any uniform that is no longer required, at any time by dropping it to Reception.





	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00am			Theory Club		
Lunchtime 1	Year 9 Band Room Year 8 Band	Year 12 Band Room			
Lunchtime 2	Year 10 GCSE Band Room	Year 10 GCSE Band Room			
3:15pm- 4:15pm	Orchestra	BK Choir	Stage Band	Upper Voices Brass Ensemble	Rock Factory

Note: Orchestra – open to all year groups who play and orchestral instrument

BK Choir -Year 7, 8 and 9 singers

Upper Voices – Year 10,11,12,13 singers

Stage Band – woodwind, brass and rhythm section players

Rock Factory – open to all guitars, bass, drummers and vocalists

Extra-Curricular Clubs



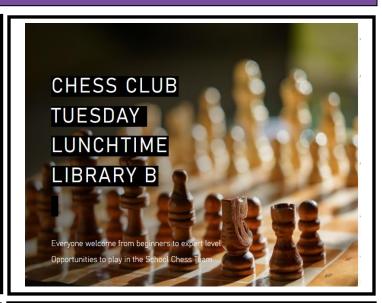
SPANISH
SPEAKING CLINIC
2025 - 2026



Thursdays 3.20 - 4.00 in the Spanish Dept For any Year 11 Spanish students

A chance to work on your speaking and get to grips with the tasks that you'll encounter in the GCSE Spanish speaking exam

Bring your Language Guides and speaking booklets with you





Debate Society

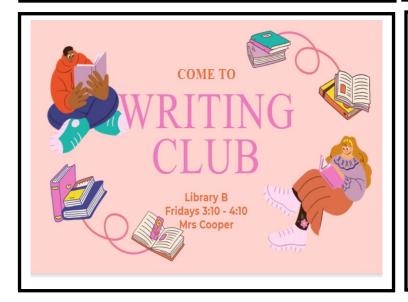
Debate Society - for those that cannot attend Thursday lunchtime 4.2.

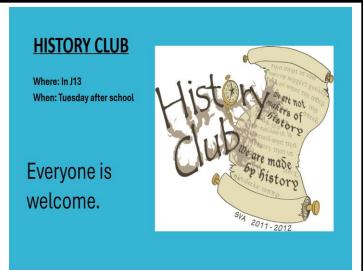
Years 11, 12 & 13

J13 After school –Miss Risdon with Krasi Daneva. Starts Monday 13th October

If you have any questions, then please email 20daneva.k@becketkeys.org







Extra-Curricular Clubs



Year 7 Book Club

- · Do you love reading?
- Are you keen to read some new books?
- Come and join Book Club on Friday Breaktime in LibA.





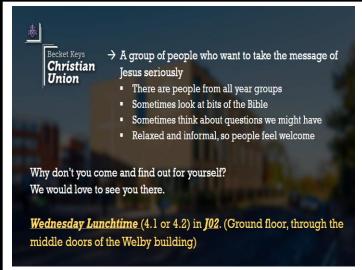
Come along and carry out projects and practicals that we don't do during science lessons!

Spaces are limited, so come along to avoid missing out.

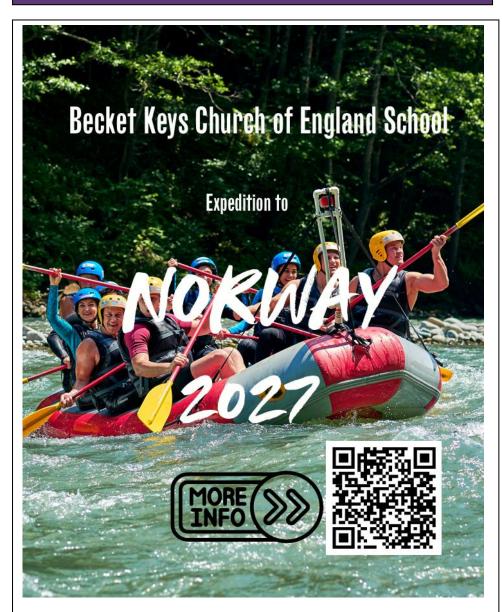
Join Mr Achillea in W21.







World Challenge 2027



Dear Parents & Carers,

It was very pleasing to see so many of you attending the world Challenge Norway launch on Tuesday. This really is an amazing opportunity to take part in a life changing experience. For those of you that missed the meeting please follow the link below to watch the recorded version. If you have any follow up questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

Here is the recording link - https://youtu.be/yPLLgX3CJtA

Regards,

Mr Hughes, RET Advisor & Trips Lead

Late Gate

Early is on time,
On time is late,
And late is unacceptable!

At Becket Keys, we look to ensure that we are preparing students for life beyond school. We encourage students to attend school regularly and on time.

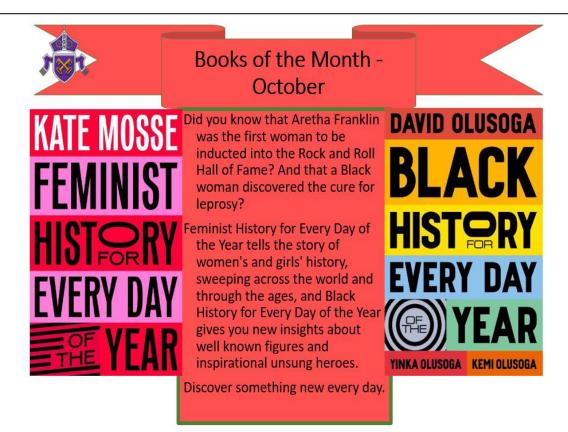
Remember that the school gate closes at **8.25am**. This allows students enough time to be at their first lesson on time. Period 1 begins at 8.30am.

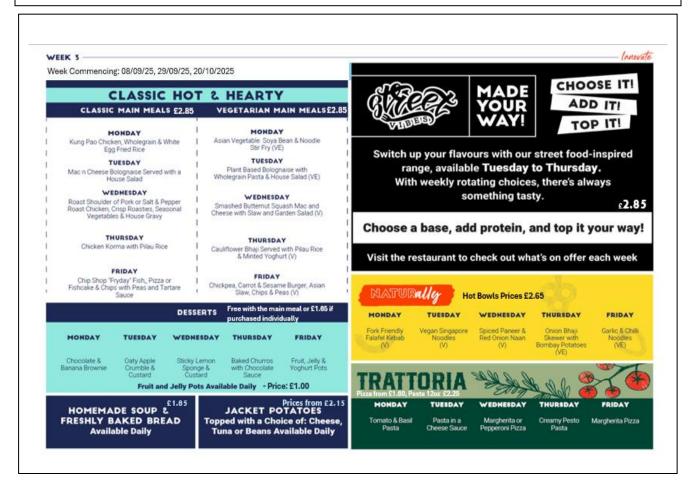
Brentwood can be tough to negotiate during rush hour, so we encourage students and parents to contact the school in the case of *genuine* lateness, such as delayed public transport.

Parents can call the main school line 01277 286600 or use the "Studybugs" app.

We thank you for your support.





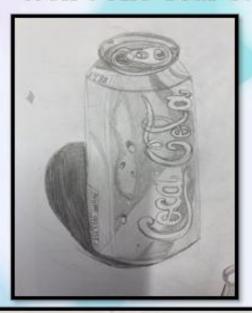




For their first homework task, Year 9 were asked to draw a can. Some of them challenged themselves even further by crumpling their can before drawing it. Here are just some of the fabulous results.



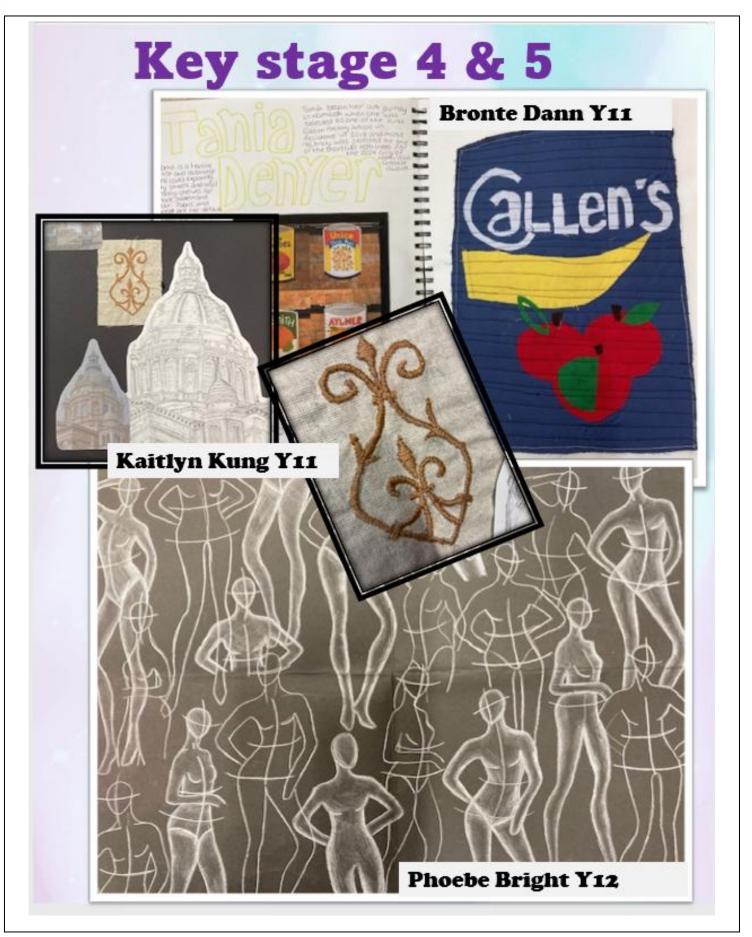
Well done Year 9!













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Sports Fixtures Round Up



Boys' Rugby Under 14s

The U14 rugby team took part in the Essex Schools Rugby Festival this week, competing in a pool with four other schools. It was their first set of games this year, and the players put in a great effort throughout the day.

Out of the four matches played, the team recorded one win, two draws, and one loss. Each game was closely contested, with the team showing strong teamwork, determination, and clear improvement as the day went on.

The following students represented the school in this festival:

Ollie Everitt, Jenson Appleton, James Duffill, Oskar Golba George Hirst, Patrick Barden, James Demetriou, George Lawrence, Will Tasker, Jacobus Van Der Lith, Vinnie Yeaman, Brody Smith Jonty Wilkinson-Graham, Nico Rossi, Ethan Mackintosh-Purr, Ethan Smith & Archie Elmore

It was a good start to the season, with plenty to build on in the coming weeks. Well done to everyone who took part.

Mr Woods – PE Teacher



Boys' Rugby Year 7 – MESSA Success!

The Year 7 boys were triumphant mid Essex champions at their waterfall tournament last week. The boys showed character, commitment and courage to go through the tournament unbeaten.

This team have shown excellent progress even though this is only their second lot of competitive games.

The future looks bright!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

INSET DAY (NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL) FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2025

ALL SAINTS' HOLIDAY
YEAR 11 INTERVENTIONS
MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER –
FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2025

ENRICHMENT DAY
YEAR 12 LONDON CHALLENGE
THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2025

YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING
THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2025

*

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE
SCHOOL PLAYGROUND
10.45AM TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT
WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2025

*

LAST DAY OF TERM

STUDENT HALF DAY

THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2025

*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2025 –
FRIDAY 2ND JANUARY 2026

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INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2026

Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane Brentwood, Essex CM15 9DA 01277 286600

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X:

- @BecketKeys
- @MrScottEvans
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- @BecketKeysPE
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- @BecketKeysSci
- @BecketKeysDT
- @BecketKeysExams
- @BecketKeysTrips

Facebook: Becket Keys Church School