



Becket Keys Church of England School

16th April 2021

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Mr Scott-Evans writes...

Festival of the Arts

When the second world war began the BBC stopped a Mickey Mouse cartoon part way through to go to an official announcement. 6 years later, when the war was over the cartoon was re-started. As I understand it, the film restarted at the exact point it had been paused. It was almost as if the BBC was saying that life had been on hold and now it could start again. It is a reminder that the war affected children: life was interrupted. I have written before about the impact of the Coronavirus having similarities to the War and I have written about the impact of the Coronavirus on children particularly the students here at Becket Keys.

During the war, children were evacuated from their city homes into the country. Although a terrible wrench for them away from their families there were many experiences that children enjoyed about the evacuation. Many of my favourite childhood books reflect this time: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Goodnight Mr Tom, Carrie's War and so on. They all tell stories of children discovering things about themselves and/or the world that they would not have experienced if they were not torn away from their lives in the city.

An article I read over Easter by Geoff Barton (ASCL General Secretary) drew this all to my attention. His assertion is that all the talk of catch-up, lost learning and disruption is not helpful. Indeed, that it could be

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BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

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damaging. The nature of thoughtless soundbite rhetoric is that it so often has a dangerous self-fulfilling prophetic outcome that was not intended. Instead, his view is that we ought to look to celebrate the resilience of young people and look to emphasise what they have learned during this time of evacuation into their homes!

Therefore, he is calling for a Festival of the Arts during this summer term where schools flood the internet with evidence of their creativity and brilliance. Whether it is art, music, poetry, sport, drama, or anything else – we want to collect it and celebrate it.

I have started thinking about this with Mr Romhany already and he is going to take a lead on bringing this together for us. More details will come in the weeks ahead. For now, I would encourage everyone in the school to start thinking about what we have got better at during this time and how we might be able to demonstrate it to the rest of the school and the community around us.

This will be our Covid Landmark. This will be something that we will be able to look back on and instead of simply saying, “did that happen to us?” we will say, “this is what we did!”.

Jesus said that he came so that we would have “life in all its fullness” (John 10v10), and that will be the title of our festival. We have not let the Coronavirus stop

us. We have been strong and courageous, and we have continued to flourish.

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

You can see me talking about the festival to the students in my Collective Worship video for this week here: <https://youtu.be/-ZXwILs6O-E>

I look forward to seeing what our students will produce for the Festival of the Arts. Maybe we can also have some contributions from parents too? Get thinking!

God bless you all. Enjoy the weekend.

Mr Scott-Evans
Headteacher



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School



Please ensure that the ParentPay account for your son/daughter remains in credit.

If the account falls into debit then your son/daughter will not be able to purchase food from the Bistro or Orangery.

You can arrange an auto top up via your account and if you wish, set a daily spend limit.

Please contact the school office if you have any queries.

Thank you for your co-operation.

<https://www.parentpay.com/>

Want Advice? Need to Talk?

The choice is yours...

You can speak to your form tutor...

You can speak to your Head of Year...

You can speak to a teacher...

You can speak to Mrs. Cavalier or Mr Fenn...

You can speak to a member of the leadership team...

Ask Mrs. Cavalier to arrange for you to speak to our school counsellors or the school nurse...

You can speak to a member of the learning support team...

You can speak to a member of the site team...

You can speak to a member of the school admin team...

At Becket Keys, you can talk to any adult that you choose to!

We are all here to listen and to help.

History Department

Over the Easter break, I set my Year 7 classes the goal of creating something that they had studied this year in History and present it to the class when they returned. I have been very pleased with the creativity and dedication our students showed with their projects and have been provided with enough medieval weaponry to create my very own armoury. Weapons such as Norman shields, longswords, battle-axes, crossbows, and spears to name but a few have been creatively designed with a range of materials.



Weaponry was not the only type of project presented during our lessons this week; I have also witnessed a range of ingenious

ideas such as dioramas, poster and even clothing.

I would like to mention a few outstanding examples of some of the projects produced. Peter Adefiranye like many others made a diorama of a Motte and Bailey castle (photo below of Peter and Alife Bowmer attacking the castle with a mini catapult).



We also had a diorama of the death of Thomas Becket from Evangeline Warn and Naomi Sibbald.



Others like Ella Jade Patel made informative posters on the symptoms and history of the Black Death and we also received some macabre poetry on the Black Death from Olivia Snowsill.

One of the many stand out pieces is the near 3-foot trebuchet produced by Marley Wells. Each class had the opportunity to witness this medieval siege weapon fire across the playground along with other projects such as Sebastian Stevenson's mechanical crossbow and Tommy Hodgson's short bow.



We have had incredible fun this week learning, presenting and trying the various projects out this week in class and I would like to thank the students and the parents for creating wonderful memories!

Mr Lock
History Teacher

To see more of the amazing Year 7 work and discover more information about the History Department follow the new History Twitter account @BecketKeys_His



Becket Keys Uniform Years 7-11

As national lockdown restrictions are lifted, non-essential retail and salons are now re-opening. Considering this, we would like to remind you of our uniform policy and make sure that students are fully prepared for school.

We are extremely proud of our uniform and how smart our students look, so please refer to the uniform section of our website to ensure your son/daughter has the correct uniform he/she needs.

<https://www.becketkeys.org/uniform.php>

We know it has been a struggle to get a haircut, but please be aware of our policy regarding hair and look to book appointments as soon as possible.

Boys – Hair must be shorter than the collar of their shirt and so we can see their ears. Please also be aware that hair should not be so long that it needs to be held back out of their faces. Boys' hair should not be shorter than a

grade 2 when shaved and there should be no special cuts such as stripes shaved into the hair line.

Hair dye - Please also be reminded that girls and boys should have natural hair colour and not be dyed, again if this happens the school will contact you to correct this.

As a reminder, students in Year 7 and 8 must have one of the Becket Keys school bags. These can be purchased online via Smarty Pants Schoolwear.

<https://www.smartypantsschoolwear.com/>

Thank you for helping us maintain our high standards and keeping our students looking smart. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your Head of Year.

Please note that there are different uniform expectations for the Sixth Form. Details can be found here:

<https://www.becketkeys6th.org/uniform.php>

**Mr Shields
Assistant Head Teacher**



**Smarty Pants Schoolwear
Unit 1 Chancerygate
33 Tallon Road
Brentwood
CM13 1TE**

Smarty Pants Schoolwear is our uniform supplier and they have now restarted counter service on an appointment only basis.

Currently the appointments scheduled in April and May are being prioritised for students moving up to Becket Keys in September.

The company is still available via the telephone or online to help you with all enquiries and to help you to confidently place your order online.

You can telephone them on:

01277 363272.

Alternatively visit their website for the latest information:

<https://www.smartypantsschoolwear.com/>



Are you aged 14 or over?

VOLUNTEER WITH US

to help children take part in the
SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2021
during the summer holidays

INTERESTED?

Apply online at libraries.essex.gov.uk
Closing date: **Sunday 13 June**


Essex County Council

A fantastic summer holiday volunteering opportunity for students aged 14 and over with Essex Libraries

Essex Libraries are inviting students aged 14 and over to volunteer in their local library during the summer holidays. Their role will be to encourage children to participate in the annual **Summer Reading Challenge** and talk to them about the books they are reading.

Students can use this opportunity to gain work experience within their community and they can put the volunteering hours towards Youth Award Schemes such as Duke of Edinburgh. Volunteering

will help them gain new skills and self-confidence.

In 2019 we successfully recruited **579 volunteers, 65% of whom were under 17 years old.** (Owing to Covid-19 restrictions, volunteer participation was not possible last year.)

Click here for a [role description](#). We ask our volunteers to volunteer for a minimum of **18 hours** – although they are welcome to offer to do more hours if they wish. The online application process is quick and easy.

When the application form is submitted an electronic reference

form will be emailed to the student's nominated tutor.

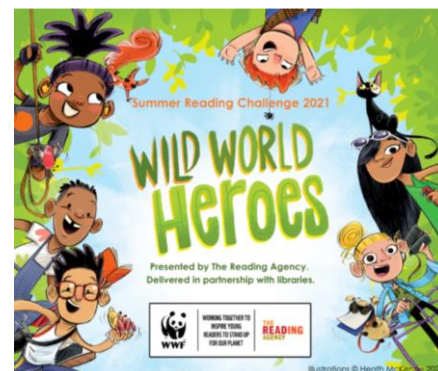
Further information, the role description and the link to the online form can be found on the [Essex Libraries website](#). This year's challenge is called **Wild World Heroes**.

The deadline for applications this year is **Sunday 13 June 2021**. Students need to be aged 14 or over, but anyone turning 14 during the summer holidays by 31 August 2021 will be accepted. Owing to a high demand for places each library has a maximum number of volunteers they require so these will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

Please contact us if you require further information on this excellent volunteering opportunity for your students in libraries.

Adrian Ure
Customer Marketing &
Optimisation Officer

Corporate & Customer Services
Essex County Council
T: 033301 36520 M: 07880 80024
adrian.ure@essex.gov.uk



Meet a New Teacher!

Mr Riley

Science Teacher



I am delighted to join Becket Keys as a Science teacher. The school's excellent reputation for outstanding students, teaching body and support staff is well earned. All the classes I have taken in this first week have been brilliant. Whether we have been modelling electrical circuits with Year 7s, discovering different types of forces with Year 8 or uncovering the mysteries of the atom with Year 9s, students have been fun, friendly and engaging.

I developed my love of teaching during my early career as a Biomedical Scientist in Her Majesty's Armed Forces. After leaving the Army 13 years ago, I retrained as a Science teacher and have never looked back. Teaching is a challenging but very rewarding career with many opportunities to develop your

interests and talents in specific areas. In addition to Science teaching, I have also specialised in supporting learners with special educational needs, gaining Masters level qualifications in SEN (NASENCO) and Senior Leadership (NQPSL). These qualifications were developed over the 8 years I spent as the school SENCo. and member of the Senior Leadership Team at my previous school in Colchester.

In my spare time, I enjoy both watching and playing football and basketball as well as reading fiction and regular board game sessions with friends. Please come and say 'Hi' if you see me on duty in the Orangery on Monday or Tuesday mornings! And thanks again to students and staff for the very warm welcome.

I look forward to being part of the Becket Keys' outstanding and inclusive Christian learning community.

Mr Mike Riley
Science Teacher



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School



Can you Help?

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Years 7-11

Mrs Hobern is one of the Learning Support Technicians here at Becket Keys.

She is currently studying for her master's degree in psychology and needs some students to assist with her final project. The process is completely anonymous and does not take long.

What is the project about?

How young people recognise emotions.

What do I have to do?

Complete 2 online activities.

How long does it take?

About 15 minutes.

If you can help, please pass your name onto reception FAO Mrs Hobern.

THANK YOU!

Home Testing

Home Testing Kits



This week additional home testing kits have been distributed to Year 7, 8 & 9 students. Other year groups will receive more test kits towards the end of April. Should your son/daughter be absent from school when they are distributed, they will be able to collect them from reception upon their return.

Reminder – If you do not want your son/daughter to carry out the tests, they must not collect them from school.



By collecting and opening a test kit, there is an obligation to complete and submit test results

to both the school and the NHS. To do this, please register the test result at <https://testregister.co.uk/login>

We are requesting tests to be completed on a **Wednesday** (before 5pm) and on a **Sunday** (before 2pm). Students need to wait 30 minutes after eating before conducting the test, otherwise it may be invalid. [Please find here a step by step guide to COVID-19 self-testing.](#)

Family testing

Anyone in England can now get regular rapid lateral flow tests without having symptoms. About 1 in 3 people with coronavirus do not have symptoms but can still infect others. Getting regular tests is the only way to know if you have the virus. Schools are unable to issue these tests to you, but they are available either via your employer or by online ordering - [details are available here](#). The greater the take-up of

this scheme, the greater the chance we will have of keeping the virus out of schools - thank you in anticipation for taking part.

Keeping our students, colleagues and their families safe

Testing has given us an important additional tool for minimising the risk of infection within and beyond our school community, whilst providing peace of mind for families. It is important that we regard testing as only one of several measures we need to use in order to avoid any sense of complacency through over-reliance on any single safety measure. These tests will help us keep the virus out of our school and the broader community when used alongside social distancing, face coverings and the other safety measures we have in place. Your continuing support in reiterating this point to your son/daughter is welcomed.



**World
KITCHEN**

March 15th , April 19th , May 10th , June 7th and 28th

WEEK TWO

Aspens


MONDAY **TUESDAY** **WEDNESDAY** **THURSDAY** **FRIDAY**

**TRADITIONAL
DISH**

BBQ Beef
 Beef Mince in a BBQ Marinade served with Street Rice and Flat Bread

Chinese Crispy Chicken
 Served with a Spicy Chilli Dressing and Marinated Noodles

Roast Gammon
 Served with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables and Gravy

Chicken Korma
 Chef's Take on the Classic Sauce served with Pilau Rice and Naan

Battered Sausages
 Cooked in a Traditional Batter served with Chips and Beans

**VEGGIE
DISH**



BBQ Vegetables
 Vegetables in a BBQ Marinade served with Street Rice and Flat Bread

Stir fried Vegetables
 Served with a Spicy Chilli Dressing and Marinated Egg Noodles

Oven Baked Frittata
 With Herby Roasties and Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetable Korma
 Served with Pilau Rice and Naan

Battered Quorn Sausages
 Cooked in a Traditional Batter served with Chips and Beans

**DELICIOUS
DESSERTS**

Chocolate and Orange Cake

Iced Lemon Sponge

Golden Syrup Oat Cookies

Chef's Home-made Muffins

Ice Cream Tub

Geography A-Level

Student Surveys



Four of our Year 13 Geography students are putting their final touches to their A-Level NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) on various topics within the local area.

As part of their studies, they would like to survey the parents and teachers on their experiences and perceptions. They have created some short surveys that should take two minutes or less to complete and would appreciate it if you could find the time to support one or more of their investigations.

The survey responses will be fully anonymous and much appreciated.

Survey 1 https://tinyurl.com/surveynumber1-1	Survey 2 https://tinyurl.com/surveynumber2-2
Survey 3 https://tinyurl.com/surveynumber3-3	Survey 4 https://tinyurl.com/surveynumber4-4

Mr Taylor-Smith
 Head of Geography

FRIENDS OF BECKET KEYS

SAVE THE DATE!

Now that lockdown restrictions are gradually lifting, we are delighted to announce our forthcoming event. Please join us for a delightful, relaxed afternoon tea served with style in the gardens at Merrymeade Tea Room on Saturday 26th June – 2 pm – 5 pm. Full details and how you can book will be available after Easter.

THE FRIENDS OF BECKET KEYS PRESENTS

A Vintage Afternoon Tea



Saturday
26 June
2.00 - 5.00 pm

*The Garden at
Merrymeade Tea Rooms*

SAVE THE DATE -DETAILS TO FOLLOW SHORTLY

Made with PosterMyWall.com

The Friends of Becket Keys

CASH FOR CLOTHES

Spring Fundraiser



Many thanks to all those who donated their clothes, bags and shoes at our recent 'Cash for Clothes' fundraiser. We had a busy morning during the Easter break and raised £400! Look out for the next collection date.



**IMPORTANT
NOTICE**

CANCELLED INSET DAYS

FRIDAY 11TH JUNE & MONDAY 14TH JUNE

NEW DATE

MONDAY 7TH JUNE

Recipe of the Week



Mr Shield's Seafood Linguini

(Serves 2/3)

This recipe is taken from the cook book given to our Year 13 students when they leave. The book is full of quick and easy ideas from the Becket Keys staff for students to try whether at university or home.

This is a really quick recipe that only takes as long as the pasta takes to cook. It also has room for lots of changes! Have fun with it!

Ingredients

Linguini – about half a pack

1x tin tomatoes (cherry tomatoes are very good)

Lemon juice (1/2 lemon)

1 garlic clove – chopped

1 teaspoon of Chilli flakes

1 splash olive oil

250g cooked seafood mix (frozen works well and is cheaper, but must be defrosted beforehand)

25ml white wine (optional)

Salt and pepper to taste

Method

Bring a big saucepan of water to the boil, add 2 teaspoons of salt and then add the linguini. Leave to cook (stirring occasionally to ensure pasta does not stick).

Add the olive oil to another medium sized saucepan. Heat up the oil then add the finely chopped garlic, squeeze of lemon, and the chilli flakes. Cook for 1-2 mins (add wine, if you wish)

Add tinned tomatoes and slowly cook for 3 minutes, stirring regularly.

Add the seafood mix and warm through for approximately 2 minutes. (Do not cook for too long as it will become tough!)

Using a pair of tongs lift out the linguini and put it straight into the pan with the seafood sauce. A little pasta water helps to enrich the sauce, so there is no need to drain it.

Stir and put into bowls. Tear some fresh basil leaves over the top.

I like to add parmesan cheese – but no Italian would ever consider doing this!





What makes a Church School distinctive? The road ahead . . .

Visitors to our school describe a 'nice feel' or 'warm atmosphere'; things that are difficult to measure and are intangible. A distinctively Christian School is more than just religious bits tacked on to the curriculum. It is to do with ethos, atmosphere and the way people feel valued. As you would expect, we want to ensure exceptional academic standards and success for all students and staff, but this is not enough. A Church school leader would say that something important is left out – the uniqueness of each person, the sense of an unrepeatable relationship with God, the ultimate reality at the heart of every person. It takes time for that to come to fruition and depends upon flexibility, attention, as well as real care for individuals. It is also important to recognise that this does not mean that everybody must share the same philosophy. It does not mean that everybody knows that



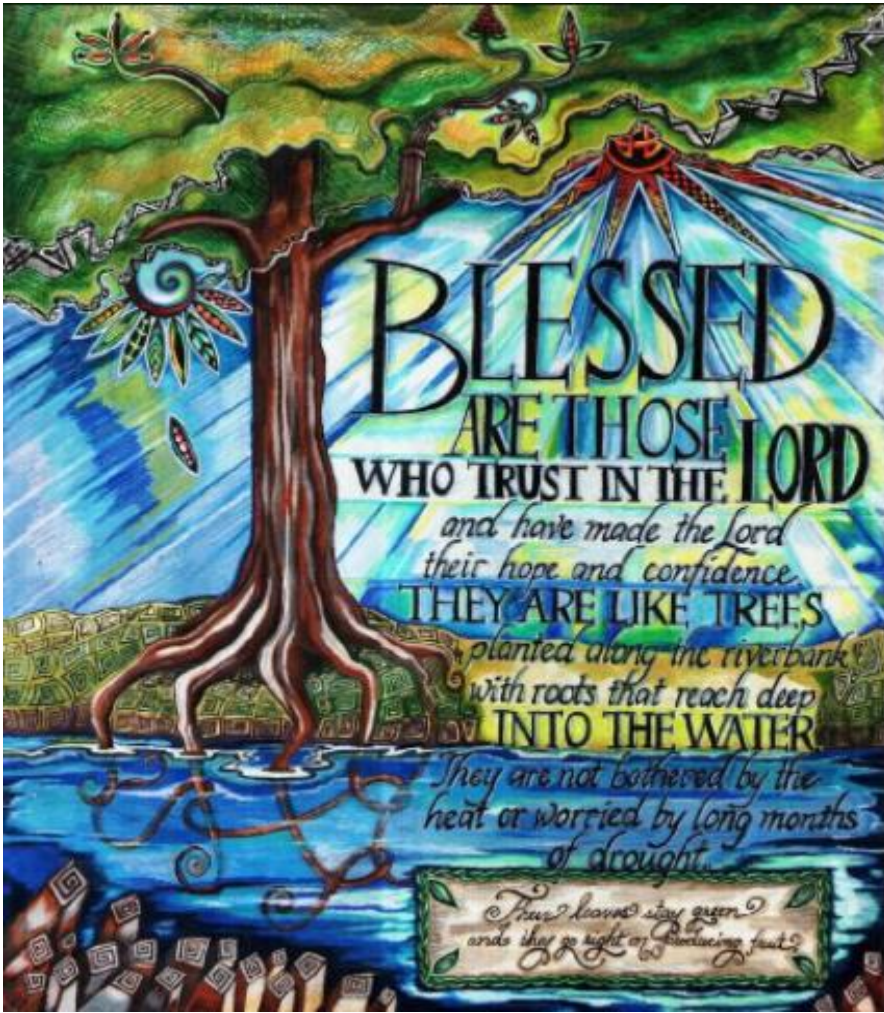
they have this relationship with God. The entire atmosphere is pervaded by the belief that there is something mysterious and potentially wonderful about everybody. The view that everyone is worth spending time with, needs time to grow and is worth attention.



In addition, Christian values are not enough, *'it is the beliefs that underpin the values that make the real difference; belief about God, about what it is to be human, about the Church and*

the World' (John Cox, retired Diocesan Director of Education, 2011). Indeed, most schools would have similar values (with the exception, may be, of forgiveness). It is the explicit grounding of these values in the life and teaching of Jesus Christ that makes the difference. It is the *'lived-ousness'* of this faith and the presence of the Spirit of God within the school community, that creates a distinctively Christian School. Our greatest strength is faith and the belief that God can and will provide.

Why is it relevant and worth emphasising these characteristics of Becket Keys now? For me, it has a lot to do with how we respond to the challenges our community currently faces as well as the way we always move forward with hope and positivity. As our Year



11 and 13 students take a series of assessments and all students re-establish a more familiar rhythm to their lives, I pray that they will all know and feel the depth of our care. I pray that they will be strengthened by faith to succeed and fulfil their goals. ***'Blessed are those who trust in the Lord . . . They are like trees planted along a riverbank with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by the long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they go right on producing fruit'*** (Jeremiah 17:7-8).

Having returned to school following the Easter holidays, this

also fits with Jesus' promise, 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full' (John 10:10). Ensure that you read this carefully and do not twist its meaning. Indeed, its meaning is much more glorious when accurately interpreted. Jesus, when He talks about giving us an abundant life, is not referring to wealth, happiness, or earthly success. Jesus is promising to give us so much life that it will last all of eternity. He promises us that He will give us Himself for HE IS LIFE. He gives us the Words of Life that give us life here on this earth and ultimately point us to Christ (John 5:39). A Christian community desires all to

experience the depth of Christ's love, that surpasses all understanding. Through him we can do immeasurably more. He will help us remain steady on the road ahead.

*Dear God,
Thank you for your presence in our school.
As our students start a new term,
may confidence be their foundation,
may grace be their guide and
may hope be their compass
towards a bright future.*

*We pray that they would have eyes to see
the needs of those around them
and hearts to love well, through
your example.
May they face each day with
positivity,
knowing that no matter what
comes their way,
they are loved and strengthened
by you.
Amen.*

**Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher**



Focus on Careers

Career Guidance Interviews Year 10 and 12 students

Careers Personal Guidance

As part of the school's careers guidance programme, we are offering individual meetings with a professionally qualified careers advisor. Mr Yates will provide impartial and confidential career discussions for Year 10 and 12 students.

Details of the individual appointments will be on NfT. If you are not given an appointment this academic year there will be the opportunity when you are in Year 11 or 13.

There is also a sign-up sheet which will be on the door of C20 if you would like a meeting during a lunch time.

The types of topics that might be covered include:

- Exploring specific career areas
- Accessing relevant labour market information
- Identifying what would be important to you in a job – money, power, work-life balance?
- Understanding the process of job search and recruitment
- Identifying ideas for study/work and different pathways options
- Setting goals



Ford Data Scientist - Degree Apprenticeship September 2021

Do you know someone who is studying Mathematics? Who has a passion for data, statistics, or coding?

Who would be interested in a 2021 apprenticeship with Ford?

Please click [here](#) for more information on how to apply for this exciting opportunity.



Ford is committed to diversity and equality of opportunity for all and is opposed to any form of less favourable treatment or harassment on the grounds of sex, marital status, civil partnership status, parental status, race, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, religion/belief, gender reassignment and gender identity, age and those with caring responsibilities.



What to prepare for your interview:

Think about...

Your current situation – what planning have you already done, if any?

What would you like to change about your plan?

Do you have some ideas, but do not know how to move forward with them?

These guidance meetings will give you "time out" to explore options, look at yourself objectively and think about the implications of any decisions you are contemplating.

Art & Textiles

Here are all the fantastic pieces from this week.



Star Artist for Art
Cordelia Hoxha Yr 11



Matilda Smith Yr 9



David Kirk Yr 11



Teddy Bagot Yr 7



Aurora Bould Yr 11



In Art & Textiles this week with Mrs Cherry

Key stage 4

Fabulous fashion illustration and rendering by Y10 this week, well done Y10!



Lily Brooks



@becketkeysart



Key stage 4

Ilaria Borgomastro



@becketkeysart

Key stage 4



Rebecca Janiszewska



Orla Carolan



@becketkeysart

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 11 & 13 INFORMATION EVENING

TUESDAY 20TH APRIL

TEAMS MEETING

*

YEAR 8 CONSULTATION MEETING

THURSDAY 22ND APRIL

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN ONLINE

*

WHITSUN HOLIDAY

MONDAY 31ST MAY -

FRIDAY 4TH JUNE 2021

*

CHANGE OF DATE

INSET DAY NOW

MONDAY 7TH JUNE 2021

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL DATES ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Becket Keys Church of England School

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