



Becket Keys Church of England School

2nd December 2022

ADVENT WEEK ONE - HOPE

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes:

Dear Parents/Carers

Often, we look at the big things when it comes to how we support our students' wider personal development. For example, the residential trips. The importance of our Geography field trip to Swanage in January is not to be underestimated. Nor should the fact that we are taking 130 Year 7 students to Norfolk Lakes and 110 to Bude, Cornwall be ignored. Imagine the learning that will take place (and the sacrifice that staff will make!) as we take that many students away to these special places!



We have also been working really hard to try and get our overseas trips up and running again. We are booked in for Seville (Year 10) and it looks like we finally have a deal secured for Madrid (Year 9) albeit one which sees families having to pay a deposit in very short notice. Sadly, the tour operators are not allowing us to have a good price and a long run in— it is either one or the other!

These trips are exciting and crucial to students' wider personal development and so I am delighted that they are running again.

However, I think it is the everyday things that really make a difference to our students. For example, this week as we start our Advent series across the school: we are teaching students

.....contd. on page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Christmas Carol Concert

Details of the Christmas Carol Concert next week. All families are welcome to attend.

Page 3

Mandarin Department

News of the very popular Mandarin Day to be held early next year.

Page 5

Biblical Pause

Keeping the Season Sacred.

Page 7-9

Art & Textile Department

Excellent work from our talented students.

Page 11-18

....contd. from Page 1

to stop and pray. At the end of each day, we teach them to meditate, be grateful and consider the needs of others.

We are also using this time of year to teach them to give generously. We'll be raising money for charity at our mufti day next Wednesday (please talk to your son/daughter about how much they can give. Will it just be £1, or could they manage a bigger donation?). The charities are being chosen by the students themselves and they will continue to raise money over the year ahead.

This day of generosity coincides with our celebratory Christmas Lunch feast which is always a hit with staff and students! Again, teaching students the joy of sitting and eating together is part of their wider personal development. Staff will serve the students and dress up and show how these times of festival bring the community together.

We are grateful to God for the big things like school trips to Spain but also for the small things like daily prayer. His goodness to our school is undeniable and wonderful, it deserves our appreciation. Thankfulness is another key ingredient of the wider personal development we want to see in our students. I am sure we can all agree that this is crucial.

I am always hearing wonderful stories of our students exhibiting the school's values and this brings



LOOKING FORWARD TO MORE FUN AT BUDE THIS YEAR!

me great reassurance that your excellent parenting, alongside our gentle, subtle wider personal development programme, is working. As a typical example, I heard from our site manager that he was in a shop the other day where there was an elderly gentleman who was extremely frail and slow to pay for his shopping. A number of young people from other schools were in the shop and were demonstrating their frustrations with sighs and negative comments. However, one of our students was present and he stood alone as demonstrating respect and calmness. He was seen to be attempting to influence others in a positive way.

Another example comes from the couple of supply teachers we used recently. They said that the

conduct here at Becket Keys is unrivalled. Only the selective grammar schools have conduct like ours and therefore they are always keen to return!

These things do not happen, I believe, because of a single event or assembly, they grow over time. Day after day after day we chip away at modelling and teaching the values we all hold dear. As parents and teachers, Advent gives us a special time to really focus our students' minds onto love, hope, peace and joy. I pray that we can all do that again this year, and then carry on into the new year and beyond that.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Mr Scott-Evans
Head Teacher**



This year's Christmas Carol Concert takes place on Thursday 8th December 2021 in the Main Hall and will be a wonderful opportunity to listen to music performed by the many musical groups we have at Becket Keys including: Bands from Years 7-10, the School Choir, Stage Band and Orchestra.

All performers will be onstage or seated throughout, so you do not need a ticket for your son/daughter if they are performing.

Tickets for guests and parents are available via Eventbrite:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/becket-keys-cofe-school-christmas-carol-concert-tickets-477211681987>

The Christmas Carol Concert is a wonderful tradition at Becket Keys and we are delighted that we can once again share this festive event with you and your family.

Thursday 8TH DECEMBER 2022

BECKET KEYS CofE SCHOOL – MAIN HALL

7.00pm – 9.00pm

There is no charge for the concert tickets, but we will be having a collection at the end of the evening and any money donated will be split between the Governors' Hardship Fund and the Music Department so if you are able to a donation for these causes it would be appreciated!

Refreshments will also be available to purchase prior to the event.



In the last three months, the need for the Foodbank has increased by more than 50%. and the local Food Bank is now currently feeding over 100 people every day.

CHRISTMAS ITEMS REQUIRED

Christmas Cakes & Puddings

Biscuits

Chocolate Syrup & Jam Puddings

Advent Calendars

Jelly/Angel Delight

Biscuits for Cheese

Savoury Snacks & Crisps

Selection Boxes

Cakes

Collections are becoming more important so please if you can assist those who are less fortunate and donated urgent items on the above list. Collection points are at St Thomas of Canterbury Church and Sainsburys.

Thank you for your continued assistance.



**NEXT STEPS
ESSEX**

FIND THE TOOLS YOU NEED TO REACH OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE AT OUR *FREE* ONLINE EVENTS FOR

YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS

STARTING JANUARY 2023

SIGN UP HERE BY 20 DEC



QUESTIONS? EMAIL SLO@EMMA.CAM.AC.UK

This programme consists of four online sessions run by Oxford and Cambridge Outreach staff, each with a Q&A with current undergraduate students:

- Year 12** Introduction to Oxbridge:
Wednesday 18th January (17:00 – 18:30)
 - Year 11** Introduction to Oxbridge:
Wednesday 1st February (17:00 – 18:30)
 - Year 11 & Y12** Study Skills & Oxbridge Applications:
Wednesday 1st March (17:00 – 18:30)
 - Y12** Personal Statements: Wednesday 8th March (17:00 – 18:30)
 - Interview Workshop (start of Y13):
September 2023 (tbc)
- The deadline for signing up is **TUESDAY 20th DECEMBER 23:59.**

Students can sign-up using this online form:

[NSE 2022-23 Sign Up Form](#)

A YOUTH GROUP FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL AGED YOUNG PEOPLE

All schools welcome!

Wednesday Term Time
After School
3.30 - 5.30 PM

YOUR SPACE TO CHILL AFTER SCHOOL

Dodd Road Community Church
56-60 Doddinghurst Rd,
Brentwood CM15 9EH
www.doddroadcommunitychurch.org
01277 224528

Activities Include:

- Activities
- Food and Drinks
- Nintendo Switch
- Homework Space
- Free WIFI
- Music
- Chill Out Space
- Crafts

In Partnership with:



DRCC Youth
BRENTWOOD EST. 2002

 @doddroadchurch
 @doddroadcommunitychurch



Becket Keys Christmas Menu, Wednesday 7th December 2022

Traditional Roast Turkey
Crispy Skin on Roast Potatoes
Pigs in Blankets
Chef's Home-made Apple Stuffing
Honey Glazed Roasted Vegetables
Cranberry Sauce and Lashings of Gravy
or
Winter Vegetable Parcels served with an Onion Velouté

Vegan and Gluten Free Option
Roasted and Stuffed Butternut Squash

Dessert
Christmas Tree Brownie Laced With an Orange Zest and a Dusting of Snow
or
Traditional Christmas Pudding with Cream

Tickets £4.50

Aspens
01277 224528

Year 7 Mandarin Day

In welcoming the Chinese New Year, 'The Year of the Rabbit,' we would like to inform you that a celebration is being organised for **all Year 7 students**. This day has been a huge success at Becket Keys in previous years. Mandarin Day for this academic year will take place on **Friday, 20th January 2023**.

Although not everyone in Year 7 is learning Mandarin; this event had been thoroughly enjoyed by all the Year 7 students in the past, and it is a great opportunity for all students to experience a different culture.

Students will go into 6 different workshops throughout the day; 2 of these will be run by external specialists. Students will not only gain a better understanding of Chinese culture through craft Chinese paper-cutting and Chinese water painting, and watching a film, but also experience Chinese martial arts and cook a Chinese dish. They will also do the fun snap bangers in the science session to explore the excitement of the Chinese invention – gun powder. A lion dance and Chinese drumming performance is scheduled at lunch break on the playground. Furthermore, our Bistro will prepare a Chinese themed meal, at normal meal price range, at lunchtime.

We are asking for a contribution of **£13.90** per student by

YEAR OF THE RABBIT
...1963, 1975, 1987, 1999,
2011, 2023, 2035...

All Year 7

Chinese New Year Celebration

Pay on Parent Pay
By 12th December, 2022

Chinese cooking
Martial Arts
Lion dancing
Film
Science – Fun Snap Bangers
Chinese painting
Chinese paper cutting

January 20, 2023
— Friday —

Year of Rabbit

Monday, 12th December 2022 on ParentPay to cover the costs and expenses of the day.

Unfortunately, if we are unable to cover the costs of the event it will not be able to go ahead.



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Miss Lin
Head of Mandarin

Rotary **YOUNG WRITER** COMPETITION

The theme is 'Peace'. Entries can be fiction or non-fiction, prose or poetry.

Each entry must:

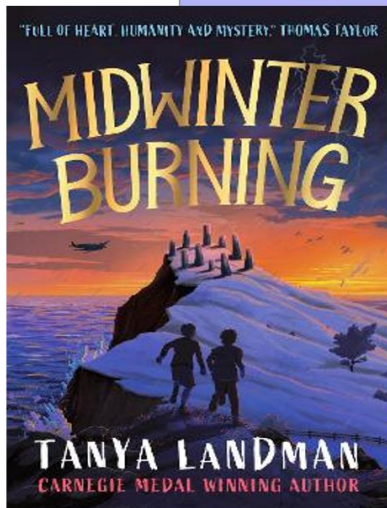
- Be no more than 550 words if prose
- Have a maximum of 40 lines if poetry
- Have no drawings or pictures attached
- Be legible and either typed or handwritten.

This is for all students, including Sixth Form students.

Hand in entries by Friday 9th December to Miss White in C24.



Book of the Month - December



Alfie Wright? Alfie *Wrong*, more like. Alfie has never really fitted in anywhere – he doesn't have any friends, and even his mum seems embarrassed of him. So when he's evacuated to a farm in rural Devon run by kind old Aunt Bell and her gentle giant of a son, Alfie can't believe his luck. The War seems a long way off, and among the cows and pigs and geese Alfie's happier than he's ever been – especially when he makes friends with one of the local boys, Smidge. But Smidge, for all his friendliness, is not all he appears. And the mystery that surrounds him seems to be connected to the Midwinter Burning, an annual ritual held at the Standing Stones, high up on the cliffs. Aunt Bell says it's all just a bit of harmless superstition, but when Smidge goes missing, Alfie finally discovers who his friend really is.. Can Alfie help him, or is his fate sealed?

This is a fascinating, engaging timeslip novel with a dual narrative that shows us life as an evacuee and in ancient history. The landscape is vividly described adding layers of interest to the tale. Excitement, fear, and horror make this a page turner that will keep readers engrossed to the very end.

Mufti Day

Wednesday 7th December

There will be a non-school uniform day and all money raised will be donated to the newly chosen charities. You will need to bring in a pound to hand to your form tutor. Usual school rules apply. It is going to be cold, so please wear your Christmas Jumper (if you have one) and dress sensibly!

Hair tied back and no colour added, no jewellery, sensible shoes. No bare shoulders or midriff. No onesies. No torn or tatty jeans etc.



Uniform

All students are required to wear smart leather shoes.

All students in Year 7-9, should have their long hair completely tied up. Year 10-11 – hair can be half up/ half down. Black, purple or neutral coloured hair ties please.

Students should not have any extreme hairstyles and hair must not be dyed or shapes cut into the hair e.g. stripes or undercuts.

Please remember that all students will be in need of a **COAT** – Plain **BLACK** without coloured flashes, logos or slogans, no 'fashion items', no 'puffer' jackets.

Bags should also be plain black.



Please see the website, if you need more details about the school dress code.

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

PAUSE

Keeping the season sacred

One of my favorite Christmas carols is “O Holy Night”, especially when sang by our school choir! The words fill me with warmth and joy. The carol truly reminds us that Christmas is not just another season or day celebrated without a second thought. The words of the song, “a thrill of hope, a weary world rejoices.” should echo in our hearts all year!

Listen here: [/ViewPure](#) and/or read the lyrics below:

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Saviour’s birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
'Till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;

*Fall on your knees, oh hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.
O night, O holy night, O night divine.*

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming;
With glowing hearts by his cradle we



O Holy Night

stand:
So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here come the wise men from Orient land,
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger,
In all our trials born to be our friend;

*He knows our need, to our weakness no stranger!
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King! your King! before him bend!*

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is Love and His gospel is Peace;
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
And in his name all oppression shall cease,
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful Chorus raise we;
Let all within us praise his Holy name!

*Christ is the Lord, then ever! ever praise we!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory, evermore proclaim!*

Our world often seems weary and in need of hope. We need the sacredness of the season to strengthen us for the new year. We need our hearts stilled so that we may fully recognise the great and glorious light that has come.

Last week’s Biblical Pause, encouraged us to slow down and give proper time and appreciation to Christ’s story; His birth, His sacrifice and how he changes us and the world. This week, we will consider how to do this, how to keep this season sacred and look forward with hope.

To make the most of the season, we must reflect on the very things that make the season sacred. Advent is not a Biblical principle, but a traditional practice to help us focus our hearts on what is essential. This spiritual discipline focuses on four main things that make this season sacred: hope, peace, joy and love. We are reminded of these when Advent candles are lit in church and school. We recall the Christmas story and keep our eyes on the light of hope, peace, joy and love, which are all Christ.

Over the weeks of Advent:

Reflect on seemingly impossible hope:



Reflect on the light of Hope. Our very hope in the arrival of Christ in the manger, but also the coming of Christ. This beautiful hope, that in the frailness of this life there is abundant hope of the future to come.

“Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)

“So, Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.” (Hebrews 9:28)

Have hope in what Christ has done and will do.

Reflect on perfect peace:



The “perfect peace” God’s word tells us about, we will never see with our eyes unless we believe. There is no perfect peace without Christ.

“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds, we are healed.” (Isaiah 53:5)

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” (John 14:27)

Reflect on defiant joy:



Real joy is not dependent on anything but Christ. When the Shepherds heard the announcement of the angel, they were told it would cause great joy for all people. Christ is our joy.

“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” (Luke 2:8–11)

“I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.” (John 15:11)

Reflect on the power of love:



For God so loved the world that He gave His only be@otten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
 John 3:16

We must cling to this love. This is a love that no one else but God has for us; no one can love us this much. When we reflect on this love, we find hope, joy, and peace, for they are all wrapped up in Christ and His love.

This Advent and Christmas hold fast to the great Light, the one who with Him brings peace, hope, joy, and love. Slow down, read the Word, light Advent candles, pray and 'hear the angel voices'!

Let us pray:

Dear Lord, by Your incarnation You united things earthly and heavenly. Fill us with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill, that we may join the heavenly host in singing praises to Your glory; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Mrs Sharp
 Deputy Headteacher**



The greatest of these is love! Love is why He came as a baby in a manger. Love is why He went to a cross for our sins.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whosoever believed in Him would not perish but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16)



The School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans every Wednesday at 8.45am. This is a short meeting where we pray together for local and national events and for any intentions of those in our school family. All are welcome.

If you have any prayer intentions, please send them into the school via the office email: office@becketkeys.org

Art & Textiles

**Star Artist Year 7
Abby Snow**





Casey Hyam

Yr 7

Jessica West Yr 10





Ruby Smith

Yr 8

Onyx Hogarth

Yr 8



[@becketkeysarttextiles](https://www.instagram.com/becketkeysarttextiles)

Chloe Dyer Yr 9



Romilie Deal Yr 9



In Art & Textiles this week with Mrs Cherry

Star of the week

Olivia Garaty Y11



@becketkeysart

Key Stage 3



Grace Weedon Y7



Elizabeth Elliott Y8

Key Stage 4

Caitlin Smith Y11

Bella Love Y11



Key Stage 5



Jess Prentice Y13



Amelia Hussey Y13

Changes to bus route 473.

This service will no longer serve Fyfield and the route will begin five minutes earlier.

473 Fyfield - Ongar - High Ongar - King Street - Blackmore - Nine Ashes - Stondon Massey - Hook End - Doddinghurst - Kelvedon Hatch to Becket Keys & BCHS School's

NIBSbuses

School days only
with effect from 1st January 2023

	New Times AM	New Times PM
Ongar Four Wantz (Nth)	07:06	16:19
Ongar Four Wantz (Stn) Zinc	07:07	16:12
Ongar Rail Station	07:08	16:13
Ongar Post Office	07:09	16:14
Ongar Two Brewers Pub	07:10	16:15
High Ongar C P School	07:15	16:10
King Street A414 Junction	07:17	16:09
Old Wythers Farm Bus Stop	07:18	16:08
Blackmore School	07:23	16:02
Nine Ashes Corner	07:26	15:57
Stondon Massey, Bricklayers Arms	07:30	15:53
Stondon Massey Ongar Road / Blackmore Road	07:32	15:51
Doddinghurst, Doddinghurst Road / Mountnessing Lane	07:36	15:46
Doddinghurst, Post Office	07:38	15:42
Doddinghurst, Church Lane / Mill Lane	07:41	15:39
Doddinghurst, Mill Lane / Beehive Chase	07:42	15:38
Stocks Lane	07:45	15:36
Bentley Golf Course	07:47	15:34
Moores Lane	07:48	15:33
Rose And Crown Pub	07:49	15:32
Windsor Road	07:50	15:31
A128 / Doddinghurst Road for Becket Keys School	08:00	15:27
Brentwood County High School	08:15	15:20

join us on  [Twitter.com/nibsbuses](https://twitter.com/nibsbuses)  [Facebook.com/NibsBuses](https://facebook.com/NibsBuses)



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We are offering a **tour and presentation** to obtain further information on:

Thursday 8th December 2022: From 4pm

Please contact one of the team for an appointment by emailing:

Trainingcentre@ipeco.com

ipeco.com



PE Department

Year 10 Girls' Nature Walk

The nature walk turned into an Earthshot Prize venture as the girls collected 270 conkers during their lesson. Imagine if we planted them all? A Becket Trees Forest!

If you would like to read more about the The Earthshot Prize and the school project here at Becket Keys then you can go back to one of our previous newsletters where Mr Scott-Evans passes on some ideas:

https://www.becketkeys.org/documents/newsletters/2021_10_22.pdf

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

STUDENT CHRISTMAS DINNER
(NON-UNIFORM DAY)
WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2022

*

FRIENDS OF BECKET KEYS AGM
9.15AM
WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2022

*

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT
7.00PM
THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2022

*

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS EUCHARIST
11.00AM
THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2022

*

STUDENT HALF DAY
FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2022

*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2022 –
TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY 2023

*

INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2023

*

YEAR 11
PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING
THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY 2023

Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane
Brentwood, Essex
CM15 9DA
01277 286600

www.becketkeys.org
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