



# Becket Keys Church of England School

16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

ADVENT WEEK THREE - JOY

IN THIS ISSUE

## Mr Scott-Evans writes:

Dear Parents/Carers

This is my last newsletter of 2022. I wonder if you will read it! Imagine how it makes me feel to think that you might not. Here I am on the last day of term, crafting a letter to you all, and my thought right now is that it might be ignored!

Last week, Mr Witchalls, a regular member of our school prayer group, came in to lead collective worship each day with a similar question for our students. He asked them whether if their parents bought them a present, they would choose not to open it. Of course, that would be ridiculous they all agreed.

It would be bizarre and sad, wouldn't it?

Mr Witchalls then asked them about how it would be if the present had cost the parents everything they owned. Maybe they had sold everything to buy it. Imagine leaving that gift unopened! Imagine if it had even cost a parent their life: an organ donated, for example. Not just a little letter like this ignored, but a gift that had cost everything!

Perhaps you can see where this is going.

Mr Witchalls then linked this message about a gift, to the message of Christmas. Christ has come as the ultimate gift. One that changes our relationship with God forever. One that is full of all the things we need: love, joy, peace, hope and forgiveness. And yet...each Christmas it can go ignored, neglected and

.....contd. on page 2



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

### Give the Gift of Reading

Do you have some pre-loved books you can donate to the school?

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### Christmas Card Competition

View the winning entries here!

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### Geography Department

Details of the recent Geography conference in London.

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### Biblical Pause

The Greatest Gift.

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### Art & Textile Department

Excellent work from our talented students.

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....contd. from Page 1

forgotten. Even though it cost him everything. Death on a cruel Roman cross was the ultimate destination for the baby we remember at this time of year.

I know some of you will not be reading my newsletter today. You will be too busy. Tell me about it! This opening article has taken me exactly 29 minutes to write. Not a big cost to me or to society. However, it does upset me to think that anyone might be celebrating Christmas this year without accepting the true meaning of the best gift that has ever been given. One that cost the giver everything he had.

John 3:16 says:

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

I would urge you to look at this gift again this Christmas. Whether in church or at home. It is a gift that has changed my life forever and I would long for you to know it for yourselves. A great place to look is Luke’s Gospel account. Reading that would be a great way to unwrap the gift of Jesus this Christmas.

Have a lovely holiday with friends and family.

**Mr Scott-Evans  
Headteacher**

## Give the gift of reading

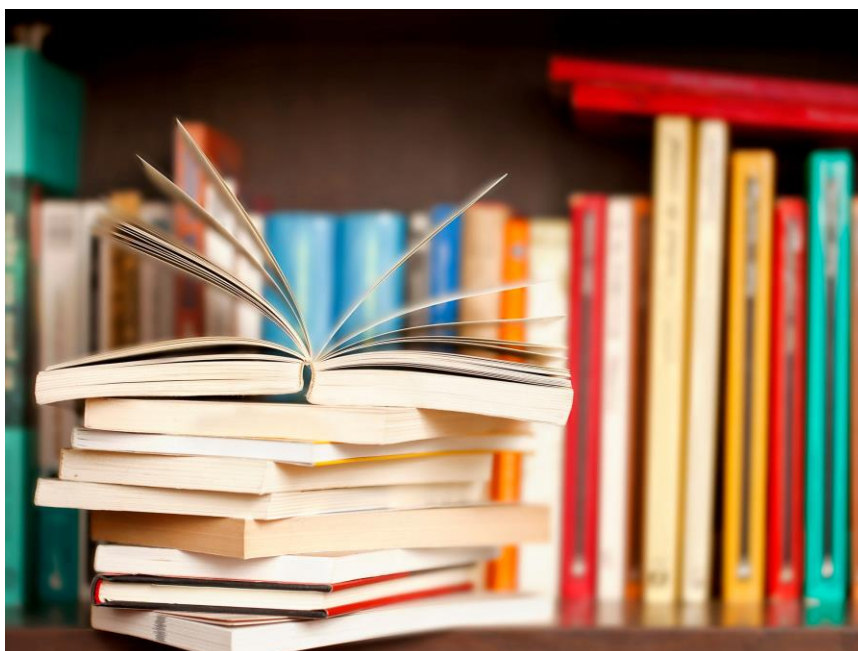
Mr Scott-Evans recently wrote to all families to see if you would like to donate any books to Becket Keys Church of England School this Christmas. Each year, we offer families the chance to put some books under the tree. This year, as a response to the cost-of-living crisis we are not asking any families to buy new books for the school. If you have a desire to give to the school in this way, please give a few more pounds to the School Fund and we will purchase books using that money.

Instead, this year we are asking families to consider donating used books from home. Please search the shelves at home for books which have been enjoyed but will not be read again. Fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays, biographies and revision guides/textbooks will all be warmly received.

This is a good opportunity for clearing out some shelves! However, more importantly, it is a chance to help students to get their hands on more books. We want our school to be full of books in every classroom and every department.

So, if you feel able, why not send some books into school with your son/daughter, they can place them under the tree in Main Reception or you can drop them in and place them under the tree.

If students prefer, they can also bring them into their form for the Becket Keys Book Swap. Please take this opportunity now or in the new year to support the rich culture of reading that we are always striving to foster in school.



# Christmas Card Competition Results December 2022



**Winner – Chloe Dyer – 9PP**



**Runner Up – Abbey Snow – 7EW**

Many thanks to all those who submitted an entry for the Christmas Card competition. And congratulations to these excellent winners!



**Runner Up – Bhavana Chatti – 7AC**

## Geography Conference December 2022

It was a cold and snowy day, school was closed due to the 15cm of snow covering Brentwood, but the intrepid Sixth Form Geographers still made their way to Westminster for the annual conference at the Emmanuel Centre.



The students were introduced to [Google Arts and Culture](#) and the use of GIS, drones, 3D mapping of images and sound to explore 'no mans lands'. We were wowed by how the technology used in Bolivia just a few years ago by the technology goliath is now available in the latest iPhone; opening up the possibility for students' NEAs in the future.



We called in at Downing Street on the way to the venue to wish the PM a Merry Christmas, but unfortunately, he was otherwise engaged.



The day was full of inspiring talks and lectures on a range of topics including sustainable environments and urban guerrilla gardeners.

The session was fully interactive, using [Sli.do](#) to gain audience perceptions and ask questions of the speakers, many of which were extremely insightful and probing.

Issues associated with inequality and access to reliable and clean water supplies were made very real by Dr Sonia Hoque for the University of Oxford when illustrating the conditions millions face in the megacity of Dhaka, with 'hanging toilets' and pollution of waterways and the link to the western nations fast fashion industry.



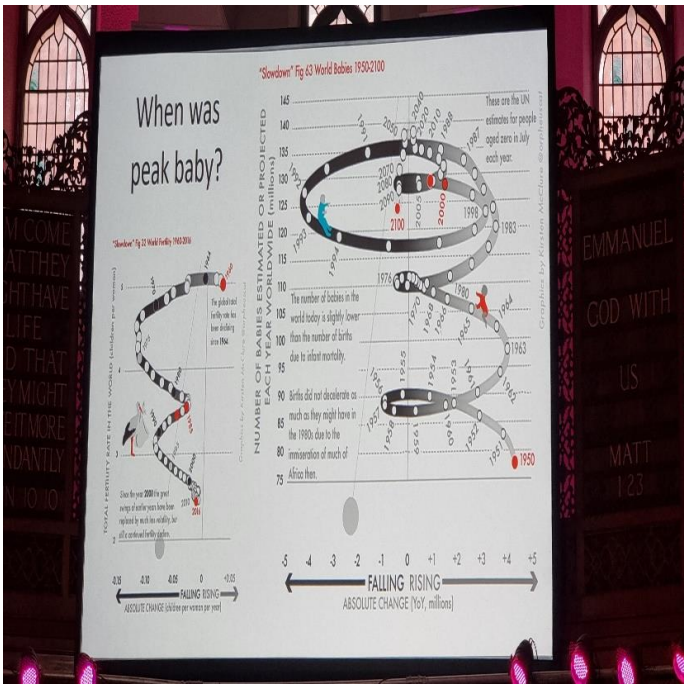
Q&A | Polls

How can we bring green space into our cities? 160



The final speaker of the day was [Ness Knight](#), who vividly described her adventures which included exploring the depths of the tropical rainforest in French Guiana to find the source of a previously unmapped river.

Professor [Danny Dorling](#) introduced the concept of 'peak child' to the captivated audience and his discussion of human and social geography and the lack of investment by successive governments into social services, impacting the future of the UK. He used maps and charts to illustrate his points and ideas to great effect, such as the one below.



The whole audience were captivated by her speech. They were on the edge of their seats as they heard how Ness had to eat live insects that tried to climb back up her oesophagus and daily extracting grubs that had embedded themselves in her skin just to survive in some of the most remote parts of the world.

Many thanks to all of those involved, and a merry Christmas to all!

**Mr Taylor-Smith,**  
Head of Geography



**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](mailto:SLO@EMMA.CAM.AC.UK)

A YOUTH GROUP FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL AGED YOUNG PEOPLE

All schools welcome!

**DRCC Youth**  
BRENTWOOD EST. 2007

**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](http://www.doddroadcommunitychurch.org)  
01277 224528

**Activities Include:**

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

@doddroadChurch  
@doddroadcommunitychurch

In Partnership with:  
BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
YOUTH SERVICE  
Healthy Active Living

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 18<sup>th</sup> January (17:00 – 18:30)
- Year 11** Introduction to Oxbridge:  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February (17:00 – 18:30)
- Year 11 & Y12** Study Skills & Oxbridge Applications:  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March (17:00 – 18:30)
- Y12** Personal Statements: Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March (17:00 – 18:30)
- Interview Workshop (start of Y13):  
September 2023 (tbc)

The deadline for signing up is

**TUESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 23:59.**

Students can sign-up using this online form:

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



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**
- 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, St Stephen’s Ingrave and Sainsburys. Thank you for your continued assistance.

## Free School Meal Vouchers Christmas Holiday

Further funding for Free School Meal vouchers for the Christmas period has been allocated by the local authority. As with previous holidays will be using the school voucher system, Wonde, to issue vouchers.

Parents and carers of eligible children should have received an email from Wonde this week to allow them to claim their voucher. The email will contain a link to 'redeem a voucher'. You will be taken to Wonde's 'evouchers' page (previously named Schoolvouchers), where you will need to enter your details and confirm your email address before being asked to select the retailer you wish to receive a voucher for.

The current retailers available are Asda, Aldi, B&M, Farmfoods, M&S, Iceland, Morrisons, Sainsburys, Waitrose and Tesco. You will then be given a PIN and the option to view the voucher. Having confirmed the PIN, you will be issued your voucher. The voucher barcode can be printed off or scanned on a smartphone for use in-store.

Details of the process and more questions about evouchers can be found on their website

- <https://help.evouchers.com/hc/en-gb/sections/360003848737-Recipient-FAQs>

You can also download the Evouchers app to make it simpler to access and use vouchers. This can be downloaded via either the Apple App Store or Google Play. Further information on how to access and use the app can be found here -

<https://help.evouchers.com/hc/en-gb/sections/360005926797-NEW-Evouchers-com-App>



Christmas  
at  
Christ Church  
Warley

Sunday 11th – 10am  
**All-Age Service**

Sunday 18th – 5.00pm  
**Carols by Candlelight**

Christmas Eve – 4.00pm  
**Dress Up Nativity!**

Christmas Day – 10am  
**Communion Service**

All are warmly invited to join us this Christmas season for fun and fellowship, as we celebrate a hope like no other!

*"For unto us a Child is born...and His name shall be called Prince of Peace."*



Essex County Council  
Special Educational Needs  
and Disabilities (SEND)

### Essex County Council: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

The website: <https://send.essex.gov.uk/> has been updated.

Find out about help available for children and young people (aged 0-25). This is called the Local Offer.

On the website there are directories, information about financial and crisis support, and advice for families and young people.



The School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans is now 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](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)

## Subject Consultation Evenings

**Year 11**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Year 9**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023**

**Year 7**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Year 10**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023**


If you are doing your Christmas shopping on line? Why not see if you can help raise some funds for FoBK through your online purchases in a few easy steps:

Click [here](#) then






- Click 'Sign up and support this cause'.
- If new to Easyfundraising then set up an account.
- Browse the hundreds of online shops who participate in the scheme and go shopping! As long as you go into the online sites through the Easyfundraising site, you will register a donation to FoBK. You can even get an App for your phone! It will not cost you a penny!

If already a member, then why not refer a friend? FoBK will get a bonus when each person you refer makes a purchase.





## Lightning Learning: Scarlet Fever

em3.org.uk      @EM3FOAMed

# #EM3

East Midlands Emergency Medicine Educational Media

### STOP!

There are on average 1-2K cases of scarlet fever each winter in the UK. Children between 4-8 years are amongst the most affected.

It is caused by **Streptococcus pyogenes** (Group-A). This invasive bacteria can spread causing...


1) Peritonsillar abscess

2) Septicaemia

3) Meningitis

4) Pneumonia

5) Osteomyelitis



Post-streptococcal complications also include...


6) Rheumatic fever

7) Glomerulonephritis

Peak occurrence is seasonal from **December to April** annually.




### LOOK

**1) 24-hour prodrome** Sore throat, fever, headache, muscle ache, tummy ache, nausea & vomiting.

Followed by... 

**2) Skin signs**  
**Red, generalised, pinhead rash** spreading from the trunk, with a *sandpaper-like* texture which in the flexures causes "Pastia's lines."

**3) Oropharyngeal signs**  
**White coated or Strawberry tongue** including flushed cheeks, perioral pallor, inflamed tonsils +/- exudate.

### LEARN

**What Next?**

- ✓ Consider **throat swab**
- ✓ Prescribe **antibiotic** without delay (10 day course Pen V or macrolide)
- ✓ Advise on **self care** (rest, fluids, hygiene, paracetamol)
- ✓ Advise **exclusion** from nursery, school, work for at least 24 hours
- ✓ **Notify** public health England

**Further Reading**

Scarlet Fever (DFTB) <http://bit.ly/2WDQjtl>

Quick Tips: Scarlet Fever module (BMJ) <http://bit.ly/2GeYveW>

Managing Scarlet Fever (BMJ) <http://bit.ly/2SdAJ34>

Scarlet fever: Guidance and Data (GOV.UK) <http://bit.ly/2Sbcu1Z>

Scarlet Fever scenario (NICE) <http://bit.ly/2GaP3cr>

Author: C.D. Leith van Heyningen Date: 11.02.2019 Version: 1.0

As per the email sent out to parents during the week, the school have had confirmed cases of scarlet fever.

Although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, it should be treated with antibiotics to minimise the risk of complications and reduce the spread to others.

We would like to remind parents that the symptoms of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. This is followed by a fine red rash which typically first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, but it should feel like 'sandpaper'. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

If you think you, or anyone in your family, has scarlet fever:

- see your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible;
- make sure that a full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the Doctor is taken;
- stay at home, away from school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection;
- Please email the school to make us aware.

Thank you.

## A Message from the Admin Team

Please remember that if your son/daughter is unable to attend school for any reason you must contact the office to let us know.

This can be done in a number of ways:

- Email the school at [office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)
- Call the absence line
- Log the absence via study bugs (you can also download an app) <https://studybugs.com/>

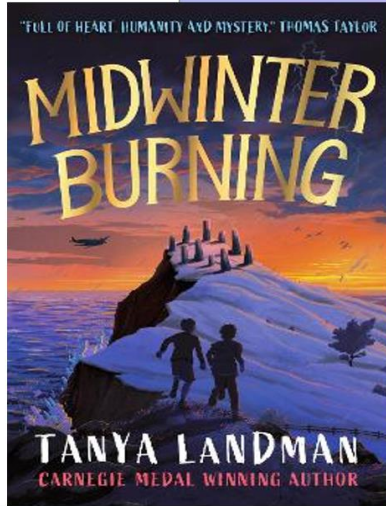


There are more details about the attendance and punctuality standards expected at Becket Keys on our website here: <https://www.becketkeys.org/attendance>

THANK YOU!



## 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.



## 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>

# GOD WITH US

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Christmas Café & Fair**  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 11am-2pm, St Peter's Church

**Nativity Service**  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am, St Peter's Church

**Carols by Candlelight**  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December, 6pm, All Saints' Church

**Beer & Carols**  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 7pm, St Peter's Church

**Family Christingle Services**  
Christmas Eve, 3pm & 4.30pm, St Peter's Church  
*Booking required - [huttonparish.com/book-online](http://huttonparish.com/book-online)*

**Midnight Mass**  
Christmas Eve, 11.30pm, All Saints' Church

**Christmas Day Holy Communion**  
10am, St Peter's Church

**Joint Parish Holy Communion**  
Sunday 1st January, 10.30am, All Saints Church



# PAUSE

## Jesus, the greatest gift of all

John 3:16 tells us that Jesus came because God loves us so much that he does not want any of us to miss out on spending eternity (forever) with him. All we have to do is *believe* that Jesus is the Son of God who came to save us. God's love for us is one of the main themes the Apostle John wrote about in the Bible. He tells us in another verse that the greatest love anyone can have is to give their life for others (John 15:13). He also tells us we are to *love one another* because *love comes from God* (1 John 4:7).

Remember, Jesus is the greatest gift. John 3:16 has been described as the 'heart of the Bible' and 'the gospel in miniature'. It is clear that the simple, yet powerful, words of this verse, clearly express the true meaning of Christmas. Keep them in your heart. Be reminded, comforted and filled with joy, by the message of God's eternal love.

Reflect on these questions:

- Who are the people you love the most?
- What would you be willing to give up for those you love? (Favourite possessions, choosing the evenings TV viewing, time for hobbies, money, career aspirations, etc.)
- How much do you think God had to love us in order to give His son for us?

**Let us pray:**

*Father in heaven, thank you for the gift of your son Jesus who came because you love us so much and want to spend forever with us. Help us to believe that Jesus came to save us and help us to show your love to one another. Help us to share the great joy of this Good News. Amen.*

Remember, slow down this Christmas. Reflect on God's eternal love and encourage others to share in God's gift. This is what will fill you with everlasting joy.



I pray that the Prince of Peace will spread His love and joy over you and your family this Christmas and always.

***May the Spirit of Christmas bring you peace.  
May the joy of Christmas bring you hope  
and the message of Christmas reveal God's amazing love.  
Amen.***

**Mrs Sharp – Deputy Headteacher**

# Art & Textiles

**Star Artist Year 8**  
**Charlie O'Brien**



# SNOW DAY 2022!



Here are some of the wonderful Snow Art pieces that students created in the snow this week.





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

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY  
MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022 –  
TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2023

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INSET DAY  
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)  
WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

\*

BACK TO SCHOOL  
THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

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YEAR 11  
PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING  
THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

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YEAR 7  
MANDARIN DAY  
FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

\*

GCSE AWARDS EVENING  
THURSDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023

\*

YEAR 9  
PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING  
THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY

# Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane  
Brentwood, Essex  
CM15 9DA  
01277 286600

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[office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)  
[finance@becketkeys.org](mailto:finance@becketkeys.org)

### Twitter:

[@BecketKeys](https://twitter.com/BecketKeys)  
[@MrScottEvans](https://twitter.com/MrScottEvans)  
[@BecketKeys6th](https://twitter.com/BecketKeys6th)  
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