



Becket Keys Church of England School

10th November 2023

REMEMBRANCE DAY

IN THIS ISSUE

Mrs Lee, Head of Year 7 writes....

On Friday 3rd November the whole school was off timetable to take part in our Enrichment Day. These days are designed to focus on the wider personal development of students.

Year 7 were visited by the fire brigade delivering some important messages about road safety and how to stay safe around fireworks. Alongside this they tested their art skills and had first aid workshops learning key skills like CPR, the recovery position and how to use bandages.

Year 8 took part in an interesting science session where they learnt how salt could conduct electricity and how to turn a 1p coin silver! They also completed some 'escape room' style maths

problems and visited the Sion Chapel. They got a chance to see the building, meet some of the volunteers, had sessions with the staff to talk about what the chapel does for the community and listened to a summary of the Gospel. At the end they had some quiet time in the chapel to reflect on what they had learnt and take time to pray.

Year 9 had a session with the Army, talking about career options and skills that lead to success in life. They then took part in a number of command tasks where they had to work as a team to solve problems. They were put to the test on the trading floor with Mr Fenn in a challenge where they had to buy and sell stocks to make the biggest profit possible. Their final session of the day looked at the

.....contd. on page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

London Challenge

Sixth Form students set off to the capital to complete a number of challenges and tasks.

Page 3

Music Department

House Competition! A fantastic afternoon listening to the musical performances from our students.

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English Department

Some recommended reads in the 'horror' genre.

Page 6-8

Art & Textile Department

Excellent work from our talented students.

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.....contd. from Page 1

characteristics of a healthy relationship to add to the content delivered to them in PSHE throughout the year.

Year 10 and 11 started their day with a session from Elevate Education. Year 10 completed the 'Study Sensei' session while Year 11 completed the 'Ace Your Exam's' session.

*Elevate's study skills workshops and seminars are designed to achieve behavioural change amongst students. It isn't enough that students simply understand what they need to do in their study: the challenge in any study skills programme is getting students to use and apply the skills they learn. Elevate gets students using the skills from its seminars and workshops by using an integrated **process that works**.*

The staff from Elevate left this message for our students:

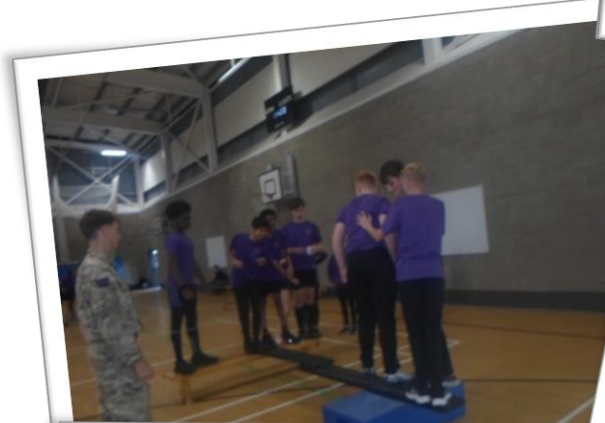
It was a pleasure presenting at Becket Keys School. The students were so engaged and enthusiastic.

Thank you so much and we hope to see you again.

To support the students with their wider personal development they also had a 'Future First' careers session. Year 10 focused on the pathways available whereas Year 11 focused on transferrable skills that will help them progress along any path they choose. Both year groups had a visit from the school's careers advisor during this time.

The final activity for KS4 groups was a performance of 'A Christmas Carol' which is one of the texts they are studying for their English Literature GCSE.

It was clear that students enjoyed the range of activities on offer. Students welcomed our visitors warmly and showed a fantastic level of respect throughout the day.



The London Challenge



As part of the Enrichment Day Year 12 and 13 travelled into London to participate in the Becket Keys London Challenge.

There was lots of excitement in advance with some forms planning tactical routes to secure the most points. Mrs Knowles designed a brand new Monopoly challenge for this year and there were bonus points for finding the Thomas Becket memorial statue in the churchyard at St Paul's. There were also some favourites from previous years including modes of transport, tacky souvenirs and a funny photo to make me laugh! The scores are still being tallied and we look forward to announcing the winner soon. In the meantime, please enjoy some photos from our wonderful day!

Mrs Course -Head of Sixth Form



Remembrance Day Memorial Service



The weather was kind to us today and allowed us to gather the entire school together on the playground, with a service to mark and commemorate Remembrance Day. Many of our students wore their poppies with pride, and without exception, students marked the occasion with dignity and respect. It was a privilege to stand with them to mark the occasion.



In addition, Becket Keys was invited by the Royal British Legion to be represented at a remembrance service for schools at Brentwood War Memorial today. Mrs Sharp joined the students Ben Shelton, Joshua Witchalls, Sophie Sharp and Nikita Clark who attended the service and laid a wreath on behalf of the school community.

Cubing Club

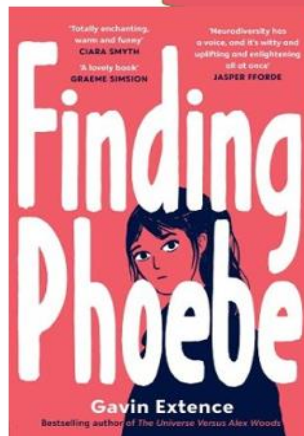
Whether you're an experienced cuber or you've never solved one before and wondered how it's done...

Join us in J11 – Tuesdays after school, 15:20 – 16:00

Cubes provided but bring your own if you have one!



Book of the Month - November



Fifteen year old Phoebe is autistic, and prefers things planned out, without surprises. She prefers to stay in her comfort zone: reading, walking her dog, writing fantasy fiction, being left alone, and surviving school with as few incidents as possible.

When her best (and only) friend, the vicar's daughter, rebels and gets a secret boyfriend, Phoebe reluctantly agrees to cover for her. Before long, Phoebe's dealing with all sorts of unwelcome changes she'd rather not, like deception, fashionable jackets, and the bewildering politics of the school chess club. Breaking the rules has never been Phoebe's thing, but as events take a seriously unexpected turn, she learns about her own ability to cope with even the most devastating revelations, and her capacity to adapt and grow. Phoebe realises there's more to her than she ever imagined . . .

Let us pray:

Let us pledge ourselves today, to live as good neighbours, to honour the past, to care for all people who are in need, and to live at peace among ourselves, and with all people.

Lord God, Father of all, we promise to do our best to serve you and our communities, to bring relief to those who are in need, and to comfort the sad, lonely and distressed. Strengthen our hearts and hands and minds to work together for peace to see you in another, and to see your kingdom above all things.

Father, thank you for life. Thank you for people. Thank you for all the races of the world. You made us different shapes, sizes and colours each with the language and culture of our own. Although we are so different we are all the same, we are all human beings we shared the same needs desires, hopes and hurts.



House music is a music competition between the six houses at Becket Keys.

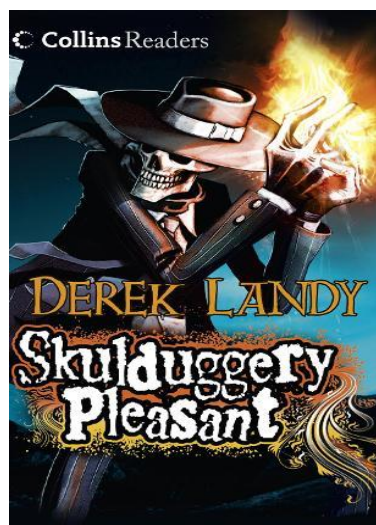
The final was this afternoon in the Main Hall and we were joined by a number of parents and carers who enjoyed the musical selections.

Unison Song – every house in Year 7 performed a unison song (singing together). Each house was given a different song to learn. This competition was completely led by senior students.

For the Instrumental Cup we heard solo performances from Sixth Form students Daniel Saunders, Aneshka Carroll, Isabella Scharvona, Diana Bodnar and Maddie Cruz representing their houses.



This month the Year 7s have been reading 'The Dead' in form time. This is a horror novel that tells the story of a scared child trying to escape people infected with a deadly virus. If you enjoy this genre, here are some of my recommended reads!



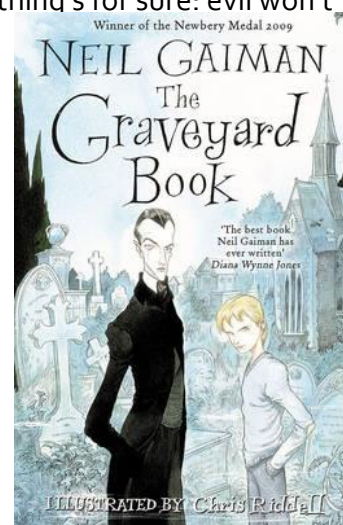
Meet Skulduggery Pleasant: detective, magician, warrior. Oh yes, and dead.

Stephanie's uncle Gordon is a writer of horror fiction. But when he dies and leaves her his estate, Stephanie learns that while he may have written horror, it certainly wasn't fiction.

Pursued by evil forces intent on recovering a mysterious key, Stephanie finds help from an unusual source - the wisecracking skeleton of a dead wizard.

Will evil win the day? Will Stephanie and Skulduggery stop bickering long enough to stop it? One thing's for sure: evil won't know what's hit it.

Bod, is a normal boy. He would be completely normal if he didn't live in a graveyard, raised and educated by ghosts. There, living among the dead, Bod discovers that he possesses remarkable magical powers: he can avoid people's notice, scare them, and even invade their dreams. There are dangers and adventures for Bod in the graveyard. But it is in the land of the living that the real danger lurks, for it is there that the man Jack lives - and he has sinister plans for Bod...

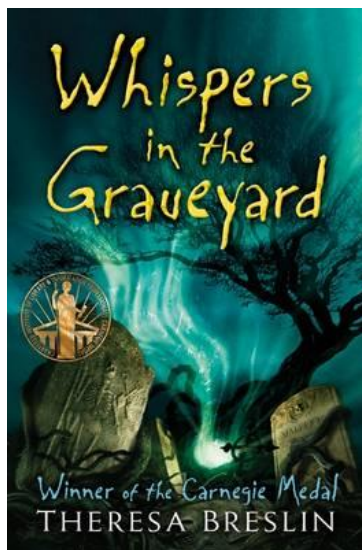


When Tomas and his son, Peter, settle in Chust as woodcutters, Tomas digs a channel of fast-flowing waters around their hut, so they have their own little island kingdom. Peter doesn't understand why his father has done this, nor why his father carries a long, battered box, whose mysterious contents he is forbidden to know.

But Tomas is a man with a past: a past that is tracking him with deadly intent, and when the dead of Chust begin to rise from their graves, both father and son must face a soulless enemy and a terrifying destiny.

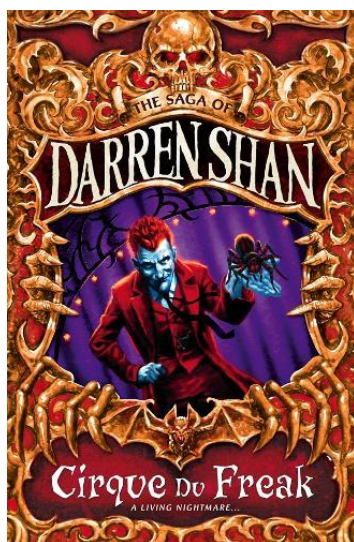


This month the Year 8s have been reading 'The Summer People' in form time. This is a horror novel which tells the story of the strange happenings that occur if you stay after summer has ended! If you enjoy this genre, here are some of my recommended reads!



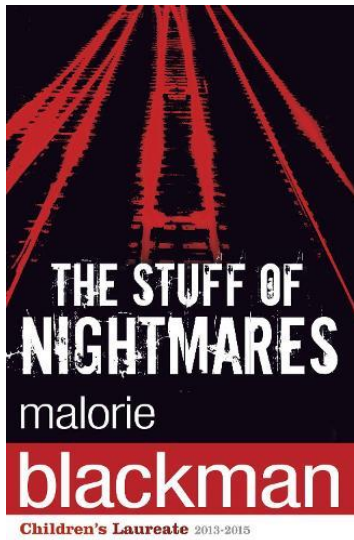
Solomon is bullied by his teachers and feels let down by his parents: his father drinks too much and his mother has left him. His refuge is in the local kirkyard among ancient graves that lie in the shadow of the rowan tree, the only thing that grows there. Then workmen uproot the tree and as it decays a strange power is unleashed. Solomon hears whispers and first-grader Amy Miller dreams of a strange lady with an alluring song. Solomon finds out the kirkyard was both the site of a witch hunt and the burial place for small pox victims. Did the witch leave a curse for the miller's descendants? Solomon must uncover the mysteries of the past and save Amy.

Billy is a street urchin, pickpocket and petty thief. Mister Creecher is a monstrous giant of a man who terrifies all he meets. Their relationship begins as pure convenience. But a bond swiftly develops between these two misfits as their bloody journey takes them ever northwards on the trail of their target . . . Victor Frankenstein.



Darren goes to a banned freak show with his best mate Steve. It's the wonderfully gothic Cirque Du Freak where weird, frightening half human/half animals appear who interact terrifyingly with the audience. Darren - a spider freak - 'falls in love' with Madam Octa - an enormous tarantula owned by Mr Cepsley. Darren determines to steal the spider so that he can train it to perform amazing deeds. But his daring theft goes horribly wrong, and Darren finds himself having to make a bargain with a creature of the night.

This month the Year 9s have been reading 'Hallow Lake' in form time. This is a horror novel which tells the story of the strange happenings that occur in Hallow Lake! If you enjoy this genre, here are some of my recommended reads!



Kyle has always been afraid of things, especially dying. But when he gets on the train that is taking him and his class on a school trip, he has no idea how close to Death he is going to come. Death enters the train and Kyle moves with him, past his friends, who are frozen in time, in life-or-death situations. Kyle finds that he can pick up on their deepest, darkest fears - real things that have happened to them, or may happen in the future, and sometimes their surreal nightmares too.

Kyle realises that he isn't the only one who has buried fears and, more importantly, he now burns with the desire to live, and to live without fear. But will Death release him?

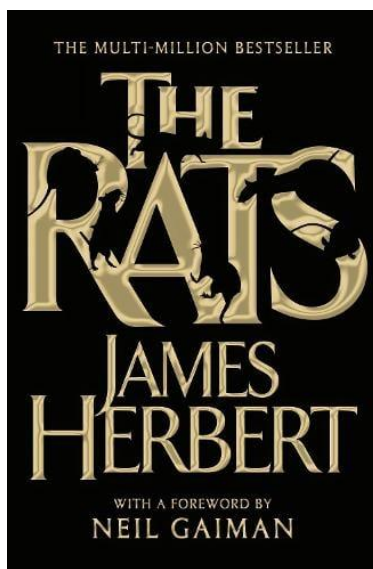
When Jonathan Harker visits Transylvania to help Count Dracula with the purchase of a London house, he makes a series of horrific discoveries about his client.

Soon afterwards, various bizarre incidents unfold in England: an apparently unmanned ship is wrecked off the coast of Whitby; a young woman discovers strange puncture marks on her neck; and the inmate of a lunatic asylum raves about the 'Master' and his imminent arrival.



Bram Stoker
Dracula

OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS



It was only when the bones of the first devoured victims were discovered that the true nature and power of these swarming black creatures with their razor-sharp teeth and the taste for human blood began to be realized by a panic-stricken city. For millions of years man and rats had been natural enemies. But now for the first time - suddenly, shockingly, horribly - the balance of power had shifted . . .

Extra-Curricular Clubs

**NEW FOR THIS YEAR
STARTING WEEK COMMENCING
11TH SEPTEMBER**

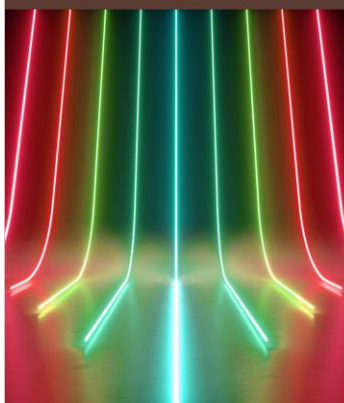


| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Yr9 & Yr10 'Creative Space' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Palmer) | Yr9 & Yr10 'Creative Space' 11.50-12.30 RH1 (Mrs Palmer) | GCSE 'Theory Workshop' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Barr) | Invitation only and bookable space. | Yr7-Yr13 'Time to Shine' 15.15-16.25 RUNCIE HALL (Mrs Barr & Mrs Palmer) |

Chess Club

C21
Tuesday Lunch (4.2)

From Beginner to Improver
Everyone Welcome



SCIENCE CLUB

KS3 Years 7-9
Every Monday from 3.10 - 4pm.
We will be working on lots of exciting projects with lots of practical work so please come along for some fun!
Starts on Monday (9th October)
W21



Becket Keys Rugby Returns!
Who: Year 7, 8 and 9 Boys and Girls
When: Every Thursday from 3:10 – 4:30pm
With Who: Our excellent rugby coach Anthony Sherwood and 6th Form student helpers
What to Bring: PE kit, rugby boots, optional mouthguards.



Learn and share a hobby and come for a chat. Wool and needles can be provided.
Mrs Simmons

**Every Thursday
Lunch 4:2 in C20
12.45 - 1.25**



Homework Club is available for all students. Every afternoon after school students can stay until 4.20pm and complete their homework in C11.

Using Homework Club is just one way we provide for students who do not want to leave site at 3.10pm. Avoid the traffic! Stay here for a while!

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS



Your child's school has invested in the award winning resource, GCSEPod, to help your child reach their goals!

Join the thousands of parents/carers encouraging their children to use GCSEPod to support learning, homework and revision.

- ▶ Proven to increase results
- ▶ 28+ exam mapped subjects
- ▶ Available online and offline
- ▶ Audio visual content
- ▶ Builds confidence
- ▶ Independently accessible assessments

Want to find out how you can support your child more with GCSEPod? Then join one of our free webinars by registering here: <https://www.gcsepod.com/podup-presents-webinars/>

"The correlation between success and failure was made almost 100% clear by the use of GCSEPod."

Head of MFL
at Yateley School

"I found GCSEPod especially useful to compliment my knowledge and I'm certain it helped me secure the grades that I have been so happy to receive."

Student

"My daughter used GCSEPod for her GCSEs and was very successful with her results, she absolutely loved your Pods and this style of revising."

Parent

Student Activation


Please follow these instructions if your child has not yet activated their GCSEPod account


1. Go to GCSEPod.com and click 'LOG IN'
2. Click 'New to GCSEPod? Get Started'
3. Enter your child's details and confirm the name of the school they attend
2. Create a username and password

For more information please visit
www.gcsepod.com/parents



 gcsepod.com

 info@gcsepod.com

 0191 338 7830



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

We are recruiting!

Administration Assistant

37 hours per week

Term-time + 2 weeks during school holidays

Monday – Friday -7.00am – 3.00pm

NJC 8-12 (£21,300)

We are looking for an enthusiastic and well-organised administrator to organise and manage all cover arrangements within the school and to also support the school in all areas of the office, as part of a friendly and welcoming team!

You can read all about this exciting post [here](#) and please visit the [vacancies page](#) on the school website to complete the application form and return that with your personal statement to vacancies@becketkeys.org

Closing date: 12th November 2023

Interviews will be held week commencing 13th November 2023



YEAR 7 DISCO
THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2023

Tickets are now available to buy on ParentPay £12.75

Friends of Becket Keys

Please note that the previously advertised Friends of Becket Keys Meeting was been postponed due to the SIAMs inspection. A new date will be advertised soon.



A Message from the Admin Team

Remember that all correspondence to the school must come through the school office email: office@becketkeys.org

You can also send a message via the contact page on the [website](#).

You can also now reply directly to any message you receive from the school via Bromcom, just hit the reply button and it will go to the office.

Students can contact their teachers via Satchel One if they have any queries regarding their lessons.

Please do not email staff directly as any message received in this way will not receive a response.

Thank you!

In Art & Textiles this week with Mrs Cherry Star of the week

Phoebe Bright Y10



@becketkeysart

★ Key stage 3

Frida Kahlo

Frida Kahlo was born in Mexico in 1907 her mother was Mexican and her dad was Cuban. Like the rest of her family she was poor. This left one of her legs shorter than the other and she had a limp.

Frida Kahlo is often people hope because she never gave up despite her many injuries and disabilities.

“What did I need you for when I have wings”

There was a bus accident in 1925 and Frida suffered some really bad injuries. During the 3 months in hospital, Frida painted lots of little colorful self-portraits of herself and her family.

Frida married Diego Rivera in 1929. They lived together in different parts of Mexico for 10 years but then divorced. Soon after they remarried again.

Lucy Lorenc Y8

Christian Ludwig Y8

FRIDA KAHLO

Frida Kahlo has been in Mexico in 1907. In 25 she was badly hurt in a bus accident. Here many of her bones were broken. During her lifetime Frida had to have 35 operations, help with her spinal injuries, and she is still chronic pain from the accident.

During her life, Frida created 143 paintings including 55 self-portraits. Kahlo said, "I paint myself because I am so often alone and because in the end I know best."

It was only several years after her death that her work became well-known. Her reputation grew in the 1940s and reached what some critics call "Fridoman" by the 21st century.

Key stage 3

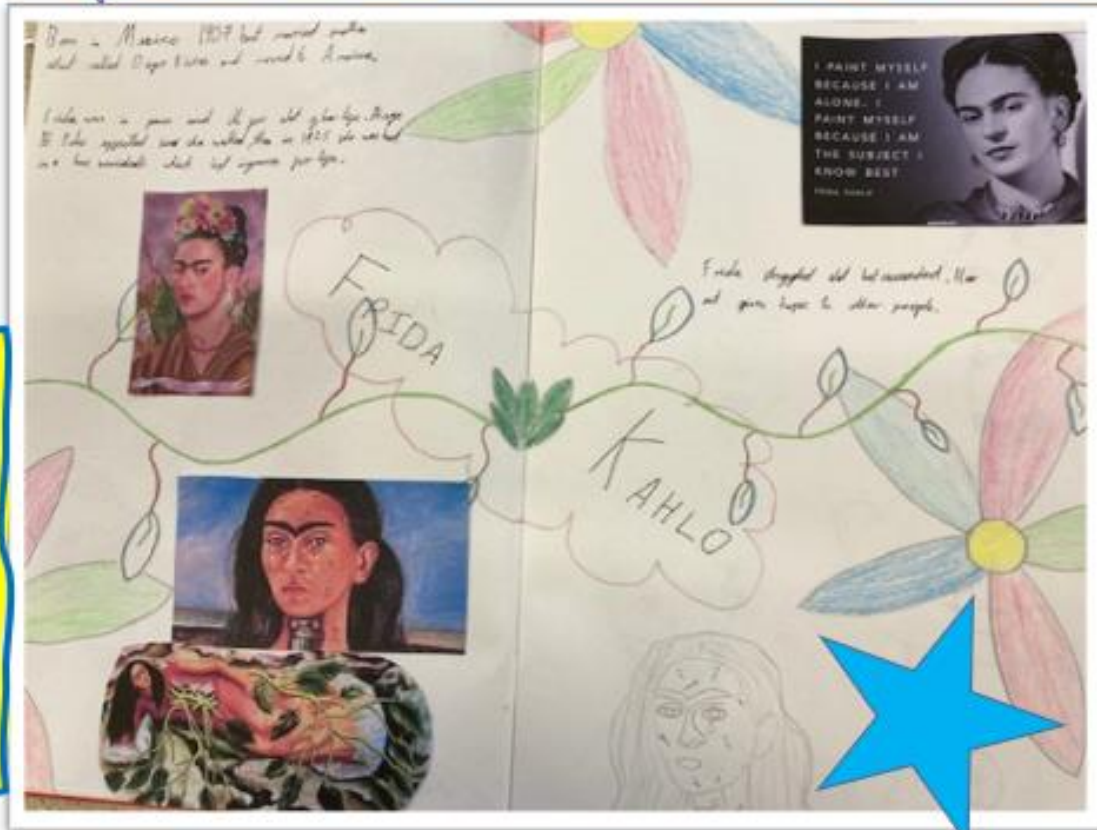


Felix Rogers Y7



Magnus McLaren Y7

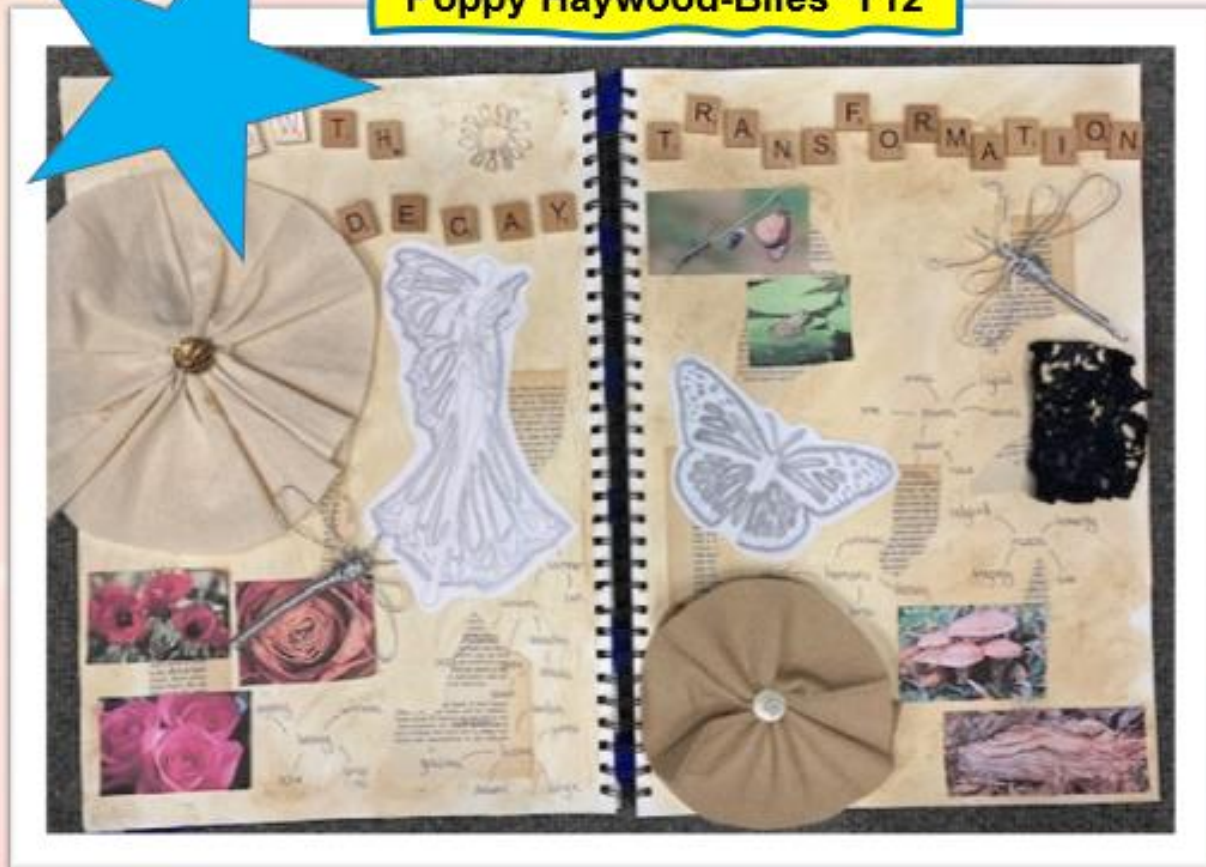
Drew Hodges Y8



Key stage 4 & 5



Poppy Haywood-Biles Y12



Sports News

Year 7 Girls' Netball



The Year 7 girls had a fantastic game against Sandon. We had a slow start with only a couple of goals however in the third quarter onwards we played great netball. Amazing defending from Bailey and Lily meant that the opposition could not get close to the post. Anna Benns made some long throws straight into the D for our shooters to get ahold of and score some brilliant shots. An all round great performance!

Players' player of the match:
Bailey Stanford

Teachers' player: Anna Benns

Squad:
Lily Head, Bailey Stanford
Indi Stephenson, Lois Watson
Delilah Palmer, Olivia Seager
Isabella Macklin, Elsa Wade
Ava Shorter & Anna Benns.

Year 8 Girls' Netball

The Year 8 girls had an intense game against Boswells this week, with the first quarter ending 4-3. We knew we had to pick up the pace as the opposition were close

PE Extracurricular Timetable 23/24

| Day | Before School 7:30 -8:20 | 2 nd Lunch 12:40 -1:20 | After -School 3:10 -4:30 |
|-----------|---|--|---|
| Monday | STAFF BRIEFING | Year 7 Mixed Basketball | Year 7&8 Boys' Football Year 7&8 Netball |
| Tuesday | Year 7&8 Mixed Futsal Squad Gymnastics | Invite Only Netball/Basketball Training | All Years' Boys' Squad Football |
| Wednesday | All Years' Open Gym Squad Gymnastics | YR7&8 Girls' Futsal | Year 9, 10,11 & 6th Form Netball |
| Thursday | Year 8+9 Mixed Basketball | TUP Basketball | K5/5 Mixed Basketball KS3 Rugby Training |
| Friday | STAFF BRIEFING | TUP Badminton GCSE Theory Drop In (W04) | GCSE Filming (Invite) All Years' Girls' Football |



Keys:
- Astro
- Sports hall
- Main Hall
- Field
- Netball Courts

behind. Every goal counted, putting pressure on our shooters who executed every shot fantastically. Every player showed great perseverance throughout the game and ended with a well-deserved 15-12 win!

Player of the match: Lyla Stevens

Players:
Ffion Cole, Betsy Winney
Rubi Chiroma, Vienna Hayes
Tilly Holder, Sophie Guest & Lyla Stevens.



Year 10 MESSA Girls' Netball

The Comeback Queens!
The Year 10 girls' netball team took part in a MESSA match against Boswells this week.

The team played very well, however they lost the first two quarters by one point! As the Boswells team began to tire the coach decided to rotate the strong Becket Keys side in order to invigorate the team. This tactic worked and the girls won 19-13!

Miss Plunkett & Ms Schafer
PE Department

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2023

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YEAR
CONSULTATION EVENING
THURSDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2023

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STUDENT CHRISTMAS LUNCH
NON-UNIFORM DAY
WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2023

*

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT
THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2023

*

A-LEVEL PRESENTATION EVENING
TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER

*

LAST DAY OF TERM
STUDENT HALF DAY
WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2023

*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2023 –
TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY 2024

*

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

Becket Keys Church of England School

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