

# Becket Keys Church of England School

1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

YEAR 11 GEOGRAPHY FIRD TRIP – READ MORE PAGE 4

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## Mr Scott-Evans writes.....

Dear Parents/Carers

It is survey time again! Each year we ask students, parents and carers to give us feedback on their experience of Becket Keys. Each year we then meet with some groups of students and parents to listen in more detail and follow up on what we learn from the survey.

You can see what parents said last year about Becket Keys [here](#). Firstly, you will see that only 98 parents responded last year. We would really like to get more responses this year. We know that these forms tend to be filled in by those who feel strongly about things and the silent majority tend to remain silent. We would love to hear more people have their say this year!

Last year, 96% of those who responded said their child was happy at school, 93% said that their child did well at our school. Whilst we are delighted that the majority are so happy, we do always focus on the ones who are not, and we try to think about how we can improve further for the benefit of all.

We look carefully at the survey to see what the areas of development should be and how they fit with other metrics. For example, last year 6% of parents who responded said that they strongly disagreed with the statement that the school informed them of how well their son/daughter was doing. When we spoke to families, we learned that this included not knowing how students conducting themselves, so we opened up a

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**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

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### PE Department

Check out the updated extra-curricular timetable for this term.

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new feature of the MCAS app to include more feedback to parents in this regard. We have also further extended the length of parents' evening appointments for sixth formers to provide better opportunities to hear how students are getting on. We also are trialing a different method of reporting to see if it helps parents to feel better informed. With additional short reports being sent home earlier in the year. If this is seen to be helpful, we will look to extend it across other year groups.

We were pleased that only 1% of those who responded strongly disagreed that their child does well at Becket Keys. With our best exam results last year placing us as the top performing mixed comprehensive school in Essex, I think we should see similar good data on that again this year. We will continue to employ great teachers, plan excellent lessons, and support students to realise their full potential.

However, last year, 14% of parents told us that they were not aware of the curriculum that was being taught to their son/daughter! We took that on board and have been trying to draw attention to the curriculum on our website – [here](#). Every subject, for every year group for every term is available on the school website. You can see week by week what is being taught. We know that it really helps most parents with planning day trips, theatre visits, books to read and

films to watch. We have also worked hard on making the most of the Satchel One app and parents tell us that they have learned a lot about what students are studying through this. I hope that parents feel better informed.



We also saw last year that although many parents agreed there were lots of clubs for students, you wanted to see us doing more to support the students' wider personal development. Nearly 20% said that they either did not know or were not happy enough with this. Speaking to parents afterwards, we learned that we needed to do more with parents, communicating more about what is happening with regards to wider personal development. We are also trying to give students more careers input, more opportunities to play for school teams, go on school trips and be in a school play/choir. We are now not only back to pre-pandemic levels but far surpassing them. We have never had so many opportunities nor had such excellent student engagement. Our Sixth Formers have particularly embraced this and are taking responsibility to either

help restore previous provision or run new clubs that they wish they had been able to access when they were in the lower school. The Sixth Formers benefit from taking this responsibility, and younger students benefit from interacting with them.

We have also seen great investment in PE, Music and Drama in the last year. For example, there are new Apple Macs, keyboards and instruments for music and more opportunities to perform than ever. We had our most ambitious school play ever 'School of Rock' - with more students taking part. We have continued to invest in more PE teachers, more opportunities to compete and extra clubs with new equipment in all areas.

I appreciate it is hard for families to fill in forms like these when most of us have never experienced another secondary school. Being typical Becket Keys parents we also all have very high expectations! However, please do try to be realistic and fair with your responses. We want to encourage our staff and recognise the effort they put in. These surveys give an opportunity for that: please give credit where credit is due.



Parents, please use the survey here:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/give-your-views/survey/>

Students, please use the survey here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/jjPjFZFyxN>

Students will need to use their Becket Keys Office 365 account to respond to the survey.

Remember each parent and each student can fill out the survey once per year. Take time to consider your answers carefully. The parent survey goes to OfSTED and it would be good to show them how proud we are of our school!

If you would prefer to come and see me to talk to me, please start by writing me an [email](#) and then I will book you in for one of the parent forums that I will run after Easter.

Although the surveys are once a year and provide a certain type of useful feedback it is not the only way to tell us what you think. Please remember that we are always here to listen to your views and to work together.

I look forward to hearing from you again this year.

**Mr Scott-Evans**  
Headteacher



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

**#TECHOGNITION**  
**Friday 8th March 2024**

**SHOWCASING AND CELEBRATING SCHOOL AND COLLEGE TECHNICIANS**

Visit [www.techognition.org](http://www.techognition.org) to find out how to take part

PRIZES TO BE WON!

#TECHOGNITION 2024 is brought to you by...

Bronze Awards introduce students to project work empowering them to work like real scientists, technologists, engineers or mathematicians. Students choose their own topic and methodologies, giving them complete freedom over their work.

## Crest award KS3 science club

In KS3 science club we would like to start working through a Bronze Crest Award. To do this the school has to pay a fee and so you will need to be committed to coming to science club each Monday to complete the tasks. At the end we will submit your work online and you will receive a Crest award!

If you are in years 7-9 and would like to sign up please come and see **Mrs Lee in W23 as soon as possible**. I will then sign us up ready for next term!

## A Letter from the Chair of Governors



**BECKET KEYS**  
Church of England School

Dear Staff, Students, and Parents at Becket Keys Church of England School,

I am writing to share some wonderful news regarding your Head Teacher Mr. Andy Scott-Evans.

Mr. Scott-Evans has been invited to assume the role of an Ecumenical Canon at Chelmsford Cathedral. This invitation is a testament to his outstanding service and dedication, not only to our school but also to the wider community. This prestigious award grants Mr. Scott-Evans the title of 'Canon,' acknowledging his significant contributions and steadfast commitment to nurturing an environment where faith, education, and community converge harmoniously.

I am delighted to invite you all to join us for the formal induction service, which will take place at 3:30pm on Sunday, 28th April, during Evensong at Chelmsford Cathedral. This is a momentous occasion, and your presence would greatly enhance the celebration of Mr. Scott-Evans' achievement. I know he would be very pleased to have students and their families there. It will be a formal occasion and so students attending should wear their school uniform. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Warmest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Downs'.

Jenny Downs

Chair of Governors

Becket Keys Church of England School

# Geography Department

This year, due to increased numbers of students electing to take GCSE Geography we decided to head up to Cumbria and the Lake District National Park to explore a different part of the UK.

We were fortunate to have great weather on our first day and we able to take part in many rewarding team and character-building activities before we got into the Geography on day two. There were some notable achievements, with students going beyond their comfort zones and reaching the tops of the climbing walls, Jacob's Ladder and setting land speed records crossing the 'lava' fields.

On the second day half of the party investigated the River Eea, and how the width, depth and velocity altered downstream. We use systematic sampling and collected valuable data to investigate later in the day back in the classrooms in preparation for Paper 3 mocks back at school.

The other half of the group went into Barrow in Furness and to Walney Island to investigate urban deprivation and quality of life and contrast areas of the settlement. We also tried to catch a glimpse of the nuclear submarine at the BEA construction docks but the best we got was a view of it in the Maritime Museum on the day.



We had a very enjoyable and memorable trip. Thank you to all of those involved.  
**Mr Taylor-Smith - Head of Geography**

# National Careers Week 4<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> March 2024

National Careers Week 2024: 4th - 9th March

## VIRTUAL Careers Fair

Visit Now

National Careers Week (NCW) is a one-week celebration of careers guidance. The aim is to provide a focus for careers guidance activity at an important stage in the academic calendar to help support young people develop awareness and excitement about their future pathways.

Please visit the NCW website [Welcome - National Careers Week](#) to get involved in this year's online event. A variety of interactive activities and career opportunities will be available, including a virtual careers fair. Parents and carers can also download a free copy of The Parents' Guide to National Careers Week, outlining all vocational options after GCSE and sixth form/college - [you can download your copy here](#).

Unifrog have some excellent opportunities for Year 12 and 13, including a 'Soft Skills to Succeed' webinar series in which students can learn how to develop transferable skills and a short course 'Careers: Reaching Your Potential' which uses Unifrog's

### 2024 National Careers Week Day Sponsors



Monday



Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday



Friday

### Other Key Supporters



**Find Your Potential**

NCW

CareerSense

Courses tool to create a career plan. Visit [Unifrog - The universal destinations platform](#) and login to gain access.

We hope you take part in NCW and would be interested to hear

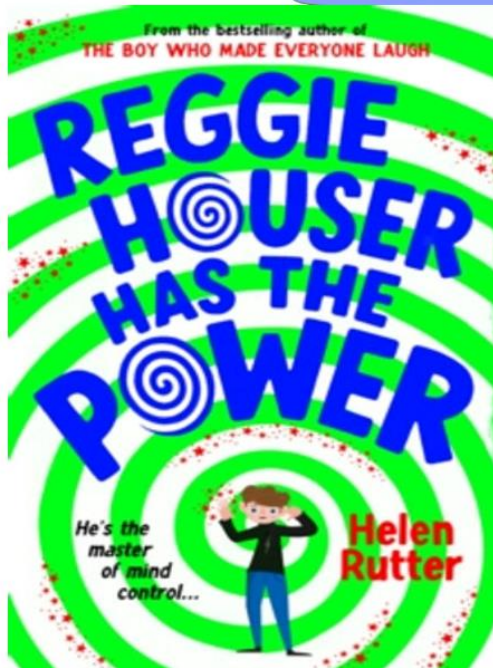
feedback from any completed activities.

Kind regards,

**Ms North**  
Head of PSHE/Careers



## Book of the Month - March



Reggie's busy brain makes it hard for him to follow rules and make friends, plus his mum and teachers seem constantly weary about his erratic, high-energy ways. But when he sees a hypnotist perform on stage at the holiday park he visits, Reggie becomes *obsessed* with learning the skills of mind control - and he discovers he has an incredible talent for it! He's sure this will be his passport to popularity.

First of all he hypnotises the dog to think he's a frog, then makes his headmaster cluck like a chicken in assembly in front of the whole school - but then a group of mean kids supposedly take him under their wing and make him use his hypnosis talents for bad: stealing a chocolate bar from a shop and escalating to a bigger theft. Reggie must decide to use his skills for good only and come to trust his own brain to make decisions.

A funny, sensitive story, featuring a hilariously likable protagonist and a sympathetic, well-informed portrayal of ADHD, packed with brilliant jokes and one-liners.

## PE Extracurricular Timetable 23/24



Day	Before School 7:30-8:20	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lunch 12:40-1:20	After-School 3:10-4:30
Monday	STAFF BRIEFING	TUP Badminton	All Years Boys' Football GCSE Filming (Invite)
Tuesday	Year 7&8 Mixed Futsal Squad Gymnastics	GCSE PE intervention drop in	Year 7 Mixed Basketball
Wednesday	STAFF MEETING Squad Gymnastics	YR7&8 Girls' Futsal	All Years Netball
Thursday	Year 8+9 Mixed Basketball	TUP Basketball	KS3 Rugby Training
Friday	STAFF BRIEFING	-	All Years Girls' Football

Keys:

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

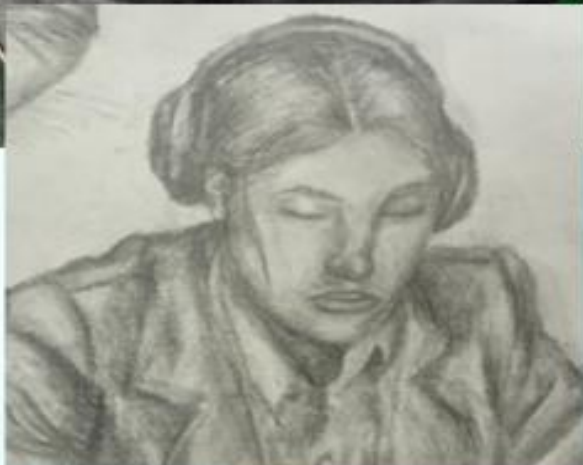
# Art & Textiles

with

Mrs Brassett

Star Artist Year 12

Isabel Slaney

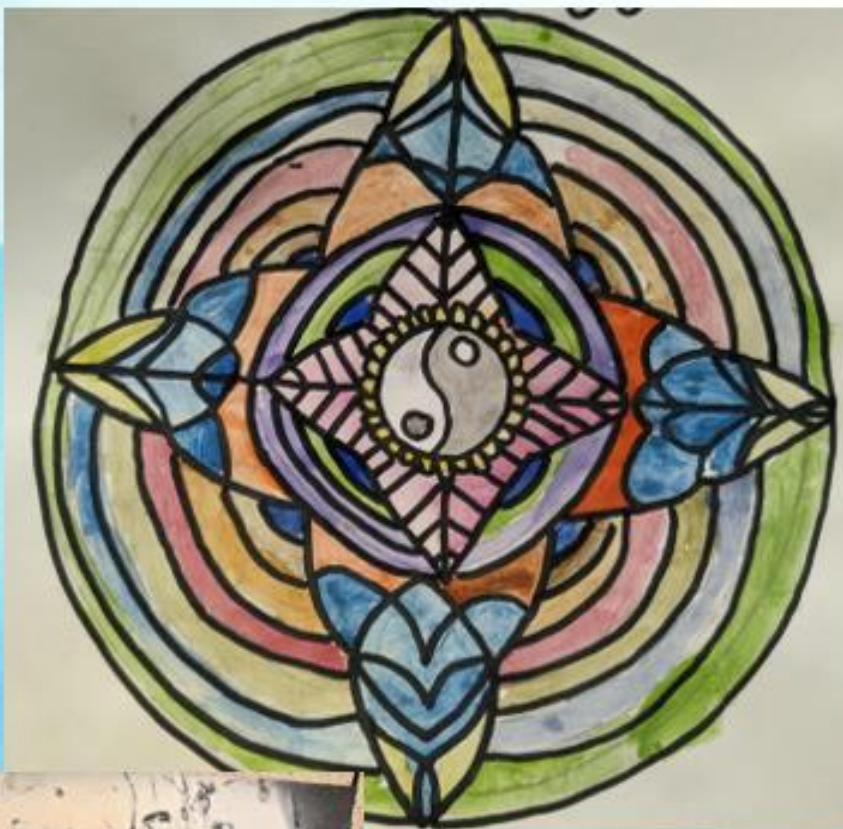






**Ben Wood**

**Yr 7**



**Beau Ayres**

**Yr11**

## Joelle Amanor Yr 7



@becketkeysarttextiles



Jenni Tingay  
Year 12



**Lowri O'Brien**  
**Yr 12**



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 11 & YEAR 13 MOCKS  
BEGIN MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024  
CONTINUE NEXT WEEK

\*

YEAR 9 VACCINATIONS  
MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> & TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

\*

GOVERNORS' SPEECH & AWARDS  
EVENING  
THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

\*

WHOLE SCHOOL EUCHARIST  
TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024  
11.00am

\*

INSET DAY  
THURSDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024  
NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL

\*

EASTER HOLIDAY  
FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
2024

# Becket Keys Church of England School

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