



Becket Keys Church of England School

19th July 2024

YEAR 9 TRIP TO CHINA 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes.....

Dear Parents, Students, and
Staff,

Welcome to the bumper issue of the newsletter to finish the term! It has been a very busy month and we have had so many events to squeeze into the last few weeks; I am sure that you will all be as happy as I am to welcome the summer break.

In this edition of the newsletter we have details of the recent school trips. Year 7 students had an adventurous time in Norfolk and the Year 9 students were able to visit China! Sports Day went ahead yesterday, having previously been postponed and we were entertained by students across all the year groups in the fabulous school production this week.

The Heads of Year would also like to share their thoughts with you as we head into the summer:

Mrs Lee
Head of Year 7



What a year we have had year 7! I would like to start by saying a massive congratulations for how well you have settled into life at Becket Keys. Thinking back to that first day where there were lots of nervous faces it is amazing to think how far you have all come.

.....contd. on page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

School Production

The excellent school production of Charlie & the Chocolate Factory gave us great joy this week.

Page 5-6

Sports Day

We were delighted that the weather stayed fine for our rearranged Sports Day.

Page 7-8

Year 9 China Trip

The Year 9 Mandarin students had an exciting opportunity to travel to China.

Page 11-15

Art & Textiles

Excellent work throughout the year from our talented students.

Page 17-22

.....contd. from Page 1

You are all so ready to take on the new challenges of Year 8.

In Collective Worship on Wednesday, we took time to reflect on our year and the journey that everyone has been on. Students took time to think

about the things they had achieved over this year. It has been brilliant to see everyone working out good routines to allow them to be successful. Everyone has worked so hard in their lessons with everyone experiencing some new subjects that they did not do at primary school.

There have been so many sporting achievements this year and we have such a talented group of Year 7s. We look forward to seeing what else you can do!

- Girls' football team got to the semi final of Essex cup
- Boys' football won the league (Top Goal scorer James Duffill)
- Boys' cricket got to the final
- Girls' futsal team won district tournament for first time ever
- Rugby team won the rugby tournament.

There have been lots of events and trips this year including enrichment days, pantomime trip, library trip, Mandarin Day and finishing with our Norfolk Lakes residential. It has been brilliant to see the contribution of Year 7 to the school production.

We have so much talent within our community!

In our final Collective Worship, I also spoke to students about getting ready for Year 8. Thinking about their strengths and weaknesses this year and discussing things that they could do over the summer break. Continue to read, use the online resources available (eg: Dr Frost for maths) but also take some time to rest and recover from a busy school year.

In September students will become role models for our new Year 7s that will be starting. Helping to show them what being successful here looks like, showing kindness and offering them some support will be important. I know that you are all ready for this role and will do it well. Mr Collins is looking forward to taking over such a fantastic year group of students and I know that you will all continue to do well. I look forward to seeing you all in September and wish you all a wonderful summer break!



Mr Collins Head of Year 8

Congratulations on completing your second year at Becket Keys! This year, you have done really

well. You have all worked very hard and as a result we have seen many successes. Well done on completing your end of year exams especially considering how soon they were after Bude! To ensure that everyone is in the best possible frame of mind when school resumes in September, I hope you take advantage of the summer break by relaxing and having fun. Remember to go over what you learnt this year and read widely in preparation for next year! As you continue through to the next step in your education, you will face new challenges. I have really enjoyed my year working with you and look forward to what you can achieve when you come into Year 9 in September. I hope you have a lovely summer and come back looking smart and refreshed ready for another year at Becket Keys!



Miss Morgan Head of Year 9

Dear Year 9,

As we wrap up another school year, and my final year here at Becket Keys, I wanted to take a moment to look back on the

amazing journey we've had together. This year has been full of challenges, growth, and so many memorable moments. Each of you has played a part in making this year special and successful. I will always have fond memories of the Madrid Trip which I led this year.



I'm so proud of all of you. Your hard work, resilience, and dedication have been truly inspiring.

It's been a real privilege to be your Head of Year for both Year 8 and 9. Watching you grow and develop, both academically and personally, has been incredible. I know this is just the beginning of what you're capable of, and I'm excited to see all the amazing things you'll achieve in the future.

I'm really going to miss you all. Each one of you has made a lasting impression on me, and I'll always cherish the memories we've shared. Wishing you all the best in whatever comes next. May your journey ahead be filled with success, happiness, and fulfilment. Remember, you have the strength and ability to achieve anything you set your mind to.

Take care and enjoy your summer!



Mrs Noble Head of Year 10

To all of Year 10,

It has been a great year with you all. It has been wonderful to see you all starting on your GCSE journey. You have risen to your challenges and worked hard throughout your exams.

It has been a pleasure being your head of year and it has been great over the year to see your sporting, artistic, musical and many more talents. It was a wonderful way to finish the year with the school production and your final sports day. I wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to you beginning your GCSE year.



Miss Brown Head of Year 11

To my wonderful Year 11s,

As a year group, your progress both academically and in your character has been plain for all to see over the last two years. You already know how incredibly proud I am of each and every one of you. It was so lovely to celebrate your years of hard work on your last day, and on prom night.

Remember, always be kind, and always work hard, those two things will take you so far in life.

See you on results day!





Mrs Course Head of Sixth Form

It has been a delight to lead the Sixth Form this year and we have had a fantastic year. The students continue to thrive in their academic studies, and I am continually impressed by how hard they work. After being appointed Head of Sixth Form, I knew I wanted the whole school to see the Sixth Form students as ambassadors for the school. We have developed and grown our senior prefect team and introduced student ambassadors throughout the school. Students have been running clubs, serving as prefects, mentoring students, supporting KS3 students with reading, supporting with sport, leading in drama productions and so much more. It makes me incredibly proud. Furthermore, we have noticed that some shy and reserved students have flourished in the Sixth Form, and I am regularly told that many events would not be possible without our Sixth Form students.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the Sixth Form students who have supported the school this year. I also want to thank the Sixth Form Team who

give so much to each student. I am excited for next year and our new cohort! Wishing you all a wonderful summer break.



Free School Meal Vouchers

Summer Holiday

Further funding for Free School Meal vouchers for the Summer break 2024 has been allocated by the Local Authority. As with previous holidays, the school will be using the school voucher system, Wonde, to issue vouchers.

The local authority has confirmed this is the only voucher that you will be able to order. There is unfortunately no more funding after this point.

Parents and carers of eligible children will have received an email from Wonde to allow you to claim a voucher for £75 for this period. Please check your junk mail if you have not received this. 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, 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 : [I'm a recipient – Evouchers](#)

School Production – Charlie & the Chocolate Factory

The wonderful world of Willy Wonka was brought to life by students from across all the year groups in the school. It was delightful to see all the hard work that staff and students have put in over the past few months come together over the performances this week. Many thanks to all those involved!





Sports Day – A Great Afternoon of Sport!

Yesterday's Sports Day was another wonderful celebration of everything the school stands for. Not just excellent sporting competition, but also high quality character, discipline and endeavour. It was a time for students from across the school to participate in a safe and supportive environment. Students who excel in sport could excel, those who just join in – could just join in. Everyone had a role to play and the Sixth Formers were with us to help organise the day. What a help!

The students were in great form and were happy to cheer on all the participants whether they were first or last in their races and events.

House Point Results

These results include the Governor Speech & Awards Evening points, Year 7 singing competition, the Computer Science Bebras competition and Sports Day.

- 1st – AC 813 points**
- 2nd – HS 744 points**
- 3rd – PP 738 points**
- 4th – FS 668 points**
- 5th – WW 654 points**
- 6th – EW 649 points**





Year 7 Residential – Manor Adventure

Last weekend, Year 7 enjoyed a fun filled and activity packed 3 days at Manor Adventure in Norfolk.



Friday started off with a little bit of rain, but students got stuck into their activities straight away. Luckily, the weather dried up for Saturday which allowed students to enjoy the outside spaces in their free time. However, all the students still managed to get wet whilst taking part in kayaking, canoeing and giant paddleboarding.



All students threw themselves into these activities, playing lots of games on the water, seeing plenty of wildlife and of course taking a plunge. Every student ended up falling in at some point (or more than once for a fair few), who clambered out laughing and then looking for another opportunity to take a swim. After drying out, students took part in several other activities over Saturday and Sunday, including climbing, archery, fencing, axe throwing and blind trail. We were impressed by their teamwork and compassion for each other. They all helped each other with every activity and worked together to complete the activities.



We can safely say that Year 7 made us proud. They all acquired new strengths and developed leadership and teamwork skills.

Miss White



Quotes from students:

"I really enjoyed all the water activities and the option to do what you want during lunch and break and in between activities."

Oscar Daly

"The thing that I took away the most from was the fun experience with my friends during breaks and activities."

George Lawrence



"I really enjoyed the caving and the paddle boarding, those were my favourite activities. The day groups were well picked and I have made more friends from being in the groups. I did wish the trip was longer."

Rhea Manani



"The rooms were well picked, same with the day groups. We all had an enjoyable time, my favourite activity was fencing. All the activities were fun though, I wished the trip was longer."

Michael Gjonaj

"It was fun trying and learning new things, and sharing a room with friends. It helps you learn and discover new skills."

Joelle Amanor



Year 9 – Trip to China

Twenty of our Year 9 Mandarin students completed the 10-day intensive study course in Xi'an, China successfully! We departed on the 5 July and returned on 16 July.

An overseas trip like this is not without challenges but our students are resilient, adventurous and motivated. Among the five UK schools hosted by the Xi'an International Studies University, our students were given recognition to be the most respectful and engaged cohort.

One newsletter cannot cover all our adventures. Here I have selected some highlights.

Morning language lessons

In most mornings, students attended language lessons delivered by their university Chinese teacher. The language items learned would prepare them for real-life application in outings or cultural immersion sessions.

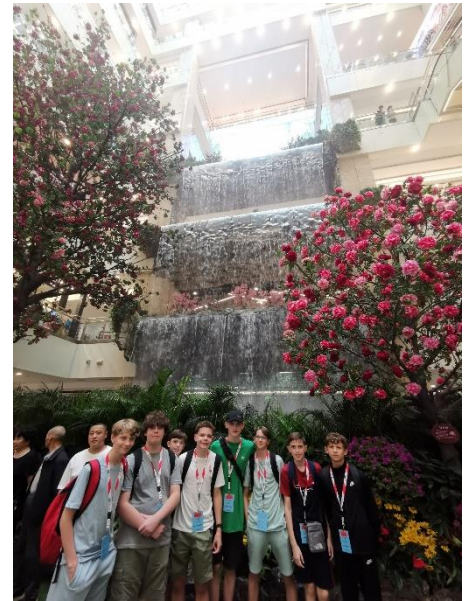
Project with Chinese buddies

In most afternoons, students would experiment with the language learned with Chinese buddies in forms of projects.



Excursions

We visited the world-renowned Terracotta Warriors, the Bell and the Drum Towers, a 9-story-tall SAGA shopping mall, the Xi'an City Wall, the Muslim Quarters.



Intangible heritage art sessions

Xi'an was an ancient capital for many Chinese dynasties. Our students had the opportunities to be taught by famous artists – Hong Quan Martial Arts masters, national Square Dancing winning team, flour dough sculpturer, clay sculpturer and papercutting master.



The students also attended a play consisting of 6 other intangible heritage arts. Our students even went up the stage to join the cast!

Enjoying Delicious Chinese delicacies

Even though some parents had warned us that some children were not very adventurous about food, all our students have tried and enjoyed delicious Chinese delicacies.



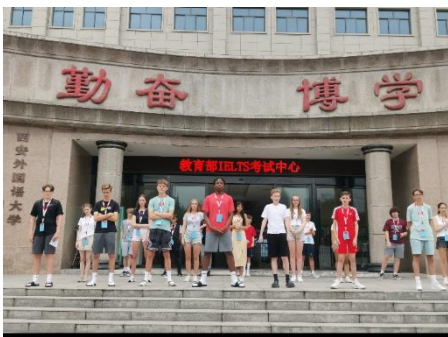


Closing ceremony

For the closing ceremony, attended by various important officials, including a British ambassador, our students sang and danced to a Chinese pop song. Two of our students represented us to give a speech.

Overall, it was a life-changing experience for us all. We look forward to future China trips.

Miss Lin
Head of Mandarin



CAREERS ADVICE ZONE

Chelmsford College

Progress to Success

Post Results Service

Are your exam results not as expected and need to talk through your options?

We have a team of career advisers on hand offering impartial guidance at our walk in sessions:

Thursday 22nd - Friday 30th August, excluding weekends and bank holidays.

10am-2pm Moulsham Street campus,
No appointment necessary.

Alternatively, give us a call and we can talk through your options.

☎ **01245 29 30 31**

✉ postresults@chelmsford.ac.uk

🌐 www.chelmsford.ac.uk

As we approach the end of the academic year, we would like to take the opportunity to remind you that it is normal to mix up teaching groups each academic year. It is therefore likely that your son/daughter will be in classes next year with different students. As another year passes, we now feel we better understand our students - understanding their strengths, their challenges, their character and their social dynamics. Based on our observations and insights, we want to optimise their learning environment as they progress through the school. This rearrangement is done with utmost consideration to support them both academically and pastorally. Our guiding principle is always to ensure our students get the maximum benefit out of their education while nurturing their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, encouraging wider socialisation and promoting fresh perspectives amongst the students.

Dr Hurdle and the Head of Year Team.

Student Achievement

Max Sanderson

A little update for you on how Max Sanderson got on last weekend where he proudly represented Becket Keys & Essex at the English Schools' Championships. This is one of the most prestigious athletics events of the year, and just to qualify, each athlete has to meet the highest of national standards,

before being individually selected by their county.

Max travelled up on Thursday 11th July with all the other Essex athletes. He then took part in one of two heats in the Inter Boys 3000m on Friday afternoon. 35 boys competed in total. He led the pack most of the way before a strong finish by several boys saw him finish second to qualify for the final - 8:47.32.

On Saturday, Max took on the inter boys 3000m final - a very closely contested race with all competitors running in a tightly packed group for several laps before Max broke away with a handful of other boys. Taking the lead with 600m to go Max strided strongly but couldn't quite hang onto the line finishing in a brilliant 5th place - 8:36.88. Amazing result, only 3 seconds off of his PB, considering it was such a slow and tactical race to begin with, and a strong headwind.

The day also saw the parade of



counties really emphasizing the scale of the event and number of athletes involved.

This has set Max up perfectly to take on the Nationals next weekend, back at The Alexander Stadium in Birmingham hosted by England Athletics.

Congratulations Max!



Thomas Swan in Year 7 was able to meet with Mr Scott-Evans to receive his award for Art & Design.

Well done Thomas!



Here are all the fantastic pieces from the Art Department with Mrs

Brassett.

Star Artist for Art

Isabel Slaney Year 12

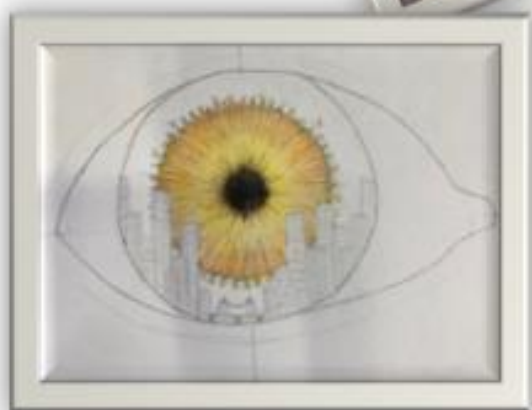








**And here is some lovely work from Art and Textiles
with Mrs Cherry...**





@becketkeysarttextiles



@becketkeysarttextiles



@becketkeysarttextiles





Book of the Month - July



A tear-jerking, heart-breakingly beautiful novel from the award-winning Jenny Valentine.

There is one side of that moment, and the other

Before

After

I have dreamed about it ever since

At the start of a long, hot summer best friends Elk and Mab face the fallout of a sudden death, and the lifelong consequences of a single tragic act.

An ode to life and love and loss and friendship – and the devastating beauty of it all.



Transitioning into Medical/Dental School
Sunday 21st July, 11am to 2pm.

During this conference, the students will receive a guided tour of what to expect in their first term at medical school, invaluable advice on transitioning smoothly from sixth form to university, and essential guidance on key life skills like budgeting and maintaining a work-life balance. Join us for an enriching session that will equip them for the exciting journey ahead!

Book your conference for FREE today:
<https://airtable.com/appV717EwnblfNUGi/shrilzGTuXqFruOgl>



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The Whole School Photo is now available to view and purchase.

Please visit
www.carmeljaneshop.co.uk

Access code : [um8sem](#)

All photographs will be sent straight to home addresses and free card mounts are now to collect from the school office. Any queries please contact Carmel Jane Photography direct.

Email:
info@carmeljane.co.uk

Tel: 01277 822674 (9am-5pm)

Carmel Jane Photography



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

BACK TO SCHOOL

YEAR 7

WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2024

WHOLE SCHOOL

THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane
Brentwood, Essex
CM15 9DA
01277 286600

www.becketkeys.org
office@becketkeys.org
finance@becketkeys.org

X:

@BecketKeys
@MrScottEvans
@BecketKeys6th
@BecketKeysMusic
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