



Becket Keys Church of England School

8th November 2024

REMEMBRANCE DAY – MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2024

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Mrs Sharp writes.....

Preparing for Remembrance Day



This week, our worship has offered a poignant reminder of the importance of preparing our hearts and minds as we approach next week's Remembrance Day. As we reflect on the words of

Micah 6:8 (NIV), "What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God," we are called to honour those who have sacrificed for peace.

In the face of tragedy, neglect, and disaster—whether through war or terror—it is essential to lament the loss of lives and communities. This collective mourning can transform our individual pain into a shared commitment to create a better world. By engaging with scripture, particularly the psalms of lament, we can deepen our sensitivity to the sufferings of others and cultivate hope. This journey toward understanding justice, peace, and reconciliation requires not only courage and vision, but also the humility to listen and be transformed.

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Enrichment Day

The whole school was off timetable on Thursday for our first Enrichment Day of the year.

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A Level Geography students visited Blencathra to support their studies.

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A wonderful musical afternoon today with our talented students.

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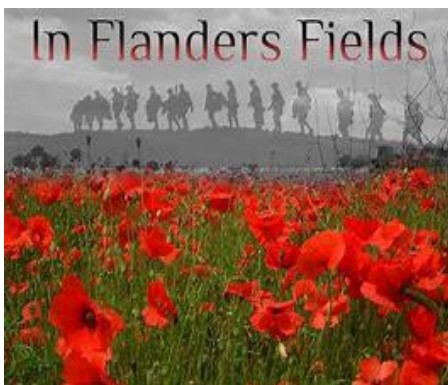
The poppy, which flourishes in battle-scarred fields, symbolises remembrance and hope. Adopted by the Royal British Legion, these delicate yet resilient flowers thrive even amidst chaos and destruction. The bright red Flanders poppy (*Papaver rhoeas*) inspired Lieutenant

Colonel John McCrae’s famous 1915 poem, “In Flanders Fields,” which serves as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made:

*In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset
glow, Loved and were loved, and
now we lie
In Flanders' fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
grow In Flanders' Fields.*



Let us remember all service personnel who have served in conflicts throughout history, both past and present. Let us also remember the ongoing need for peace and justice. May we strive to “act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.” The torch of remembrance and responsibility is now in our hands, urging us to honour their sacrifices while actively working towards a more compassionate future.

Let us pray:

God of infinite compassion, grant us the strength to seek healing, justice, and peace for all. Help us listen to the voices of the marginalised and those who feel excluded. May we pursue tolerance amid our differences for the sake of your kingdom. Amen.

Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher



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Remembrance Day Memorial Service Monday 11th November 2023

We would like to invite all parents and carers to our memorial service for Remembrance Day on Monday 11th November 2024.

All are welcome to attend, but please keep in mind that this is an outside service held on the playground.

It will begin at 10:45am and will finish at approximately 11:05am. Please arrive at reception by 10.40am.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
Lest We Forget

Poppies are available for sale during tutor time and at Main Reception.

Enrichment Day – November 2024

On Thursday 8th November the whole school was off timetable to take part in our first Enrichment Day of the academic year.

These days are designed to focus on the wider personal development of students.

Yesterday we had events and performances mainly involving the Mathematics, English, Science and PE departments. Students were able to get involved with a number of activities throughout the day.

Band Year 7-9



[Sissy Ford - YouTube](#)

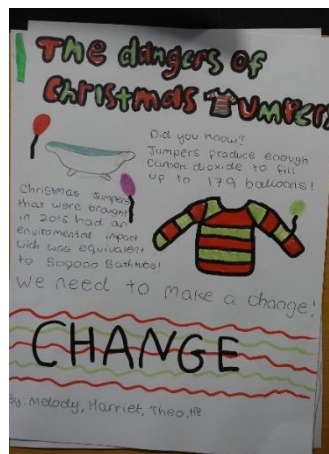
Sissy Ford, a singer-songwriter and her guitarist, provided an immersive experience. It was lovely to see how the pair were able to take their music and relate to all different ages throughout the school by performing songs by popular artists such as Sabrina Carpenter.



When asked the students said that they enjoyed listening to Sissy's own songs, along with popular songs that they knew and like. Sissy also spoke about her Career pathway and the importance of having goals and making healthy choices to help with success.



Mathematics (Year 7)



Students were made aware of the impact fast fashion has on our environment. Students were able to use their estimation and calculation skills to work out the wastage that was produced by not recycling clothes, then went on to create posters to represent the impact recycling has on the environment we live in.



[Home | Elevate Education](#)

Elevate (Year 10 and 11)

Students were taught helpful revision strategies in the lead-up to their exams.



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 through an integrated process that works.

This was an interactive session, comparing techniques with other classmates, preparing students on how to navigate stress and time management in the period coming up to exam season.

Interhouse Sport

Netball (Year 7-9 girls)

All forms took part in this house competition with 100% effort and encouraging enthusiasm from all the students involved.

The teams worked well together maintaining good defensive play, shooting and teamwork.



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Rugby (Year 7-9 boys)

All the games were fun and enthusiastic, considering the cold and muddy weather conditions. Every form was competitive and enthusiastic, making all matches a joy to watch.



Macbeth (Year 10 and 11)

The KS4 groups has the opportunity to watch a performance of 'Macbeth' which is one of the texts they are studying for their English Literature GCSE.



A very well set out performance that portrayed the acts and characters in the play in a way that was easy to follow. When asked, students said they enjoyed the comedy elements and were impressed that so few cast members managed to play so many characters.

Science (Year 8)

Students used chemistry to design, light and try and set off their own rockets. They found the challenge fun, interactive and exciting.



Careers (Year 9)

In this session students learnt about the variety of career pathways that are available to them. Students particularly liked

the who's who staff careers pathway quiz.



Post 16 options and life and workskills (Year 10 and 11)

Students were encouraged to think about their post 16 options and pathways. Students enjoyed exploring a range of career and educational routes.

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

Thank you to staff, students and our guest for making Enrichment Day such a positive day.

A special thank you to Sixth Formers Olivia and Ben for this detailed report and their help throughout the day.

Ms North
Head of Careers

Blencathra 2024



The A-Level Geographers have recently returned from the Lake District National park and the fabulous Blencathra mountain and field studies centre.

The annual Year 13 fieldtrip is a chance for the students to witness firsthand the geography and splendour of the Fells whilst collecting their primary data for their NEA (Non-examined assessment). This piece of work accounts for 20% of our overall A-Level Geography grade and is a great stepping stone towards their next steps after Becket Keys. The students practice and apply a range of skills and presentation techniques in producing a 4,500+ word project on a topic of their choice.

As part of the fieldtrip the students enjoyed visiting and exploring: the human geography of Keswick, climbed Cat Bells, saw Scotland across the Solway Firth, studied sand dunes and the heavily managed coastal settlement of Siloth. We were blessed with the weather and had a jolly good time as well as making new friends and learning new things. Thank you to all those involved and the staff who made this fieldtrip possible and a memorable experience.

If you are interested in what Blencathra is like there is currently a very interesting program available on iPlayer [BBC Four - Life of a Mountain, A Year on Blencathra](#). If you haven't got time to watch the full episode, at least devote 2 minutes to this [BBC Four - Life of a Mountain, A Year on Blencathra, Sharp edge](#) to get a feel for the place!

Mr Taylor-Smith, Head of Geography



House music is a music competition between the six houses (all named after Olympians and Para Olympians from the 2012 London Olympic games) at Becket Keys. Pendleton & Peacock (PP), Ennis & Whitehead (EW), Farah & Storey (FS), Wiggins & Weir (WW), Hoy & Simmons (HS) and Ainsley & Cockcroft (AC).

The concert 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.

Instrumental Cup we heard solo performances from Sixth Form students Ruth Pennant, Sam Scrutton, Noah Gray, Sam Carey, Isabel Slaney, Zac Amachree representing their houses.

Zak Amachree - won the Becket Keys Instrumental Prize 2024
 Isabel Slaney 2nd
 Sam Scrutton 3rd





Late Gate

*Early is on time
On time is late
And late is unacceptable!*

At Becket Keys, we look to ensure that we are preparing students for life beyond school; this includes encouraging students to attend school regularly, and of course, on time.

Remember that the school gate closes at **8.25am**. This allows students enough time to be at their first lesson on time. Period 1 begins at 8.30am.

Brentwood can be tough to manoeuvre during rush hour, so we encourage students and parents to contact the school in the case of **genuine** lateness such as delayed public transport.

Parents can call the main school line 01277 286600 or use the "Studybugs" app.

We thank you for your support.



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School



To celebrate their transition into Becket Keys, the Year 7 Disco will be taking place at Becket Keys on:

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2024
5.00pm – 7.00pm

This is always a fantastic evening and provides students with the opportunity to celebrate their successes so far.

There will be photographs on arrival, dancing and music in the Bistro and games and activities to play. The students will also be able to tuck in to the drinks and pizza provided.

Tickets are now available to buy via ParentPay

£13.75



The School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans is every Wednesday at 8.45am.

**Cancelled on Wednesday 13th November
due to the Inset Day.**

Sixth Form Information Evening

We are delighted to announce that we are holding our annual Sixth Form Information Evening for students in Year 11. It will take place on **Tuesday 11th November**. It will start at 4.30pm and finish at 8.30pm. If you would like to attend, please register via Ticket Tailor:

[Buy tickets – Becket Keys Church of England School](#)

During the evening, you will hear from Mr Scott-Evans (Headteacher), and Mrs Course (Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form). They will inform you about:

- What the Sixth Form is like and our vision for the future.
- How to apply for a place in the Sixth Form and key steps and dates along the way.
- Which subjects will suit your skills and interests.
- Which combination of subjects will be possible.
- The entry requirements.
- How we will advise you when making difficult choices.
- The different ways in which you can discover more about the subjects you want to take.
- What an 'ordinary' day, week, term and year are like in the Sixth Form at Becket Keys.
- Extra-curricular opportunities in the Sixth Form.
- How we will support your preparation for the next steps after being in the Sixth Form.

The Sixth Form Prospectus and the Sixth Form Course Guide will be available for you to take home. You can then discuss the different options available with your son/daughter. There will also be an opportunity to take a tour of the Sixth Form area in the Justin Welby building.

We have limited space so kindly book a ticket for each person attending.

Any questions please email: sixthform@becketkeys.org

We look forward to welcoming you that evening!





Help out when you check out

Collect FREE donations for **FRIENDS OF BECKET KEYS** every time you shop online.





Join, shop and raise here:
easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/becketkeysschoolbrentwood

If you are organised and already doing your Christmas shopping online. 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.

All donations are welcome but the following items are the most needed in November :-

Tinned Tuna
Tea bags
Shower Gel
Washing up Liquid
Size 5 Nappies
Washing Gel



Book of the Month - November



Birdie Bagshaw has never known her parents. Having grown up in a children's home in 1950s Leeds, now she has come to live with her great-aunt in the Yorkshire Dales and she's excited about becoming part of the family who have tracked her down.

But when she arrives in the pit village of Barrington Dale, she's obviously not what her Great Aunt Mabel was expecting, although she's not sure why. And it's not just her aunt who has trouble accepting her. The local children ask Birdie if her colour washes off. Her next-door neighbour won't let his daughter play with her. And even her teacher gives her a jigsaw instead of a maths book, assuming she's stupid.

When their bullying drives Birdie to hide in the nearby coal mine, she finds an unexpected rescuer in the form of Mr Duke, the last remaining pit pony in the village. As the weeks pass, Birdie forms a special bond with the spirited little pony. But his future is in danger, and Birdie comes up with a daring plan to save his life that will have consequences for the whole community. . . .



Homework Club is available for all students.

Every afternoon after school students can stay for a supervised session 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.

There are a large number of extracurricular clubs that your son/daughter can attend at Becket Keys. Full details are available on the school website here: <https://www.becketkeys.org/extracurricular>.

NHS
Essex Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

Flu Vaccine Catch up Clinics

Has your child missed their school vaccinations?

We are running local flu catch up clinics this winter, your nearest clinic is:

Thameside House, Thurrock Hospital, RM16 2PX
10am to 3pm

- Friday 1 November (Half term)
- Saturday 30 November 10am – 2pm
- Monday 23 December (walk in clinic only)

The Hermit Youth Centre, Brentwood, CM15 8AG
10am to 2pm

- Saturday 19 October
- Wednesday 31 October (half term) 10am – 3pm
- Saturday 9 November
- Saturday 14 December 10am – 3pm

Tilbury Children's Centre, RM18 8EY
10am to 3pm

- Monday 30 December (Christmas Holidays)

It's easy to catch up, book your nearest clinic NOW on 0300 790 0597.

For information on school aged vaccinations please visit our website:
eput.nhs.uk/childrensvaccines

#GetWinterStrong



WEEK 2

WEEK COMMENCING
 09/09/2024 30/09/2024 21/10/2024 11/11/2024 02/12/2024
 23/12/2024 13/01/2025 03/02/2025 24/02/2025 17/03/2025

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS		VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS	
MONDAY Traditional Sausage & Mash with Onion Gravy	MONDAY Vegan Sausage & Mash with Onion Gravy (VE)	TUESDAY Creamy Garlic Chicken & Mushroom Pasta with Garden salad	TUESDAY Gnocchi with Roasted Vegetables in a Tomato & Basil Sauce (V)
WEDNESDAY Hand Carved Roast British Turkey, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables, & House Gravy	WEDNESDAY Open Harissa Roasted Squash & Feta Pie with Seasonal Vegetables or Salad (V)	THURSDAY Smokey Beef Chilli Con Carne with Rice, Nachos & Corn	THURSDAY Smokey Plant Based Chilli with Rice, Nachos & Corn (V)
FRIDAY Chip Shop 'Fryday' Fish, Pizza or Fishcake & Chips with Peas & Tartare Sauce	FRIDAY Vegan Falafel Burger, Naked Slaw, Mango Chutney, Chips & Peas (VE)		

DESSERTS

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Apple Pie & Custard	Peach & Pineapple Crumble	Sticky Coconut & Jam Pudding	Baked Churros with Chocolate Sauce	Manager's Special

Fruit & Yoghurt Pots Available Daily

HOMEMADE SOUP & FRESHLY BAKED BREAD Available Daily

JACKET POTATOES Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily

MANAGER'S STREET VIBES

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Caramelised Onion & Mozzarella Poutine	Gochujang Chicken & Sesame Rice Pot	Mei Goreng Indonesian Fried Noodles	Korean Fried Crispy Chicken	Manager's Street Vibes Special

NATURALLY

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Reggae Reggae Jackfruit Curry (VE)	Spiced Paneer & Red Onion Naan (V)	Vegan Ramen Bowl (VE)	The Big Plant Burger (VE)	Manager's Special

TRATTORIA

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tomato & Basil Pasta	Creamy Pesto Pasta	Mozzarella & Tomato or Pepperoni, Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Pasta in Cheese Sauce	Mozzarella & Tomato or BBQ Chicken, Cheese & Tomato Pizza

Our Vegetarian and Vegan recipes are approved by the Vegetarian Society.

PE Extra Curricular - Term 2



Day	4.1 Lunchtime (11:50-12:30) 4.2 Lunchtime (12:40-1:20)	After-School (3:10-4:30)
Monday	Year 10 and 11 Basketball Club	Year 8 Netball Year 8 Rugby Year 7 Rugby
Tuesday	TUP Futsal	Year 9 Rugby Year 7 Basketball
Wednesday	Year 7 Netball – Invite Only	Year 9, 10 & 11 Netball Girls' Football All Years
Thursday	(4.1) Year 8 Basketball (4.2) TUP Basketball	Year 7 Netball Year 10 & 11 Rugby Boys' Football All Years
Friday	(4.1) Year 9 Basketball (4.2) TUP Badminton	

Keys:

- Astro
- Sports hall
- Main Hall
- Drama Hall
- Field
- Playground



Sixth Form Girls' Netball

Our Sixth Form netball team started their season with a bang against a well drilled St John Payne side. The girls were super enthusiastic about their first game and Azaria was a shining beacon of positivity! She was encouraging throughout the game and brings real energy to the team.

Our side were captained by Layla Ford who has a history of outstanding shooting for the school - we are very pleased to have her back!

After a slow start to the game, the girls were in a flow and managed to score a few goals in order to unsettle the opposition. Our target for future games is to make efficient passes and feed off one another's movements to work fluently as a team.

Our goal keeper, Oreoluwa, was rewarded coach's player in the

match due to her powerful presence in the defensive zone. Although her contender was an incredible shooter, Oreoluwa did not give up and fought throughout. defensive zone.

Team:

Arabella Carroll
Emma Cooper
Layla Ford
Layo Aijbola
Azaria Williams-Carnegie
Oreoluwa Oguntuga
Tilly O'Shea
Anna Kate Fullerton

Final score: 25- 12 . Loss

Player of the Match - Arabella Carrol

Players Player - Layla Ford

Coaches Player - Oreoluwa Oguntuga

Miss Schafer
PE TEacher

Year 7 Boys' Basketball

The Year 7 basketball team got off to a flying start against a strong Anglo European side. Mr Lane had the headache of trying to pick a squad of 10 from over 30 talented players who attend basketball club each week! Being unable to pick just 10, a squad of 12 was chosen.

We ended the first quarter with a 6 point lead without any conceding. The half way stage was reached with the score at a convincing 12 points. The third quarter, we began to show signs of fatigue however the boys were set a target of 25 points and surpassed this scoring 29 in their first game.

Lots of positives to take! Mr Lane has identified areas to work on in practice, which has now been moved to Tuesday afterschool 3:10 - 4:30.

Man of the Match - Oscar Perry and Carl Crawford

Mr Lane
PE Teacher



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

10.45AM MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2024

*

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT

TUESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2024

*

INSET DAY

NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2024

*

YEAR 12 PARENTS' EVENING

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2024

*

YEAR 9 MADRID MEETING

THURSDAY 28TH NOVEMBER
5.00PM MAIN HALL

*

STUDENT CHRISTMAS DINNER

NON UNIFORM DAY

WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2024

*

BECKET KEYS CAROL CONCERT

THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2024

*

LAST DAY OF TERM

STUDENT HALF DAY

FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2024

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CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

MONDAY 23RD DECEMBER 2024 –
FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY 2025

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