



EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

Becket Keys Church of England School’s extra-curricular clubs started this week with an impressive array of activities and high numbers of students getting involved. Every member of staff and every student is expected to attend a club and the vast majority of students stay until at least 4:30pm every day.

This week the sports pages of the newsletter are full of details from the various sports clubs that started. Mr Scott-Evans said, “I would like to thank all the coaches, volunteers and teachers who have given up a lot of their own time and expertise to run these clubs. It is a very full timetable again this year and we are delighted with the huge take-up from students.”

Students are also now receiving their log-ins for the IT network and should have now changed their password and set up their folders.

Homework club has been well attended again this year with over 30 students attending each night to get on with some serious studying. Teachers take it in turns to lead these sessions so that students can tap into a range of expertise and support. School computers and printers are available or there is space to simply get books out.



FRIENDSHIP!

Mrs Ahlner (teacher in charge of clubs and societies) said, “We recognise that there is a lot on the timetable and it can take time for new students to ‘find their feet’! We allow them to take a few weeks to try things out and then ask them to commit to regular attendance.”

“Students must not worry if they have missed a club and want to try it the following week. They may also be interested to see what their friends are doing and go along with them. It is an essential part of the programme: friendship!”

More details about the extra-curricular programme have been emailed to parents and are also on the website.

<http://www.becketkeys.org/extracurricular.php>

It is also worth following our Twitter account @BecketKeys to keep up to date and ask questions.

OTHER NEWS

OPEN DAYS - 16th September, 24th September, 2nd October

Our three open days are rapidly approaching and we anticipate large numbers of families coming to see our school. Hundreds of our current students have volunteered to act as hosts and tour guides. We look forward to these exciting events.

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

The new Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Code of Practice became effective 1st September 2014. The new law, and its impact on SEND provision, has been reviewed and policies are currently being amended accordingly.

However, our approach to supporting students with SEND remains unchanged; emphasis remains on quality first teaching and stringent monitoring of outcomes for students. If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Mrs. Cavalier, SENDCo.

POLITICS CLUB

This week was the first meeting of the Politics Club (Wed 3.20–4.00 in R13). Among other things the students and staff discussed the Scottish Independence Referendum, looking at some of the campaigning of Alex Salmond and Alistair Darling. They also looked ahead to planning a School Election to mirror the General Election in May 2015. If you are interested in getting involved please go along.

ICT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CLUB

On Thursday Lunchtimes (12.55–1.25pm) Mr McMillan will be available to help students develop their ICT skills. For example, if students have a piece of homework to produce on PowerPoint, Publisher, Word or Excel they can go along and get some advice on making the most of these programs.

Mr McMillan has some particular expertise in making and editing digital videos and is happy to offer support and assistance to students who are interested in this. Mr McMillan's YouTube channel is <http://www.youtube.com/user/MrMcMillanREvis>.

You can have a look and then ask him how he does it!

SPORTS NEWS

BOYS' FOOTBALL TRIALS

It was great to see over 100 students at football trials on Monday. The Y7's will be having their second trial this afternoon and will find out on Monday whether they have been chosen as part of an 18 man squad. Their first competitive match is on Thursday 18th, an email will go out on Monday to inform you if your son is in the team. After this, the squad will be under regular review and boys who don't make the squad are encouraged to show their skills on the astro-turf each day where staff keep an eye out for improving players.



BOYS' BASKETBALL TRIALS

Over 20 students turned up at 7.15am on Monday to take part in the Y7 basketball trials process. The first team will be picked in a few weeks. Keep getting up early and training well and you will be sure to catch our eye. Great to see new faces and old faces at the Y8 session on Wednesday, and the Y9 session today was well attended too, again with new and old faces. There is now a healthy competition for places in the Y9 squad which has improved the quality of training.

X-COUNTRY & TRACK CLUB

Over 60 students attended on Tuesday before school with students attempting a 1 lap record (280m) and a 3 lap record (860m). Students of

all abilities are welcome at this club. Each week, students will buddy up with a training partner and carry out a variety of fitness activities. Then every term (we have a 6 term year), students will be assessed on their 1 lap and 3 lap times (5 lap optional). Progress is shown by students beating their previous records. Becket Keys have entered the English Schools Cross Country competition this year. With our Y8 boys, champions of Brentwood, we are excited to see how they perform on a bigger stage.

With the house cross country competition coming up in the next few weeks, all the PE teachers have been running the course two or three times per week to improve their fitness. Each teacher has set themselves a challenging target time which they aim to achieve before the competition. Students, when you get a chance, pop on some trainers and head out for a run, or come along to the running club on Tuesday mornings.



RUGBY TRIALS

A hugely popular sport at Becket Keys with over 70 students attending. There is a Y7&Y8 rugby match on Wednesday. This is only a friendly and is for all the students who attended the first training session. This session is likely to finish at 5.30.

SWIMMING TRIALS

Great to see 8 new faces at the swimming academy on Thursday morning. This is still open to any swimmer who wishes to improve their swim times in a variety of strokes. The trial period lasts for 2 sessions before students commit to a termly membership. Y7 swim trials are on Thursday 18th September at Brentwood School, 4.00-5.00pm.

MORE SPORTS

GYMNASTICS

Over 30 students attended gymnastics this week. Students of Y7, Y8 and Y9 teamed up together to meet new friends and to show off their skills! Gymnastics and trampoline club will run on alternate weeks from now on, with trampoline club on gold week and gymnastics on purple week.

HOCKEY

Both experienced players and beginners attended the first hockey training session of the year on Tuesday. While some Y7s attended, the majority of students were Y8 and Y9. Hockey is open to both boys and girls in all year groups, whatever your experience! The first hockey games are in the middle of October, so there is plenty of time to improve and develop skills before team selection. Please ensure that students have shin pads and we advise that gum shields are worn.



NETBALL

We were lucky enough to have over 80 girls attend netball training this week! This enthusiasm is fantastic and we hope that everyone continues to attend training over the coming weeks. A particular 'well done' to the

Y9s – not many schools are lucky enough to have 20 students turn up to netball! The first games for all years start the week commencing 22nd September. Next week will run as another trial session so that both A, B and C teams can be selected.

GIRLS' FOOTBALL

The first after-school girls' football club started on Thursday this week. There was a good turn out from the girls, especially in Y7! This year Y7, Y8 and Y9 have been entered into football leagues and the Y8 and Y9s have their first fixture on Monday. An email will be sent to you today if your daughter has been selected to play. Thank you to Mr Jackson and Mr Keely for volunteering to help train the team!

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Training started on Tuesday for the busy basketball season ahead for the girls at Becket Keys! With league and cup games for all years, enthusiasm and commitment to training with Mr London is essential! Over 30 students attended on Monday after-school for the training session and 20 students attended 'turn up and play' with Miss Webb at lunchtime.

ALL WELCOME

All students of any ability are welcome at all of our sports clubs. If there are clashes with any other clubs on the same night, your son/daughter may be able to alternate and attend one on gold week and the other on purple, ask them to speak the relevant teacher(s) about this.

Furthermore, if you have any experience in coaching and you would like to help volunteer with any of our sports clubs please get in contact with the school office for further information.

UNIFORM MATTERS

EARRINGS

Please make sure that if your daughter is planning on wearing earrings that she has plain gold or silver small studs to wear. She must also be able to remove the earrings easily for sporting activities.

MAKE UP

Make up is not allowed at Becket Keys except for older girls who may wear a small amount of concealer to cover blemishes.

We do ask girls to remove eye make up, nail varnish and lip gloss if we see it.

HAIR

Boys' hair must be short and smart. No extreme hairstyles.

Girls' long hair must be tied back with purple, black or neutral coloured bands. Becket Keys ribbons are available from reception for £3.50.

No students are allowed to dye their hair and we will insist on this including taking students to hairdressers, if necessary.

KILTS

We are sorry to hear that there is a supply issue at SmartyPants. It seems a large number of girls had grown and needed new longer skirts.

Skirts must be knee length and we will be checking that new

skirts are on order if your daughter is not wearing the correct uniform.

Please remember that girls are not allowed to wear trousers at Becket Keys.

TROUSERS

Boys' trousers must be charcoal grey like the ones sold by SmartyPants that we recommend. They must be tailored and not 'cargo style' or skinny jeans.

BAGS

Bags should be the SmartyPants Becket Keys branded ones or plain black, no colours and no large logos.

WHITEBOARD PENS

Students are expected to have their own whiteboard pen; we use mini-whiteboards a lot!

The school shop is open on Tuesdays and will sell stationery in the Bistro. Your son/daughter can purchase cost-price items in our shop.

BECKET BISTRO

CASHLESS CATERING

1. It is possible to set a limit on how much your son/daughter can spend each day. Please contact Mrs Nina Chapman if you would like to arrange this:
n.chapman@becketkeys.org
2. It takes 24 hours for a 'top up' to reach your son/daughter's account. Please keep an eye on the account. We cannot provide an 'over draft'!



NOTICES

SPANISH DICTIONARY

Our students need a Spanish Dictionary. Please make sure that you have one at home for them to refer to and/or a small pocket one that they can bring to school. See Mrs Norman for more details.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT

For parents who need to find the DT drawing equipment the following links might be helpful:

Set Squares - £4.92 -

<http://tinyurl.com/setsquareBK>

French Curve - £3.00 -

<http://tinyurl.com/frenchcurveBK>

HELP REQUIRED

We are looking for some parent volunteers to help with art, design and textiles lessons.

We are very grateful to Mrs Bull who has been helping for the last year. We are now looking for some further assistance please.



CONTACT DETAILS

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VACANCIES

CATERING STAFF REQUIRED

We are seeking a reliable, hard working person to join the friendly team in our Becket Keys kitchen.

This role involves some basic food preparation, cleaning and serving students. Full training given, some experience preferred ideally with a current basic food hygiene certificate.

For more details please send a current C.V and cover letter to becketkeys@accentcatering.co.uk

Dates for your Diary

16th Sept Open Morning/Evening

24th Sept Open Morning/Evening

2nd Oct Open Morning/Evening

(Open Mornings/Evenings are for prospective parents to tour the school. Our existing students will be asked to volunteer as tour guides and assistants)

9th Oct Year 7 Meet the Tutor Eve

16th Oct Year 8 Theatre Trip
(Warhorse)

22nd Oct All Saints Tide Eucharists

27th-31st **All Saints Holiday**

3rd Nov Staff Training Day
(no students)

4th Nov Back to school

You can keep up to date with a daily tweet from Becket Keys by following us on Twitter: @BecketKeys.

