

CHALLENGE

Becket Keys Church of England School

11th February 2022

HEADTEACHER CHALLENGE

IN THIS ISSUE

Mr Scott-Evans writes:

Have a Happy Healthy Holiday

We are halfway through the year and I would like to remind students in the lower school of my Head Teacher's Challenges. I wrote these when we opened the school as lists of edifying pursuits to stretch and develop students in a variety of ways.

You can find all the details at the back of the Family Handbook available [here](#).

The idea is for students to complete as many of these challenges as possible. As a guide: Stage 1 is for students in Year 6, Stage 2 is for those in Year 7 and Stage 3 is for those in Year 8. However, the lists provide a good foundation for anyone looking for something different to

do outside of typical phone/console based pursuits.

Some of my favourites are:

- Learning to say 'hello', 'please' and 'thank you' in multiple languages
- Going to see original art
- Visiting museums and landmarks
- Writing to relatives
- Litter picking
- Trying new foods
- Going to a charity shop and paying double
- Read a prayer or the Bible at a church service
- Learn to do a magic trick
- Go to the library
- Sketch
- Read a classic novel by Dickens
- Start a vegetable garden

.....contd. on page 2



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School

Uniform Sale

Uniform sale and 'Cash for Clothes' drop off details.

Page 2

Creative Writing Competition

Excellent news for our students who entered the Rotary Young Writer Competition. We also have some new book recommendations for the Year 7 reading challenge.

Page 3-4

Careers Department

There are details of some excellent opportunities offered for students.

Page 11-13

Biblical Pause

The Art of Simple Living.

Page 17-18

....contd. from Page 1

Other ideas that are not in the challenges include:



- Learn to play chess:
www.chesskid.com
- Practise language skills:
www.duolingo.com
- Go for a walk, run or bike ride
- Use
www.drfrostmaths.com
for mathematics practice



I would love to see and hear about what students are doing. You can update me via Twitter on @MrScottEvans or you can send me an email (preferably with pictures!) via office@becketkeys.org. I am sure that we would all love to see what students have been doing when we return next week.

Whatever you choose to do and wherever you choose to go – I pray that you all have a happy and healthy holiday.

God bless.

Mr Scott-Evans
Headteacher



NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE & CASH FOR CLOTHES COLLECTION

SATURDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2022

11.00am – 2.00pm

On the school playground

You will be able to purchase good quality, pre-loved uniform at a great price.

On this day we will also be collecting your unwanted clothes, shoes, scarves, belts and bags for a 'Cash for Clothes' collection. Drop off is in the car park during the times above. Great news for those who wish to have a sort out over the Lent holiday!

If you wish to donate towels or bedding, kindly place them all together in a bag and mark it clearly as these items will be weighed separately.

Please note that duvets, pillows and soft toys are not accepted.

Thank you all for your support.

Rotary Creative Writing Competition Success!

For many years the Rotary club has organised locally and sponsored the Rotary National Competition "Youth Speaks". This year they have introduced the 'Young Writer competition' where the idea is to encourage young people to use their writing skills and write with imagination and creativity. The theme this year was the environment- students could write prose, poetry, fiction or non-fiction based around this.

ROTARY **YOUTH SPEAKS** **COMPETITION**

I was very proud to see how many of our students entered and this was something that was noted by the organisers, too. I had the pleasure to read all of our entries before sending them off and was very impressed by the level of creativity shown. All participants will receive a certificate from the organisers.

Becket Keys clearly made an impression on the competition's judges as we placed both 1st and 2nd for the intermediate and senior categories for the Brentwood stage of the competition!

Rotary Young Writer

A writing competition for young people



Congratulations to: Lowri Cole and Jamie Hancox who placed 1st in their category. Their entries will now be put forward for the District competition and each will receive a £30 Amazon voucher.

Congratulations to: Adam Mahoney and Elizabeth Thompson who placed 2nd in their category and will each receive a £20 Amazon voucher.

And finally, congratulations to Joshua Driver and Callum Etchells who the judges felt deserved a

special mention as they did extremely well!

For more information about the many competitions the Rotary District are running please visit their website:

<https://www.rotary-ribi.org/districts/page.php?PgID=514904&DistrictNo=1285>

Miss Romano
English Teacher

Year 7 - Reading Recommendations

This month the year 7s have been reading 'The Return' in form time. This is a Science-Fiction novel that tells the story of a mysterious plane that shows up in an airport full of babies! If you enjoy this genre, here are some of my recommended reads;

Miss Romano, English Teacher



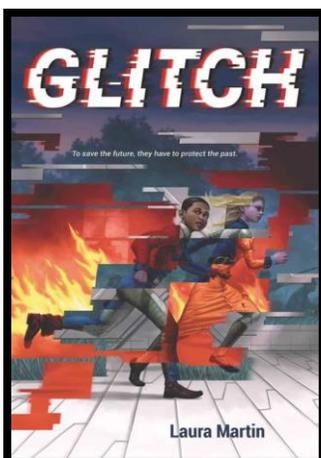
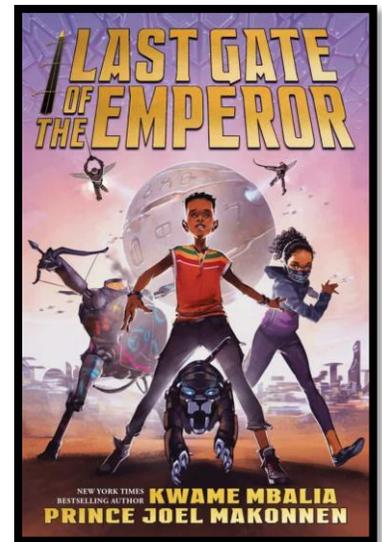
'A Wrinkle in Time' Madeleine L'engle

A Wrinkle in Time is the story of Meg Murry, a high-school-aged girl who is transported on an adventure through time and space with her younger brother, Charles Wallace and her friend, to rescue her father, a gifted scientist, from the evil forces that hold him prisoner on another planet.

'Last Gate of the Emperor'

Kwame Mbalia and Prince Joel Makonnen

Yared's Uncle Moti moves them around frequently so when Yared gives his real name during an augmented reality game, he doesn't think the soldiers that arrive are after him. But they are. And everything he believed about his life turns out to be a lie...including his identity. Yared partners with another game player, the Ibis, to escape the troops and the giant monster and find the truth. The two clever, quick-witted kids face incredible danger, insurmountable odds, and a galaxy-spanning war but Yared has been trained for this and he is ready to fight. **Set in a futuristic Ethiopian empire, this exciting adventure grabs your interest and keeps it through wild twists and turns that feature heroic main characters!**



'Glitch' Laura Martin

In this world, **some people have the genetic ability to time travel.** Regan is one of those people. Like all kids with this ability, she's required to train as a Glitcher so as teens and adults, they'll be ready to stop the bad guys from interfering with historical events. She gets an illegal message from her future self that she could go to jail for— and starts to suspect that things aren't as they seem. Then, she and her nemesis, another kid called Elliot, get sent to a secret partner programme. They're forced to work together clandestinely to stop a catastrophe that could destroy the entire Glitch program. **Fast-paced, unique, and entertaining!**

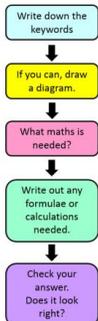
Extra-Curricular Clubs

Maths Help and Support Club Year 10 and 11

08/02/2022

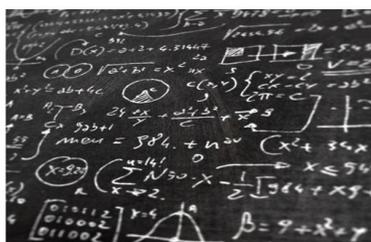


When solving a problem...



Would you like help with your maths?
 Do you want some revision tips?
 Need something explaining again?
 Want to improve your understanding?

Drop into J23
 Every Monday 3.15pm-4pm



New Extracurricular Opportunities

Rugby & Street Dance



COMING SOON!

We are in the early stages of setting up two new activities for you all.

Please keep your eyes on the fixtures board.

To access these opportunities, you will need to sign up for them, so be alert!



Y7 only Club de español

Come practice your Spanish, learn some new vocabulary, play language games...

When?
 Thursday at lunchtime
 (quickly eat your lunch first)

Where? C31

With who?
 Mrs Bolaños

Sign-up sheet will be outside the languages office each week.

DT Club – W01 3:20 - Friday

In DT club this week, you will have the opportunity to work on your projects.



- Year 7 – Wooden Storage box
- Year 8 – Wooden Link toy
- Year 9 – Wooden Speaker

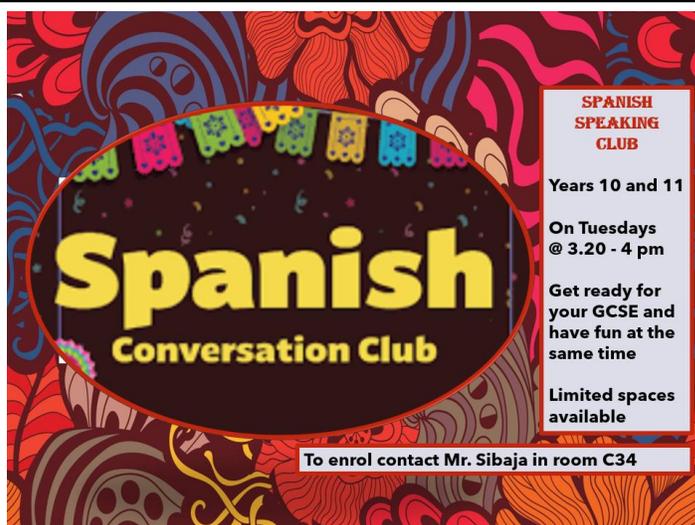
There is now a sign up sheet outside W01 – when / if there are 25 names, I will take the sheet down. If you are unable to come this week, we will be doing the same next week.



WARHAMMER 40.000

Come and play with us at the Warhammer 40K Club!

When? Tuesdays 3:15-4pm
Where? J25
With Who? Mr. Taylor



SPANISH SPEAKING CLUB

Years 10 and 11

On Tuesdays @ 3.20 - 4 pm

Get ready for your GCSE and have fun at the same time

Limited spaces available

To enrol contact Mr. Sibaja in room C34

Food Department

This week in Food Technology, the Key Stage 3 groups have been doing their end of unit assessments.

The Year 7 task was to make some bread, and they were all given the recipe to practise for a week prior to the assessment lesson.

They looked at which ingredients could be added to enhance their bread, and different shaping methods to introduce pieces with more appeal and complexity.

Many types of bread were produced, including plaits, twists, cheesy centres, and sweet breads. You can see the many different recipes in the pictures.

I was extremely impressed by the effort and amount of work that went into the final loaves, and all the students should be proud of what they made.

Mrs Vallance
Food Teacher



BECKET KEYS
Church of England School





Free School Meal Vouchers Lent Holiday

In order to continue to support our families entitled to Free School Meals during the Lent Holiday, we will be using the school voucher system, Wonde, to issue vouchers.

Parents and guardians of eligible children will have received an email from Wonde to allow them to claim a voucher for £15 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. 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:

<https://help.evouchers.com/hc/en-gb/sections/360003848737-Recipient-FAQs>



Walk-In COVID-19 Vaccinations

Help keep yourself, your friends and your family safe #GrabTheJob

Barleylands Farm Park
Monday 14th February 2022 • 10am–4pm

1st, 2nd or Booster dose Covid vaccinations
for 12-18 year olds and their families

(plus Flu vaccinations for school years: Reception - Year 11)

Walk in... no appointment necessary

Barleylands Farm Park, Barleylands Road,

Billericay, Essex CM11 2UD

(Parking On Site)



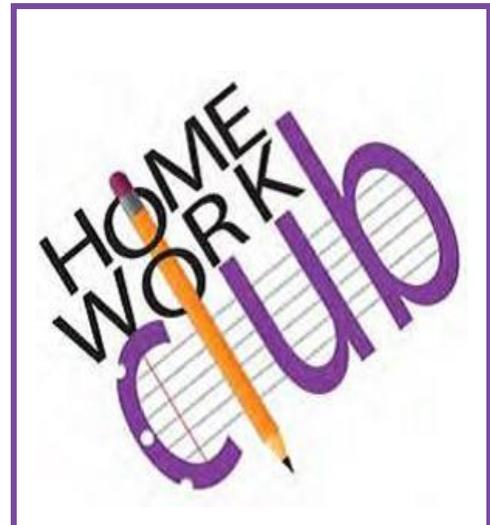
www.essexcovidvaccine.nhs.uk

Find your nearest walk-in centre [here](#).



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

This is a short meeting where we pray together for local and national events and for any intentions of those in our school family. All are welcome, please enter via reception. If you have any prayer intentions, please send them into the school via the office email: office@becketkeys.org



Remember that Homework Club is up and running! Every afternoon after school students can stay until 4.30pm and complete their homework in C11.

All year groups are welcome to attend, these sessions are supervised by members of staff so if students have any queries there are staff available.

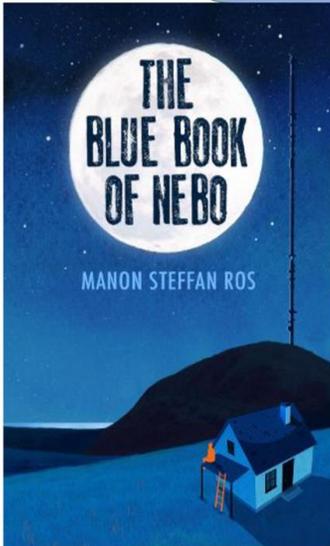
If there are a lot of students who wish to make use of this opportunity, we will open other rooms.

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!



Book of the Month - February



Dylan was six when The End came; when the electricity went off for good, and the 'normal' 21st century world he knew disappeared. Now he's 14 and he and his mam have worked to survive in their isolated hilltop house above the village of Nebo in north-west Wales, learning new skills, and returning to old ways of living. Despite their close understanding, the relationship between mother and son changes subtly as Dylan must take on adult responsibilities. What mam misses, Dylan has no use for, being perfectly adapted to the new world and his place in it. And they each have their own secrets, which emerge as, in turn, they jot down their thoughts and memories in a found notebook - the Blue Book of Nebo.

In this tender and tragic prize-winning novel, Manon Steffan Ros not only explores the human capacity to find new strengths when faced with the need to survive in a post-apocalyptic world, but also questions the structures of the contemporary one.



Word of the Week



discrepancy

In sentences:

1. There was a discrepancy between their two statements.
2. A police check revealed a discrepancy in the car's number plate, raising suspicions.
3. You may notice a discrepancy in the fit between different brand labels of clothing.

Meaning: a difference between two things that should be the same

Etymology: from the Latin 'dis' meaning 'away' and 'crepare' meaning to crack or break

Becket Keys' Church of England School proudly presents...





AUDITIONS !

Thursday 24th February
3:20-5pm RH1
Bring a drink and a snack

More details to follow before
the Lent holiday...!

Roald Dahl's

Matilda

THE MUSICAL





Year 11 Date Changes

Sixth Former
for a Day

Wednesday
23rd March 2022

Sixth Form
Bridging Event

Monday 27th & Tuesday
28th June 2022

Extracurricular 2021/2022



Day	Before School	2 nd Lunch	After-School
Monday	Year 7&9 Open Gym Squad Gymnastics	Year 10 Mixed Basketball	Year 7&8 Netball Year 7&8 Boys' Football
Tuesday	Year 8 Open Gym	Year 11 Mixed Basketball	All Years Girls' Football Year 9 Mixed Basketball
Wednesday	Year 10 & 6 th Form Open Gym Squad Gymnastics	Year 7 Mixed Basketball	Year 9&10, 11 & 6 th Netball Year 9,10, 11 & 6 th Form Football
Thursday	U15 Girls' Cricket	Girls' Basketball (Yr10&11)	Year 8 Mixed Basketball
Friday	Year 11 Open Gym	TUP Basketball	

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

THE SCHOOL NURSE IS AVAILABLE –



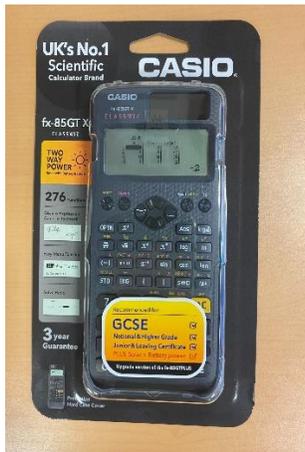
Help and advice in relation to:

**How can you make contact?
Use 'CHAT Health'**

This is manned by a School Nurse between the hours of 9-5pm Monday to Friday, and they will respond to all messages within 24 hours Monday – Friday. The aim is to provide a timely, and convenient access to confidential health advice for every young person in Essex.

Phone or text: 07520 615732

No parental consent required for students aged 13 and over.



Please ensure that your son/daughter has the correct calculator for their Mathematics lessons.

Students will need the Casio fx-85GTX for all lessons.

These can be purchased from the school office for **£11.50.**

Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

<https://studybugs.com>



Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health
See what illnesses are going around
Secure system, all communications encrypted



Please make sure that you top-up your son or daughter's account each week so that he/she is able to access all the delicious meals in the school restaurants.

There is a small overdraft facility on ParentPay accounts of £2 for emergency situations, which covers the cost of a sandwich.

Due to the cashless system in place there is no other back up.

We do not want any student to miss lunch or the great choice of food available every day in our restaurants. The chefs work hard each day to provide a variety of delicious meals for the school.

If you have any queries, please contact the school – office@becketkeys.org



Careers Information

Insights: Your Guide to Green Jobs

16th March, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

What are green jobs? How do I find a job in the green economy?
What sorts of things should I study to work in a green industry?
Join Form the Future and professionals working in green jobs to
find out more about this growing industry.

- Meet green employers like Oxwash, Colorifix, Mole Architects, Johnson Matthey & Eco-Gifting
- Learn about what green jobs are and how to pursue them
- Get your questions answered

This free event is for students in Year 8 and above, their parents and guardians.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/FtFInsights7>



**Insights: Your Guide to Green Jobs.
5.30pm and 7.00pm on Wednesday, March 16th 2022.**

This event has been designed to showcase the huge range of careers within the Green Sector in the region, and to celebrate and raise awareness of **Global Recycling Day** on 18th March. Our volunteers will be able to give you a real understanding about the environmental challenges that we face, and the solutions they are coming up with to tackle them. The participants are from a range of different industries and will give an excellent insight into their work and pathways. Some of the companies represented:

Colorifix Mole Architects Oxwash Johnson Matthey Online Eco-gifting

This virtual event is open to all students from Year 8 and above. Parents and carers are also welcome to attend, and the event has been designed to allow students to:

- Interact and connect with some of the region's leading green sector employers
- Learn about pathways available to a career in the green sector, including apprenticeships and graduate opportunities
- Find out about different jobs and opportunities

In order to register a place, please click on the following link: <https://bit.ly/FtFInsights7>. Once you visit the registration page, click 'join event'. You will be asked to register with Hopin, which is free.





Essex Opportunities Live

WEEKLY LIVE SHOWS PROVIDING INFO ON EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

EVERY WEDNESDAY 6PM - 6:25PM



Visit: www.essexopportunities.co.uk

Join Essex Opportunities for their new weekly live shows! Each week will focus on a different topic relating to employment and training opportunities in Essex. They will be joined local employers, training providers, and employment advisors, who will be available to answer your questions typed in the live chat.

Find out about local employment opportunities in Essex with Essex Opportunities new live show.

Every Wednesday at 6pm the team will host a show focusing on employment and training in Essex!

Registration links-
<https://jobsliveuk.com/essex-opportunities-live/>

YOUR FINAL CALL : SPRING WEEKENDS
 Career opportunities for ages 12-18 in 14 different industries

★★★★★
 "My experience was fantastic... it was very educational and fun, a great chance to meet new people with the same interests!"

MEDICAL PROGRAMMES

Medicine | Psychology | Veterinary Science | Dentistry | Forensic Science

STEM PROGRAMMES

Engineering | Architecture | Video Game Design | Software Engineering | Cyber Security

BUSINESS PROGRAMMES

Investment Banking | Entrepreneurship | Management Consultancy | Marketing

LAW & POLITICS PROGRAMMES

Law | Politics | International Development | Environmentalism

CREATIVE PROGRAMMES

Fashion Design | Filmmaking | Journalism | Music Production | Sports Professional

Closing date: 18th February 2022



SPEAKERS for schools

Founded in 2010 by ITV's Political Editor, Robert Peston, Speakers for Schools' aim is to end educational inequality by giving all young people access to the same prestigious networks available to the top fee-paying schools in the UK. Talks from today's influential figures via the Inspiration programme and the work experience programme link state school students to industry-leading companies and networked support partners. Speakers for Schools is helping to level the playing field for young people of all backgrounds. The services for schools and students are entirely free of charge!

For more information visit their website:

speakersforschools.org

SPEAKERS FOR SCHOOLS: UPCOMING TALKS

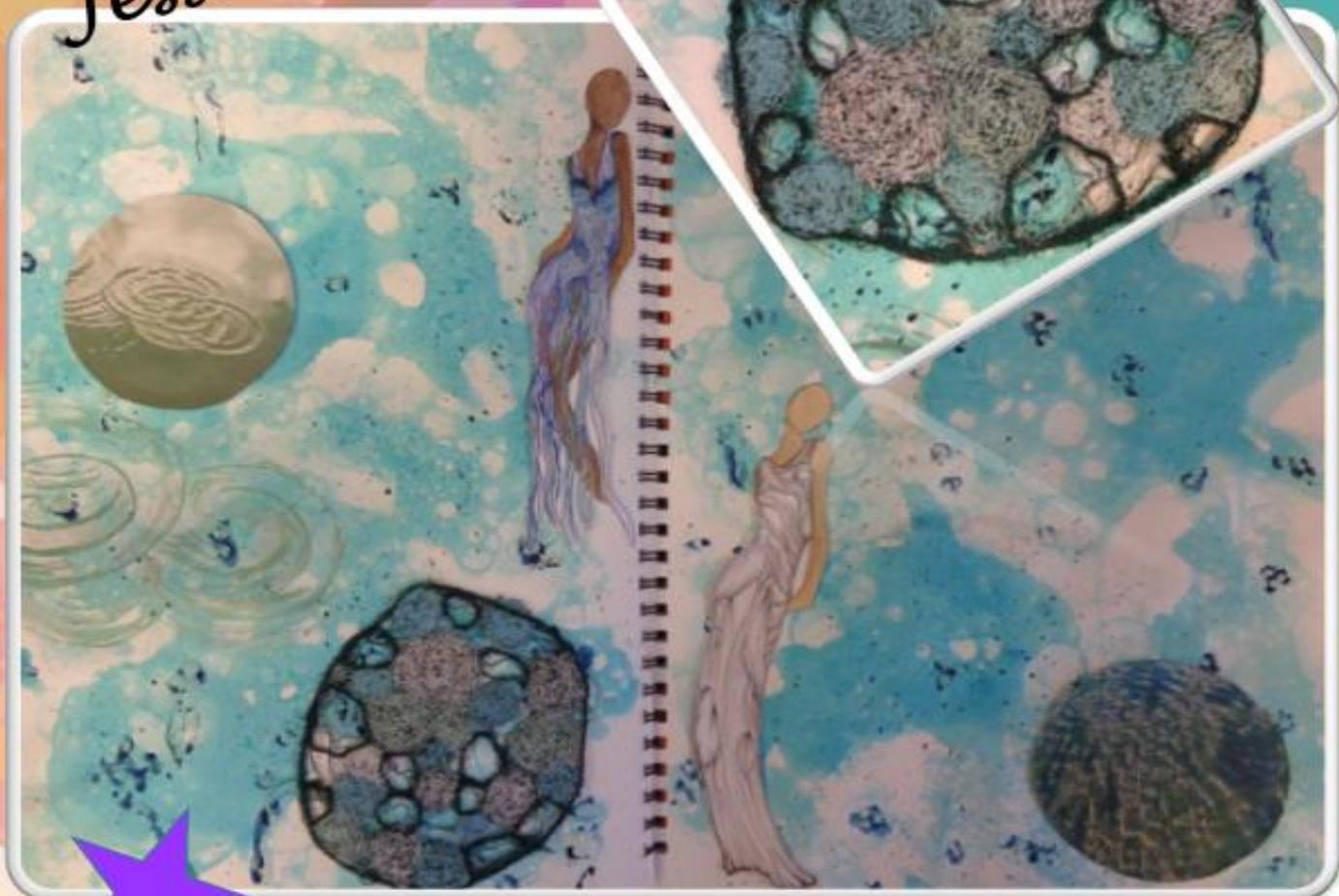
DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Thursday 24th February 2-3pm	In collaboration with Penguin Talks: Lewis Gordon, Philosopher and Author For KS4-5/S4-6	More details to be announced Click here to register
Monday 28th February 2-2:45pm	Mathew Dunn, CFO, ASOS For KS4-5/S4-6	More details to be announced Click here to register
Wednesday 2nd March 2-2:45pm	Jasmine Whitbread, Chair, Travis Perkins For KS4-5/S4-6	More details to be announced Click here to register
Tuesday 8th March 10-10:45am	International Women's Day Broadcast: CeCe Sammy, Vocal Coach & TV Presenter For KS3-5/S1-6	We are looking forward to hosting another broadcast with CeCe Sammy, this time for International Women's Day. CeCe will be speaking about what International Women's Day means to her, how to develop your confidence and the women who inspire her. Click here to register

In Art & Textiles this week with Mrs Cherry

Y12

Star Designer for Textiles

Jessica Perkin-Davidson

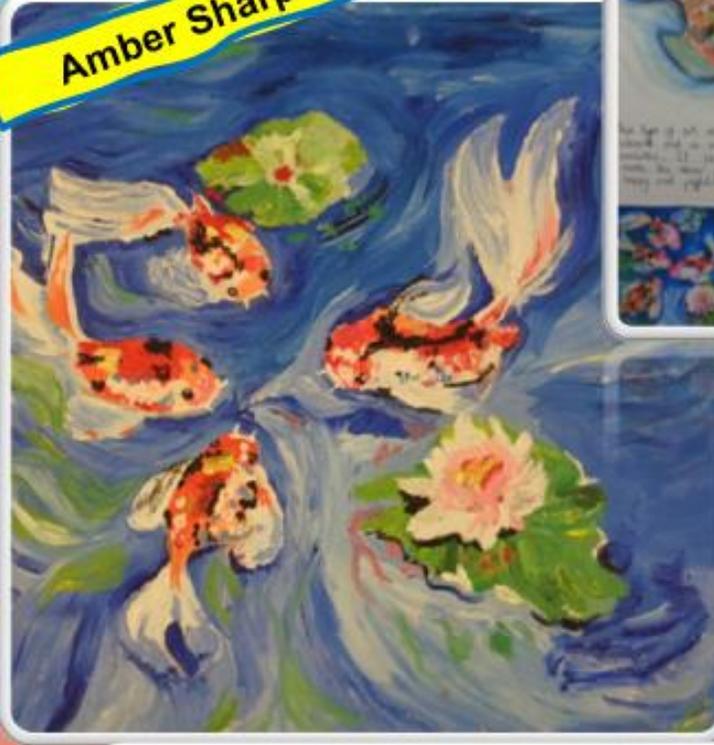


  @becketkeysart

Key stage 3



Amber Sharp Y7



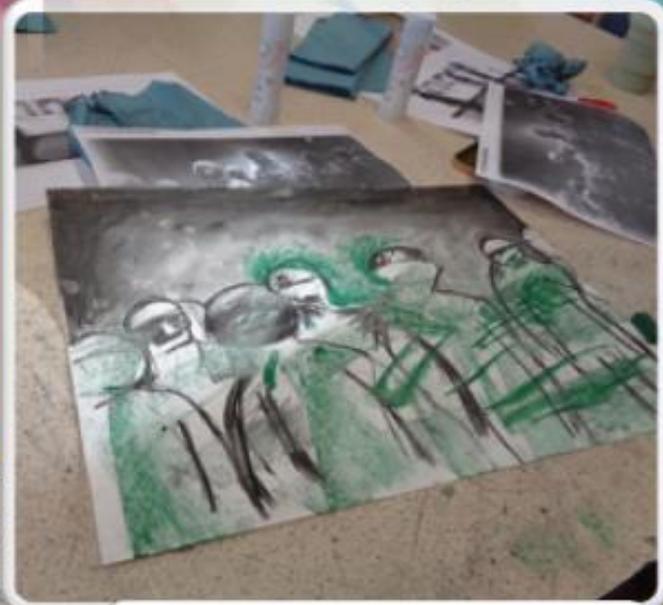
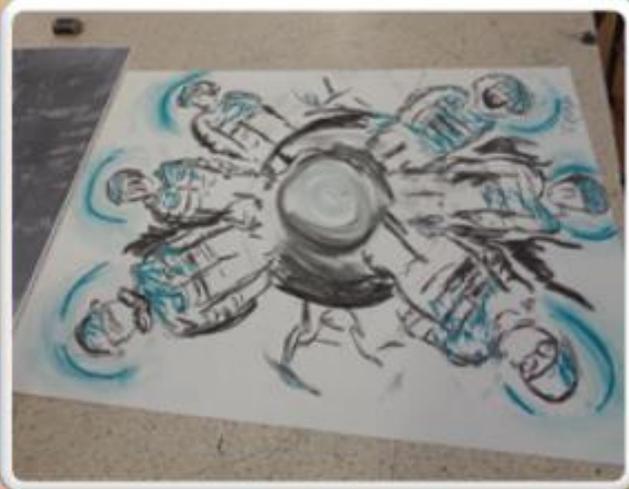
Mia Ayres Y7

Joshua Driver Y7



Key stage 4 & 5

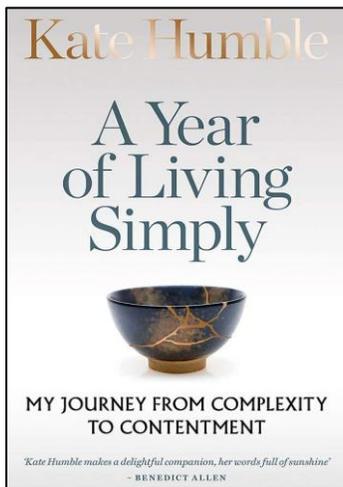
Y12 & Y13 participated in a drawing workshop on Thursday led by a member of the Royal Academy of Arts. Their engagement was excellent and they produced some outstanding work.





The art of simple living

If there is one thing most of us aspire to, it is simply to be happy. Kate Humble write about her book 'A Year of Living Simply – My journey from complexity to contentment':



'This isn't about living a life of penury, devoid of joy or fun – quite the opposite. It is about finding, or rediscovering, the aspects of life that really matter and having time to value and enjoy them. It is a search for simplicity and the contentment that goes with it.'

Whilst I read this book during a camping trip last Summer, the messages have stayed with me:

'It seems', I said, as we stood in the dappled evening shade of the beech trees, the dogs milling around our legs, 'that contentment and simplicity are intrinsic. That the reason so many of us in Western society are not content is that we live lives that are over-crowded and over-complicated. **We've confused simplicity with convenience. But convenience doesn't seem to bring happiness.'**

Kate Humble

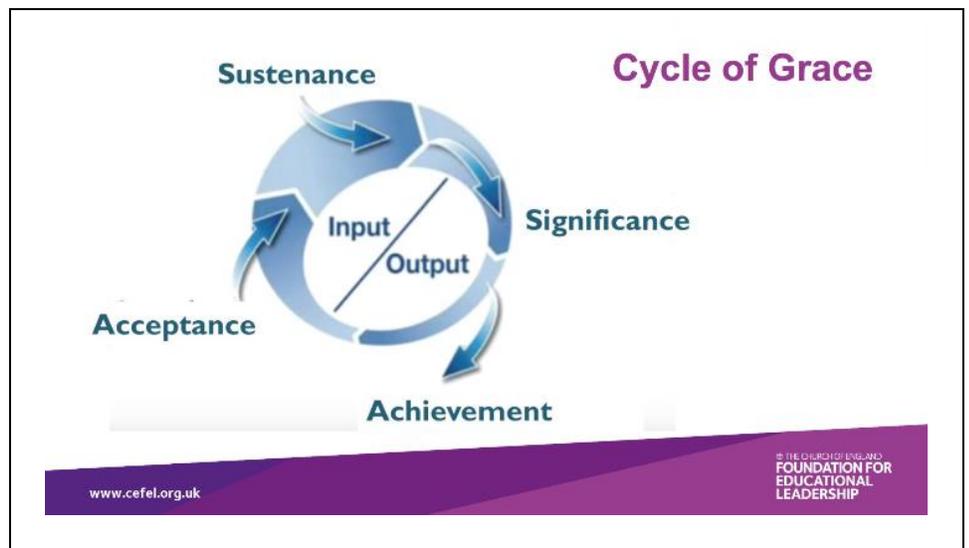
In the rush of our lives, we can all be guilty of buying things for convenience and equating this to happiness. However, this book

explores sustainability, working with nature and building communities. It was definitely not about an easy life and in many instances meant hard, but rewarding, work. As a Christian, for me this is about remembering Jesus' promise of 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10) and making time for our relationship with God. Incidentally, it is linked to the Church of England Vision for Education stands: wisdom, hope, community and dignity.

The concept of a 'Cycle of Grace' was introduced to me at a Church of England Conference and has proved useful ever since; both personally and working with others in our school community.



It was original created by Frank Lake, a clinical psychiatrist aiming to support clergy in being more effective in understanding and accepting the psychological



origins of parishioners' personal difficulties. It can also be related to Jesus' example. Jesus knew who he was and accepted this. Yet, it took 40 days in the desert thinking about this and the support of John the Baptist. Importantly, he sustained himself taking time away from the crowds to reflect and pray. He could then identify the significant work he had to do. He did not simply start with the outcomes and what needed to be achieved. How often do we celebrate our strengths? How often do we accept who we are? How often do we give time for sustenance – solitude, prayer, time with friends, time in nature, time for moving on. . . We need to make time for these things.

This has a lot to do with rhythms, habits and routines in life. Our routine can be doing the same things at set times every day or having things you want to do included daily, rather than fitting them in when we have the time. It is all about choosing how you spend your time with intention, choosing experience over material things, decluttering and nurturing self, others and nature (caring for God's world). Some of the daily routines that support simple living are meditation, exercise (walk in the woods), reading, journaling, limited social media time, planning to grow your own or eat healthier less processed foods. Even daily chores (including washing up or emptying the dishwasher) can also be viewed differently. All of these things can help to bring

focus and order our lives; helping to make our lives simpler. The simplest of tasks can bring a sense of achievement. Be mindful of this feeling. Remember that choices become habits that can bring daily happiness and fulfilment.

This poem "Leisure" by William Henry Davies was written over a hundred years ago, but I think that it is so relevant to today. It is about how the hectic pace of modern life can take its toll on the human spirit. Many of you will know this from Centre Parcs advertising!

***What is this life, if full of care,
We have no time to stand and
stare?***

***No time to stand beneath the
boughs
And stare as long as sheep or
cows.***

***No time to see when wood we
pass,
Where squirrels hide their nuts in
grass.***

***No time to see in broad daylight
Streams full of stars, like skies at
night.***

***No time to turn at Beauty
glance,
And watch her feet how they can
dance,***

***No time to wait till her mouth
can
Enrich that smile her eyes began.***

***A poor life this if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and
stare.***

Take a moment to think about how you could make a small change to your daily life that would bring sustenance and renewal. Commit to this change now.



Let us pray:

Dear God,

We thank you for your faithfulness and goodness.

Help us intentionally focus on the things that are most important.

Focus are lives to simply, humbly accept ourselves for who we are, celebrate our strengths, serve others and trust in you.

God of hope, fill us with happiness, joy and peace as we trust in you.

May we overflow with hope, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

May we experience life in all its fullness and share this blessing with others; as we strive to make the world a better place.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

LENT HOLIDAY

MONDAY 14TH FEBRUARY –
FRIDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2022

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INSET DAY

(NO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL)

MONDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2022

*

YEAR 11 & YEAR 13 MOCKS

TUESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY –
FRIDAY 4TH MARCH 2022

*

SIXTH FORMER FOR A DAY

WEDNESDAY 23RD MARCH 2022

*

LAST DAY OF TERM

FRIDAY 1ST APRIL 2022
STUDENT HALF DAY

Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane
Brentwood, Essex
CM15 9DA
01277 286600

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

Twitter:

[@BecketKeys](https://twitter.com/BecketKeys)
[@MrScottEvans](https://twitter.com/MrScottEvans)
[@BecketKeys6th](https://twitter.com/BecketKeys6th)
[@BecketKeysMusic](https://twitter.com/BecketKeysMusic)
[@BecketKeysPE](https://twitter.com/BecketKeysPE)
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