

Becket Keys Church of England School

8th July 2022

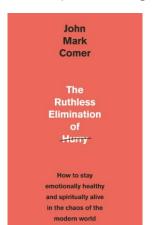
GOVERNORS SPEECH & AWARDS EVENING

Mr Scott-Evans writes....

A Social Experiment?

Thank you for your supportive messages about my articles regarding the Panorama episode: 'A Social Media Murder'. As promised, today I write with a few ideas for parents about getting our own use of mobile phones under control so that we can set a better example to our children.

Most cognitive scientists now agree that multi-tasking is a myth. Trying to use your phone to save time is never going to work. More and more people are becoming aware of the danger it is posing to our mental health and are seeking spiritual discipline over the hyper-living pandemic of digital communication. Some of the best Christian writing I have come across on this subject is from John Mark Comer in his book 'The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry'. Much of what I say today is from the chapter 'Slowing'.



Taking the Christian principle of fasting and the seminal article by Jake Knapp 'My Year with a Distraction Free iPhone', I believe that Comer presents a case that all parents should consider following for their own self-care and to set an example to their children.

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Art & Textiles

Excellent work from the talented students working towards their exams.

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Here is my interpretation/curation of 10 tips for an improved relationship with your smart phone. Essentially, this is how to turn it into a dumb phone.

> 1. Take email off your phone completely, if you can. Set periods to tackle email properly a couple of times each day and then leave it alone. Do not be tempted to open emails during the little breaks here and there when you cannot really deal with it properly. Remember: the more email you do, the more email you do. It is a monster that is selfperpetuating. The faster you respond to email, the faster people will write to you. Graham Allcot writes well on handling email, 'Get Your Inbox Down to Zero'.



2. Take social media off your phone completely, if you can. Transfer it to your desktop and only look at it at a set time each day when YOU want



to engage with it. Social media can be fun and can be a tool, but ask yourself are you in charge of it or is it in charge of you? Social media feeds are handled by Artificial Intelligence (AI). Does AI care about you? No! It is just fulfilling the algorithms it has been given to drive profit for the social media company. Do you ever get to the end of the day wishing you had spent more time on Twitter? I doubt it. If you want to know more about AI, read 'Scary Smart' by Mo Gawdat.

- 3. Disable web browser. Comer and I are both a bit lenient on this one. The browser function can be helpful to get quick facts or take a quick look at a link, but do not make it the main way you use the internet.
- 4. **Disable all notifications**. From now on, actually unlock your phone and

open the relevant app to see whether you have a message. Getting rid of all notifications is a game changer and really puts you back in control.

5. Ditch news apps or at least the notifications (see above). News apps are simply horrendous. They are nearly always focussed on bad news and will bring you down. Freedom of the press is a myth. Press are driven by the bottom line. What makes a profit? What gets clicks? Again, they use AI (which does not care about us) to fill our feeds with the darkest stuff from the world.



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- Volume X– Issue XXXVII
- 6. Delete all the apps you8:30do not need. Go throughit orand get rid of all thea drrubbish. Ask yourself: do Ihapreally need this? Is itbecmaking my life better.just
 - really need this? Is it making my life better. Keep the wonder apps: music, calculator, maps, credit card wallet, rail card, uber – whatever. I suggest you put them in folders and tidy up your space.
- 7. Go to grey scale mode. In accessibility mode shift grey colour filter. This does something clever to do with dopamine addiction. Google it. Lots of neurobiologists have explained this better than I can. It basically makes using your phone a much less rewarding experience so that you stop mindlessly cruising through it.
- By now you are probably saying, "Why not just get a flip-phone?" So... number 8: Get a flip phone! What a move that would be!



9. **Parent your phone**: Put it to bed with the children at

- 8:30pm. Switch it off, put it on charge and dump it in a drawer. Something happens after 8:30pm because we are tired, we just burn time and before we know it, it is midnight! Use these final hours of the day to wind down, read a book and stop using the phone.
- 10. Let it have a lie in. Do not check your phone until after breakfast and after you have said a prayer. Latest stats say that 75% of us sleep next to our phones and 90% of us check it as soon as we wake up. The first things we see are email, social media and news alerts. What a horrendous way to start the day! Why do we do it to ourselves?

Using some or all of these tips across our school for a week or two would be a tremendous social experiment. Who will join me? Let me know how you get on: office@becketkeys.org.

Some parents asked me why we use Satchel One: Show My Homework if I am so against students using phones. Firstly, I would like to point out that, in my opinion, Satchel One works much better on the desktop than on your phone. Secondly, I would rate it as a wonder app: one of the ones worth having. The software is timesaving, engaging, positive, helpful and fully free from capitalist driven advertising. In my opinion, it is one of the good guys!

satchel:

A few parents have also told me that their child does not have a phone and they are pushing against a tide of peer pressure. I congratulate you on this. Your decision will pay off. I can 100% guarantee it! It may mean a few tough years now because unfortunately, young teens may always be unkind when they spot someone who is prepared to go against the flow. However, the time saved for reading, board games, films, sport, music and peace will pay dividends. Good for you. For the rest of us, looking for a compromise, I hope the tips above will help us go some way towards regaining control.

God bless you.

Mr Scott-Evans Head Teacher



Governors' Speech & Awards Evening



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Food Department

Recently in Cookery Club, we tackled the Swiss roll.



Known in the industry as a "high ratio" cake mixture, it was a completely new and slightly tricky technique, involving a lot of whisking!



Then come the folding,, using the "figure of eight" technique



Considering it was the first time that any of the pupils had made this type of cake, they did extremely well.



The next cookery club will be in the week commencing Monday 11th July and will be a bake-off competition!

Reminder

Please remember that all correspondence to the school must come through the school office email: <u>office@becketkeys.org</u>

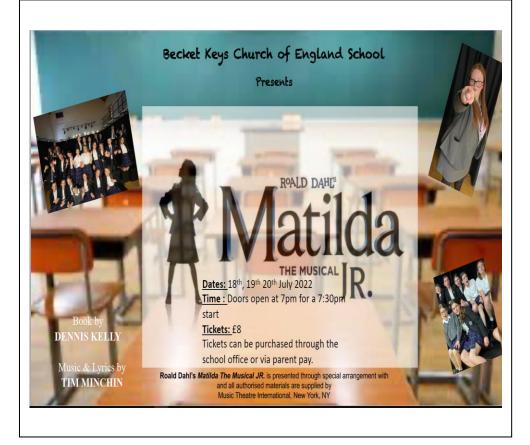
Your message will be forwarded to the member of staff concerned.

You can also send a message via the contact page on the website:

https://www.becketkeys.org/contac t-staff

Please do not email staff directly as any message received in this way will not receive a response.

Many thanks for your understanding.





Student Webinars

Current Year 9 and 10s are invited to join our exclusive student webinars, hosted by our very own Merlin Mee.

Merlin, Learning Content Creator at GCSEPod, is our student webinar guru.



Moving from Year 9 into Year 10

Students are encouraged to rocket their way into Year 10 by exploring personal goals and cultivating healthy habits that will benefit them on their journey throughout Key Stage 4.

1st August 2022 at 5.00pm

Moving from Year 10 into Year 11

Students can 'lift-off' into Year 11 with tips on prioritising their wellbeing and enhancing the space around them.

Register here:

8th August 2022 at 5.00pm

Parent Webinars

Parents are invited to attend two exclusive webinars this summer, hosted by Future Toolbox's Mark & Jules.



How to Create a Growth Mindset When Studying

The multi-award-winning Future Toolbox are joining GCSEPod in a two-part webinar and will be sharing some simple tools and tips to help to encourage students to enjoy their learning journey.

By creating a growth mindset around study and understanding that learning is about the journey and not the final exam, this will help students to find purpose at school or college. Positive study habits lead to positive habits in the future and a more rounded individual.

Register here:

3rd August 2022 at 5.00pm

10th August 2022 at 5.00pm

Careers Talks to Sixth Formers



To support our Sixth Formers in making informed decisions about their futures, I am going to start a series of regular careers talks during their tutorial periods. To do this, I need the support of the Becket Keys community!

Are you - or is someone you know - able to present to Sixth Formers for about 10 minutes and then answer questions they ask? The presentation might focus on some or all of these areas, as well as anything else related to them:

- What you do for a career.
- Your pathway to get where you are.
- Why you chose this pathway.
- What your job includes across a day / week / month / year.
- What other jobs you have had were like.
- Why you like certain jobs you have had.
- The biggest responsibilities you have.

- The greatest challenges you have faced.
- The most important learning experiences you have had.
- What is most rewarding?
- Advice to those interested in a similar career to you.
- Advice about a successful career in general.
- Advice about writing a CV and/or application letter, as well as interview skills.

The talks will need to be delivered during tutorials, so anyone who is willing to support would have to be available for either Year 13 tutorial (10:10am-10:35am) or Year 12 tutorial (10:35am-11:00am) - or both! Talks could be delivered in person in the John Wraw Chapel or via Microsoft Teams. I can be almost totally flexible about the best time of year and day for each talk, so this is not an issue.

If you - or someone you know can support me in this, please

email me via

office@becketkeys.org with a brief (I do not want to take up too much of your time!) explanation of the jobs/areas you would be talking about. Once I have collated these, I will communicate with those who are able to assist in more detail and be available to answer queries you might have.

Thank you for your support in preparing our Sixth Formers for their futures.

Ross Peggs Assistant Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form





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PROPERTY

If your son/daughter has misplaced anything at school, then kindly inform him/her that all lost property is taken to reception for collection.

Please make sure that all items, especially uniform are named, this will ensure that items can be returned to the student easily. Thank you!



Trailer dates

June

July

Wednesday 29 June - Bishops Hill, Adult Community Learning

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Wednesday 6 July - Brentwood Train Station (outside shops) Tuesday 26 July - Robin Hood parade of shops, Ongar Road

August

Wednesday 3 August - Kelvedon Hatch, Nisa Wednesday 10 August - Shenfield High Street, Hutton Road Tuesday 16 August - Brentwood High Street

September

Thursday 8 September - St Peters Church, Daily Bread Wednesday 21 September - Railway Square, Wharf Road Wednesday 28 September - Brentwood High Street

October

Wednesday 12 October - Blackmore, Horsefayre Green Thursday 20 October - Beechwood Surgery, Warley (outside SNAP)

Contact us

Email: communitysupport@brentwood.gov.uk Tel: 01277 312500

Summer at Daily Bread



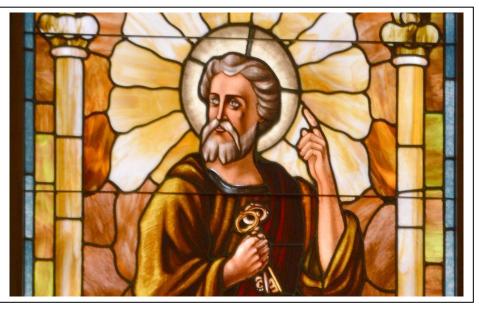


This Wednesday, we celebrated our Patronal Festival Eucharists for St Thomas and St Peter. Year 7, 8 and 10 at St Thomas of Canterbury Church and Year 9 and 12 in our Main Hall respectively. This was a wonderful occasion for the whole school to come together in worship. Father Mark North and Father Matthew Austen focused their sermons on the life and witness of St Thomas; therefore, it seems fitting to pause and reflect on the character of our other patron saint, St Peter.

When Simon Peter met Jesus for the first time, he was a simple fisherman. His first meeting with Jesus stirred something in him. He wanted to learn more about what Jesus had to offer him, and when Jesus gave him the opportunity to do so, he acted upon it. The Bible says:

"As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into





the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him" (Matthew 4:18-20).

Throughout Peter's three-year journey with Jesus, he had his moments of faith, but he also had his share of doubts. When Jesus appeared to the disciples, walking on water, Peter had enough faith to get out of the boat and walk to Jesus. However, once he started having doubts, his faith began to shake, and he allowed himself to sink. In the words of the Gospel of Matthew:

"Peter said to him in reply, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how [strong] the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, 'O you of little faith, why

did you doubt?'" (Matthew 14:27-31).



Not only did Peter have his share of doubts, but he also had moments when he was ashamed to even know Christ. On the night of Christ's crucifixion, when asked if he knew Jesus, Peter denied knowing him not once, but three times. Prior to this denial, Peter claimed that he would never deny Jesus and that he would even die for Him. In the words of the Gospel of Luke:



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"He said to him, 'Lord, I am prepared to go to prison and to die with you.' But he replied, 'I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me''' (Luke 22:31-34).

Even during Christ's darkest hour, when He was dying on the cross, Peter was nowhere to be seen. He and most of the other apostles had abandoned Christ when he needed them the most.

Despite all of Peter's shortcomings and failures, Jesus saw the best in him. In fact, Jesus saw so much potential in Peter that He made him the first leader and "Rock" of His Church. Jesus said:

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:18-19).

After Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension, Peter became a witness of Christ's love and forgiveness. He went around healing people and baptising new Christians. Finally, as he promised Jesus the night before crucifixion, Peter died as a martyr for Christ.

St Peter provides us with a reassuring example of what following Jesus is all about. Luckily, it is not about perfection. It is not about being without sin. It is not about being faithful with no doubts. It is not about having all the answers. It is not about having absolute certainty all of the time. It is about falling down, failing, and being picked up and brushed off. It is about putting one foot in front of the other knowing that God is beside us and loves us with each step we take. It is knowing that as we walk the journey of faith, God does not abandon us and is with us every step of the way, even when we are not sure that there is a way to follow or if the way we are following is the right way. That is the life of faith. That is the life of a follower of Christ.

Let us pray:

God our Father, we thank you for the example of St Peter, who is a rock of the Church and who holds the keys to the kingdom of heaven. We pray that we may follow in his humility and love for Jesus. Thank you that, even when we doubt , you are with us every step of the way.

Based on the words of Alaine DeSantis.

Mrs Sharp Deputy Headteacher



REOUIREMENTS FOR JULY <u>FOR JULY</u> <u>Tinned goods</u> Meat Pies Meat Pies Braising Steak Ham Salmon Sardines/Mackerel Mince & Onion Corned Beed

Meatballs

Hot Dogs

Tomatoes

Fruit

Chilli Con Carne

Cleaning Items

Washing Up Liquid

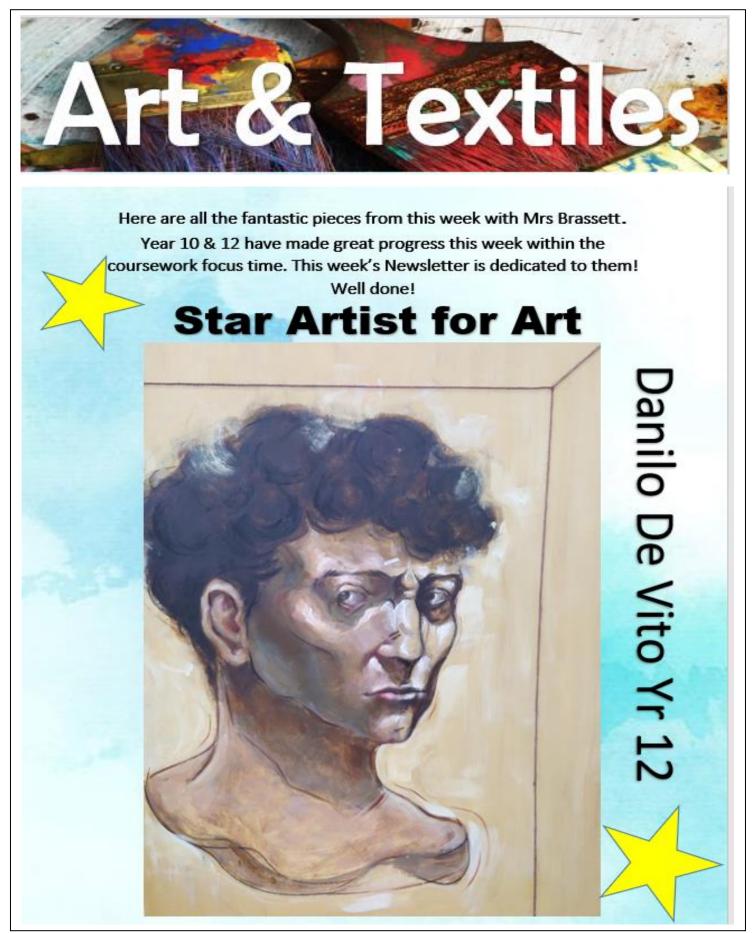
Bathroom & Kitchen Cleaner

Shampoo

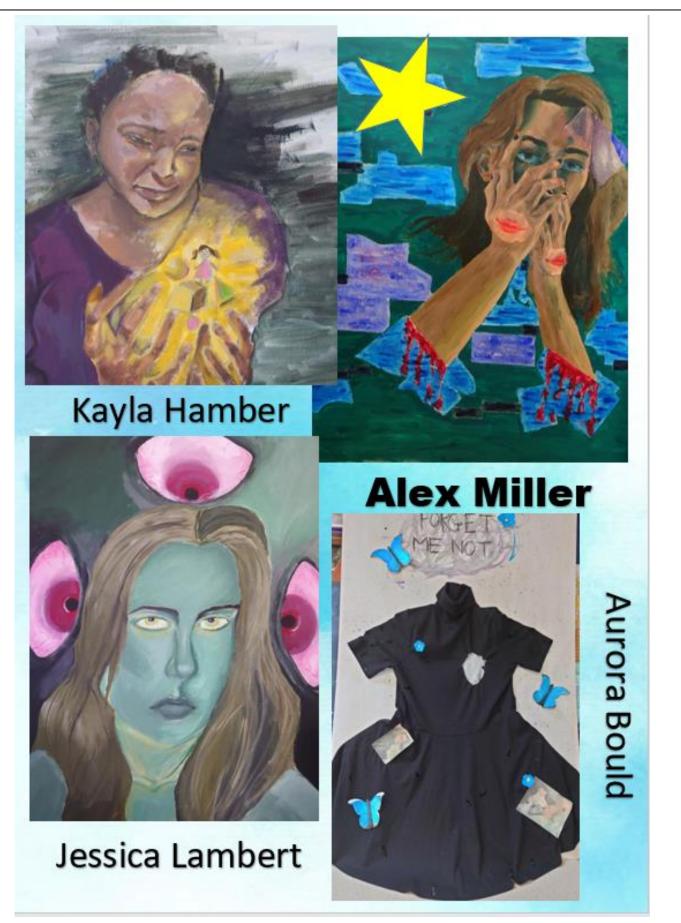
Deodorant

Nappies Size 4 & 6

Toilet Rolls















Sports News

U15 Girls' Cricket

Cricket this week was in the hands of the under 15 ladies who found themselves playing away at Coopers who are renowned for their cricketing prowess. With a handful of injuries some of our helpful GCSE PE students stepped in on short notice and ensured the game went ahead.

The girls were in good spirits and wanted to give it their best. Elizabeth lost the toss and the confident home side elected to bowl. Up stepped Elizabeth and Katie who took the game by the scruff of the neck with some of the most aggressive running between the wickets I have seen! We saw both girls surpass 50 runs inside the first 7 overs. This superstar pairing managed to remain in for 11 overs before Katie asked if she could be retired with their duo ending at 93 total runs!

Erin was next in and on her second delivery struck one for 4. I followed with the instruction of "There's not long left, be aggressive!" this saw her do exactly that and drive one straight back at the bowler who showed incredible reactions to make the catch. Emma and Issy both also got their names on the run sheet, keeping the score ticking up! This ensured a rather eye pleasing total of 123 runs!

Our batting duo became the bowling pair with Elizabeth and Katie bowling overs 1-4



alternately. 2 overs passed to just 7 runs and then Elizabeth bowled the Coopers' opener. Katie in the 4th over went for blood with 1WW32W!

From these 3 wickets, one was leg before wicket and the other two were direct hit run outs from Erin and Elizabeth. Izzy Boon bowled a fantastic over with 5 dot balls and a single! Bella and Ella paired up next with Ella bowling 8 dot balls across her two overs! Sophie, Holly and Eniola bowled overs 12,13 and 14.

With Coopers requiring an almost impossible 70 runs the pressure was off and all 3 bowled really well! Finally, we ended the innings with a maiden over as Elizabeth saw out the game with 6 whistling deliveries that wicket keeper, Emma Cooper, who was fantastic all game, caught skillfully!

The Becket Keys girls could not have impressed any more with a

dominant display which I look forward to repeating on Monday when we go again!

> Mr Lane PE Teacher





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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ENRICHMENT DAY

THURSDAY 14TH JULY 2022

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SPORTS DAY FRIDAY 15TH JULY 2022

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'MATILDA THE MUSICAL'

MONDAY 18TH JULY

TUESDAY 19TH JULY

WEDNESDAY 20TH JULY

*

NON-UNIFORM DAY

WEDNESDAY 20TH JULY

*

LAST DAY OF TERM (STUDENT HALF DAY)

THURSDAY 21ST JULY

Becket Keys Church of England School

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