



# Becket Keys Church of England School

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## IN THIS ISSUE

**Mr Scott-Evans writes.....**

### **New Year's Resolutions**

When I was a teenager, I used to drink tea with at least one spoonful of sugar in it. When it came to giving this up, it was a new year's resolution after a dramatic lesson at school about tooth decay that helped me.

According to now well-established research, it takes three weeks to get used to a new taste and another three weeks for it to become your new habit. I think that fits with how it worked for me.

Most of us find it very difficult to keep our new year's resolutions because they are not important enough to us, or we are not really committed to the end goal we want to achieve. We do not

clearly identify what the objective is.

For example, if Becket Keys students want to get excellent GCSE results, then they may need to find new home time habits which include less PlayStation and iPhone! Maybe limits and restraints for these addictive technologies need to be set up (check out a YouTube channel like this one for advice: [Family Tech](#)). We can create space for more revision and reading time. More Dr Frost, GCSE Pod, Seneca Learning and more attention to completing coursework!

Similarly, if students want to get to the next grade in Violin, then clearly the habit of daily practice needs to be maintained and probably extended! If they want to improve their long distance

.....*contd. on page 2*



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Church of England School

### **Mandarin Day**

Year 7 students are having a day off timetable to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

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### **School Uniform**

A reminder about the high standards we have for the Becket Keys students.

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### **Book of the Month**

A new recommendation from the English Department.

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### **Art & Textiles**

Examples of the excellent work from our talented students.

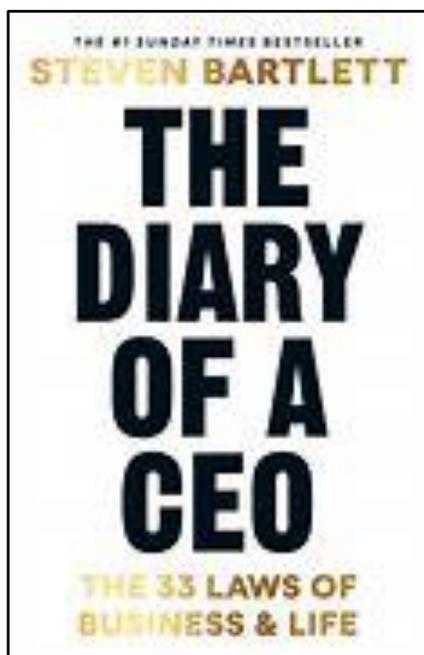
Page 12-15

.....contd. from Page 1

running, they need to go for a longer run each week. Attending Park Run each Saturday would be a great idea.

Mrs North will be coming back to school after her maternity leave soon. She always used to have a sign up in her classroom saying: "Nothing changes, if nothing changes!"

In Steven Bartlett's excellent new book 'The Diary of a CEO' he talks about research showing that it is better to focus on new habits rather than restraining negative old habits. This is excellent advice. Focussing on the rewards of feeling good when we do the things that we want to do, rather than the regret we feel for the mistakes we make, tends to lead to better outcomes.



Families might like to use this newsletter article as a 'call to action' this weekend. As we start this new year, what positive new

habits are we going to form? Can we set aside some time to talk as families and write down our next steps? Again, research shows that if you write down your goals and make yourself accountable to other family members or friends you have a much better chance of seeing them come about.

As we start this new year, I am taking the opportunity to look at what God may be asking of me. What changes would He want to see? In Micah 6 v 8 it says:

*"He hath shown thee, O man, what is good: and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"*

There is a lot more of a challenge here than just giving up sugar in my tea! If this is what the Lord requires of us, then our habits and resolutions for the year need to be aligned with this. I wish you all the best as you try to decide on what will be important to you to take on and set aside in this New Year. I pray that the year 2024 will be the best yet.

Happy New Year!

Mr Scott-Evans  
Headteacher



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ParentPay®

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 Bistro.

There is a small overdraft facility on the ParentPay accounts of £2 for emergency situations which covers the cost of a roll. 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. (You can check out the menu for the next week on page 11).

If you have any queries, please contact the school – [office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)

# Mandarin Department

**All Year 7**

**All Year 7s**

**Chinese New Year Celebration**

**Pay on Parent Pay**

**By Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

*February 12, 2024*

*Monday*

To celebrate Chinese New Year, Becket Keys have an exciting day planned for all Year 7 students.

This has always been a very popular and welcome event in the past.

### What will happen on the day?

Students will be off their regular Monday timetable and go to six different workshops throughout the day as a tutor group. For example, they could be in a science, film or martial arts workshop. There will be a chance

to watch Lion dancing at lunchtime and there will be a special themed menu available in the Bistro and Orangery (for the usual lunch prices).

Further details with a full timetable for the day will be released soon, in the meantime all Year 7 parents need to log on to Parent Pay and contribute to the cost of this event by **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**.

**Unfortunately, if we do not collect enough money, we will have to cancel the event.**



## Main School Uniform



A letter was sent to parents before Christmas with reminders about uniform and the high standards we have at Becket Keys.

Feedback from our families is crucial to our development; parents have mentioned to us that they appreciate consistency and firmness with regards to uniform, and so, with this in mind, we want to make a strong start in 2024.

### Hair & Make-up

Students in Years 7-9 are not permitted to wear any make-up. The only make up allowed is concealer to cover up spots and blemishes. Students who do wear make up to school will be asked to remove it.

Obviously false eyelashes and/or nails are not permitted, please

ensure such items are removed if they were a 'treat' for Christmas.

No extreme hairstyles i.e. not less than grade 2 in length, hair must not be dyed (not even natural colours!), no shapes cut into the hair e.g. stripes, undercuts. Long hair must be tied back at all times. Older students (Years 10,11) can have it tied half up and half down. Younger students (Years 7,8,9) must have it fully tied up.

Any hairbands, clips or ribbons should be neutral, black or purple.

### Bags & Coats

Please ensure, in all cases, that these items are **black**.

Year 7 & 8 students must have Becket Keys' bags from SmartyPants. Older students are allowed to choose their own bags, but no large logos please.

Coats must be **plain black** for all year groups.

### Shoes

Please ensure all students have returned to school in January with the correct footwear, trainers should only be worn if there is a medical issue (a note must be supplied and kept in the student's blazer).



### Jewellery

Students may wear one small silver or gold stud in the lobe of the ear, but earrings must be removed for all PE lessons. It is not acceptable to put tape over the ears. No other body piercing or jewellery is acceptable and will be confiscated. Smart watches are not permitted.

### Equipment

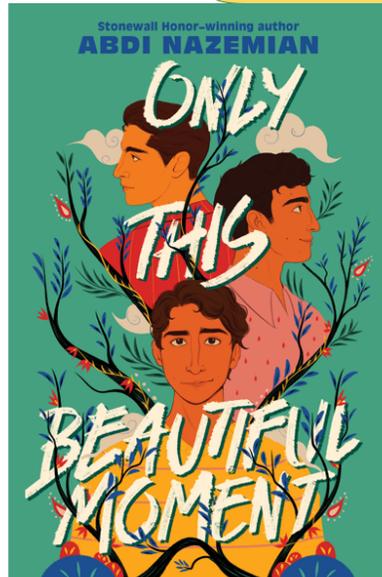
Please ensure you check your son/daughter's stationery. The January sales are a good time to top up pencil cases! Please check for red/black/blue pens, whiteboard markers, pencils, rulers, glue stick, rubbers and calculators. These are all basic requirements at Becket Keys.

Full details can be found on the school website:

<https://www.becketkeys.org/uniform>



## Book of the Month - January



Set in 1939, 1978 and 2019, this is a sweeping story of three generations of boys in the same Iranian family as they move between the US and Iran, discovering who they are. 1939. Bobby, the son of a calculating Hollywood stage mother, lands a coveted MGM studio contract. But the fairy-tale world of glamour he's thrust into has a dark side. 1978. Saeed is an engineering student with a promising future ahead of him in Tehran. But when his parents discover his involvement in the country's burgeoning revolution, they send him to safety in America, a country Saeed despises. And even worse—he's forced to live with the American grandmother he never knew existed. 2019. Moud is a gay teenager living in Los Angeles with his distant father, Saeed. When Moud gets the news that his grandfather in Iran is dying, he accompanies his dad to Tehran, where the revelation of family secrets will force Moud into a new understanding of his history, his culture, and himself.

Thought-provoking, poignant and defiant, assuredly interweaving three complex stories, timelines and characters, this is an arresting celebration of activism, forbidden love and fragile but enduring family bonds.



Remember that all correspondence to the school must come through the school office email: [office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org). 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/contact-staff>

You can also reply directly to any message you receive from the school via Bromcom, just hit the reply button and it will go to the office.

Students can contact their teachers via Satchel One if they have any queries regarding their lessons.

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



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Church of England School

## The School Prayer

*Heavenly Father, we pray that Becket Keys Church of England School will be a blessing to the people of Brentwood.*

*Encouraged by the example of Peter, Thomas of Canterbury and all your saints, may its students know the beauty of your truth;*

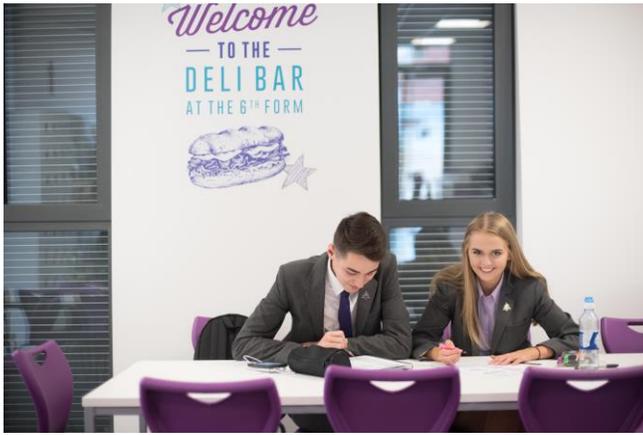
*May its staff know the joy of your service;*

*May its headteacher and governors be led by a vision of your kingdom;*

*And together may the school community know your Holy Spirit in its midst.*

*This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*



## Sixth Former for a Day Tuesday 16th January 2024

This exciting event will be held on Tuesday 16th January 2024. It is designed to ensure that students have a good idea of what their next steps after Year 11 will be like.

Year 11 students will get an opportunity to attend four lessons. They will be able to find out more about the subjects they want to study by speaking to teachers and Sixth Form students, and will experience a Sixth Form tutorial period.

Lunch and breakfast will be provided, but students should bring their own snacks and drink for break.

Most Year 11 students will be at school for SFFAD, along with up to 150 students from other schools who may be their peers in Years 12 and 13! A letter was emailed home prior to the Christmas break. Please read it carefully regarding the plan for the day.

For those who wish to continue their education elsewhere there is an opportunity to visit Chelmsford College on this day. Details have been sent to those who are interested.

If you have any questions, please let them know they can email Mrs Course using this address:  
[sixthform@becketkeys.org](mailto:sixthform@becketkeys.org)

**NHS**  
Essex Partnership University  
NHS Foundation Trust

## VACCINATION CLINICS

Walk-In Clinic for missed vaccinations. No appointment necessary:

**Where:** Timberlog Youth Centre, SS14 1PB  
**When:** Saturday 13/01/24  
Saturday 20/01/24

**Where:** The Hermit, CM15 8AG  
**When:** Saturday 10/02/24

**Time:** 10am to 2pm  
\* There are some bookable appointments available at other locations/dates

**Year 10 & 11 pupils only**

- HPV (Cancer vaccine)
- Meningitis ACWY
- Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio Booster

**Reception to Year 11**

- Flu Vaccine (Nasal & Injection available)

**If your child is eligible, don't delay.**  
If you wish to check your child's vaccination record before attending, please call 0300 790 0597\*.

#DOYOURBIT EP0996c



Homework Club is available for all students. Every afternoon, after school, students can stay 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. Avoid the traffic! Stay here for a while!

# Careers Information

**INVESTIN**  
IMMERSIVE CAREER EXPERIENCES

**STEM & MEDICINE  
SUMMER EXPERIENCES**

**VIEW  
DETAILS**

We have partnered with world-class professionals across 10 STEM industries to create the most immersive and exclusive career experience opportunities that your students can find this summer.

**HOW CAN AN INVESTIN SUMMER EXPERIENCE HELP STUDENTS TO PURSUE A CAREER IN STEM?**

Students will experience first-hand the work professionals typically carry out in STEM industries, through a range of immersive career simulations and site visits.

Every programme is designed and delivered by top professionals, enabling students to work alongside experts in the field and expand their network.

Students will receive a personalised industry reference letter outlining what they have achieved over the course of the programme.

InvestIN is an approved activity on UCAS applications allowing students to stand out from the crowd in university applications.

**VIEW AGES 15-18**

**VIEW AGES 12-14**

info@investin.org      +44 (0) 203 488 5089      www.investin.org

## How can an InvestIN Summer Experience help students to pursue a career in STEM?

Students will experience first-hand the work professionals typically carry out in STEM industries, through a range of immersive career simulations and site visits. Every programme is designed and delivered by top professionals, enabling students to work alongside experts in the field and expand their network. Students will receive a personalised industry reference letter outlining what they have achieved over the course of the programme.

InvestIN is an approved activity on UCAS applications allowing students to stand out from the crowd in university applications.

**View & Register: Ages 12-14**

**View & Register: Ages 15-18**

[InvestIN | Ambition Beyond Education – InvestIN Education](#)

e: [info@investin.org](mailto:info@investin.org)  
t: +44 (0) 203 488 5089

Shadow doctors in a London teaching hospital

**MEDICINE**

Explore a Boeing jet with aerospace engineers

**ENGINEERING**



## The 2024 Advanced Engineering Apprenticeship Campaign is Now Open!

Do you know someone who may be interested in an Apprenticeship with Ford? Particularly, if they would like to join in September 2024.

For more information about our apprenticeship opportunities click [here](#).

To apply, click on the image below.



Advanced Engineering (Level 3)

Ford is committed to diversity and equality of opportunity for all and is opposed to any form of less favourable treatment or harassment on the grounds of sex, marital status, civil partnership status, parental status, race, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, religion/belief, gender reassignment and gender identity, age and those with caring responsibilities.



## Essex Opportunities

Essex Opportunities is a one stop shop for information and advice on jobs, careers, skills and training. Funded by Essex County Council, this portal has everything you need to help build a career. Use this portal to search for jobs, courses and apprenticeships based in Essex.

Essex Opportunities provides information about different industries and jobs you can obtain within them, and you can see the job vacancies currently available in a number of sectors.

[Essex Opportunities](http://www.essexopportunities.org)



## Careers Information

There is a wealth of information on the school website covering all aspects of careers and the pathways necessary for students to find the job of their dreams.

Whether students have a set career idea or are looking for inspiration then check out the careers pages here: [www.becketkeys.org/careers](http://www.becketkeys.org/careers)



## Charities Update

We are continuing to support [SNAP \(Special Needs and Parents\)](#), a local Brentwood charity whose aims are to inform, encourage and support parents so that they can grow in strength and knowledge and become better equipped to give the best possible help to their children with additional needs. We are also supporting [I Got Shoes](#), a charity who assists children and young people in Uganda obtain a pair of shoes and gain access to education.

Prior to the Christmas break, we raised nearly £1,000 from the proceeds of the non-uniform day and the sale of refreshments at the Christmas Carol Concert and this was divided equally between the two charities.

Many thanks to all who participated!

Everyone at SNAP sends their heartfelt thanks to the staff and pupils of

**Becket Keys  
Church of England School**

for supporting SNAP through their recent non-uniform day and selling refreshments at their Christmas Carol Concert, raising an incredible

**£497.50**

Every donation goes a long way towards helping us continue to support Essex families who have a child or young person with any additional need or disability.

Thank you for helping make this possible. December 2023

## 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 get to 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

young  
**ESSEX**  
ASSEMBLY

# MAKE YOUR MARK

VOTE

Make Your Mark is the largest consultation of 11-18 year olds in Europe.

It gives you as young people the chance to have your say on what matters to you.

Voting is open from 29th January until 8th March 2024

10 issues will be presented to you on a ballot paper.

You can vote in your school/college/youth groups or online

Email  
**YEA@essex.gov.uk**

To find out how to get involved

the three topics with the most votes become the newly elected Members of Youth Parliaments campaign themes for their 2 year term.

YOUTH SERVICE  
Essex County Council

Running since 2011, Make Your Mark has reached millions of young people across the UK. MYM will launch its annual ballot of young people on 29th January - 8th March 2024.

The UK-wide ballot gives young people aged 11-18 the opportunity to vote for the topics they feel are the most important issues facing young people locally and across the UK. By participating, students will embark on their democratic journey, making their voices heard and actively contributing to positive change.

In Essex, the Young Essex Assembly, in collaboration with the Essex Youth Service, is responsible for overseeing the MYM voting process. The ballot will be held at school and more details will follow soon.

## Spring Term Parent Support Series

### Free Parent Webinars

Join us and Elevate Education for FREE 60-minute webinars designed to help you support your child's studies at home.

### [Click here to Register](#)

#### *In the Spring Term we'll cover:*

1. **How To Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking**  
- 23<sup>rd</sup> January @6:00pm
2. **How You Can Make Technology an Ally (& Not the Enemy!)**  
- 6<sup>th</sup> February @6:00pm
3. **How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams**  
- 5<sup>th</sup> March @6:00pm
4. **How You Can Support Your Child During Exams**  
- 19<sup>th</sup> March @6:00pm

### Register for the Elevate Parent Webinar Series.

This term Elevate Education will deliver high-impact workshops to students that will help to develop their study skills, motivation, and exam preparation. Over the next term, parents are invited to join the webinar series, this will enable you to help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they are learning at school.

#### Upcoming Webinars:

Help Your Child Improve Their Note Taking  
23rd January 6:00pm

How You Can Make Technology an Ally  
6th February 6:00pm

Register for the series by clicking the link below and learn some great practical strategies to help support your child this year.

<https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Yr9 & Yr10 'Creative Space' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Palmer)	Yr9 & Yr10 'Creative Space' 11.50-12.30 RH1 (Mrs Palmer)  KS4 & KS5 'Practical Showcase Rehearsals' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Barr)	GCSE 'Theory Workshop' 15.15-16.15 RH1 (Mrs Barr)	<u>Invitation only and bookable space.</u>	Yr7-Yr13 'Time to Shine' 15.15-16.25 RUNCIE HALL (Mrs Barr & Mrs Palmer)

**WEEK 2**

**Classic Favourites**  
MONDAY

**EASTERN**  
TUESDAY

**Great British**  
WEDNESDAY

**SOUTHERN STYLE**  
THURSDAY

**Fish & Chips**  
FRIDAY

<b>MAIN MEAL</b>	MACARONI CHEESE WITH A SELECTION OF TOPPINGS	SAUSAGE & MASH <small>Caramelised Onion Gravy</small>	ROAST TURKEY DINNER <small>Roast Potatoes, Jus</small>	CARIBBEAN CHICKEN CURRY <small>Rice</small>	CHIP SHOP 'FRYDAY' FISH/PIZZA/SAUSAGE OR SALMON FISHCAKES <small>Chips</small>
<b>VEGETARIAN MEAL</b>	MACARONI CHEESE WITH A SELECTION OF TOPPINGS	PLANT BASED SAUSAGE & MASH <small>Caramelised Onion Gravy</small>	ROASTED BUTTERNUT SQUASH & EDAMAME BEAN WELLINGTON <small>Roast Potatoes, Jus</small>	REGGAE REGGAE SWEET POTATO CURRY <small>Rice</small>	VEGAN FALAFEL BURGER <small>Chips</small>
<b>VEGETABLES</b>	GARLIC FOCACCIA SALAD	CARROTS & PEAS	ROASTED ROOT & GREENS	GINGER FRIED GREENS	NAKED SLAW PEAS
<b>PASTA POTS</b>	HOMEMADE TOMATO & BASIL	CHEF SPECIAL	HOMEMADE TOMATO & BASIL	CHEF SPECIAL	HOMEMADE TOMATO & BASIL
<b>JACKET POTATO</b>	TOPPED WITH A CHOICE OF CHEESE, TUNA OR BEANS				
<b>DESSERT</b>	STEAMED JAM SPONGE <small>Custard</small>	PEAR & GINGER CRUMBLE <small>Cinnamon Custard</small>	CHOCOLATE SPONGE <small>Chocolate Sauce</small>	APPLE & BLACKBERRY CRUMBLE <small>Custard</small>	SYRUP SPONGE <small>Custard</small>
<b>FRUIT</b>	SELECTION OF FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY				
<b>JELLY POTS</b>	SELECTION OF JELLY POTS AVAILABLE DAILY				
<b>YOGHURT POTS</b>	SELECTION OF YOGHURT POTS AVAILABLE DAILY				

TRY OUR HOME MADE  
**SOUP**  
WITH FRESHLY BAKED BREAD

LOOK OUT FOR AMAZING BLUE DOT MEAL DEALS

PIZZAS, WRAPS & PANINIS  
FRESH OPTIONS EVERY DAY

TAKE HOME A TAKEAWAY  
Collect Before You Go Home

LUNCH MEAL DEAL  
Check out what's on offer today!

WATCH OUT FOR OUR POP UP & STREET FOOD PROMOTIONS

All of Our Deli Range, Sandwiches, Salads & Desserts are FRESHLY MADE HERE DAILY

# Art & Textiles

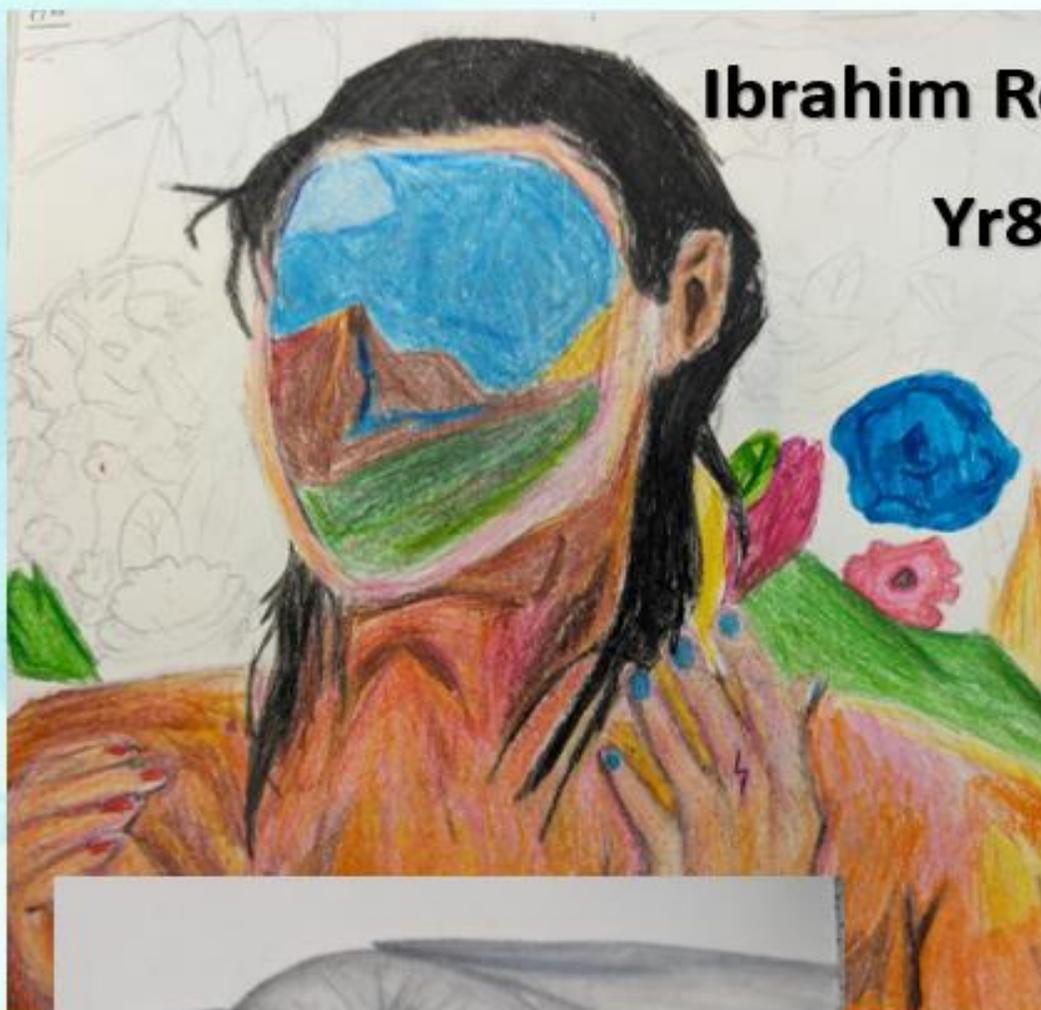
with

Mrs Brassett

Star Artist Year 12



[@becketkeysarttextiles](https://www.instagram.com/becketkeysarttextiles)



**Ibrahim Rehman**

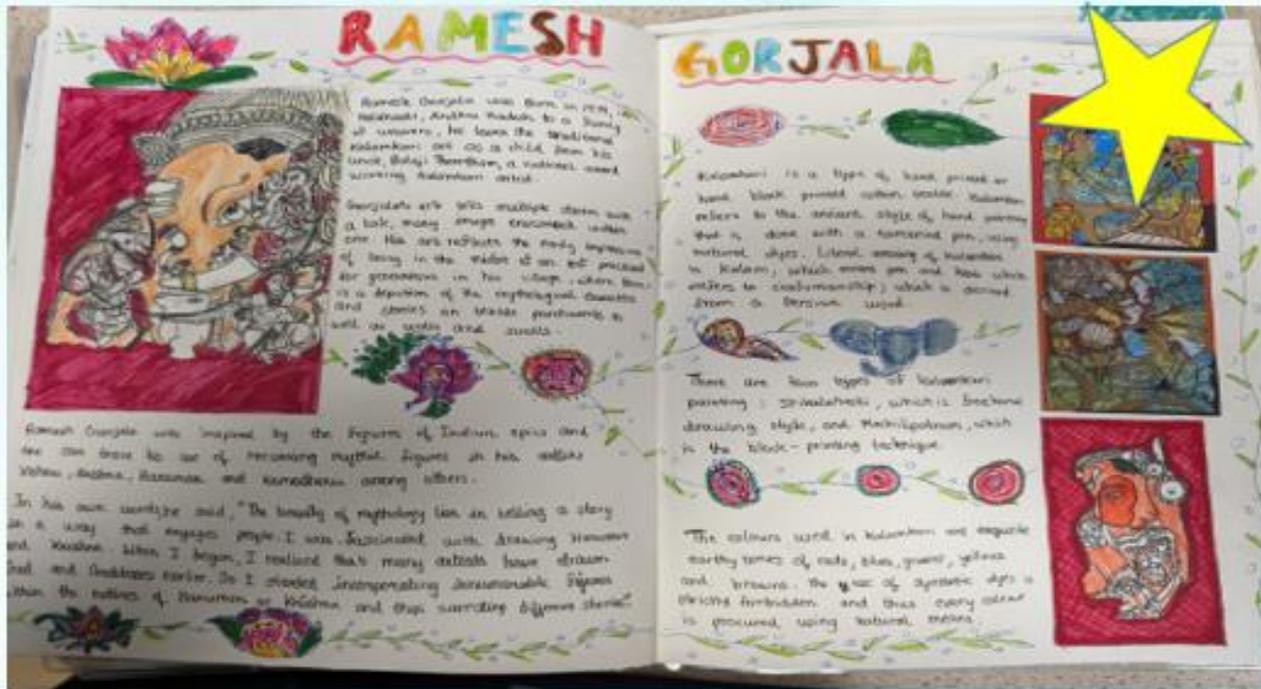
**Yr8**



**Lowri O'Brien**

**Yr 12**





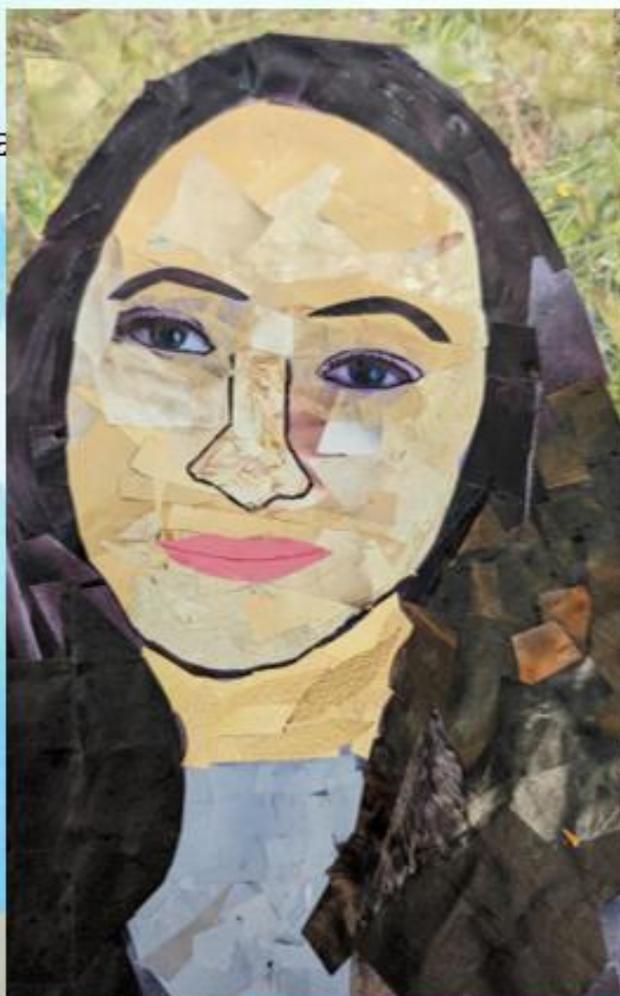
**Harshika Sundaresan Yr 7**



James Duffill Yr 7



**Sian  
Wilson  
Yr 8**



**Maddy  
Phillips  
Yr 9**



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### YEAR 12 ASSESSMENTS

MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup>  
JANUARY 2024

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### SIXTH FORMER FOR A DAY

YEAR 11 VISIT TO CHELMSFORD COLLEGE  
TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024

\*

### UCAS DEADLINE

THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2024

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### CHINESE STUDENTS VISITING

#### BECKET KEYS

MONDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – FRIDAY 2<sup>ND</sup>  
FEBRUARY 2024

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### PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING

#### YEAR 9

THURSDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

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### YEAR 8 MANDARIN BFI TRIP

THURSDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

\*

### YEAR 7 CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

\*

### YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING

THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

\*

### LENT HOLIDAY

MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY - FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup>  
FEBRUARY 2024

\*

# Becket Keys Church of England School

Sawyers Hall Lane  
Brentwood, Essex  
CM15 9DA  
01277 286600

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[office@becketkeys.org](mailto:office@becketkeys.org)  
[finance@becketkeys.org](mailto:finance@becketkeys.org)

X:

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@BecketKeysDT  
@BecketKeysExams

[Facebook: Becket Keys Church School](#)