

Becket Becomes Active

Year 11 girls' rugby team

2024 sees stunning new shirts for the Becket School year 11 girls' rugby team, which remains unbeaten. Now with their new kits from their sponsor Natalie Smith, they may play with style and confidence keeping up their winning streak. The neon pink detailing gives our girls that striking presence to ensure that their performance is as good as their new shirts!

Year 10 girls' football team

Becket girls Year 10 football team are competing in two cups, the County cup and then also the South Notts cup. In the most recent match against Toothill School the Becket girls team won by an outstanding 5-1. Two goals were scored by Jessica Jones, another two by Rosa and finally the fifth by Grace Jones. The team has high hopes for the future and hope that their teamwork and technician skill will enable them to progress onwards in the cup.

Year 7 boys football team

The Year 7 boys football team won their match against South Notts Academy 5-3 on Friday 12th January, in Round 2 of the South Notts Cup. Two fantastic goals were scored by Charlie Barr, Oscar Turner with another incredible two goals and Caiden Britton. The boys showed good grit and determination, with some excellent passages of play, the man of the match being Ollie Bell. The boys will be playing either Colonel Frank Seely Academy or Carlton Academy in the Quarter finals and we wish them the best of luck and hope they make it into the semi finals!

Written by Annie Flynn, Sport Reporter

Willem's Winter Adventure!

Willem Murray, from Year 12, now adds his name to the list of former Becket Olympians. Willem attended the Winter Youth Olympics in Gangwon from 19th January to 1st February. This is an amazing achievement for him to represent Great Britain in the games. Willem competes in short track speed skating, and in the picture he represents Great Britain by holding the flag. ***By Annie Flynn***



Becket Musical - The Quest

This spring, The Becket School performed a show entitled The Quest - written by our Mr Lund himself. The Quest revolves around the journey of five children as they are transported to the Magical Storybook Kingdom to find gold. However, they must get there before the evil characters (recognisable from various fairy tales) in order to prevent them from taking over. The show was a great success, and it was amazing to see so many students from different year groups all working together to make the show the success it was. A big round of applause is well deserved to all of the cast, crew and staff for all their hard work!

The Despatch interviewed some of the stars, beginning with Lenny (Year 9):

What is your part in The Quest?

Child 2

Why did you want to perform in the show?

I like working with the drama department at Becket, and I like acting.

How have you been preparing for your role in the show? How do you deal with any nerves?

I run through the script a lot to make sure I know my lines, and I practise delivery of the lines and staging when I can.

What's your favourite thing about doing the show?

We've had quite a lot of chances to work on our scenes independently or in smaller groups, which I've enjoyed, and then getting to see how it all comes together in the end has also been great.

Do you enjoy working with other year groups?

Yeah, it's always fun to work with other year groups. It's like the school is coming together.

What have you learnt from doing the show?

The show's been good preparation for acting, especially theatre. Overall, it's been a really good experience and good for confidence.

We also spoke to Matt and Nova (Year 12):

What are your parts in The Quest?

Ghoul (Nova) and Widow Twanky (Matt).

Why did you want to perform in the show?

Because we enjoy acting and drama.

How have you been preparing for your role in the show? How do you deal with any nerves?

By learning lines and practising. The rehearsals do help though.

What's your favourite thing about doing the show?

It's been nice to see a range of ideas and interpretations of the script from different students, and have lots of different year groups working together.

Written by Abigail Tsoi

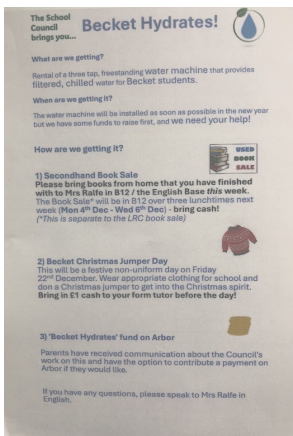


Quenching The Thirst For Change

Becket School Council Interview

Our new Student Council aims to improve the school and make it more appealing for our students. The council gives students the opportunity to contribute on a range of issues and gives them a voice. Mrs Ralfe leads the council, and the students we spoke to said that she creates an accepting environment for them to express their ideas. They meet once a week and within the council the current subdivisions are: the green team and the diversity team (with more subgroups to be created). At the moment there are roughly ten students in the council, so the group is able to have different perspectives on ways to help the school. As they are students themselves, they are really able to know and emphasise what needs to be focused on. One student said "If you really want to make a difference and make your voice heard, student council is the way to go."

Becket Hydrates



At the moment the student council is fundraising for a rented water fountain that the school can use. It will be put in the atrium and will be accessible to all students in order for us to reduce our plastic waste. In order to raise money there was a second hand book sale, a funded Christmas jumper day and a Becket Hydrates fund on Arbor that parents and students could contribute to. Mrs Ralfe explained that there was a survey taken to see how the school could be more environmentally friendly, and the most common answer was to reduce the use of single use plastic bottles by having better water fountains around school. It was unsustainable to use plastic bottles, and many people could not refill their own water bottles due to the toilet water fountains being avoided by most students. The idea was presented to the school leaders, who heartily agreed, so the council were keen to act and

were given permission to fundraise. Due to many factors, education has been underfunded for a long time, so the Becket School Council is trying to make positive changes themselves. The first step is the water fountain, which will hopefully be the first domino in a successful string of improvements.

Written by Evelyn Green and Eleanor Sumner

Off to London

In January, the Year 8s went on an exhilarating trip to experience the theatre and the culture of London. For example, they went to see Frozen in the West End and participated in an immersive theatre lesson by Pineapple Studios. We spoke to two Year 8s, Sara and Jessica, who told us about their fun experiences like shopping in Covent Garden. They both have joyous memories of dancing at Pineapple Studios and a bus journey home filled with laughter and games. Overall the views of London will be an unforgettable memory for these students.

Written by Angelique Warhurst and Kaitlin Shaju



Digging Up History

The Despatch met up with Matthew Butler, Year 12, an up-and-coming palaeontologist, to ask him all about his love of fossil finding.

TBD: What is your most exciting fossil find?

MB: The rib section of a diplodocus.

TBD: What TV show did you appear on?

MB: In an episode of Digging for Britain.

TBD: What is the oldest thing you have ever found?

MB: A 200 million year old ammonite.

TBD: What is the most recent finding you have been involved in?

MB: The head of an Ichthyosaur.

TBD: Who have you worked with?

MB: Palaeontologist Dean Lomax and Dr Emma Nichols

TBD: What do you enjoy most about fossil finding?

MB: The feeling that what you are finding has been under your feet for millions of years, and the fact that it tells a story of what life was like billions of years ago.

TBD: What is the most challenging part of fossil finding?

MB: Knowing what you're looking for, what bones fit with what part of the body and on which layers of earth you would find certain fossils. Sometimes fossils can look like regular rocks on the surface.

TBD: What is the process like?

MB: For smaller rocks, like those on rocky beaches, you unearth them with a knife and trowel. For bigger fossils like full bodied dinosaurs, you build a trench, dig around the fossil, put a cast like reinforcement over the fossils and remove layers of rock carefully. **Written by Andrew Leu**



Becket's Club Craze

Board Games Club

Board Games Club runs every Thursday lunchtime, and is an amazing opportunity for all students to join together and have some fun. When we visited, the game being played was chess, with six or seven boards set out amongst the tables. However, the club is not just for games, but is a friendly space for students to enjoy their lunch and chat. The majority of students there were from year ten and below, however it is open to all years!

Warhammer Club

The Warhammer Club is run after school on a Monday, and a mix of year 7s to year 10s are the usual players (although the club is free to all students!!). Mr Westhoff, who is also a science technician, helps to run the club every week. He says that the numbers vary from five to a dozen students a week, and that in the simplest terms possible (describing for a non player) that it is a tabletop war game played with figurines. He said that the art aspect of the game, such as painting and creating the figures, is very relaxing.

Written by Evelyn Green and Eleanor Sumner

Cooking Club

The Cooking Club is one of the Sixth Form enrichment options, teaching students not just how to cook but also about different foods and cultures from around the world. They do a mixture of theory work and actual cooking, and sessions take place weekly on Wednesday afternoons. They have looked at a wide range of things: hot chocolate, Italian food, Chinese dumplings and even the history of biscuits! Mrs Kirk, who runs the Cooking Club, has said that she really enjoys getting to know the students (especially as they are a small group) and seeing them grow in confidence when cooking - 'there's nothing better than seeing the joy and pride when someone eats something they've made and it's delicious'.

A collective favourite that the Cooking Club has made so far are the pizzas. They were simple to make and have a lot of different cooking skills that can be applied to making many other dishes as well. And, most importantly, they were delicious! Another highlight for some was when they tried some different hot chocolates near Christmas, and it was great seeing people's reactions to more bitter hot chocolates.

In the future, now that they have covered the basics, the Cooking Club plans to move onto more dishes that are nice and easy to make away from home, such as chicken burgers. Alongside that, students have said that they'd like to try making more complicated desserts.

Written by Abigail Tsoi



Still Club Crazy

Becket Rowing Club

The Becket Rowing Club is an amazing opportunity for any young person who is interested in trying a new sport, trying rowing in particular, or looking for a good way to exercise. As a former member myself I can say that the year I spent in the club was fun, rewarding and overall a great experience. So many opportunities were given to compete in sprint races, long distance races and head races on both rivers and lakes, and in the time I was there we competed at National Schools Regatta, Trent Headrace, Northwich and plenty at our own lake, Holme Pierrepont. These races were the highlight and were definitely rewarding after all the training we were doing during the week. I would highly recommend joining, the club is very welcoming and is a great place to make friends, memories and maybe surprise yourself with success. Very best of luck to the club for upcoming competitions.

Written by Evelyn Green

Medics Club

Med Club takes place every Monday lunchtime for aspiring medics to discuss things that they may encounter in the NHS, like ethical issues, whilst gaining a larger understanding of medicine. They learn about the foundation of the NHS and the importance of open discussions with different topics such as the moral aspects that come with making decisions in medicine. Speaking to some students who are a part of the club, they said that they will be able to use their knowledge and understanding from what they have learnt and transfer it into situations such as uni applications and even interviews. As a result it will increase their chances of succeeding in the medical field. The founder of the med club, Tess Brassil, encourages those interested in medicine to come along and join the club.

Written by Eleanor Sumner



Becket Book Club

The Book Club is a space for sixth formers and teachers to express their own thoughts about the books they are reading. Apart from gaining knowledge which extends beyond A-Levels, the students also come together to share views, valuing everyone's opinion. So far since launching in November, they have read 'The Tattooist of Auschwitz', which enriched them with a personal understanding of the harsh conditions of being in a concentration camp in World War 2. More recently, the current members of the book club are reading 3 different books: 'Murder on the Orient Express', '1984' and 'Pride and Prejudice'. Each person picked a book and they will all read it, present on it, and talk about it to the others who did not read that book, hopefully encouraging everyone to read more widely.


Written by Dylan Jordan

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JOIN US!
Vol 1

For all Becket sixth-formers,
here we present...

Becket Books Club

Every 6 weeks we read a new book and discuss our thoughts. Reading books counts as super-curricular and enriches yourself in opportunities. Something you could add to your personal statement!



*Opens every Tuesday between
12:30-13:15
in Room **A21**

-Make sure to bring lunch beforehand :)
-Bring friends along & See you soon!

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JOIN US!
Vol 1

£7

Young Enterprise Year 12 - Glasstastic

Year 12 have developed a new Young Enterprise business called Glasstastic, making their debut on 24th February at West Bridgford farmers market on Central Avenue. The company has a wide range of products such as Soap dispensers, spray bottles, keychains and diffusers which were a great success as they sold out! Emilia (sales director) Marcel (managing director) and Connor (Finance director) were extremely happy with the great sales and feedback. Glasstastic centres its products around sustainably sourcing materials as all materials used were upcycled. They spent a long time collecting bottles and caps from local establishments in order to create these fantastic products. Joining Young Enterprise is a wonderful opportunity, enabling you to have real life first-hand business experience which can help in later careers, and improving confidence when negotiating with other businesses and fellow business-people. Our Young Enterprise group reached out to an Amazon company (Altglass) and managed to negotiate for them to give a discount, resulting in Young Enterprise being able to make a greater profit.

Written by Annie Flynn



Scientists go to Warwick

In February, Mrs Thorpe led a group of Year 10 students on a trip to Warwick University, for a series of science-based presentations. She found it invaluable, especially as one talk was about the sun and how it made noise, which is something she had never thought about even being possible. This has made her consider things she would not have considered before, despite having years of experience in chemistry! Some students mentioned how their favourite talk was on a species of rhino that is on the brink of extinction, and thought the evolutionary biology talk generated questions that are very important today. Martin Noudeviwa liked the interactivity of the talks, especially when they were allowed to volunteer up on stage.

Joseph Shenton said that the campus was enjoyable and was a pleasure to take in, and that it was a whole new experience for him.

Written by Andrew Leu



