



Becket Pie Day

Gather round everyone and hear the story of how your favourite teachers experienced a moment they'll never forget... On Thursday 3rd of April, six of Becket's most infamous teachers were hit with a pie over their heads. We spoke to one of the event organisers, Amanda Urbanska, who said "We raised the money to aid those who cannot go into higher education, something that we take for granted." She continued by saying that they "made posters for around school", alongside the mention on Be Inspirational in order to allow for students to vote for their favourite, or least favourite, staff members. The subjects, Mr Carberry, Mr Gill, Mr Hall, Mr Welborn, Miss Gorman, and finally Miss Johns, were chosen according to your votes. Students in attendance described the energy as "sensational", connecting them to their fellow peers.

They raised around £100 for 'Save the Children UK', a charity which helps disadvantaged kids by assisting them with school, which Amanda noted was one of her "proudest moments". Her co-organiser, Sana Babu, said that the most voted was none other than Mr. Gill with 130 votes, closely followed by Mr. Welborn with 129.



Speaking of Mr. Welborn, when representatives of the Becket Despatch went to interview him, he told us that "being voted one of the highest was a positive reflection of my [his] hard work". He joked that students could have been "less forceful".

Some of the spectacular highlights include: the roar of the crowd as each teacher got pied, the emotional wave of the Becket community doing something for a good cause, and the satisfaction of seeing teachers agonise over a possible nomination.

Written by: Lily Cheung, Will Edwards



Year Seven Trailblazers

A group of our Year seven students went on a visit to the Forest Ground to learn about The New Energy Academy, a new initiative allowing young people aged 11-14 to learn more about the essential green skills needed to support a sustainable future. We spoke to a small group of Year seven's who went on the trip to see what they learnt. They told us that their favourite parts of the trip were the multitude of different activities which helped them to develop their communication and teamwork skills, which are essential to help later on in life.

The students also experienced a talk from Lioness, Olympian and Footballing mega star Fara Williams MBE. They heard her inspirational life story, including how she was homeless for six years living in hostels whilst still playing for England, and how she received her MBE for being an incredible footballer and inspiring others. Fara is a perfect example that even when life is tough, if you keep believing in yourself and working hard, you can achieve big things.

Overall, we gathered that the trip was very interesting and revealed the importance of looking after the environment and how to carry out a sustainable lifestyle.

Written by: Emily Goddard



Limitless London

Imagine a place where a group of students are sprinting throughout the streets of London, trying to chase after the one and only Whippet Welborn. Despite a rushed and early morning, the Year twelve History students finally arrived in the bustling streets of London. Led by Mr Welborn, they swiftly proceeded to spend the morning at Westminster Abbey, where they saw many historical artefacts and monuments consisting but not limited to: past poets, brilliant scientists, and historical figures ranging from the 11th century right up to the 21st. After hopping on the first of many tubes, the historians rushed to the Tower of London for a Henry VIII workshop, followed by a tour of the grounds involving viewings of: the Crown Jewels, Henry VIII armour, and replicas of the horses he rode into battle. After a busy day of exploring, the group settled at the YHA for a speed nap before they eagerly headed back out for their evening meal. The students were able to explore Covent Gardens, and even had a few opportunities to purchase some souvenirs. After barely any sleep, the group exited the beloved YHA and wandered in the direction of Oxford Street. The time here was well spent on some necessary summer shopping! After some fun, the medley lot headed towards Hampton Court Palace, which required various tubes and an hour train ride to arrive; it was worth it. Before their Thomas Wolsey workshop, the students and teachers explored the colour-filled spring grounds, and even took on the maze (they eventually found the middle). Unfortunately, their time eventually came to an end and it was time to head back towards the train station to come back home. Although it was a short trip, memories were made for life.

Written by: Tilly Coppinger, Ava Smith



Passio Production

On the final day of the spring term, some of our students gave a moving performance of the Passion story. They perfectly captivated the events leading up to Jesus' death, including his trial and suffering creating a sombre atmosphere in the hall. The performance explored themes of betrayal and redemption, and reminds us of the sacrifice that Jesus made for us. We spoke with Esther Pile who played the role of Mary...

How long did it take to rehearse all of your lines and what method did you use to remember them?

"I left it really late so it took me about a week and I recorded myself saying the lines and listened to it back."

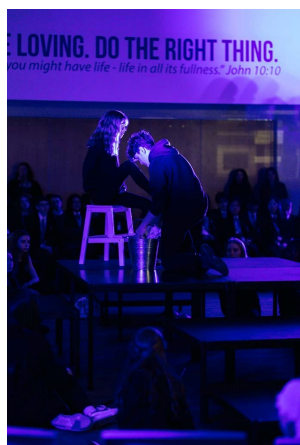
Was it a difficult role for you to play?

"It wasn't necessarily difficult, but it was a bit weird. It's not every day you play the Virgin Mary but I enjoyed playing the role."

Did you have to audition for it?

"I did not, I had already done a play before and Mr Lund asked me if I wanted to so I took the opportunity."

Written by: Emily Goddard



How many times did you perform the play?

Creative Minds

Have you ever thought about being a writer? Well, we challenged all Year sevens' creative writing skills by instructing them to write a 100 word story starting with either of the following phrases: "I opened my eyes..." or "This had never happened to me before". We received an abundance of entries at a high quality, but the ultimate winner was Johanna John in 7B. Her story "The echoes of nothing" really managed to emulate a suspenseful tone through her punctuation and short sentences. Leaving her story on a cliffhanger, as well, left The Despatch team hooked to her narrative, making it stand out over the rest.



1st. 'The Echoes of Nothing' by Johanna John 7B

I opened my eyes and asked my mum, "What are you making?" She stood there silently. I asked my brother what he was doing, but he didn't say a single word, just stared at me. My chest tightened. "Hello?" my voice felt distant, muffled. I grabbed my mum's shoulder but she didn't react. My brother blinked but didn't move. I ran outside. The world looked the same, yet something felt off. The air was too still, the sky too pale, too empty. Then at the end of the street, I saw a figure, motionless, watching me. Frightened, alarmed, terrified- why wouldn't anyone speak?

2nd. 'The Endless Puzzle' by Dorcas Shoebi in 7P

I opened my eyes and an infinite amount of shivers journeyed through my spine. I found myself laying on the cold, dirty floor of a random, mysterious room. Towering a few centimetres next to me was the figure of a man sleeping on an armchair. Immediately, I panicked and reached the damaged, vandalised walls to achieve a better balance in order to escape. The man moved. Suddenly, the sounds of heavy thumping grew closer until the figure of a tall, muscular man became visible. Before I knew it, I was laying in his arms! Will I ever escape this torturing puzzle?

3rd. 'End of the World' by Alexander Nykiel 7R

I opened my eyes... Orange light circled around me as an unpleasant warmth crept up my fingers. Dreamy whispers faded into the smoke. It was then when I realised this was real. As sinkholes were forming and skyscrapers were collapsing with a booming rumble. Screeches of victims reverberated around the city. Out of nowhere, a miniscule, green creature with wrinkly, hairy skin approached me through the flames. "We will spare you," the foreign being croaked. Relieved, yet bewildered, I sighed. Although people were weeping and my fragile skin was burning to a crisp, I boarded the mysterious, yet futuristic spaceship.

Written by: Seb Tonks, Vanessa Wisniewska



Salutations Mrs. Savage

After twenty-seven long years, we are finally saying goodbye to Mrs. Savage. Some of our Journalism team went to interview her about her time here, and where she sees herself next.

When speaking to Mrs. Savage we found out a variety of things, from a maths pick up line to her previous role in the Scottish Youth Theatre. We started off by asking her what her favourite part of being a member of the Becket community was, which was watching her form, Eleven Edmund, grow from year seven to year eleven. Despite that, she stated that she will miss maths the most and will miss doing past papers in her spare time. Mrs. Savage wishes her legacy to be the person who instilled confidence of maths in her students. From starting off as being dedicated to the idea of becoming a doctor, she soon realised that the lives of others being in her hands was too much for her to handle. At this point she pursued a short acting career with the Scottish Youth Theatre. This brought her to her next quest - performing to a classroom of students and curating the foundation upon which the maths base has been built. Following this, we asked who inspires her the most in life. Mrs. Savage's answers varied from Judge Judy, to the Dog Whisperer! In her immediate future she sees herself spending more time with her grand-daughter and in her favourite place, Cornwall (especially during term time when it is nice and peaceful).

In terms of her spare time she hopes to explore existing hobbies such as her pottery and expanding her beautiful garden. To further this she will eventually hope to volunteer at National Trust Houses, and help care for their vast gardens. As well as this she will become a pillar of the community by assisting with the cultivation of her elderly neighbours' gardens. In case you forgot, her final message will prepare you for next Valentine's Day... $\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta = 1$.

Written by: Lily Cheung, Ava Smith



Bon Voyage Mrs. Vaughan



During our exciting conversation with Mrs. Vaughan, we found out many details about her that we would never have previously known. We started off by quizzing her about her most memorable moments here at The Becket School. She responded with her story about when she visited France with a group of Year eights. Despite it being hard work, her favourite moments of that trip consisted of: playing rounders on the beach and observing the students attempting to speak French to the locals. We then asked her how the school has changed since she began teaching here. Mrs.

Vaughan explained that the school has changed for the best in many ways.

For example, teaching methods and rules have become more consistent which makes life easier for both staff and students. She also did a special shoutout to the memorable Mr. Griffin who made many impactful changes, for example the popular Becket Reads. Once we got Mrs. Vaughan thinking about her past at our school we got her to spill her most embarrassing story. She told us that when she first came to Becket, the Head of P.E was not aware of who she was. Mrs. Vaughan also kept getting into trouble due to being her newbie self and putting the equipment in the wrong places. Imagine, she's gone from the new teacher to a valued, loved member of staff! Once finally retiring, Mrs. Vaughan hopes to spend time in France with her beloved husband. We'll always remember you!

Written by: Will Edwards, Rhiannah Janagap, Ava Smith

Crushing the Competition

Cricket Comeback

The year ten girls' cricket team won the under 15s county finals and absolutely smashed it with clear wins against their previous rivals, including Toothill School and the mixed Nottingham High School. Our winning team went on to represent Nottingham, at the Birmingham Edgbaston Cricket Ground, in the Midlands games for the under 15s indoor schools' cricket competition. Year twelve students Lottie Darby and Ellen Weaver used their own cricket experiences to lead the team as they continued to play with strong teamwork. The astounding team competed with consistent catches, unexpected curve balls and powerful batting, resulting in an impressive 4th place in their pool.



Year Eleven Girls Football

Our remarkable year eleven girls' football team has done it once again! The girls won by a mind-blowing 13-2 with a strong performance in the Nottinghamshire County Cup Final. An honourable mention to the dynamic duo scoring eleven goals in total: Grace Jones with five goals, and Jessa Jones with 6 goals as well as Rosa Fisher and Emilia Brown completing the outcome with a goal each. Their successful winning streak carried all the way through year nine, ten, and eleven as a perfect end to their sporting achievements at Becket.

Year Eleven Boys Football

The victorious year eleven boys' football team brought home the first ever major trophy! As they competed in the South Notts under 16's cup finals, the boys won 2-0 against Newark academy, with the goals scored by Mason Hoskins and Joshua Sharman. The competitive atmosphere was intense with close calls but the boys persevered and put up a strong performance, tremendously securing their title.

Written by: Rhiannah Janagap

Meeting Dr. Mundell

Welcome Back Dr. Mundell!

We were thrilled to see the return of Dr. Mundell, curious to see why she returned to the Becket? Read on to find out more...

What role are you in now and how is it different from the roles you've had before?

"I'm lead of the SENCO department, heading up all of the learning support. It's similar to being a progress leader as I am still supporting students but it is on a much bigger scale."

What drew you back to the Becket?

"I love the Becket School, it's my favourite place to work and I recently trained as a SENCO (someone who is responsible for the day to day operation of the school's SEN policy) so it is perfect timing that this role came up."

What are your visions for the future at Becket?

"I hope to develop the already fantastic SEN department in our school and to see excellent progress amongst all of the SEN students."

We're happy to see Dr. Mundell's return, due to her having been an important member of the Becket community for a long time, from being head of the Chemistry department to being a main school progress leader. A woman of many talents!

Written by: Tilly Coppinger, Emily Goddard, Ava Smith



Culture Day 2025



Supporting Benin



Have you heard about the country of Benin? Located on the South-west coast of Africa, two fellow Becket students whose family live there, have been involved in a heartwarming event. Louis (year thirteen) and Martin (year eleven) have set up multiple fundraisers in order to support their uncle, who set up a school from his own pension money in the town of Lokassa. Becket did some fundraising for the school in Benin, including a sports fundraiser and multiple bake sales throughout the year. The fundraising has provided basic school essentials such as books, stationery and one projector. Seeing the projector made the kids feel very content and really appreciate the efforts of Louis, his uncle, and the Becket school. It was touching for Louis to see these children with a decent education and allowed him to realise the little things we take for granted daily. His aunt, being the deputy ministry for education, also allowed for more opportunities, and Benin being a highly community based area also provided additional support from everyone. Louis told us that his uncle sees himself as a parent to everyone in the school, which was really heartwarming and special to see. The work of Louis and Martin to get The Becket School involved has given these children in Benin a God-sent opportunity that wouldn't have been possible without the supportive community in this school, and hopefully in the future we can continue to help the school in developing further.

Written by: Seb Tonks, Vanessa Wisniewska

Farewell Readers

Members of the 2024 to 2025 team:

- Tilly Coppinger
- Lily Cheung
- Will Edwards
- Emily Goddard
- Rhiannah Janagap
- Ava Smith
- Seb Tonks
- Vanessa Wisniewska

Throughout the year, our team have been writing the Becket Despatch stories for you all to catch up with the latest gossip. At the beginning of the year, the team went to Leicester to learn about journalism, and the different aspects of it, which helped influence the rest of their stories. It has been an honour to interview different students and teachers and find out about their various trips and adventures they have been on throughout this academic year. It has been a pleasure to provide the school with the Becket Despatch 2024/25, and we hope to encourage our future journalists to follow in our footsteps.

P.S - special thanks to Lily and Will for editing The Despatch.



Pictured above (left to right): Emily Goddard, Rhiannah Janagap, Tilly Coppinger, Ava Smith, Lily Cheung, Will Edwards

Written by: Tilly Coppinger, Ava Smith

