

FROM THE HEADTEACHER:

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you as always for another fantastic week - your support really makes such a difference. On Wednesday Mr. Stapleton and myself spent the day walking around the school and we were so impressed by the high standards of learning and behaviour we saw. Every day together we move this school forward a little more – to the point where we this week we became ‘operationally full’ in some year groups meaning that we have had to start waiting lists for the first time in years. Your daily work with your children and the interactions with our staff have so much impact. Thank you.

Firstly a few dates for your diary: -

- **Wednesday 5th December** Year 10 Parents Evening from 4pm to 6.30pm in the Activities Hall. Booking is now live for on-line appointments. If you need any help with these please do not hesitate to see the ladies in Reception. As always, we are looking for a 100% attendance unless there are significantly extenuating circumstances. Your support here is so important at this vital time in their education.
- **Friday 7th December:** Inset Day – school will be closed all day to students.
- **Tuesday 18th December:** As notified last week we will incorporate Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day on this day. Letters will be sent home early December with all the details for you.
- **Wednesday 19th December:** As a reminder school will close at 1.35pm on Wednesday 19th December. Those children who are taken home by mini bus will be taken at 1.35pm unless parents/carers notify us otherwise.
- **Wednesday 3rd January 2019:** School re-opens after the Christmas break. Whole school returns on this day – there will be no training day.

Yesterday our Shoe Boxes were collected, and we are delighted to be involved again in such a worthwhile cause. We managed to send off 121 boxes this morning which will going to children in the remote villages in Moldova, Eastern Europe. I am sure that our small gifts of generosity will go a long way in these resource-stricken communities. Something which may seem so small can make such a difference to a child’s life. Thank you to Mr Grantham for organising this, more details and pictures are in the newsletter.

Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

We have this week been holding PPE exams for both year 11 and Sixth Form, this is a great opportunity for students and staff alike to familiarise themselves with our exam procedures. There are two days left of mock exams, next Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th November. We are delighted with the way our pupils have conducted themselves who are a credit to both the school and yourselves. There is a real energy around this year group at this moment as they continue to prepare for the summer examinations.

If your child/children cycle to school, please can you remind them of how to cycle safely to and from school and not to put themselves in any danger. We have had to speak to a few of our children who have been cycling in a way as to not only put themselves at risk but pedestrians too. Your co-operation with this would be greatly appreciated to ensure the safety of our children, which is paramount. I would remind you that lights on bikes are essential and I would recommend they wear helmets as well.

Next week when the PPEs finish the PE Department will be opening up the Sports Hall for students to play Basketball – as the weather gets colder we are keen to provide more activities in the warm for the students. We are listening to the students and trying to fulfil their requests!

This really has been a great week; we are seeing an increase in attendance (happy children come to school!); behaviour points have dropped and moved from predominantly about disruption to learning behaviours; children are happy around the school; and the Year 11s seem so happy about their PPEs. We are really moving in the right direction!

Have a cracking week and once again thank you for all your support.

St Thomas, pray for us.

Mr McLaughlin

A festive graphic for the Christmas Dinner Menu. It features a background of blurred white lights and red Christmas baubles. The text is centered in a white box. The Thomas Becket Catholic School logo is in the top left corner. The COOMBS Catering Partnership logo is in the bottom right corner.

Christmas Dinner Menu

Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 18th December 2018

Traditional Roast Turkey with Pigs in Blankets or Vegetarian option served with Sage & Onion Stuffing, Roast Potatoes, Carrots/Peas (maybe a few Brussels) and Gravy

Meal also comes with a dessert and a soft drink

COOMBS
CATERING PARTNERSHIP

Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Outstanding attendance at BCS gives your child the very best chance of success.

We place a high value on attending school regularly at TBCS due to the impact that absence has on learning.

Research shows how much education can be lost by having just a handful of days absent each year.

We track all students' attendance and intervention is given when a student drops below 95%, our school target. Some students last year dropped below our minimum expectation of 90% and are being tracked more closely with intervention being put in place.

We do understand that all students get ill from time to time, but as that you think very carefully before allowing your child to stay at home in the event of illness. In the case of sickness, please not that we do not follow the 48 hour policy.

If you have any queries regarding attendance please contact out Attendance Officer, Mrs McMahon on 01604 493211 ext 337 or email attendance@thomasbecket.org.uk

Excellent	<p>Your attendance is above 98% (Absences fewer than 5 days in the year)</p> <p>You have the best chance of success in your learning at school</p>
Good	<p>Your attendance is between 96% and 98% (absences fewer than 8 days in the year)</p> <p>Your attendance is good and you must continue to attend school every day to ensure you achieve your best</p>
Satisfactory	<p>Your attendance is 95% (absence fewer than 10 days in the year)</p> <p>Your attendance is starting to cause concern. You must work hard to improve it by not missing anymore days this year. You will have support from your class teacher to ensure you don't fall behind.</p>
Unsatisfactory <i>Below the national government threshold</i>	<p>Your attendance is between 90 and 95% (you have missed 18 school days in the year)</p> <p>You have missed a lot of school. It might be difficult for you to achieve your best. You must work hard to come to school every day for the rest of the school year.</p>
Concern <i>Persistent Absentee</i>	<p>Your attendance is between 85 and 90% (missing over 19 school days per year)</p> <p>You are missing so much school that it will be difficult for you to keep up with your lessons and work. Your teacher will give you extra support to help you catch up.</p>
Serious Concern <i>Persistent Absentee</i>	<p>Your attendance is below 85%</p> <p>Your absence is stopping you from achieving your best in school. There will be a lot of catching up to ensure you can achieve your best. If you have more days off this year, your learning will be affected.</p>

Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

ACCELERATED READER

REWARDS



Each Lesson

80% or above on quiz

3 Epraise points

Every 100% on quiz

Raffle ticket for draw at end of term

Apple to put on reward tree display for year group

Each Term

Raffle for 100% on quizzes

3 raffle tickets drawn from each year group. These students win a prize and name displayed on the rewards board for the whole term.

Most read words

The 3 students with the most amount of words read on Accelerated Reader from each year group win a prize and are put on the rewards board for the whole term, plus 15 Epraise points.

Class rewards

The class with the most read words for the term will receive a class prize and 5 Epraise points for every member of their class. The students will also have their class displayed on the rewards board for the whole term.

Students can come to the library at break, lunch and after school to quiz, as well as in their library lessons.

Every student who gets named on the rewards board each term will have their name printed in the parent's newsletter.

Well done to Callum in Year 7 for getting 3 100% on his accelerator reader quiz this week! The most any student has achieved this week! We are super proud of him



Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal



Thanks to all who donated to our Shoebox appeal.

On Thursday morning, representatives from the Samaritan's Purse collected 120 shoeboxes provided by the Thomas Becket Community. This year, our shoeboxes will be going to the remote villages in Moldova, Eastern Europe.

This is a fantastic effort by all to give a little to those in most desperate need.

Well done all

Mr Grantham



Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

SCIENCE CLUB

Year 7 students have been undertaking many activities after school in the science club. Activities such as making elephant tooth paste, making crystals and making helicopters. Students have also come up with various methods of making slime. Year 7 and 8 students will be completing a Bronze crest award, which is a 10 hour project from the British Science Association.

Science Club takes place every Thursday after school in S1 with Miss Mubarka.



Becket Sings!

School Choir for everyone – singers and maybe singers

When? Monday 3.15–4.15pm

Where? Dance Studio

Who? Everyone welcome

Staff and Students



Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

ART HOMEWORK

Year 7 Art Homework – This fortnight – 26/11/2018 to 07/12/2018

Students are required to find FIVE artworks by the artist Giorgio Morandi and print them out for their next art lesson.

Students can use the library or the art department has access to computers at lunchtimes and after school. There are both computers and printers available.

Or students can work at home and if they do not have a printer, they are welcome to email their homework to their teacher at searleydenkiewiczj@thomasbecket.org.uk

Any additional support – see their art teacher and check Doodle.

Here is an example to support.



7x/Ar2 and 7y/Ar1 – This fortnight – 26/11/2018 to 07/12/2018

Students are required to find 10 artworks with Spatial Recession in AND the definition of the work Spatial Recession and print them out for the next art lesson.

Students can use the library or the art department has access to computers at lunchtimes and after school. There are both computers and printers available.

Or students can work at home and if they do not have a printer, they are welcome to email their homework to their teacher at searleydenkiewiczj@thomasbecket.org.uk

Any additional support – sees their art teacher and check Doodle.

Here is an example to support.



Year 8 Art Homework – This fortnight – 26/11/2018 to 07/12/2018

Students are required to find FIVE artworks by the artist Helen Wilson and print them out for their next art lesson.

Students can use the library or the art department has access to computers at lunchtimes and after school. There are both computers and printers available.

Or students can work at home and if they do not have a printer, they are welcome to email their homework to their teacher at searleydenkiewiczj@thomasbecket.org.uk

Any additional support – see their art teacher and check Doodle.

Here is an example to support.



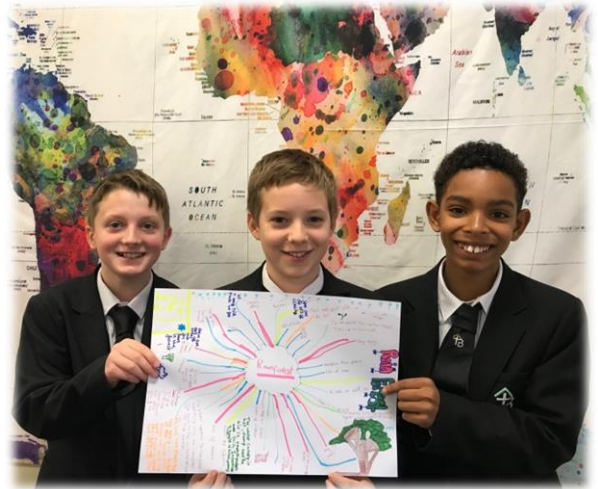
GEOGRAPHY

Geography students get interactive to learn more about rainforests

Geography students this week have turned on their interactive heads ready for a whole class interactive fact-finding lesson diving deep into the African rainforests. This forms part of our Year 8 project on Africa which we will study until Christmas.

Pictured are Maks, Harry and Cayenne who won the lesson based competition. Well done.

Mr Grantham



YEAR 7 STARS OF THE WEEK

7Faith – Annie John

7Justice – Luqman Ali

7Compassion – Teigan Sibbald

7Truth – Arturs Snitko

7Respect – Shantel Ryan

7Humility – Dyrell Myers-Nettey



Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS TIMETABLE

Day	Sport	Year	Teacher
Monday	Rugby	ALL	Mr Binczyk
	(Boys & Girls)		Miss Beasley
	Badminton	ALL	Miss Khanam
	Creative Writing	ALL	Miss Gough LIB
	Dance Club	ALL	Miss Moore AUD
	Cookery Club	ALL	Miss Adams DT3
	Functional Fitness	ALL	Mrs Page
Tuesday	Boys Football	10/11	Mr Walsh
	Girls Football	ALL	Miss Perry
Thursday	Netball	ALL	Miss Perry Miss Beasley
	Boys Football	7/8/9	Mr Binczyk Mr Jones
	Beauty Club	ALL	MOR H2
	Drama Club	ALL	Mrs Harrison Mr Curtis
Friday	Basketball	ALL	Mr Walsh

Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

MOCK EXAMS TIMETABLE

Please see timetable below for the upcoming mock exams.
Individual timetables will also be sent home to each student.
Please contact the exams office should you have any questions or queries.

Date	Start	Component Title	Level
Mon 26 Nov	09:00	Science: Chemistry Combined	YEAR 11 MOCK
		Science: Chemistry Triple	YEAR 11 MOCK
		A2 Psychology Paper 2	YEAR 13 MOCK
Mon 26 Nov	11:35	Science: Physics Combined	YEAR 11 MOCK
		Science: Physics Triple	YEAR 11 MOCK
		A2 Media	YEAR 13 MOCK
Tues 27 Nov	09:00	English Literature Paper 3	YEAR 11 MOCK
		A2 Business	YEAR 13 MOCK
Tues 27 Nov	11:35	Spanish Reading H+F	YEAR 11 MOCK
		Spanish Listening H+F	YEAR 11 MOCK
		AS History	YEAR 12 MOCK
		A2 Sociology	YEAR 13 MOCK
		A2 Maths Paper 2	YEAR 13 MOCK

New In!



GCSE Combined Science revision cards (CPG)

Great for quick revision sessions

£3.00 each



GCSE Single Science revision cards (CPG)

Use these to test your knowledge!

£4.00 each

Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

GCSE Revision Guides

At Thomas Becket we have a range of GCSE revision guides and workbooks to support students with extra revision at home. Please see below the prices for these. If you would like to purchase them please come to reception.

Maths	
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) flash cards Foundation/ Higher - Pearson	£7.50
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Revision workbooks Higher - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Revision work books Foundation - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Revision guide higher - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Revision Guide Foundation - Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Practice Papers (foundation/ higher) Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Number and Algebra – Pearson	£3.00
REVISE EDEXCEL GCSE (9 – 1) Shapes and Statistics – Pearson	£3.00
Calculator	£7.50
English	
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS GCSE 9-1 Workbook Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS GCSE 9-1 Revision Guide Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS CPG “The Workbook” Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS CPG Revision Guide Pearson	£3.00
REVISE WJEC EDUQAS English literature revision guides (Macbeth , Dr Jeckyll and Mr Hyde, An inspector calls and poetry anthology)	£3.00 Each
Humanities	
History Revision Books	£3.50
RS – AQA GCSE CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY BOOK	£6.00
Geography Book	£5.00
Science	
Revision Guide Combined Science Higher Level (CPG)	£5.50
Exam Practice Workbook Foundation/ Higher (CPG)	£5.50
Revision Guide (Physics/ Chemistry Biology) Each (CPG)	£2.75
Exam Practice (Chemistry/ Physics / Biology) Each (CPG)	£2.75
Combined Trilogy revision guide and workbook (Pearson)	£4.20
Single science revision guide and workbook (Pearson)	£2.50
Other subjects	
OCR Computer Science Revision Workbook	£5.00
OCR GCSE computer Science Revision notes	£8.00
Business Studies revision guides	£2.50
Spanish GCSE and French KS3 (Each)	£4.00

Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

NON-NEGOTIABLES

1. Arrive on time
2. Wear full uniform with pride, ready to learn and fully equipped
3. Listen to one another. Never talk over a member of staff or your peers; if you wish to contribute to a lesson, raise your hand and wait to be selected by a member of staff, never shout out.
4. Respect the learning community by doing as you are asked by members of staff immediately; you will never be asked to do something unreasonable. No such thing as saying 'No' to a teacher
5. Walk around school safely and calmly

PARENTPAY

Please note: We run a CASHLESS canteen and no longer accept any cash payments.

We are asking parents/carers to set up their ParentPay account to reduce the amount of cash taken on site. You are able to pay for trips, PE kit, Canteen and lots of other items such as revision books using the ParentPay system. If you have not yet already activated your account please email reception@thomasbecket.org.uk or telephone 01604 493211 to request a copy of your activation letter giving you a secure login and password.

Using this system will reduce the canteen queueing time for students, and make all transactions secure when paying for PE kit, upcoming trips etc. Thank you for your support.

SAFEGUARDING/FAMILY SUPPORT

Mrs Tracey Palmer is one of our safeguarding officers and also Student & Family Welfare. She is always available to contact via email or telephone for any worries or concerns you may have about your child's welfare or you are more than welcome to make an appointment for a face to face discussion with her.

HEAD OF YEAR 9

Miss Turnbull is available every day for drop in appointments from 3.30pm to 4.00pm to discuss anything in respect of Year 9 students. You can also email TurnbullJ@thomasbecket.org.uk – or just pop in and say hello!!

Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

If you or someone you know have any hidden talents that you would be willing to share with our students within extra-curricular time please let us know

Some examples are listed below. Although any other talents would be welcomes!

- Nail Art Club
- Hairdressing
- Sports Coaching – cricket, hockey, netball
- Textiles – crocheting

We look forward to hearing from you – Please email Miss Moore at the following address – moores@thomasbecket.org.uk

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

Our Learning Resource Centre is open from 8.00am and we close at 4.30pm daily. This is for pupils to access computers and complete any homework and associated tasks. 2 ePraise points will be awarded each time a pupil obtains 100% on their library book quiz!!

Donations

If you have any old books or board games that are looking for a new home, we at the library are always grateful of donations. Our library is not just for reading!!

Don't forget to follow us on twitter @becketcs and like and follow our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ThomasBecketCatholicSchool>



Website: www.thomasbecket.org.uk

Telephone: 01604 493211

Email: office@thomasbecket.org.uk

#wearebecket #proud

Gospel Reflection

Feast of Christ the Universal King

It is you who say that I am a king

John 18:33-37

Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?" Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I?" Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world." If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here." So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. *Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.*"

Monday

Christ the King Sunday celebrates the role of Jesus as ruler over all of the universe. However, it's important to recall that despite this, Jesus is king because he is a humble servant. Jesus' kingship is not one of power and riches, but of love and humility, as demonstrated by his life on earth. Jesus shows us that you do not have to be rich or powerful to be important. He teaches us that what is more important is how you treat others.

In this gospel, Pilate is confused. He couldn't understand what Jesus was saying to him. Pilate asks Jesus if he is the king of the Jews. Jesus answers that his **kingdom is not of this world**. So he asks Jesus again if he is a king. Jesus replies that he was born to come into the world and share the **truth** with all people. His Kingdom does not have boundaries, but is found in the hearts of all who sincerely try to live out the Truth of God's Love.

What do you think is the truth that Jesus came to share?

Thursday

Sometimes it is easy to listen. Sometimes it is hard. We might not want to hear what the person is saying to us and so we do not listen properly.

One of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say.

Can you think of a time when you didn't really listen to what someone was saying to you?

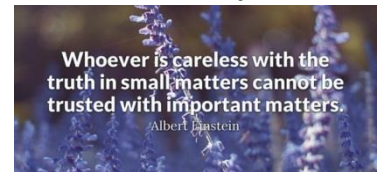
Now think of a time when someone did not listen to you. How did you feel?

Tuesday

"Jesus is a teacher of truth and life who shows us the way that leads to happiness." Pope Francis

Post-it Challenge:

Write how you think that truth can make people happy. Tell your neighbour.



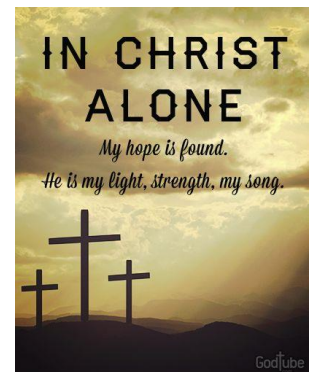
Wednesday

'Listening twice as much as talking helps us grow in wisdom'

Think about how much listening you do in a week.

We listen to our teachers in school. We listen to our parents. We listen to our friends. We listen to the radio. We listen to music.

How do we show that we listen to others?



Friday

"Prayer does not change God, but it changes the person who prays"
Lord, lead me always in the way of truth.

I ask you to help me look at the truth of my own life, at all that is genuine and all that is false, all that is true and all the lies, all the fullness and all the emptiness.

I trust you, Father to come into my life and brighten the darkness with your light. Be for me the truth that will help me to be the best possible version of myself. Amen