

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER
DORSET DT8 3EP

Tel: 01308 862633
Absences: 01308 861917

Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk



HEADTEACHER
MR K HALES NPQH

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
MR D WITHERS NPQH

Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

Friday 5th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half-term of the year. Autumn feels well and truly upon us with leaves aplenty and cold, crisp mornings. It also signals a busy few weeks.

Thanks to Mrs Brent and Miss Hawkins, **Year 12 Art students** enjoyed a rich and stimulating few days in Cornwall this week. As part of their background research they took in a wide variety of experiences including The Barbara Hepworth Museum, independent galleries, Kurt Jackson, sketching workshops and The Tate gallery, before a final day at Falmouth University with printmaking and photography workshops, along with a site tour.

Years 7 – 11 have their timetable paused on Monday with a range of curriculum-based activities for **Stop The Clock Day**. Key Stage 3 subject-based trips out to Wookey Hole, Dorchester Museums and Marwell Zoo, Year 10 are preparing for Work Experience, Rotary Interviews and The Army, with Year 11 focused on coursework, revision preparation and financial management. All students in Years 7-10 **MUST** have the appropriate page of their Student Planner signed by Monday (p47 for Years 7 and 8, p43 for Years 9 and 10), and please ensure that **all students take a LFD test on Sunday evening or Monday morning** and have their **face coverings** ready for these activities.

As ever, we are extremely grateful to **our friends at Rotary for providing invaluable practice interviews** for all our Year 10 students. These require students to prepare a short CV, attend for an interview at The Town Hall, present themselves in this new situation and articulate responses in a semi-formal interview. Many thanks to all the Rotarians for all their efforts, and to our office staff for supporting and accompanying the students down to the Town Hall.

We are very much looking forward to our joint **Sixth Form Open Evening** at Sir John Colfox Academy from **6 – 8pm on Wednesday 10th November** and hope that as many Year 11 families as possible will attend. There will be presentations at 6pm and 7.30pm, to ensure good social-distancing, with plenty of time to find out more about A Level and BTEC courses, as well as our unique link with Yeovil College and the many opportunities that they offer.

On Thursday, **Remembrance Day** will be marked by an extended tutor period followed by a minute's silence at 11am. I am also grateful to members of the senior prefect team who will be representing the school at **Beaminster's Remembrance Parade** on Sunday 14 November.

We look forward to welcoming all of you for our annual **Academic Monitoring Day** on Friday 19th November. As set out in the recent ParentMail, this is an important opportunity for parents and carers to meet with your child's Tutor, to reflect on the start of the term and consider how best we can work together to support our students throughout this academic year. Tutors will be liaising with students to identify times for these interviews over the forthcoming week.

Following a very successful first **Area Cross-Country**, where our Junior Girls came 1st and Junior Boys 2nd, the next round takes place at Colfox on Tuesday. Good luck to our Year 7, Junior and Intermediate teams and many thanks to Mr Wagstaff for the considerable organisation that these events take.

Our **Year 9 Netball team** secured two good victories at the recent Area tournament, but were unable to progress to the County finals. However, Miss Lewis and Miss Coombes are very grateful to our **BSPTA** who have agreed to purchase 24 Netball kits for competition, and to **West Chinnock Primary** for the generous donation of a further full squad kit.

In recognition of their role, responsibilities and excellent start to Year 11, I am pleased to confirm that **senior prefects** will have the additional privilege of being allowed to go off site at lunchtimes. This will be extended to other prefects, for two days per week, once we have received parental permission. My thanks to them all for their additional work and support.

Ms Ives will, once again, be collecting for the **Beaminster Food Bank**. HU2 will be used as the collection point for donations of **any tins or dry foods**, particularly tinned fruit, sweetcorn, tomatoes and Fray Bentos tin pies, as well as shower gel, soap, deodorant and toilet roll, but **NO** perishables please. **Please do support** if you can and any items should be taken up to HU2 over the next few weeks.

Finally, a reminder from the **BSPTA** to please visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk and remember to use the **Easyfundraising App** when taking advantage of any online Christmas shopping. From holidays, to presents, to your weekly food shop, it costs you nothing at all, but the retailer makes a percentage donation to the BSPTA. As we are now working towards **raising money for a new minibus**, every donation is really appreciated, no matter how small, so if you can help by using this simple App please do, thank you.

I wish you all a very restful weekend.

Mr Hales

This ParentMail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. Disclosing, copying or distributing the contents is strictly prohibited without prior permission from the school. If you have received this email in error, please notify office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk