

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 4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has set a distressing background for us all to comprehend and reconcile with the relative quiet of our own day to day lives. We are also very aware that our children have many questions about this humanitarian crisis and will want to seek reassurance about the events that are unfolding. Therefore, Mr See will be leading assemblies next week to set the scene around this hugely complex and very emotive issue in a way that ensures that we educate against hate and avoid the formation of stereotypes.

Alongside this we will respond to the immediate humanitarian need through a number of activities in school, including our non-uniform day on March 18th and the selling of ribbons to show our support for the Ukrainian people. All the money raised will go to the **Disasters Emergency Committee** [Home | Disasters Emergency Committee \(dec.org.uk\)](http://Home | Disasters Emergency Committee (dec.org.uk)) Staff are always available for conversations but, as ever, if you have any concerns about your child's anxiety then please do contact their Tutor in the first instance who will provide a further referral if required. The following links may also be helpful if you would like further information to help with your own discussions:

- [Help to talk to pupils and how to help them avoid misinformation \(DfE\)](#)
- [Advice if you are upset by the news \(BBC Newsround\)](#)
- [Supporting children to manage anxiety over war, conflict and crises](#)

Over thirty of our Year 11 students have faced the unenviable challenge of producing a carefully scripted 3-course meal as part of their **Food examination practicals** this week. Mrs Gibbs has been hugely impressed by their planning, focus, preparation and cooking, whilst the staff have certainly enjoyed tasting and commenting on the wonderful dishes created.

Year 13 also deserve a restful weekend after successfully completing their second set of trial examinations this week. **Year 11** undertake the same challenge next week; best wishes to them all.

Thank you to **Year 10 parents and carers** for their engagement with Parents' Evening on Wednesday. This is an important period for Year 10 and I know that staff very much appreciated the supportive conversations.

After the fun of **World Book Day**, with the Maths department stealing the show, our KS3 focus for next week's **Literacy Week** is the very pertinent *'The Elephant in the Garden'* by *Michael Morpurgo*.

Congratulations to Year 9 **Sophie Laycock** who represented the Shipton Riding Club last weekend competing in the Dressage. After significant performances Sophie has qualified for the British Riding Clubs National Novice Winter Championships being held in Grantham on the 28th March.

Local host families are being sought for Spanish students in June and July, further details are attached for any families who can help, together with information about the **Prout Bridge** activities that will be running for the second half of the Spring Term.

We currently have **staff vacancies** for a **school cleaner** for 16 hours per week (some flexibility in working hours or job share may be possible), and also for a **Supervisory TA**. Full details and application forms for both posts can be found on the school website: [Beaminster School Staff Vacancies](#)

Finally, our local NHS providers wanted to let our students, and community, know about the Dorset-based **Degree Apprenticeship Programme for Nursing**. All information and links are available on this microsite: <https://joinourdorset.nhs.uk/rnda/>

Have a restful weekend.

Mr Hales