

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 26th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the hustle and bustle of Academic Monitoring Day last Friday, the quiet of **Year 11 examinations** has descended on the Main Hall this week. The students have shown great resilience and endeavour, a very positive attitude and excellent conduct throughout. They all deserve a rest this weekend before the final full day on Monday.

The **BSPTA** wanted to pass on their appreciation for all your kind donations for their Tombola which will be available at the **Beaminster Xmas Fair** on Friday 3rd December. There will be a wide range of stalls to entice you in to **St Marys Church**, from 5pm, including our **SustainableYou team**, and I look forward to seeing you there. The BSPTA will be **decorating the church** between 10.30am and 12.30pm and would very much welcome help from anyone who is able to drop in on the day.

Thank you for the steady flow of **raffle ticket returns**. Do let us know if you would like any further booklets to sell and please remember to return all money and counterfoils by 9am on Friday 10th December at the latest, to be included in the draw.

The BSPTA are also looking forward to their ever-popular **Mince Pie Bake Off competition** (see attached). Please do find the time to enter your family favourite, ready to be added to the rich array of recipes and pastries that are always on show. All entries should be in Reception by 10am Thursday 2nd December for the judging, and will then be sold off at the Xmas Fair. Don't forget to clearly name your entries, including any containers you wish to have returned.

Our dedicated team of First Aiders are spending a lot of time dealing with the **very high numbers of students currently accessing First Aid**. Please ensure that your child is fit and well enough to come to school (reporting any absences if not), and, so that we have the correct, up-to-date contact details for you should we need to contact home, please make sure that you have checked and returned the **Data Check sheets** that were circulated on Academic Monitoring Day. Thank you for your support with this.

Public Health Dorset are asking for **current Covid-19 precautions** to carry on until, at least, the end of November. Therefore, whilst I am awaiting further guidance, we will **continue with face coverings** until the end of next week as a minimum, so please ensure all students have a face covering and a spare with them every day.

There has been a **feast of rugby** taking place all week at Dorchester Rugby Club. In the Year 10 tournament, the boys showed real fighting spirit to improve their performance in each round, narrowly losing 10-5 against All Saints with a try from Francis Caswell. In their first tournament representing the school, the Year 8 team clocked up 60 points in their first two matches. They narrowly lost a very close semi-final to Woodroffe before beating Budmouth 15-5 to gain a well-deserved third place; Billy Hannam and Arthur Donaldson were the players of the tournament. Finally, Year 9 secured 2nd place overall with confident wins against All Saints and Budmouth, and a narrow loss to Colfox 7-12; a great team performance with Henry Guppy-Brown and Lewis King the main try scorers. Well done to all the teams.

We look forward to meeting parents and carers at the **Year 9 Parent Consultation evening** on Wednesday for our first virtual event of the year. Appointments are filling up, so to ensure that you are able to speak with subject teachers of your choice do login on this link: <https://beaminsterschool.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/>

We are currently advertising for a **Teaching Assistant** and an **English Teacher** (maternity cover). Full details are on the school website [Beaminster School Staff Vacancies](#) so please do share with anyone who may be interested.

Finally, the **school choir** will be singing at Mapperton House Xmas Fair on Sunday, and we have the return of the **Christmas Concert on Thursday 2nd December** at 7pm in the main school hall. This is always a wonderful showcase of musical talent from across the year groups so I do encourage you to come along for a quality evening of entertainment led by our own raconteur Mr Smith.

With a busy week ahead, and the first real signs of winter, I wish you all a warming weekend.
Mr Hales