

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 13th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely **Year 11 Celebration Day**, providing a light-hearted distraction from the ongoing revision and start of the GCSEs on Monday. After a final RS revision session to begin the day, the students looked resplendent as they gathered in the hall to share memories and music from the past 5 years, lots of stories, words of wisdom and much fun was had by all. Lunch was served by staff before the signing of spare shirts and all-important Yearbooks, before a final farewell and an early start to the weekend to prepare for Monday. The year group have done incredibly well to be so composed and focused after these past two years and our very best wishes go with them all.

Year 10 have come to end of their two weeks of **Work Experience** and will return to us, I am sure, much wiser on Monday. We have had great feedback on how the students have matured and grown in confidence, taken on challenges and seized new opportunities during our visits to their placements, as well as securing part-time jobs and the possibility of future careers. It just leaves me to thank everyone involved for providing such support in this huge undertaking.

I was hugely impressed to hear that **Ben Keeping**, in Year 7, has been competing in the **south west regional swimming championships** in Bristol for the last couple of weekends. After numerous races, and some very fast times, Ben was placed an amazing 26th and 37th in his individual events. Also in Year 7, we were delighted to hear that **Sophie Bartelings and Eliza Curtis** had their 'Twisted Tales' 100 word mini-sagas entered into a competition run by **Young Writers**. Their work is going to be published in "*Twisted Tales 2022 – Wonderful Words!*" with the girls receiving a copy of the book, a bookmark and a certificate in recognition of their achievement.

Many congratulations to **Charlie Irving-Bell** who completed the **Exeter University Year 10 Scholars programme** in April and graduates successfully onto the next stage in Year 11. Alongside group project sessions, online courses and learning about higher education, Charlie had to present final ideas to a wide ranging and formidable audience - a wonderful experience that we are keen to encourage with more students taking part next year.

Next week, as part of our drive to broaden students' exposure to a wider **range of literature**, we will be reading 'Skellig' by David Almond across all our KS3 classes. The story centres around a 10-year old boy named Michael and the unique discovery he stumbles upon after entering a forbidden garage in his garden.

An early reminder that next Friday (20th May) also sees the final full day for **Year 13s** before their examinations start and Mr See will be sending out further information about this separately. After seven years it is always a bit of a wrench to know that they are leaving us, although this is always helped by hearing about all the wonderful things that they are going off to do.

Please do encourage your children to participate in, at least, one of our summer **clubs and activities** programmes. There is a huge range of opportunities including the **free tennis coaching** after school on Fridays, with everyone welcome.

Finally, a very warm welcome to our newest staff members: **Mrs Lorraine Baker** is our Student Progression Officer, **Mr Ryan Hobby** has joined the PE department and **Mrs Nina Wagstaff** joins our Inclusion team.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Hales

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