

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 3rd December

Dear Parents and Carers,

With Christmas on the horizon our Music department started a busy few weeks with the school choir singing a wonderful collection of festive songs at **Mapperton House Xmas Fair** on Sunday. This was followed, last night, with our **Christmas Concert**, where we were treated to a cornucopia of entertainment that lifted the spirits of even the most weary of souls! It is always such a pleasure to see students from right across the age range coming together and having the confidence to appear on stage; from the first performances of Years 7 and 8, up to our more experienced Year 11 and Sixth Form students, the depth and range of talent on display is always impressive. Thank you to all the staff and students involved, and particularly to our very own "Music Man", Mr Smith, for being so generous with their time and putting on a musical evening of real quality.

The **BSPTA** were delighted with the standard of entries for their **Xmas Bake Off competition** (see our Facebook page for photos). There was a sumptuous array of pies, cakes and biscuits and, after much consideration, the worthy winners in each category were: **Matilda Dodds 8W** for the most attractive entry, **Archie Smith 11W** for the most creative, and **Eliza Curtis 7P** for most scrumptious tasting; and a very enjoyable time was had by the tasters! All the entries, raffle tickets, SustainAble You information and Tombola prizes will be available from the BSPTA stalls in **St Mary's Church** from 5pm tonight (Friday 3rd December), as part of the **Beaminster Xmas Fair**.

After a hiatus of several years, the **Joint Sixth Form football team** made a welcome return in the 1st round of the County Cup against Poole Grammar on Wednesday. Despite a spirited effort they were overwhelmed by some excellent football and Poole Grammar were the well-deserved winners.

We are looking forward to seeing **Year 13 parents and carers** on Wednesday for the online Parents' Evening. This is being organised with students through our school **Teams site**, so do ensure that your child has made appointments with all the relevant staff.

Next Thursday, we have the **Christmas Carol Concert** taking place at St Mary's Church Beaminster. To maintain safe numbers, just Year 8 students will attend in the afternoon as they missed out last year, however, a very warm welcome is extended to everyone to attend the **evening event at 7pm**, so I do hope to see many of you there to enjoy and celebrate the festive season with us.

As you will be well aware, the government are asking schools to continue with **current Covid-19 precautions** until, at least, the end of term. Therefore, we do need to **continue with face coverings** and ask that you ensure **all students have a face covering and a spare with them every day**, alongside continuation of **twice-weekly Covid tests**.

Schools have also been instructed to hold **onsite Covid testing** once again at the beginning of the Spring term in January. We are anticipating that this will take place on Thursday 6th January in our first tutor time, to minimise any disruption. Further details will be shared when we have more specific guidance.

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, closing dates are next week.

A reminder that we also have a vacancy for a **Parent Governor**, details have already been circulated but are attached again here and are available on the school website: [Governor Recruitment | beaminsterschool](#) – the closing date is Wednesday 15th December.

The Prout Bridge Project are, once again, providing activities for the start of the Christmas holidays. Further information and contact details are on the attached leaflet. **Kingston Maurward College** are holding an Open Event on Sunday 12th December from 10am, those interested should pre-register here:

kmc.ac.uk/college/information/open-days/open-event/

Finally, **Christmas Jumper Day**, in aid of Save the Children, is coming next Friday, when we also have staff and student Christmas lunches! Students must continue to wear their school uniform but, by making a £1 donation, they can replace their school jumper with a favourite Christmas jumper and some festive fun.

I hope that you all enjoy some early festivities this weekend.

Mr Hales

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