

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 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

There has been a real buzz and excitement around school this week with the stunning production of **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. Alongside all the difficulties of the past two years it has felt a very long time since the whole community has been able to come together around such a positive and uplifting celebration of student talent and dedication. The performances are built around the drive and enthusiasm of Ms Smith, who has gathered a wonderful team of staff and students who have genuinely enjoyed the opportunity to stage this huge undertaking that began back in the early part of last summer. I thank all of them for the passion, service and pleasure that they have brought to the school and wish them all a very restful, and well-earned, weekend!

On Monday Year 11 were introduced to the **National Citizenship Service**. This is a **highly subsidised** opportunity for 15-17 year olds (**so some 6th Formers will also be eligible**) to participate in a **two week programme** that includes outdoor activities, a community project and five nights away from home. Feedback from previous years has been extremely positive and the details are attached.

Our Attendance team work hard to ensure that all our students are safe and accounted for, and we really appreciate your ongoing help in reporting any student absences as early as possible. A reminder that **all absences** need to be made via the **24-hour Absence Line (01308 861917), main school office line or, if emailing a Tutor, please ensure that the office account is also copied in.** This is because Tutors are often busy first thing in the morning and then teaching, so may not get to their emails to pick up any absences before a welfare call home is made. Thank you.

Our **Lego Robotics Teams** were certainly put through their paces today with their first South West competition. Having had to trial prototype models and program the robots to meet the design brief, the students presented their work and then demonstrated the final Lego vehicle completing the challenges it had been set. Mrs Hellyar will give us an update, next week, on the final outcomes, but very well done to the two teams involved.

On the sporting front, our **Year 7 Netball** team completed another strong performance with a win over Colfox this week, and whilst the **Year 9 Football** boys had a great first half against Woodroffe, they were overcome by the stronger team in the second half. It was fantastic to hear that **Ben Keeping**, in Year 7, has had great success in the **Dorset County Swimming Championships** over the past two weekends. Having qualified for an incredible nine events, Ben then came in the top eight for seven of them, so is another student looking forward to a quiet weekend; many congratulations Ben.

Mr See wanted to pass on his thanks to the large number of Year 11 who have applied, and been interviewed, for places in the **Joint Sixth Form** next year. This has been a huge undertaking which, alongside careers interviews with Mr Donovan and Mr Truyens, has ensured that all students have received careful advice on their next steps post-16. Should you require any further support with post-16 options please do contact Mr See or Mr Donovan, and do remember that we have the online **Year 11 Parents' Evening** next Wednesday.

With this in mind, next week is **National Apprenticeship Week**. Yeovil and Weymouth Colleges offer 1,500 apprenticeships at over 400 local employer partnerships in both Somerset and Dorset. They are holding **Apprenticeship and Careers Fairs on Wednesday 9th Feb, 5-8pm.**

For more information about the Yeovil event:

<https://www.yeovil.ac.uk/events/yeovil-college-apprenticeship-job-fair-2022/>

For more information about the Weymouth event, and to book a place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/weymouth-college-open-evening-and-apprenticeship-fair-9th-february-2022-tickets-223198832717>

Today we say a fond farewell to **Mrs Spencer-White** as she begins her well-deserved maternity leave, and we look forward to sharing more news in the coming weeks. I am also very grateful to **Mr Everington** who will be taking over classes for the next few months, alongside **Mr Lithgow** who is helping out in History as Mr Randall has increased his hours in PE.

Some advance warning about **roadworks on part of the A30** that will affect the Sixth Form college link bus and other road users. From **Monday 8th February** part of the road will be closed for 4 weeks, with a diversion in place resulting in possible delays of up to 30 minutes for the college bus. Students should still be ready to collect at the normal time in case the bus is able to arrive on time. There is also an early closure on Wednesday 9th February so students will leave college at 2.30pm that day.

Enjoy your 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