

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER  
DORSET DT8 3EP

Tel: 01308 862633  
Absences: 01308 861917

Email: [office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)



HEADTEACHER  
MR K HALES NPQH

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER  
MR D WITHERS NPQH

Website: [www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to this final term of the school year.

The two week Easter break, along with the good weather and use of the school fields at lunchtimes, has made for a very pleasant start to summer.

There has been a palpable excitement, along with a good deal of nerves, as Year 10 finalise their **Work Experience placements** and prepare themselves for a fortnight of life in the working world. Mr Donovan, Tutors and our Admin team have done a magnificent job to organise over 120 placements, but I am particularly grateful to all the employers who are supporting this hugely valuable experience, especially with all that they have had to deal with over the past two years. We wish all our students well and the staff look forward to visiting all the placements over the coming days.

With **public examinations** beginning in just over two weeks, we are acutely aware of the pressures that our Year 11 and 13 are under. Therefore, it was a real pleasure to see our **GCSE Art** students engaging so positively with their final day of coursework. The quality of work, care and conversation, along with genuine pride in the outcomes, was a joy to behold. In a world of testing and examinations there is still something very special about having a piece of work that has been planned, developed, improved, revised and completed to the very highest standards.

Next week we wish Year 11 and 13 well with their **French orals**, whilst GCSE students have a day of **PE moderation** to demonstrate the progress that they have made.

Following Year 9 and 10 reports I was very encouraged by the number of students receiving **Headteacher and Head of Year certificates** in recognition of their efforts in the first half of the year. It was heartening to see so many students receiving these in assemblies this week and the positive way that they were received.

We are very aware that many families may have experienced a change in their finances recently, and may be unaware they could now be eligible for **Free School Meals (FSM)**. As well as receiving a healthy and nutritious meal in school (including the Canteen's new Meal Deals), children are eligible for a subsidy on school uniform and free holiday activities run by the local authority. Additionally, schools also receive funding which we use towards extra teaching staff, tuition or activities for our school. Please visit [Apply for free school meals - Dorset Council](#) for more information and to see if your child may be eligible – it is a quick, easy, and confidential online application form, the financial information you provide will not be seen by your child's school or teachers.

Over the past two years we have worked very hard, and invested a huge amount of money, so that students have modern, clean and appropriate **toilet facilities**. Despite this, we have had a small number of students who are not respecting these spaces, causing costly repairs and undermining the quality of provision that we want to provide. Therefore, we have installed motion activated cameras to monitor the **doorways and circulation** areas to further deter any misuse or inappropriate behaviour. Please be assured that we have had the cameras professionally installed so that the privacy of all users is maintained at all times.

The **BSPTA** are holding an informal meeting in the **Red Lion at 6.30pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** so do go along if you are able to, all welcome.

We look forward to meeting many of you for our online **Year 7 Parents' Evening** on Wednesday. This is an ideal opportunity to review recent reports and discuss progress over the first two terms, alongside setting targets for this final term.

I hope that many of you may find time to visit **Beaminster Museum** and see some of the lovely photographs and poems by our young people on the theme of 'Covid Life' that are currently on display. The exhibition is still looking to gather further photographs and writing to document this historic period. Please see the museum's website for opening times and further information: [Beaminster Museum – 170 million years of life in rural West Dorset](#)

Sherborne Prep School is welcoming **Dr Aric Sigman** to talk to parents on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April, on managing screen time for young people. He is a dynamic and knowledgeable speaker who tackles the crux of one of today's most difficult issues for parents and young people. The talk is FREE, open to all and there will be provisions for children. Tickets can be booked here: <https://www.trybooking.co.uk/BOHM>

There is also **information attached** about various other activities and events coming up that may be of interest.

It looks like the Bank Holiday weekend is set fair and I hope that you are all able to enjoy the additional day away.

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](mailto:office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)*