

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 4th November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope that you all enjoyed some respite over the half-term, despite the arrival of the Autumnal weather!

On Tuesday we initiated our annual exercise to review our **Emergency Lockdown Procedures**. It is a requirement for all schools to have a safe response should any person(s) on site be considered a significant potential risk or threat to pupils and/or staff, or should there be a critical incident in the locality. The students responded very maturely to the exercise and we were very pleased that all areas were secure and that our upgraded CCTV provided the required coverage.

Our **Year 11 and 12 Art students** should also be commended for their efforts and behaviour during their long trip to London and the Tate art gallery on Wednesday. During a busy day they responded very well to the ideas and stimuli of new material that will be much needed for their forthcoming coursework.

Year 7 boys enjoyed a really competitive **Dorset Cup Football** match against Gryphon on Wednesday. Having peppered the Gryphon goal numerous times in the first half, Mr Hobby couldn't understand how they went in 2-0 down at half-time! After some heroic efforts in the second half they brought the score to 2-3, before succumbing to a 6-2 loss. On the same night our **Year 9 Netball girls** endured similar wet and windy conditions, doing very well to win three and lose two in this high-quality West Dorset competition.

Bridport Rugby Club are hosting Bath Rugby Club's professional coaching team who are running some skills sessions for students on Monday 14th and Friday 18th November, for more details see: <https://www.bathrugby.com/community/bath-rugby-skills-series/>

Stop The Clock Day on Monday provides a unique opportunity for students to focus on key areas of the curriculum and explore issues in depth. Year 7 are off to **Cheddar Gorge**, linked to their studies in Geography, Year 8 are in Dorchester looking at **local History**, whilst Year 9 are joining the Science team on a visit to **Marwell Zoo** (please make sure that all student planners are signed). Year 10 will be preparing for Work Experience and Rotary interviews, and watching one of their English set texts, "A Christmas Carol", with a Fitness Instructor squeezed in between! Year 11 are also working on their English text, "An Inspector Calls", with an interactive workshop from a visiting Theatre Company, investigating post-16 opportunities and looking at two important, though challenging, issues around sexism in modern society and female genital mutilation.

Tuesday sees the start of our **Year 10 Rotary interviews**, superbly supported by our friends at **Brit Valley Rotary**. Over a number of days all of Year 10 will have the opportunity to experience a formal interview and get some positive and constructive feedback on how to complete a CV and present themselves to employers as best they can. We are extremely grateful for the time commitment and support of Brit Valley Rotary.

On Wednesday we welcome **Year 5 and 6 students** from across West Dorset who are undertaking their Bronze Ambassadors Leadership programme, very able supported by our own students. In the evening we are also looking forward to welcoming all Year 11 Beaminster and Sir John Colfox students, parents and carers to our **Sixth Form Open Evening at 6.30pm** This is a very important opportunity for Year 11 students to make themselves aware of the A-Level and BTEC courses that we offer, along with our unique Yeovil College Partnership.

A reminder also that on Thursday 10th November there is an information meeting in the LRC at 6pm for those taking part in the **Ski Trip** - please ensure that all participants have completed the online form as requested.

We are very much looking forward to seeing you all, next Friday, for **Academic Monitoring Day**. This is an important day where you can have extended conversations with your child's Tutor and set targets for students to work towards over the coming school year. Please ensure that your child has **booked an appointment** and do contact their Tutor should you have any difficulties. Can I also make you aware that as it is Remembrance Day we will be observing a one minute's silence, at 11am, to remember those who gave so much for their country.

Also, do remember that **Monday November 14th** is our Professional Development Day, with no students on site.

As well as offering a wide range of support services for children, Prout Bridge provide a free, confidential **adult counselling service**. Further details are attached or can be found on this link: [Counselling — Prout Bridge Project](#)

We have a current staff vacancy for a **Science Technician**, the closing date is Monday 21st November and full details can be found on the school website.

Finally, as I mentioned to all students in our '**History of Halloween**' assemblies this week, I hope that everyone enjoys the fireworks this weekend, but please make sure that you all stay safe.

Mr Hales

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