

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

A busy sporting week peaked on Wednesday with Netball and Rugby **House Matches**. There was a huge amount of lively competition, and wide-participation, all very well-organised and officiated by our Sports Captains. Across the year groups Mapperton were worthy winners of the Netball with Eggardon and Lewesdon tying for best rugby teams of the day. Overall leaders of the House competition after the first half-term are Lewesdon with 60 points, narrowly ahead of Eggardon on 59, and then Waddon, Mapperton and Pilsdon who are just 12 points behind - so all to play for!

We had a fantastic set of results at the first **Area Cross-Country** of the year which we hosted here at Beaminster School. All six teams finished in the top three and the Year 7 Boys were very worthy winners, with Joe Whelan also winning the Year 7 race. Another excellent performance from Anna Scarborough saw her win the Intermediate Girls race and the team come in second.

In the Year 11 **Area Netball tournament** our girls played incredibly well to win four of their matches, draw one and only lose two. Year 11 boys travelled to Gillingham for their **County Cup football** match on Wednesday, and after a very competitive game with Jenson Freer and Brody Gunning each scoring, Gillingham were able to draw on their much bigger cohort and come home 5-2 winners. We have 15 students attending the **Bryanston Leadership Academy** next week, alongside Sports Leaders helping with the Year 3 and 4 Futstall, and do remember that **Beaminster Cricket Club** are running youth winter training sessions every Saturday in the school Sports Hall from 9.30-10.30am. All youth players of all abilities are welcome to attend.

The return of "**K9 Deployment**", and particularly Jura the community safety dog, certainly caused some excitement on Wednesday. Alongside our colleagues at Woodroffe School and The Sir John Colfox Academy, we are working together to educate students in West Dorset about the dangers of drug misuse, and to make it very clear that drugs will not be tolerated in our schools, as well as sharing positive safeguarding messages to help ensure our young people stay safe. During a busy day, the team, always accompanied by a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), met students around the school, introduced themselves to our Upper School assembly, visited lessons and patrolled the grounds at break and lunchtime. The visit stimulated a lot of positive conversations and is a just one small part of our education work around the prevention of drug use and trafficking, so many thanks to Lucy and Jura.

Due to significant demand we held an additional Open Afternoon on Wednesday for prospective parents, carers and students. As we were over-subscribed for 2021-22, it is important that the **secondary school applications** deadline of Monday October 31st is met in order that Year 7 school places are secured.

Looking ahead, **Year 13** have their first set of trial examinations next week, where they begin to familiarise themselves with the examination process, techniques and necessary revision required to get the best outcomes next summer. We also wish them well with all the Apprenticeship and University applications that are being completed and thank the Sixth Form team for their invaluable support with this. Year 11 **GCSE Geographers** are roaming Lyme Regis on Monday, and Dorchester on Tuesday, to collect data and look at different environments as part of their fieldwork requirements.

A reminder that our **BSPTA AGM** is being held in school on **Wednesday 19th October at 6.30pm**. It has been very encouraging to see some new faces and I do hope that you will be able to attend as this will be followed by a normal meeting at 6.45pm, during which time they will discuss the ever-popular Beaminster Christmas Fair.

As part of our Careers programme we have joined with the Sir John Colfox Academy and Woodroffe School to hold a **West Dorset Careers Fair** on Thursday October 20th. With over fifty local and national employers, including Universities and Colleges from around the region, all students in Years 10 to 13 will have an ideal opportunity to find out more about a huge range of careers and providers.

Details of a half term Forest and Farm Club and ASCape Teens Youth Club are attached.

Our Learning Hubs and the Wellbeing room are well signed and highlighted as **Nut Free Zones** due to a nut allergy. Could we therefore ask the parents and carers of all students who access these areas to ensure that students **do not bring in any nuts or nut products** please, thank you for your support with this.

As we approach the end of this first half-term we will be recognising the vast majority of students who are wearing their uniform correctly, as well as ensuring that those who do not meet our high expectations are given time to correct any issues before we return on Monday October 31st.

Finally, thank you to Mr Hyde who is taking the **GCSE 3D Art** group off to Roche Court Sculpture Park, Salisbury, next Friday as part of their development of ideas and techniques ready to undertake their GCSE coursework later in the year.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Hales

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