

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 28th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 9 started the week with a thought-provoking two-hour citizenship workshop presented by our guest speaker, Peter Radford. Through a number of presentations, discussion and interactive feedback Year 9 re-considered challenging topics around prejudice and discrimination, human rights, sexism and sexual harassment, racism and unconscious bias. The students showed great maturity in their engagement and we will be following up these key themes with them, and through a wider school initiative, over the coming months.

Congratulations to our **Year 8 Netball team** who deservedly came second out of eight competitive teams in the SW Dorset tournament on Tuesday. Looking resplendent in their new team kit kindly provided by the BSPTA, they narrowly lost to St. Osmunds in their last match, but move forward to compete in the County Cup Final in March, with Lulu Gale and Imogen Beale selected as joint MVPs for their phenomenal performances. Our **Year 11 footballers** didn't quite enjoy the same success in the County Cup Quarter finals, sadly leaking too many goals, but enjoyed one last team performance!

Thank you for supporting the **Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening** on Wednesday. Despite a few Dorset digital connection issues, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we appreciated the time to speak with you all.

Wednesday also saw a key deadline for all **UCAS applications**, for Sixth Form students who wish to apply for University and Higher Education courses. The 18 applications span a rich range of subject areas and are, excitingly, spread right across the UK. Thank you to all the Sixth Form subject teachers and tutors for their efforts to meet this important deadline, and we look forward to hearing more about the destinations over the coming months.

To offer all our **Year 11 students** the best possible support with their preparations for the summer examinations, the school has invested in a successful, highly recommended revision programme, and are partnering with the webinar provider, **Impress the Examiner**. Beginning this week, and running over a structured 20-week period up until May, our students have been provided with bespoke, live, interactive revision and examination technique sessions to support them with their **English Language, Maths and Science** courses. Well done to all of them for their engagement and please do keep up the good work!

Please continue to remind your child to bring their own **face coverings to school**, and to wear them on school transport, alongside the **twice-weekly LFD testing**. Although case numbers look to be settling, we will continue to monitor numbers over the coming week to ensure that we are keeping our whole community safe. The NHS team provided a very efficient vaccination service this morning and I thank them for their work.

A quick reminder when **reporting absences** to please speak slowly and clearly, giving the student's full name AND tutor group or year group AND the reason for the absence, thank you.

We are continuing to develop our student services team in response to the needs of our students. Therefore, we would welcome applications for two new posts we are currently advertising, those of **Supervisory TA (Learning Support and Student Wellbeing)** and **Teaching Assistant**, further details can found on the school website: [Beaminster School Staff Vacancies](#)

After six months of rehearsals, our best wishes go to Ms Smith and all her dedicated team, for our school production of **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. With rehearsals on Sunday and Monday, followed by a dress show on Tuesday afternoon with Year 7, we look forward to the two evening performances on Thursday and Friday. Tickets are available via ParentMail or from Reception.

Finally, if you want a new challenge in your life, the Channel 4 programme "The Dog House" is looking for applicants for their next series, details are attached.

Enjoy this final January weekend.

Mr Hales