

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 19th November

Dear Parents and Carers,

Academic Monitoring Day has always proved to be a very rewarding investment of time for important conversations at this point in the year. Today certainly continued these positive relationships, and I am very grateful to you all for engaging so warmly with us and making time in your own busy schedules. We will be following up the discussions, targets and ambitions of our students and responding where greater support may be required.

Our friends at **Brit Valley Rotary Club** also finished off a very busy week by following over 100 interviews with our Year 10 students with their annual **Photographic Competition** on Wednesday evening. There was a rich array of high-quality entries fully reflecting the theme "Colours of Nature" which you may have seen on display in the Hall this morning. Professional photographer and judge, Neil Barnes, was once again impressed and amazed by the quality of talent on display, and after a challenging competition, our congratulations go to **Daisy Channing** in Year 11 who was judged to be the overall winner for her Autumn colours triptych, a series of stunning images taken on walks around her home.

I would like to thank Senior Prefects **Luke Bowstead, Minnie Harding and Maddison Jones** for formally representing the school at Beaminster's **Remembrance Day Parade**, and also to the many other Beaminster students who took part in similar ceremonies taking place in Bridport and elsewhere on Sunday, representing cadets, scouts and other such organisations, and being such wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Raising funds for **Mission Motorsport**, who help wounded service personnel to compete in motor racing, former Beaminster pupils **Harvey Harding and Dan Mackintosh**, competed in a 2-hour **Karting Race of Remembrance** endurance event at Thruxton, beating off 20 other teams to win the event by almost a minute! Dan took pole position in qualifying and also posted the fastest race lap. The winning trophy, designed and made by an injured serviceman, will soon be on display in the school trophy cabinet, and anyone wishing to donate to the cause can do so here: <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=HarveyHarding3&pageUrl=1>

Year 7 certainly stepped up for **Children in Need** yesterday with an enormous amount of deliciously tasty cakes, biscuits and buns to turn even the most resilient of us into secret eaters! Thank you to parents, staff and students for supporting this event so enthusiastically and raising well in **excess of £1000**, a fantastic amount!

Our sporting endeavours continued this week with a superb performance from our **Year 11 Rugby team** in the 10-a-side floodlit tournament at Dorchester Rugby Club. After beating Colfox 7-5, and then Woodroffe 5-0 (including tries from **Jasper Sennett and Dan Crocker**), they were worthy runners up, narrowly losing out to Thomas Hardye in the final. Years 8, 9 and 10 all have their own competitions taking place next week. A clash of dates meant our **Year 8 Netball** team took on the challenge of playing Year 10s at Budmouth. Showing real character, and stepping up their game considerably, after a hard-fought tussle they eventually went on to lose 10-5 in a very exciting game, but all great experience for them.

We are very encouraged by the low rates of Covid infection in the school and, as always, are grateful for all your support. We will continue to follow **Dorset Public Health advice** with face coverings for one further week and then re-assess if the case rates remain low. However, we would ask if you could ensure that all **students bring their own face coverings** as we have been handing out an increasing number of disposable ones.

The **Melplash Agricultural Society** are keen to encourage more people into land-based careers and are holding their first webinar on Thursday 25th November, 6.30pm - 7.30pm looking at 'Education in Agriculture, Trends and Needs' (details attached). They will be discussing the range of courses and careers on offer, with expert guests from Kingston Maurward College and past recipients of their annual bursary. To attend this free event, please register at [Education in Agriculture webinar Tickets, Thu 25 Nov 2021 at 18:30 | Eventbrite](#)

Following the successful projects run this summer, the **'Winter in Dorset'** programme (see attached) will soon be open for families in receipt of Free School Meals. FSM families need to pre-register online at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/winter-in-dorset or by calling 01305 252261.

We wish our Year 11s well as they begin their **trial examinations** on Monday. The week provides students with essential practice for their final GCSE examinations, and helps staff to identify any specific areas where individuals, and the year group as a whole, can be given additional support. We also hope that it will strongly encourage students to undertake revision tasks early and help them plan ahead towards their GCSE examinations.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Hales

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