

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The glorious weather has provided a welcome backdrop to this penultimate week of the school year.

On Monday we were delighted to welcome our **incoming new Year 7 students** for the first of their two induction days. Under the careful guidance of their Head of Year, Ms Smith, the students were certainly put through their paces with a broad experience of different subjects and the day to day rhythm of the school, along with the excitement of the canteen and an opportunity to spend some time with their Tutors. We were also pleased to meet so many of our new parents and carers on Wednesday evening and very much appreciated their engagement and support. After two very successful days, and with the year group full, we really look forward to these students joining us in September.

The **BSPTA** have been very supportive with events over the past few weeks and are really keen to hear from any parents or carers who would like to help out in future. Even if you can only do an hour or two, all offers of help and support are really appreciated, and the money raised all goes to help support our students.

On Wednesday I had the great pleasure of interviewing our Year 10 students for the **Senior prefect positions**. Having already submitted letters of application and presented themselves to the whole school, every candidate was worthy of serious consideration. Every interview reflected a great willingness and passion to give something back to the school, to serve their fellow students and to be ambitious about what could be achieved over the next year. We were overwhelmed by the quality of the interviews, and have made the attached appointments for next year; congratulations to everyone involved.

Thursday saw a thrilling culmination to our cricket season with Beaminster being crowned **South West Dorset Champions!** After an excellent innings of 132-3 by Beaminster, with Fran scoring 50, Dan adding 32 and quick scoring from Brody, Ollie and Magnus, Thomas Hardye also got off to a quick start and were matching our run rate by half time. However, a good run out and then a key wicket from Ollie started to turn the tide, with some tight bowling ratcheting up the pressure until Thomas Hardye fell 10 runs short. Many congratulations to all the team on this great achievement: Fran Caswell (Capt), Brody Gunning (Wkt), Dan White, Ollie Hey, Magnus Park, Henry Hansford Harvey, Jenson Freer, Freddie Pitt-Paddy, Jordan Hambleton, Ash Coombes, Ollie Brown, and also Zak Zidary and Jack Ronan who played in earlier matches.

The final round of **House Matches** saw some great competition with both Tennis and Softball taking place. The scores from today have now been added to all the many activities from the year with **Lewesdon overall champions** and final results below. Thank you to everyone who has participated and helped, particularly the PE department for running such a rich range of sports.

1 <sup>st</sup>	Lewesdon	181
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Waddon	170
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pilsdon	160
4 <sup>th</sup>	Mapperton	156
5 <sup>th</sup>	Eggardon	134

**Somerset Council Public Health** are working with a long-established provider called '**Harmless**' who offer training sessions about self-harm to a range of audiences. The suite of training is available online, with the first session for Parents, Carers and Family members available on Tuesday 19th July 2022 from 2pm - 3.30pm. To find out more and register, click here:

<https://somersetmentalhealthhub.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4903e6c1ecc33c917638d1d1a&id=dea347d00a&e=32ed1cc93e>

Some of our Year 11 students took part in a 2 week **National Citizen Service (NCS) social action project** based in Tiverton. Minnie Harding, Naomi Gardner, Edith Fowler, Luke Bowstead, Gabe Allen, Archie Smith and Joe O'Dowd spent the first week at a residential at Blundell's School, which included team building activities with the army, a colour run and climbing centre visit with high and low ropes, bouldering and archery, and then time spent planning their projects, which are to regenerate Plottingham play park in Bridport and raise money for the charity, Mind. They organised various fundraising activities, including selling raffle tickets and having a market stall for people to throw wet sponges at teenagers(!) – raising £132, and for the last couple of days they have been rubbing down and repainting the play equipment at Plottingham, with the help and advice of Magna Housing. Congratulations to them all.

Anyone thinking of applying for our **Admin Officer post** (based in school reception) only has until **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July** to apply. This is a rare chance to join our dedicated office team, and with a wide and interesting remit is a busy, but extremely rewarding role. Please do share with anyone who may be interested, full post details and an application form are available on the school website: [Beaminster School Staff Vacancies](#)

You may remember that some of our students were involved in a recent project called the **Bank of Dreams and Nightmares**. Alongside the wonderful printed book of stories that has been produced, you can hear a clip of some of them being interviewed on Radio Solent here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0cm2lww>

My thanks to all the staff involved in making **Activities Week** such a success, it really is a huge undertaking with wonderful opportunities available for our students, but is also a lot of work at the end of a busy school year so is particularly appreciated. Please do ensure that **all final pink permission slips are returned on Monday** so that staff have all the necessary information they need.

After many years of exceptional service **Mrs Walton** is stepping down from her role as Head of Year. We will certainly miss her energy and incisive understanding of students and their needs, but I am very pleased to confirm that **Mr Prendergast** will be taking over as **Head of Year 8** (current Year 7) next year.

Finally, we are sorry to have to say farewell to some members of staff over this final week, I know that students do like to be able to pass on their best wishes. **Mrs Neill** leaves us after over 20 years' service as a Teaching Assistant and **Mrs Brigden** takes well-deserved retirement after many years as a specialist teacher and assessor, whilst **Mrs Davies** and **Mrs Alexander** from our Specialist Resource Provision are both moving on to new challenges. **Miss Ewins** is also leaving us at the end of term, as is **Mrs Tolley** who wants to spend more time on her farm. Last, but not least, our front of school **Mrs Challis** will be in her chair for one final week and I know that we will all miss her calm and friendly welcome every day.

We hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable Activities Week.

Mr Hales

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