

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 24th June 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

It was a real delight to join students, parents and staff for the opening night of the **Joint 6th Form Art and Photography exhibition** at The Bridport Arts Centre on Tuesday. The range and quality of work on display, from students both at Beaminster and Sir John Colfox, was truly outstanding. The exhibition runs until June 30th and I would highly recommend a visit.

After 5 long weeks, and gap of two years, today marked the final day of the **2022 public examination season**. The students have behaved impeccably during the examinations and deserve great credit for their endeavours and positive disposition throughout. We wish them all a very restful summer and look forward to sharing the results days (A-Level August 18th and GCSE August 25th) with them.

I would also like to thank our many invigilators, who have balanced the rigour of exam arrangements with the necessary lightness of touch and also our **Exams Manager, Mrs Emmett**. Alongside the huge organisational demands of the role, she has been a constant source of support, guidance and serene calm when it has been needed most.

We look forward to seeing many of our Year 11 for their 3-day **Year 12 Induction** starting on Monday 27th, next week. A good number of these courses are filling up, so please do contact Mr See if you have not yet booked your place. This is then followed, on Thursday, with the celebratory **Year 11 Prom at Haselbury Mill**.

After many months of planning Diversity Week was identified by the **School Council** as the pertinent moment to launch their **#NOT-OKAY** initiative. The core aims of this campaign are to raise awareness and understanding of minority and/or vulnerable groups, and to put out the very clear message that **Beaminster School will not accept any form of discriminatory behaviour**. The campaign was launched in year assemblies this week with students being encouraged to **'stand up and speak out'** against behaviour that goes against one of our core school values - Kindness. Students can continue to report any concerns to staff in all the usual ways – face to face, email etc, but we have also provided **#NOT-OKAY boxes around the school site** so that any student can report inappropriate behaviour anonymously, if they wish. It is hoped that this will empower students to take a stand against all forms of discriminatory behaviour and language.

Thank you to all those who completed our short survey about **Parents' Evenings and meeting start times**. There was a strong preference for continuing with online Parents' Evenings and holding meetings with an earlier start time. We are currently working on the 2022-23 school calendar and will take your feedback into consideration.

Our **Year 9 and 10 Cricketers** were in action in a semi-final against Atlantic in Portland on Wednesday. Atlantic set a target of 64-9 off 16 overs, with wickets coming from Magnus Park (3), Henry Hansford Harvey (2), Fran Caswell (2) and Oliver Hey (2). After losing 2 early wickets Fran and Ollie steadied the ship and went on to get an unbeaten 21 and 20 respectively, to win the match with 5 overs left. We wish the team luck in the final! We are also delighted to learn that Year 10, **Kitty Rumens**, has been accepted into the **Bridgwater Football Academy**, one of the highest levels of girls' football in the UK, and will be playing the Junior Premier League.

Do remember that we have our annual **Whole School Open Evening**, when we open our school to all prospective new students and their families, on **Wednesday 29th June from 5-7pm**; a poster is attached and details are also on the school website. Please feel free to share the date and spread the word to anyone who may be interested in attending – all welcome!

Kirsty King, the outgoing Secretary of the **BSPTA**, is seeking **3 or 4 volunteers** to help with running the bar at the **School Summer Concert on Thursday 7th July**, from 6pm until the concert finishes. It is good fun and an easy way to help raise funds. The BSPTA urgently needs a new Secretary as Kirsty will shortly no longer be the parent of

a Beaminster School student. If you think you may be able to help in any way, please contact her as soon as possible on: kirstyking.bspta@gmail.com

The **B Sharp Busking festival** is on Saturday 2nd July 11am-5pm on Lyme Regis seafront, with lots of free music activities for children and young people, include djembe drumming, young pop-up choir, early years music and drop in craft and drumming activities, details attached.

A last reminder that Mr Withers is very keen for all our students to take part in an important survey by the Dorset based youth project, **VoiceX**. Please encourage your child/ren to complete the short 5 min survey via the link sent out on ClassCharts or on the information attached.

We have **2 current staff vacancies**, for an **English Teacher** (Maternity cover) and a **Supervisory Teaching Assistant (Learning Support and Student Wellbeing)**; the closing date for both posts is Tuesday 28th June, please do spread the word to anyone who may be interested in applying.

Finally, **Friday 1st July is a non-student day** as staff have their last training day of the year. We are also hoping that the good weather continues for Sports Day on Friday 8th July.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Hales

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