

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER
DORSET
DT8 3EP

Tel: 01308 862633
Absence Line: 01308 861917

Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk



Ambition • Service • Kindness

HEADTEACHER
MR K HALES NPQH

DEPUTY HEAD
MR R BARNES MEd

ASSISTANT HEAD
MR K QUIGLEY

Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

19th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

It was a real pleasure to join families, students and staff for the opening night of our **Joint 6th Form Art and Photography Exhibition** at Bridport Arts Centre on Wednesday. This is always an impressive showcase of the wonderful work that our students have produced, and this year seemed to raise the bar even higher. The exhibition will be open until Thursday 25th June, so do make some time to drop in and enjoy the quality of the work on show.

The last A-Level examination is now completed and our Year 11 and 13 students have finally reached the end of this challenging period. They thoroughly deserve the long summer ahead and we look forward to sharing their examination successes with them in August.

However, there has been little rest for Year 11 as they had a busy **6th Form Induction** today. This provided an opportunity to spend time on both the Sir John Colfox and Beaminster sites, meeting their peers and teachers, and starting to prepare for next September. They then have their **Year 11 Prom** at Haselbury Mill on Monday to enjoy (reminders of the arrangements were ParentMailed yesterday), whilst the **6th Form Ball** takes place at Bridport Golf Club tonight, and we look forward to seeing all the students together for one last time!

To help prepare students in Years 7-10 for their future formal examinations, we have begun our **Key Stage 3 Assessments and Year 10 Trial Examinations** this week. They provide a gradual development of skills and learning, along with a chance to hone revision and exam techniques. These have started very positively with a calm and mature approach.

On Wednesday we celebrated our diverse community with a **Pride Picnic** outside the library at lunchtime. It was lovely to see so many students coming together to enjoy the music, participate in craft activities, join in with the parachute game, as well as sharing lunch. My thanks to Mrs Carlile for co-ordinating, to The National Trust for supporting, and the Canteen for producing such colourful cakes (some photos on the Facebook page).

The final **School Council Meeting** was a celebration of achievements over the year, and presentation of some awards by Mr Hobby and Governor, Ms Palmer. **The Speaker Award** for the student able to communicate most effectively in both private and public spaces, was awarded to William Holloway of Year 7, whilst **The Golden Project Award** for the most impactful project that can make the biggest difference, was awarded to the Fundraising Party who raised a fantastic £778. **The Cog Award** for the hardest worker voted for by School Councillors, was awarded to Sidney Easton of Year 10 for leading the fundraising party. The money will be used to fund School Council projects on behalf of all the students in the school.

Our students put in some fantastic performances at the **County Athletics Championships** on Saturday at Kings Park. Oli Smith came 5th in the 100m and 3rd in the long jump, and will join Joe Whelan, who was second in the 1500m, representing Dorset in the South West Championships! We wish them the best of luck. Congratulations also to Harry Mansfield who was 5th in the 800m, Archie Winnett 4th in the shot putt and Ana Bibby who was 3rd in the 1500m.

With a break in the weather, but a depleted team due to illness, our **Year 7 and 8 Cricket team** played away at St Osmond's on Thursday. St. Osmond's won the toss and, with a couple of county cricketers in their team, elected to bat. However, three quick wickets from Oscar Turner, and another from Cameron Lamb, along with excellent fielding and catching gave Beaminster the upper hand, before Fox Mahoney and Freddie Golledge took more wickets to reduce St Osmond's to 53 all out. After losing a couple of quick wickets, Cameron Lamb and Tristan Hunt steadied the ship and took the team comfortably to 54 off 7 overs and a great result. We now wait on other results to see who Beaminster will meet in the final.

Families across Dorset are being encouraged to check **now** whether their children will be eligible for **Free School Meals** from September 2026 following changes by central government. To prepare for the change, parents or carers will need to **apply or reapply from 1 June 2026, even if their child already receives Free School Meals this school year**. Click on the link below for more information, check eligibility and apply using the online checker:

[More Dorset children could qualify for free school meals - Dorset Council](#)

Parents and carers are also being advised to check if their child's **school transport smartcard** is due to expire in July or at the end of the academic year, and to check whether this is correct. Please contact Dorset Travel for any help or further information. [School transport - Dorset Council](#)

We are delighted to be able to offer students the opportunity to learn about bee keeping, and Mrs Walton reports that after a delayed start due to the sad loss of our colonies, **Bee Keeping Club** has now met twice since Easter. The Year 7 and 8 students meet after school on a Thursday to look in the hives and learn about bee keeping, you can see some photos on our Facebook page.

As part of the **Your Future Story programme** with the Colyton Foundation, Mrs Gibbs and 4 of our Year 7 students spent a day at Bristol University. Students were paired up with another school and spent the morning learning about pathways in education, what jobs need a degree and university life. They then had a tour of the city campus and a question and answer session with current 3rd year degree students. These visits are designed to show students what is available to them in the South West and further afield. There are some photos on the Facebook page.

We are looking for a well-connected local business professional to come and work with us as an **Enterprise Adviser** on a voluntary basis. It will involve half-termly meetings with our Careers Lead, Careers Link Governor and a member of the Senior Leadership Team to review, challenge and enhance our current provision. If you would like to find out more, please email Mrs Dodds for an informal chat and tour of the school:

Jdodds@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk Details are also on the Facebook page so please do feel free to share.

We have our summer **School Open Evening from 5–7pm on Wednesday 1st July** (poster attached and on the Facebook page, do feel free to share). This provides an excellent opportunity for any prospective families to come and see what we stand for and the quality of work that we do. There will be an open tour of our facilities and plenty of time to speak with staff and students, as well as a short presentation about the school at 6pm.

Finally, with the weather warming into next week, please do remind your children to bring refillable water bottles and suncream with them.

Mr Hales
Headteacher

This ParentMail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. Disclosing, copying or distributing the contents is strictly prohibited without prior permission from the school. If you have received this email in error, please notify office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk