

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER  
DORSET DT8 3EP

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Happy New Year to you all and a very warm welcome to 2024!

The mid-week start and return to routines is always a little discombobulating, but it has been encouraging to see such a positive start from students.

We are very aware that there are an increased **number of absences** due to respiratory viruses. If we continue with your measured and sensible approach, where if a child is too unwell to learn they stay at home, we won't go too far wrong! Please do remember to call in any absences as **early as possible** before the start of school, ideally on the **Absence Line 01308 861917**, including the **student's FULL name, tutor group AND reason for absence** please, or [office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)

This term's **Clubs List** is attached (and can also be found on the school website) with a wide range of activities on offer to students, thank you to all the staff involved. Please do encourage your child to take advantage of, at least, one of these.

We wish our Cross-Country teams well as they travel to Budmouth on Monday for the final invitational event of the season. With over 30 students competing, across all age ranges, the students have enjoyed another very successful season.

Looking ahead, we have two exciting events on the horizon. Firstly, tickets for the school play "**Treasure Island**" are already proving very popular, so do go onto ParentMail to secure yours for either Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup> or Friday February 2<sup>nd</sup> as soon as you can. Adult tickets are £6 and concessions are £4. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the office.

I am also most grateful to the Art Department who are, again, working with the **Sou Sou West Gallery** in Symondsburry to put on a **Year 9 Natural Forms Art exhibition** running daily from Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Students have studied sculptures and illustrations from Peter Randall Page and Leonard Baskin and used natural forms such seedpods, shells and bone to develop forms for their work. This includes sculpture, collagraph printmaking, monoprints, group pieces for collage and expressive ink and wax resist imagery. We are delighted with the art that our young people have made and hope that you are able to visit the exhibition.

We have a staff vacancy for a **part-time Reprographics Technician**. Full details are available on the school website, and will be on the Dorset Council website from Monday, for anyone wishing to join our committed and enthusiastic team.

Finally, please do take a look at the latest **cyber safety parent information** sheet, attached, about setting boundaries around gaming.

Enjoy, what we hope, is a dry weekend.

Mr Hales

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