

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

This morning we gathered together as a community for our traditional **end of year assembly**. As always, there was much to celebrate that reflected our core values of Ambition, Service and Kindness. I was hugely impressed by the conduct of our students throughout, particularly for their attentiveness, sensitivity and recognition of the service provided by those staff who are leaving us.

Despite the sadness of saying farewell there was a real joy and warmth in the hall that, I know, left quite a few of us teary-eyed! It would also be remiss of me not to mention our fabulous singers Ivy Crate, Elyzah Beggs, Alex Barnes and Sophie Mills on the saxophone.

Our grateful thanks went out to five highly valued colleagues for their very many years of service to Beaminster. In Psychology, **Miss Perkins** leaves us for a well-deserved retirement after nearly 25 years of service to the 6th Form and school. **Mr James** has been a hugely committed and helpful IT technician for 16 years, as well as supporting our Duke of Edinburgh programme and numerous trips. **Miss Rollick** is also retiring and we will really miss her drive, energy and leadership, along with her craft in the classroom. We also say farewell to **Miss Dare**, who has done a great job of covering Miss Lewis while she was on maternity leave, and also to one of our Teaching Assistants, **Miss Chambers**, who has done a sterling job over the past year and starts a new life in Norfolk. Our thanks and best wishes go with them all.

On Tuesday and Wednesday we were delighted to finally enjoy **Sports Day** in the earlier morning cool. There was a multitude of running and throwing events that saw some great competition and wonderful endeavour, and school records broken as students fought for every point on offer. **Pilsdon** narrowly won on the day, but it was not enough to stop **Mapperton** winning the overall House Sports competition. My thanks to everyone involved for making it such an enjoyable event.

The records broken were **Joe Whelan** in the Year 10 1500m, **Harry Mansfield** in the Year 9 Boys 800m, **Archie Winnett** in Year 7 Shot Put, **Fox Mahoney** in Year 7 Boys Javelin, **Elsa Hart** in the Year 7 Girls High Jump and **Korbin Rodford** in the Year 8 Boys 100m, congratulations to them all.

It was also a pleasure to join our extended **Year 9 Celebration Assembly**, on Thursday, to mark their move from KS3 to KS4. During a very fulsome hour we heard about the many fantastic activities that they have been getting up to, and recognise the engagement and talents of the students in school. My thanks to Mrs Stone for choreographing such a welcoming event.

Also, on Thursday, we had our own World Cup Final with the **visiting Spanish students**. Mr Hobby organised three matches for the different age groups and then combined the scores together to see who won overall. Alongside much fun and friendships, there was some very good football, but the technical skill of Spain just edged Beaminster by 6-5; a great afternoon of sport!

Staying on the sporting front, congratulations to **Zak Southgate** who has qualified for the **national finals** of the British Autograss Series. He was third in his drive at the weekend and currently sits in 8th place across the country – good luck over the summer!

With the exam season now over we are enjoying being back in the library. It will soon be time for the current Student Librarians to step down and the selection process to start again. I hope that many of them will consider applying again in September to get their silver badge, and use their experience to help the new Librarians. This month's **Library Newsletter** is attached.

Also attached is information about **funded activity camps running at Beaminster St Mary's** (places are still available), **Prout Bridge activity days**, **Pizza days** (Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 19th August), and the **FACE timetable** for August.

Nearly 100 families have accessed the free membership and wide-ranging number of talks provided by [FACE Parenting Courses & Talks | ADHD, Behaviour & More](#). Just go to the website and click on 'parents' in the box at the top to view the 16 regular talks shown on the attachment. To Access Talks just choose a topic and click through the booking calendar to find a date and time that suits you. At the payment stage, where it says add promo code, enter the code BM040425. This will reduce the price from £24 to £0. If you cannot make a live session, links to recordings of the talks are available for 48 hours after the session.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS - ACTION REQUIRED

We have sent this information out several times previously, and it is also available on the school website and Facebook page, but many families have not yet applied and we really don't want anyone to miss out.

Entitlement to Free School Meals this 2025-2026 academic year will NOT AUTOMATICALLY ROLL OVER to the new 2026-2027 academic year.

It is your responsibility as parents/carers to check your entitlement will continue.

All 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](#)

SCHOOL TRANSPORT - CHECK SMARTCARDS

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](#)

Finally, the experiences and fun of our unique **Activities Week** will get under way on Monday, so please do ensure that your child is aware of the requirements for their activity and brings any required medications not held in school with them.

Enjoy the last weekend before the start of the summer holidays.

Mr Hales
Headteacher

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