

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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4th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

The final week of Spring term has graced us with longer days and enjoyable sunshine. There has also been much to enjoy across the year groups, alongside the hustle and bustle of the daily routines.

Today I had the great pleasure of joining Mr See and Mr Prendergast to interview for our forthcoming **Head Boy and Head Girl** posts. After proving themselves as sub-prefects over the past 18 months, the final interviews were whittled down through a letter of application and staff recommendations. There were strong, confident presentations from all of the candidates and the final decision was not an easy one. Therefore, I am delighted to let you know that Seb Bailey and Isabella Moore will be Head Boy and Head Girl, with Seth Rand and Lily Pollard as their Deputies. Congratulations to the four of them, and well done to all those involved in a very impressive set of interviews.

The week started with a busy round of **HPV Immunisations and Teenage Boosters**, with our colleagues from the NHS, efficiently organised and overseen by our new lead First Aider, Mrs Frampton.

The **Year 11 Drama** students showed great confidence and skill in their GCSE assessment on Monday, performing to their potential in front of a very proud Ms Smith. All of Year 11 then had their **Mock Results Day** on Wednesday, following their trial examinations in March, where there was much to encourage after a strong set of results. I am sure that this will provide a positive impetus for Year 11 as they head into the Easter holidays with a clear focus on GCSE revision.

Apologies for any confusion over the date of the **Year 11 Prom**, which will be on **Tuesday 1st July**, and with that in mind, some of you may be interested to know that Louisa Jackson Bridal and Prom are holding a "pop-up prom" event in Chard Guildhall on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th April from 10am until 4pm. Many of their prom dresses will be on show and every on-the-day purchase will receive 10% off. Dresses are all off the peg and they promise that only one dress style will be sold to each school.

A reminder also that **ALL Year 11 students** who are, or are considering, a Sixth Form place for September are asked to complete the **Year 12 Options form** sent out by ParentMail earlier this week, by Friday 25th April please.

As part of the Year 8 Independent Learning Task on Wildfires, **Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service's** Education Manager, Tess Cross, attended the year group assembly on Thursday. She spoke about the damaging local heath fires, and wildfires in LA, how they are caused and what to do in an emergency, as well as explaining the 'what 3 words' app. Tess also presented Easter Egg prizes, fire service pens and pencils to this term's Year 8 award winners.

The **GCSE History Berlin** trip arrived safely on Wednesday and are enjoying a very busy schedule of historical museums and putting their learning into context. Also this week, A-Level Photography students had stimulating visits to Lacock Abbey and Sherborne, to develop materials for their forthcoming assessment pieces, whilst **Philosophy and Ethics** students were at Corfe Hills on Thursday for a very helpful revision conference.

Our **Year 8 Football team** enjoyed the big stadium occasion as they played Budmouth in the Area Cup Final at Weymouth Stadium. After a positive, start the size of the pitch left a few too many gaps, with the team going 3-0 down and a few missed chances at the other end. With a re-shape at half-time they came back strongly, but couldn't overturn the deficit, finally going down 4-0. However, Mr Hobby was delighted by their response which ended a great year of football for the team!

As the **Hockey season** also comes to a close, Beaminster had return matches against Colfox this week. The players, from Years 7-10, have worked hard to develop their individual and team skills since September, and showed great progress since losing games in early March. Both the Year 7 and Year 9/10 teams recreated their previous attacking spells in the game, with some stronger, more organised defence and much better linking play. The Year 7s were delighted to win 4-2, whilst the Year 9/10 team were proud of their clean sheet in defence and their 2-0 victory. Very well done to all players involved and thank you to Mrs Lees.

We finished today with much excitement as the **End of Term Raffle** celebrated the many students who have earned rewards over the past 3 months, and congratulations to the lucky winners, Harry Kemp, Ed Waters, Marlie Denslow, Lennon Waldron and Matty Wojcik, who were drawn from over 1700 tickets!

A final request from our friends at Beaminster Town Council regarding the **neighbourhood plan survey**. Further details are attached and a link is below, with hard copies readily available from Reception if you would like one. The survey shouldn't take long to complete and can be done anonymously, or you can be included in a prize draw if you include your details. Please do take a couple of minutes to complete it if you are able to:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MW93HKK>

As April is **Child Employment month**, Dorset Council wanted to highlight the legislation regarding the employment of school age children. This legislation applies to all young people from the age of 13, up until the last Friday in June when they are in Year 11 (so aged 15 or 16). It is important that young people within this age group, who are working or wanting to work, are aware of their rights so that they are properly safeguarded within the workplace, and treated fairly by their employer. Please see the attached poster for further information and do use the links provided should you have any questions.

The final cyber safety information sheet of the term is about online trolling.

With the late Easter we return to school on **Tuesday 22nd April** and a very busy 23 days before the May half-term. In the meantime, I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday.

Mr Hales

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