

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 13th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The sad passing of two inspirational revolutionaries provided a rich vein of reflection for the "New Year" assembly that welcomed students back. **Vivienne Westwood**, who challenged conventional fashion throughout her career, will be remembered for her influence on punk, the new romantic movement, a taste for the past, footwear and sumptuous gowns. However, she also reminded us not to always accept the conventional and be willing to, sometimes, find your own path and leave a new trail: "I've constantly tried to provoke people into thinking afresh and for themselves, to escape their inhibitions and programming."

Pelé will be long remembered for instigating the beautiful game and almost made football into an art, but always recognised the need for commitment and application: "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing or learning to do." If we can instil our students to embrace more of these characteristics this year, then it will be another successful one.

Tom Rae, in Year 11, has been training hard over the winter with his athletics club, Yeovil Olympiads, and seen his dedication pay-off. After qualifying for the 60m regional athletics event at Cardiff International arena, he ran an incredible time of 7.6s and has qualified for the Nationals in Sheffield next month; a fantastic achievement and our best wishes go with him.

I also want to commend all the **Year 11 GCSE Art students** who produced some impressive outcomes during their mock examinations this week. Four classes spent a very intensive day working on their planned pieces which will stand them in very good stead for the final examination in May. **GCSE iMedia** also students showed great spirit to complete their first formal examination on Monday, and our congratulations to the 6th form **English and Maths resit students** who all achieved their grade 4 passes from the November examinations.

An outline of **Year 10 coursework, examination and (approximate) assessment point dates** for the rest of the year is attached that we hope students and parents will find helpful, a copy can also be found on the school website.

Meanwhile, in the Sixth Form, you may already have seen that **India Murless** has made the very bold decision to cut off 70cm of her very long hair in aid of **The Little Princess Trust**, after growing it for most of her life! The self-funded organisation provides real hair wigs for children who have lost their hair due to cancer and other illnesses. To source, make, create and fit just one wig for a child costs £550, so India would welcome any donations through her justgiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/india-murless-1672594005036>

We look forward to meeting both Beaminster and Colfox families for the **Year 12 Parents' Evening**, next Wednesday. Students should be busy organising these meetings through 'Teams', but please do contact Sixth Form Tutors beforehand should you have any issues.

With **seasonal flu cases** on the rise, Years 7, 8 and 9 are able to take advantage of free flu vaccinations at school next Friday. Please remember that if you haven't already, the final day to complete the online consent form is Tuesday 17th January (details have been sent out via ParentMail and can also be found on the school website). Friday will also be our next **non-uniform charity day** for all students, with Year 11 deciding on a good cause for all the money raised.

Rehearsals for this year's school production, **Beauty and the Beast**, are now in their final few weeks. A poster, with original artwork by Isla Sibley, is attached and tickets are now on sale via ParentMail. It should be a fantastic evening's entertainment so do come along if you can.

We have two current staff vacancies for a **Science Technician** and a **part-time Admin Officer** supporting SEN. Full details can be found on the school website with closing dates at the end of the month, so please do encourage anyone interested to apply.

Maiden Newton Youth Club have an event running this evening (Friday 13th January), and our friends at **Prout Bridge Project** have asked us to circulate information about their activities for this half term, details of both attached.

Finally, **Atlas Elektronik UK**, based at Winfrith, Dorset, are offering 19 Apprentice and 6 Summer Work Experience opportunities for motivated and enthusiastic students who are interested in joining engineering, scientific or technical careers. Please see further details and information at [UK | ATLAS ELEKTRONIK UK \(atlas-elektronik.com\)](http://UK|ATLAS-ELEKTRONIK-UK(atlas-elektronik.com))

Have a restful weekend.

Mr Hales

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