

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the summer term and a very busy first week.

At the end of the Easter break, 46 students and 5 staff travelled up to Manchester to attend the **Manchester City vs Leicester City** football match. This was a wonderful experience for all, where students visited the National Football Museum to absorb the great culture of the game, as well as to watch some fantastic football, including two goals from the imperious Erling Haaland! I'm sure there were many tired students on the Sunday as they didn't arrive back at school until 2.15am, but they were all a real credit to the school, some photos of the day can be viewed on the school Facebook page.

Tuesday saw a group of our Year 10 Triple Science students visit the construction site of the **Hinkley Point** Nuclear Power Station. As well as "Big Carl" the biggest crane in the world standing at 250m, the students had a tour of the huge site and learnt a lot more about the fission and fusion process that drives nuclear energy.

Also on Tuesday, the Year 9 **Duke of Edinburgh** (DoE) students continued their expedition training with a First Aid course, followed by Health and Safety, and a last opportunity to practise putting up their tents! There are four demanding sections to DoE that involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, and planning and training for completing an expedition. With over 40 Bronze students going out this weekend, and a further team undertaking their Silver expedition, I am very grateful to the large number of staff who help to make all this possible for our students.

Year 7 were busy with two sporting fixtures this week. In **Basketball**, against Atlantic Academy, they showed a high level of skill and quality, winning confidently 30-12, even though Atlantic brought on some older students in the second half to provide a more challenging fixture. In **Football**, the boys produced a very polished performance to beat All Saints 6-1 and show that they have come a long way this year.

The **Primary cricket festival** at Beaminster Cricket Club, on Tuesday, was a very positive way to start the season. With so many matches to fit in we were delighted that Year 9 students, Addison Gunning, Beau Wild and Ed House, were there to officiate.

A big thank you to Craig Sorrell for all the wonderful work he does with the **Bridport Evolution Basketball** team and to Andy David for the **Beaminster Football** team, which both run on Friday evenings, and Ross Baker for his support at **Beaminster Cricket Club**. It is the links to community sports which help our school and our students to prosper in great sporting moments. If you wish to know more about sports teams in the local community please contact Mr Hobby by email on [rhobby@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:rhobby@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk) to find out more.

Mrs Rychnovsky has been garnering our **Sustainable You** team to continue the ongoing mass tree planting around the site, as well as checking on the development of the wild flower areas. With the sun shining and the excellent work of our grounds team, we are very fortunate to have such a green and pleasant site.

It was a real pleasure to join Beaminster Town Council, Prout Bridge and our local community, last night, for the **Beaminster Youth Awards**. This was an opportunity to celebrate the many young people who are engaged in various projects and activities and who are dedicating their time to support others and make Beaminster a better place. Congratulations to all the Beaminster students who were recognised last night and who have been energetic and inspirational leaders here at Beaminster School, living out our school ethos of Ambition, Service and Kindness.

This morning we had our first full **Activities Week** briefings so that staff could meet with their groups and go over plans for the many different projects taking place at the end of the summer. There was a palpable sense of excitement as, once again, we look forward to this truly unique experience that is offered to our students. Please do email [office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk) should you have any queries that you wish to raise.

Whilst **Year 12** expel a huge sigh of relief after completing their examination week, and producing some wonderful dishes for their **Level 3 Food Examination** today, we now move into the start of formal examinations next week. Our best wishes to all of those completing the 15 hours of **A level Photography** and those doing 10 hours of **Art exams**. This is swiftly followed by **French Orals** and **Physical Education** the following week, with Year 11 having an opportunity to pause and enjoy their **Celebration Day** on Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>, which is always a wonderful occasion. Any Year 11s who wish to purchase a Yearbook must register their interest by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April please.

During the summer term, with the hope of warmer weather, we do allow students take off their jumpers and wear tailored short-sleeved shirts (students should not roll their shirts up). However, students are still required to tuck in their shirts, wear their ties and must still ensure that the appropriate **skirt length** is maintained. Whilst we have given warnings this week, students have been advised that next week detentions will be issued for continued non-compliance.

As you are aware the National Education Union (NEU) will be taking further **industrial action on Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup> and Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup>** in response to the ongoing challenges facing our education system. Therefore, Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will have to revert to online learning at home so that we can focus our efforts on preparing Years 11 and 13, in school, for their forthcoming examinations. Additionally, I am deeply indebted to our NEU colleagues who have collectively agreed to support revision and examination practice on these days to ensure that there is no loss of learning at this crucial time. I will write again, early next week, to clearly set out our plans for the two days.

All students should be coming home with a copy of this term's **Clubs and Activities** today, a copy is attached and can also be found on the school website. There is a wide selection to choose from and all students are encouraged to take part in at least one club. Also attached is information about half term activities run by **Future Roots** that may be of interest.

Enjoy your weekend.

Mr Hales

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