

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

After appreciation of the long Bank Holiday weekend, our Year 10 students have been immersed in their first week of **Work Experience**. Despite the early anxiety of transport, clothing, lunch and first day arrangements, we have been delighted by how warmly the students have been welcomed across over 100 businesses. Staff are all really enjoying our visits to see the students in their work places and hearing the many wonderful opportunities they are receiving, and so I wanted to re-iterate our sincere thanks to all those involved.

You will have seen that the next **BSPTA meeting** will be held on **Wednesday 10th May at 6.30pm at school and via Zoom**. I am incredibly grateful to the team for their continued efforts to support school activities and for the steady stream of funding they provide to improve the experience for all our students. Just recently they have donated £1000 to support the purchase of new Year 7 books, the recent anti-bullying production and two new visualisers for classrooms. Please do email [treasurer.bspta@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.bspta@gmail.com) and offer to help for just a few hours each year if you can.

The **anti-bullying Drama production** on Wednesday was a powerful story called 'Hope'. Although very challenging, and reflecting on some difficult themes, all of our Key Stage 3 students benefitted from the contemporary story as it was presented in a thoughtful and sensitive way that is highly relevant to today's society. The themes, and an opportunity for open discussion, will be followed up in Life Studies and Drama during the summer term.

The finalisation of **GCSE and A-Level coursework** has continued this week. There has been some wonderful work produced in A-Level Art, our GCSE French students showed real character in their orals, and the iMedia group have put together some impressive sound material for their final module. We wish the GCSE PE students well with their practical moderation on Tuesday, and the English Functional Skills students with their speaking and listening assessments. This is always a huge burden on students, and staff, and I congratulate them all as we put in place final preparations for the start of examinations on **Monday 15th May**. To provide a much-needed break in proceedings, we have a celebration day for our Year 11 students for all that has been achieved next Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>, and a farewell for Year 13s on May 19<sup>th</sup>. A reminder that Year 11 students do need parental permission in order to leave the site at 2pm next Friday, the **deadline for this has been extended to Tuesday**, so please ensure all permissions are with us by then.

It was a real pleasure to welcome back former student, **Fin Russell**, to talk about his studies since leaving Beaminster School and joining The London Interdisciplinary School, a new university based on interdisciplinary learning and tackling complex real-world problems. Fin was, as ever, an enthusiastic and interesting speaker who helped to provide the Sixth Form with a rounded understanding of the many different routes available post-18.

Our **Year 9 Football team** competed in the final of the Area Cup at Dorchester Stadium against a strong team from Wey Valley. We conceded an early goal, but fought back with much of the play and the best chances of the half, including Beau Wild clattering the crossbar with a stinging shot, going in at half time 1-0 down to the experienced Wey Valley team. Mr Hobby reports that Georgia Chant made some crucial saves, Tom Green led by example and the goal by a free kick from Owen Kemp was the highlight of our final. Although we battled incredibly well in the second half, despite our best efforts we eventually lost the match, but truly showed our class by offering Wey Valley a guard of honour for their well-deserved victory. Well done team!

Mrs Lees reports that our recent **Rounders fixtures** had to be adapted at the last minute due to the rain arriving just 5 minutes before Colfox arrived! Year 9s played on the 3G and were absolutely fantastic in their attitude towards the disruption and played brilliantly. Their teamwork ensured their fielding was effective and the Colfox staff were very complementary about their positive attitude. It was a high scoring game, and they only narrowly lost - by just one rounder (14-15)! The combined Year 7 and 8 team played against Colfox's more experienced Year 8s, and it was a steep learning curve for them to adapt their play to the indoor

environment in the Sports Hall due to the poor weather. The first innings resulted in a 4-4 score line, which was an excellent start, but Colfox's greater experience helped them to an 8-12 win after the second innings. Mrs Lees says it is all fantastic experience and gives us plenty to build on for our next games.

As always, photos of many of the events above can be found on the school Facebook page.

**Maiden Newton Youth Football Club** are seeking new managers for their youth teams, contact details attached for anyone interested.

The additional Bank Holiday and industrial action has made the last couple of weeks feel a little unsettled, but I do hope that you all get time to enjoy the Coronation of King Charles III this weekend.

Mr Hales

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