

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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17th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the Summer term, and I do hope that you all found some time to escape the day to day over the Easter break.

Whilst the rest of the school headed into the Easter Holidays, Mr Langford, Miss Patten, Mr See and a group of students enjoyed a fascinating schedule of walking tours, historical museums and fabulous sites all linked to **GCSE History studies about the Western Front**. Students also had the unique opportunity to visit the graves of 3 former Beaminster Grammar School students killed during the Great War: Phillip Dicker, Sidney Rogers and Robert Dare. A small ceremony was held at each grave, before a wreath was laid at the Menin Gate ceremony in Ypres. There was a very moving moment during the dedication to Robert Dare when the school was accompanied by a bagpiper who played Amazing Grace, and then a bugler from the Rifle Brigade played the last post.

As always, students and staff were wonderful ambassadors for our school, and it was lovely to see this formally acknowledged by the Manager of Zeitgeist tours (the trip organiser), who was kind enough to take the time to write to us:

“We were thoroughly impressed by the exceptional behaviour and conduct of the Beaminster School students during their recent battlefield tour. Alongside the specific feedback from our guides, we have also received numerous positive comments from local providers, restaurant owners, and museum staff, all of whom remarked on the politeness, respectfulness, and overall pleasant demeanour of your students. We extend our sincere thanks to Mr Langford and his colleagues for their outstanding professionalism and attentiveness.”

We were also delighted to hear that **Crewkerne's U16 rugby team** won the Wessex's Champion League in a nail biting final against North Dorset. Huge contributions from Seth Rand, Hardy Lancaster, Tom Goodison and Max Turner (all in Year 11) meant that a 13-10 victory was secured. Do see our Facebook page for photographs.

Thanks to the hard work of Mrs Carlile, our Year 9 students enjoyed an engaging and memorable trip to the Electric Palace in Bridport on Tuesday, combining both theatre and local history. The highlight of the visit was a stage screening of David Tennant's powerful performance in **Macbeth**. Students were captivated by the dramatic interpretation of Shakespeare's classic tragedy, gaining a deeper appreciation for its themes, characters, and language which will form part of their studies. In addition to the performance, students had a short talk about the history of the Electric Palace itself. They learned about the building's origins as a 1920s cinema and its importance as a cultural venue in the local community. This added an extra layer of interest to the trip, linking the arts with local heritage.

On Wednesday, we had our **School Improvement Partner** from Dorset Council in school working with Year 9 and 10 to look at learning in lessons and meeting student groups. Across a very busy day Mrs Stone and Ms Smith were delighted to see calm, purposeful classrooms, strong behaviour and engagement across all subject areas, as well as receiving very positive feedback from the students.

Year 11 GCSE PE students were put through their paces with the external moderator observing a range of sports and skills on Thursday. The students rose to the occasion, as I am sure they will with their **GCSE French Speaking** exams taking place next week.

A reminder that **Year 11 group photographs** are being taken on Monday morning. Students should arrive in school promptly, in correct, full uniform and must have both their **school jumper and hoodie** with them. Please note, we currently have no large school jumpers available for students to borrow so it is essential that students remember

their own jumpers on Monday. The prompt return of any borrowed jumpers or any other school items would be very much appreciated. Arrangements for the **Year 11 Prom** are now well under way, tickets can be purchased via ParentMail and payment should be made as soon as possible please.

Year 9 actions required. Thank you to all those who have already completed their Curriculum Pathway form. Students have until **Monday 20th April** to do this and the link required can be found in the ParentMail sent out on 25th March – please contact the school if you have any issues. Year 9 also need to complete their choices for the **Weymouth College Careers day as a matter of urgency please** (if not already done) so that college can make the necessary arrangements: [Careers College Tuesday 30th June 2026 – Fill in form](#)

It was a pleasure to join the **Beaminster Town Council Awards** ceremony last night and recognise a number of our students who have shown great commitment to their own personal development, or contributed to the local community, over a sustained period of time. The worthy recipients were Blaize Sharp in Year 7, Ivy Crate in Year 9, Joe Whelan in Year 10, and Imogen Carstairs, Rui Powell, Kitty Childs, Juliet Shurvinton and Myah Woodley from our Sixth Form, congratulations to them all and you can see a photo on our Facebook page.

With the arrival of the summer term and **warmer weather**, students can now ask staff to remove their jumpers in class and may remove them at break and lunchtimes. As part of our summer school uniform we also allow students to wear tailored school shorts and short sleeved shirts or blouses, but all shirts must remain tucked in at all times and Year 11 students are reminded that they must continue to wear their **school tie** if wearing a hoodie.

Next Friday, at 7.30pm in the Beaminster Public Hall, you are warmly welcomed to a screening of the **National Emergency Briefing** which is a public information initiative to ensure the UK is fully briefed on the climate and nature crisis; see attached poster. Details are also attached of **Prout Bridge's activities** for the first half of the summer term, open days for paddleboard taster sessions and a free Artsfest day.

A gentle reminder that whenever contacting the school please do remember to always include the **student's full name and ideally their tutor group**. This helps us deal with any queries quickly, thank you.

I hope that you all enjoy a restful weekend.

Mr Hales
Headteacher

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