

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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7th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term!

We started the week with the frenetic pace of **Stop The Clock Day** and a really rich array of activities for all year groups. Year 7 developed their understanding of 'Adventure Landscapes' with their visit to Wookey Hole Caves, including the paper mill, 4D cinema and Crazy Golf, whilst Year 8 undertook historical investigations at Shire Hall and The Dorchester County Museum.

Meanwhile, back on site, Year 9 explored the designs, tastes and architecture of different countries as part of their Technology day. Year 10 and 11 had an insightful and thought-provoking national speaker, Peter Radford, to challenge their perceptions of personal and social education issues. Year 11 also produced some outstanding presentations of their own for their GCSE Speaking component, whilst Year 10 had Learning Performance begin the extended process of understanding and developing revision skills.

Alongside running these unique opportunities, Ms Forster hosted the **French Christmas trip** information evening on Monday, whilst Mr Hobby welcomed parents and carers for the **Barcelona trip** information evening on Thursday. My thanks to all the staff for their willingness to support so many extra-curricular activities.

On Thursday, our A Level and GCSE students enjoyed collaborating with Sir John Colfox to host a professional workshop by **Mary Kat Drama Productions**. The students were able to work with the cast to see how a performance is prepared and then to enjoy the craft of live theatre. The commitment and skill from all concerned was impressive, with the students learning new performance skills and techniques.

Our **KS3 Sports Leaders** really enjoyed the Primary Netball afternoon and certainly grew into it, making it a fun learning experience with a competitive edge. Congratulations to Parrett and Axe who were winners on the day, to Sticklands who were runners up and to Broadwindsor who came in 3rd. We look forward to the next event which is the Beaminster Area Kenway Cup on Thursday 27th November.

Looking ahead, we will be welcoming all Year 11 Beaminster and Sir John Colfox students to our **Sixth Form Open Evening**, at The Sir John Colfox Academy from 6pm on Wednesday 12th November. This is a very important opportunity for students to make themselves aware of the A Level and BTEC courses that we offer by speaking to current students and staff.

Thanks to the ongoing support of Brit Valley Rotary Club, Monday sees the start of the **Year 10 Rotary interviews**. Over a number of days, all of Year 10 have the opportunity to experience a formal interview and receive positive feedback on how to complete a CV and present themselves in the best way possible. We are extremely grateful for the time commitment and support of Brit Valley Rotary.

Year 7 enjoyed the arrival of 30 trumpets for their Music lessons this week and our **GCSE Music students** are off to Westlands on Wednesday to work with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra!.

Year 7 student, **Blaize Sharp**, competed in an international martial arts championship with over 600 competitors and in front of 2000 people, and came away with a Silver medal for martial arts hand drills and two Bronze medals for kick combo and kick boxing. Well done Blaize, there are some photos of him in action on our Facebook page.

Our next **non-uniform day**, raising money for **Children in Need**, is on Friday 14th November and will be organised by Year 7.

We are pleased to announce that **Mr Colin Moss** has been elected unopposed as a new Parent Governor. Our congratulations to him and we look forward to working with him in future. A reminder also that there is still one more vacancy for a Parent Governor so please do contact the Clerk to Governors, Tanya Harley (THarley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk) if you are interested in finding out more.

Exam certificates from the GCSE and A Level summer exams have now arrived. They are important documents that students will need for their next steps and should be collected as soon as possible. Please contact our Exams Manager, Mrs Emmett.

A couple of important housekeeping reminders:

Please ensure that **all student belongings and uniform are clearly and indelibly marked** with the owner's name or it is almost impossible for us to reunite lost items with their owners.

Secondly, please ensure you **always include the student's full name** in any communication with the school as this really helps us to act on information quickly. Thank you for your support with this.

Details of a forthcoming concert by the Beaminster Singers and a Xmas Tractor run are attached.

Finally, we are very much looking forward to seeing you all on Thursday 20th November, for our annual **Academic Monitoring Day**. This is an incredibly valuable day when students, parents and carers have a 15 minute discussion with Tutors to reflect on the start of the year and identify ways that we can work together to improve learning. Tutors will be speaking to their Tutees over the coming two weeks to book in appointment times, so do ask your child about this.

Have a good weekend.

Mr Hales

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