BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition · Service · Kindness

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5th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

The first week of December has been filled with the generosity and spirit of Christmas. Firstly, it was a pleasure to see many of you at the **Beaminster Christmas Lights** last Friday, and to raise much needed funds for our BSPTA. The raffle draw this year will be on Thursday December 11th, during the **Christmas Concert,** so please do return all stubs and money by 9am on that day.

Secondly, thanks to the kind donation of **Groves**, we were delighted to be the recipient of a **Christmas Tree sponsored by HC Lewis**. This is now providing a cheerful welcome in the library and is being very much enjoyed by our recently appointed 31 student librarians, alongside the many other students who are making this such an engaging space.

Thursday was a very busy day for Mrs Edwards and Mr Jeffs, with both the **Year 7 and 8 Carol Service** in the afternoon and our **Community Carol Service** in the evening. The students were a great credit to the school in the afternoon, recognising the reverence of the church and participating fully in the service. Both were wonderful occasions with the lovely Beaminster St Mary's Church providing a perfect backdrop, and the congregations basking in the quality of performances. Our thanks to Reverend Baldwin for providing such a warm welcome - and a wonderful solo!

After months of planning Mrs Stone has finalised a rich and varied programme for **Activities Week 2026**. The booklet will be issued next week to provide plenty of time for your consideration over the Christmas break, before returns are due back for all Years 7-10 on **Wednesday 7**th **January 2026**. Alongside the array of trips, visits and activities, we have a couple of new and very exciting residentials - one to PGL Osmington Bay and another to Normandy, which includes visits to Bayeux Cathedral, Mont St Michel and Monet's Gardens – there really is something for everyone!

Our free membership to <u>facefamilyadvice.co.uk</u> (FACE) continues to offer a wide-ranging number of talks to help support families at Beaminster School – please **see the attached programme** for December. Just go to the website and click on 'parents' in the box at the top to view the 16 regular talks shown on the attachment. To Access Talks just **c**hoose a topic and click through the booking calendar to find a date and time that suits you. At the payment stage, where it says add promo code, enter the code **BM040425**. This will reduce the price from £24 to £0. If you cannot make a live session, links to recordings of the talks are available for 48 hours after the session.

We are all very aware that students are struggling with their screen habits and finding it harder to switch off and relax. The <u>Digital Detox Journal</u> is a practical resource designed to help students create healthier routines around their screen use and provides activities to explore reducing anxiety, building better routines and tracking their daily screen habits.

Looking ahead, there are **flu vaccinations** for many students taking place on Monday, Year 11 have their **GCSE Mock Results Day** on Wednesday, and we look forward to speaking with many of you at the **Year 9 Consultation Evening** later that day (the booking system is now open until Wednesday lunchtime).

Thursday is **Christmas Jumper day** for all staff and students, and if you weren't able to attend the Community Carol Service, I would highly recommend our **Christmas Concert on Thursday December 11**th **at 6.30pm** in the school Hall. There will be a rich range of musical styles from across the ages, with something for everyone!

With Christmas accelerating towards us, I do hope that you all find some time to enjoy a little peace!

Mr Hales