



BEAMINSTER TIMES



Ambition · Service · Kindness

Our Values: Ambition - Service - Kindness (ASK)

News from Beaminster School Winter 2022

Launch of F1 in Schools Competition

Beaminster School is one of only a few schools in the south west to enter the F1 in Schools challenge, which involves students designing, building and testing their own racing cars - created using our own 3D printers!

The F1 challenge inspires students to understand more about physics, aerodynamics and design and to then apply the things they learn in the classroom, so it is hoped that the project will increase uptake of engineering at the school and encourage future motorsport enthusiasts.

A launch event was held in the school's LRC, with former Beaminster student and racing driver, Dan Macintosh (19) present to engage and inspire students, along with his 1971 Merlyn racing car which was parked outside the school. Dan has raced at various levels and venues – including Silverstone – during his early years in racing and is a great ambassador for Beaminster. Representatives from engineering companies Numatics and BAe Systems were also at the launch and gave a presentation on the role of women in engineering.

“One of the great things we are trying to do is inspire our kids to be more involved in careers and understand the many opportunities that are out there,” said Mr Hales. “It is always great to have an ex-student back in school and Dan is well known as we have all followed him in terms of his racing career. What he’s achieving is fantastic.”

“The biggest barrier to us participating was buying all the kit in the first place, but we had lots of support to put that together. Now that we have bought all the equipment and have our very own test track, ongoing costs are greatly reduced and so we can get more and more students interested – a new group of students can take part each year.”

Mrs Da Costa, who is leading the project, explained that students are tasked with running their teams like a real F1 crew.

“This is an ongoing project until the middle of next year when we will go to the regional finals with five teams. Most people assume that F1 it is just engineering, but it encompasses marketing, product design, physics, maths; it is the bigger picture and is fantastic for cross curriculum activities.”

You can find out more about F1 in Schools here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUz4z4Wzqvc>



WW1 History Workshop

Years 10 and 11 were lucky enough to have the opportunity to take part in a WW1 History workshop, where we learned about the different medical advancements made on the Western Front during the First World War.

For Year 10, it was totally new information as we were regaled with tales of Casualty Clearing Stations, Base Hospitals and Regimental Aid Posts. The Year 11's, however, were old hands, and this was merely a recap of what they had already learned, with the bonus of some pretty cool props.

Did you know that between 1914 and 1915 80% of soldiers who sustained gunshot wounds to the thigh died? This seems like it should have been a highly preventable death, but the problem was that soldiers who were injured on the Western Front often had to wait for lengthy periods of time to be rescued by the stretcher bearers, who were at most 4 to a company at that time in the war.

Once they were taken off No Man's Land, they were rushed through the chain of evacuation, given a rudimentary splint at a Regimental Aid Post, and then transported to a field hospital. By that time, most soldiers had died of blood loss.

Bullet wounds to the thigh often broke the femur, the longest and strongest bone in the body. The broken pieces of this bone were jostled severely as the soldier was transported, causing massive interior bleeding and often piercing the arteries that run through the thigh, so due to the primitive state of blood transfusions at the time, most soldiers died of shock and blood loss.

To combat this, the Thomas Splint was introduced. The hosts of the workshop brought out a replica of one with a flourish. It almost looked like a medieval torture device, but this had revolutionised the mortality rate for soldiers suffering from gunshot wounds to the thigh. It was a simple premise, invented by Hugh Owen Thomas in 1875, and introduced to the Western Front in 1916.

The rest of the workshop session covered a fascinating range of equipment, from rifles to gas masks, which had been developed through the years of the First World War. The scale of injury that soldiers experienced was on a level that had never been seen before in the medical world, and as technology advanced so did the medical knowledge to go with it.

The impact that the First World War had on advancing medicine was unprecedented, with mobile x-ray units, complex surgery and blood transfusions developing at a rate of knots.

We also got a crash course in source analysis as we were shown pictures of seemingly shell-shocked soldiers who were in fact part of a larger photograph of soldiers all grinning and pulling silly faces. The way that modern day historians will use sources is potentially biased, and for our History GCSE we will need to be able to analyse each source we are given in an unbiased and complex manner.

The workshop morning was more than worthwhile, and I think many of us left the hall with improved enthusiasm for the subject. Now that we have almost completed our GCSE syllabus on the Western Front, and oftentimes in lessons, my mind flicks back to that workshop. I think we all learned more and gained more of a love for the subject than we had initially thought.

Ruth Sloper 11P



Reporting Absences

01308 861917

(dedicated Absence Line available 24hrs)

or

01308 862633



You need to call in for **each day of absence**

Please report all absences **as early as possible** and by 10am at the very latest

Briefly and very clearly state the student's **name**, **tutor group** and the **reason for the absence**

Some lines, particularly mobiles, can drop out or be very hard to hear so it is essential to include all of the student details information please

The Absence Line is available **24hrs a day** but can get busy at peak times so please do try again!

A call home will be made if no reason for absence has been given.

Celebrating Success!

Every year our new Year 7 students are set a Maths and Literacy challenge to complete over the summer. This year there were some great projects making it really hard to pick the winners.

Maths competition: 1st Grace Barnard, 2nd Olivia Peters, 3rd Sidney Easton. Their brief was to research a famous mathematician and then design a creative visual aid to inform people about them.

Grace's chosen mathematician was Jonny Ball and she even emailed him to find out why he enjoyed maths so much! She was lucky enough to receive a reply from him too which she included in her poster. Olivia chose Marie Curie and we really liked her daffodil design reflecting the Marie Curie charity emblem. Sidney chose John Venn and illustrated the Venn diagram with England and Manchester United footballers.

For the Literacy challenge students had to write a book review about a favourite book. They could focus on the writing about the book or creating an eye-catching design. The award for the best overall presentation and handwriting was presented to Efi Fraser.



Students were asked to write a sentence using our Words of the Week. Congratulations to Year 7s Grace House, Addison Stone and Sidney Easton, Year 8 Esme Martin and Year 9 Kester O'Regan.



6th Form student Ludi Synakova came away with a clutch of medals from the South West Army Cadets Regional Athletics finals, taking gold in javelin, shot put and discus!

This is Year 9 student, Isla Sibley.

She won the national BBC Young Reporter of the Year competition by writing an article about the anxiety she felt during lockdown, something that we're sure a lot of people can relate to.

Isla was interviewed about her article on Newsround on CBBC. What an achievement, well done Isla, we hope you inspire other students to enter the competition next year!



The theme for this year's annual Rotary Club Photography Competition was "The Beauty of Architecture" and was judged by local professional photographers. Darcie Childs won the Intermediate category with Archie Pitt-Pladdy taking the prize in the Senior age category; both took home a very generous £50 voucher.



All Year 7s were recently presented with a reading book of their choice thanks to the support of The Book Trust and our very own BSPTA.

As always, the Joint 6th Form Open Evening was very busy with lots of students, parents and carers keen to speak to staff to find out more about the different courses that we can offer.



A Midsummer Night's Dream

The beginning of February saw Beaminster School's colourful production of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" performed to friends, family and staff amid cheers and roaring laughter.

Undoubtedly, taking on Shakespeare is a daunting task, with complex language and long monologues, but pupils from Year 8 to Year 12 all rose to the challenge!

A Midsummer Night's Dream is probably the most produced comedy since it was written 400 years ago, and quite possibly the most produced comedy in history! Judging by the responses of our audiences, that's not likely to change anytime soon.

The play is a comic masterpiece, and it was a real pleasure for us to produce. Our audiences were laughing out loud at the mischief of our fairy ensemble, the confusion of the lovers and the over-acting of the players all the way through.

For those who have never seen the play or studied it at school, it's about Hermia (Scout Stone), whose mother Egea (Tabitha Bluck) wants her to marry Demetrius (Charlie King), but Hermia refuses as she's in love with Lysander (Herbie Bluck).



If she doesn't follow her mother's wishes, she must face a death penalty or become a nun. Hermia and Lysander decide to elope that night and they confide in their friend Helena (Poppy Dulwich). However, she's secretly in love with Demetrius so, hoping to win his affection, she tells him of Hermia's plan.

That night, all four lovers set out into the forest where they are tricked by Puck into falling in love with the wrong people. Into this mix are thrown a hapless bunch of amateur actors called The Mechanicals, who are rehearsing The Tragedy of Pyramus and Thisbe in the same forest.

All the characters of this Shakespearian classic were played wonderfully, but one of the audience's favourites was the mischievous fairy Puck, played by Naomi Gardner.

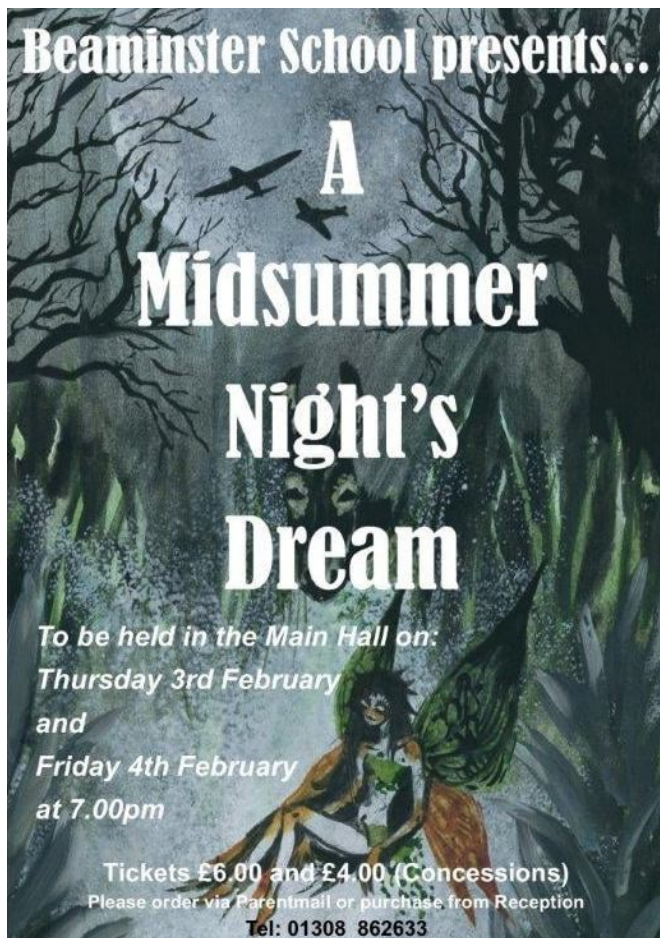
I played the part of Nick Bottom, a fun part to play as he is vain and rather full of himself. I found it really exciting because it allowed me to exaggerate and have lots of freedom with my performance. My main aim was to make each member of the audience laugh, which I think I achieved!

The show was a huge success due to the hard work of the actors and all the crew behind the scenes, and a big thank you to Ms Smith for all her hard work directing the play, and to all the rest of her team.

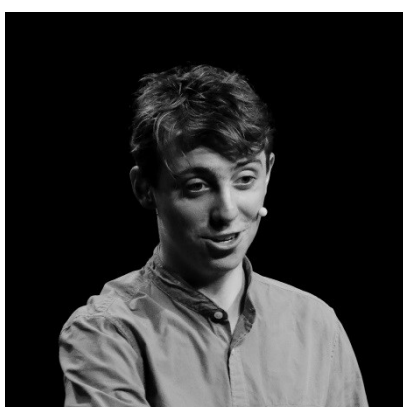
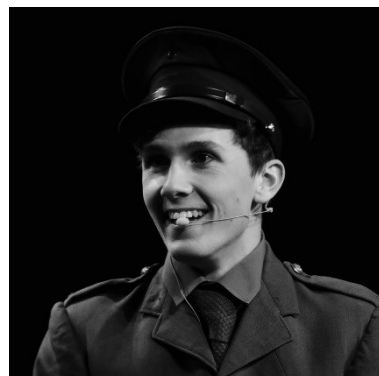
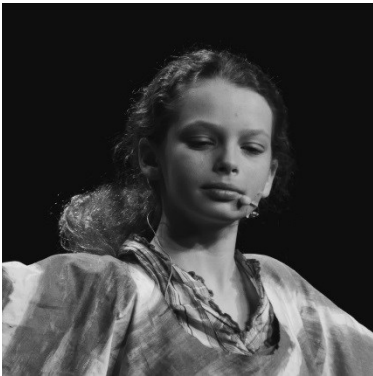
One of the parents watching the show said: "It was a truly magical production and it was phenomenal to see all the different talents of Beaminster School coming together."

The course of true love never did run smooth, but the Beaminster school production certainly did!

Charles Irving-Bell 11W



We are delighted to say that rehearsals for our next school production, "Beauty and the Beast" being performed on 2nd and 3rd February 2023 are now well under way.



Year 10 Work Experience 2022

All of our Year 10 students go out on work experience placements for two weeks every May. It is a huge undertaking, and as you can see from the photos, they go to a huge variety of different employers and locations, giving them a fantastic taste of what life is like in the "real world" of work.

We really couldn't do it without the wonderful support and generosity of the many employers, both locally and further afield, who agree to have one (or more!) of our students, so our sincere thanks to them all for giving our students such wonderful opportunities.







Work Experience with the Army

A personal view of work experience by Ruth Sloper

It was 11:00 hours and I had just arrived at the Oakhampton Training Barracks for a week's work experience. My DPM bergen was well-packed, straps taped, everything meticulously folded and named. I was smiling, but my heart was beating faster than usual. My palms were sweating. Around me, the barren landscape of Dartmoor stretched on, seemingly endless. I had an inkling that I would become all too familiar with it over the next four days. I was herded into a classroom that was about three times my age, walls so thin they pulsed every time the door slammed.

I dropped my kit by a haphazard pile of tables as instructed. I turned to Dad.

"Bye." I grinned, though honestly, I didn't want him to go. He smiled back.

"I know you'll have a great time," he said, and left. That was it. Around me, other kids my age were filtering in, some hugging parents tight, some doing the same stoic act as me. I think we were all as apprehensive as each other.

There were a couple of men and women in uniform in the room, going back and forth, purposefully. It felt like the start of something big.

We all sat in rows of plastic seats. There were lots of empty spaces and the adults seemed to notice those more than us. An older man was processing paperwork, and there was more than one missing form.

Eventually, the man finished trying to wrangle documents and walked to the front of the classroom. He looked at us, a scrutinising gaze, and then he smiled.

"Hello," he said, "you're all here for army work experience – Wex - and if you're not, well, you're green now." There was a smattering of laughter. "Honestly, all we really want is your best. Anything more... well, we'll get to that."

He proceeded to take us through a Powerpoint of their expectations, no fraternisation and the like. Then he read out our names and put us into 3 sections. Each had about 9 people. Next, we were introduced to our section commanders, Emily, Ben and Brett. I was in 1 section, under the command of Brett, who smiled at us like he knew something we didn't. Of course he did.

We were introduced to Merlin next, the platoon commander for the week. He told us about his time in the army, how he'd got his diving instructor's qualification for practically nothing, how he has a teaching degree, how he got qualified as a paramedic and served in the Ambulance Service through the pandemic.

Emily was in the Army Air Corps. She'd joined Harrogate at 16, and in the 5 years she's spent in her corps, she's only been in the UK a handful of months. She had stories of Africa, Iraq, America, Germany, Cyprus. She was in the Army Rugby Team, both League and Union. That was undoubtedly cool.

We had a series of icebreakers within our sections, two truths and a lie, that sort of thing. Our section consisted of 5 army cadets, an air cadet, a sea cadet, a scout and a dirt biker. Most people came from Devon, a couple were from Cornwall, I was the only Dorset resident on the whole Wex.

I think we all took an immediate liking to our section commander. He was quick to laugh, and pretty laid back, but you got the impression that he'd be a hard nut when it got to drill and exercises. He was from Canada originally, but had no accent and couldn't speak French. That disappointed a few in the section.

We got led to the dormitories, one for the girls, one for the boys. They were long rooms, sparse, with a central line of lockers and bunk beds either side. Everything in there was past its best by about ten years, but it wasn't a detractor. In fact, that was half the fun, with squeaky, likely to break springs and lockers etched with names, phrases and an exotic range of anatomy.

The floor was red lino, the mattresses blue plastic. An old cadet's trick is to place the mattress about halfway down the room, take a running leap and slide all the way to the other side of the room. That was an excellent half hour.

Eventually, we unpacked and formed up in our respective sections outside on the road. We were taken to the stores, double timing it up the hill. The quartermaster was a Scottish man who could take one look at you and issue you with the right size kit, which is what he did. We got a pair of trousers, a smock, a bergen, a set of waterproofs, a sleeping bag, a bivvi bag, a basha, a roll mat, tent pegs, bungees, a pair of boots and a replica rifle. Unfortunately, health and safety decreed we were not to be allowed near anything remotely dangerous.

We dropped our excess kit back at the bunks and headed out to the 'drill square'. Oakhampton didn't actually have a specific drill square so we were put out on a large strip of tarmac that undulated violently. All the more fun to try and keep in step with! Due to our section being mostly cadets, the drill demonstrations weren't particularly necessary, though we were thoroughly entertained as Brett and Ben careened their way through improper ways to march.

After a good few hours of marching, we got to go to dinner in the cookhouse. From previous cadet experience, I knew that this would set the precedent for the rest of the week. At least they weren't starting us on horror bags. Dinner was surprisingly good, and we all sat round a long table, a bit awkwardly at first. We started cracking jokes to break the silence, each more groan-worthy than the last. It was great.

After dinner we went back to the ancient classroom to find out what we'd be doing for the rest of the week. Tuesday into Wednesday were going to be spent out on Dartmoor, painting ourselves green and spying on (tactically observing) the Devon Liberation Front, our enemy for the exercise. Thursday was the assault course. I couldn't help but be intimidated by that; I'd heard some tall tales about assault courses from older cadets. I decided to put it firmly out of my mind until the last possible moment.

After Merlin had finished explaining the order of events, he gave us a couple of lessons on cam and concealment, why things are seen, hygiene in the field. All of this was second nature for me as it had been drilled into me by cadets since day one. We went to the rec room after lessons ended, and sat round, talking, laughing and cheering on the pool competitors. No one was any good but it was amusing to watch. Then it was back to bunks, lights out at 23:00, and reveille for 05:30. I curled up in my sleeping bag and was nodding off in a matter of minutes, disturbed only by the occasional squeal of bedsprings.

Reveille was indeed 05:30, as Emily flicked the lights on with little ceremony. Breakfast was at 06:00, so we showered, dressed and made sure the bunk was spotless for the inspection we knew was coming. On army camps, breakfast is infallibly a fry up, bacon, sausages, eggs, hash browns, the lot. This is because it keeps morale up and the calories are needed. No healthy soldier survives on Pot Noodle and cornflakes!

Back to bunks for 07:00, inspection at 07:15 - we beat the boys' bunk by miles - kit packing lesson at 07:30. I managed to beg a pair of twisties (elastic bands which you tuck the cuffs of your trousers into) off Brett, as well as a full roll of sniper tape - used to tape straps up on bags, sometimes used as a camouflage alternative to plasters, commonly referred to as 'green nasty'. Quite

the haul. 1 section piled into the minibus, bergens packed perfectly, rifles slung in our laps. It almost felt real.

We were dropped in the middle of Dartmoor, near a fast-flowing river and an all but deserted car park. A couple with a dog ogled as we got into static patrol positions, waiting for the other sections to arrive. The sky was overcast and a light mizzle was falling; it was

unseasonably chilly. All of this wasn't off-putting though, it was part of what we'd expected, we were in England after all. The other sections arrived and then we were off, patrolling across Dartmoor in staggered file. The pace was practically sedate, working to the level of the least able in the platoon. No one was complaining.

We reached our harbour area in good time. It was a small grove of trees surrounded by a drystone wall and overshadowed by set of looming farm buildings. Bashas went up quickly, roll mats, bivvi bags and sleeping bags laid out underneath them. We collected wood for a great fire, we were not the most stealthy, but it was an exercise. We weren't in theatre, we weren't even preparing for it. Standards were allowed to slip, ever so slightly, and only for the chance to have marshmallows.

The rest of the day passed in a flurry of fieldcraft lessons, tactical approaches and a series of briefings on our evening mission. Dinner was 19:00, canteens of stew delivered in a truck. It was a bit dubious, but it was hot and it was filling.

As the sun set behind the bleak ridges, we set out on our mile and a bit route to the enemy's location. 1 section had the longest route as we were the 'cadet section' and therefore considered the most capable. Darkness settled over us as we patrolled, near-silent across the rough terrain. There was the occasional whispered curse as feet got caught in vegetation or ankles wobbled on "babies'

heads" (small, compact mounds of soil). We reached our RV with little trouble, taking up all round defensive positions.

Less than a hundred metres in front of us, we could see the enemy - the Devon Liberation Front. Brett took pairs of us closer to their camp, to listen and



Work Experience with the Army (Cont.)

observe what we could. Operation complete, we patrolled back and were the last to arrive back at the harbour area. It was 23:45. We filled in a debrief sheet with everything we'd learned from the enemy, then turned in for the night.

I awoke the following morning to the sound of howling and loud flapping. In the grey light of pre-dawn, I could see that the corner of the basha across from mine had come loose and was being beaten by the wind. Inside my sleeping bag, I could barely feel the cold, and I wouldn't have known it was raining if I hadn't seen and heard it.

There's a certain sense of satisfaction you get, knowing that you've set up your basha and kit so well that even a storm has no effect on your sleep. I think that kept me warm as much as the sleeping bag. Reveille wasn't for another couple of hours so I drifted back to sleep, content. When I woke up again, the storm had worsened, rain lashing down and the wind sweeping angrily through the trees.

We packed up camp quickly and took refuge in a hay barn. Two cats regarded us coolly from their lofty perches. We must have looked odd to them, soaked to the bone, with cam cream smeared across any patch of bare skin, and grinning wide. I mentioned previously that fried breakfasts are served in the army to boost morale. Wednesday morning was no exception to this rule. A truck came, laden with canteens and hot plates, enough breakfast for a whole company. In that barn, with the rain pelting down outside it somehow tasted better than it had the previous morning.

And then we were off across Dartmoor, in a red-warning storm. We had a series of tasks to complete, including administering first aid; observation - conducted atop a rocky tor which we all sweated patrolling up; stalking; and getting a message across a river. In theory, it was gopping. We were patrolling across Dartmoor, wetter than the sea, doing each task over and over until we were perfect.

In the army, there's a phrase: 'commit to clip'. It sounds like nonsense. 'clip' is the worst conditions you can imagine. Snow, waist deep when you're trying to do a stalk. A thunderstorm. A drought. When you commit to clip, you bare your teeth to these obstacles, and you smile as you get through it because you're part of the British Army and you are stronger than whatever is thrown at you.

That's what was in my head as we were pelted by rain and thrashed by wind. It was clip. And I was committed. That's when you get to the point where you have excellent fun because you genuinely stop noticing that you're soaked, that your legs hurt, that you're tired. You just throw yourself into it 100%.

I was still grinning as we patrolled back to the drop off point, where we were being picked up by the minibus. There was one last obstacle, because this was army work experience, and in the army, things aren't done by half measures.

The river that stretched in front of us wasn't at all deep, up to the knee at the highest point. It was fast though. To our right was a bridge, a bridge that had apparently been compromised by the enemy. So, through the river we went. Then Brett got down on his front and leopard crawled through it, to cheers and whoops.

He shook himself. "Who's next?" I think clip must have totally overcome me as I grinned back, stripping off my waterproofs and leaving them and my rifle on the far bank at the feet of Merlin.

To be honest, I didn't get much wetter than I already was as I went through the river. I don't even remember it being cold. It was just amazing, and I stood up on the other side with a smile that didn't dim for hours after. I had overcome clip, and even though I had half the river in my boots, I was still ready for more.

"More" turned out to be going back to bunks and getting showered. All our wet kit went into a drying room. The orders and organisation were welcome as the other sections arrived back. Kit was sorted. We were debriefed over horror bags - I had known they'd make an appearance, but commit to clip - and then it was off to the classroom for an army careers presentation.

I phoned my dad that evening after dinner. It was his birthday, and I sat on the floor in a dark corridor and listened to his voice. Homesickness clenched in my gut for a moment, but then I remembered where I was, what I was doing. If I had had the choice, I wouldn't have gone home for at least another six weeks. Minimum. I think I must have choked up for a moment, because I heard my mum asking if I was okay in the background. I told them I was, then wished dad happy birthday again and hung up. I went to bed well before lights out, pleasantly exhausted, with the promise of the assault course lingering at the edge of my mind.

Thursday came far too soon for my liking. It was the usual routine in the morning. Reveille 05:30. Breakfast 06:00. Inspection 07:15. We beat the boys again. It was strange how quickly the process had become familiar, easy. 07:30 saw us out to the assault course. My heart was once again beating a little faster than usual as I stared down the obstacles, but we were walked around it, everything was explained and demonstrated and I relaxed slightly. Then it was our turn.

I approached the six foot wall somewhat apprehensively. I knew what I had to do, but I didn't think I could. I jumped and my body felt the thud of the impact before my brain registered it, through my knees and arms. I swore under my breath as I struggled to gain a footing, knees twinging uncomfortably. I managed to wrestle myself over, but it hurt, a bit more than it should have.

Work Experience with the Army (Cont.)

There's a difference between clip and self-flagellation. The five foot wall should have been easier, but it wasn't. For some reason, unbeknownst to anyone, I threw myself at the wall rather than upwards. I practically had to peel myself off it. That had done it.

The impact had jarred my knees pretty badly and I could feel them swelling. I knew I had to tap out.

"You do realise you're not supposed to assault the course." Merlin quipped as he led me to the truck. I chuckled through gritted teeth.

The final checks were done. I had a spectacular set of bruises across my arms and knees, ones that I knew would develop to put any rainbow to shame. On stiff legs I lugged my bergen up to the classroom where we all sat in our sections.

Two awards were given out per section: best moment and best in section. After the morning's disappointment, I wasn't expecting either, so when Brett handed the best in section medal to me, I was a little stunned. That meant something. I was cut out for this. This could be my future; there was no reason that it shouldn't be. My grin was back.



That was it. We were picked up one by one. Goodbyes weren't really said, just a joke and a wave.

"See," I called as I walked to the car, pointing at dad, "just like me but grey." Merlin and Brett smiled as they waved us off.

Ruth Sloper 11P

Work Experience

A personal view of work experience by Charles Irving-Bell

At the beginning of May, all of Year 10 embarked on an exciting fortnight of Work Experience. We were all responsible for securing our own placements in the months leading up to it.

I opted to do two separate weeks as I'm interested in doing veterinary science and wanted to gain experience in a veterinary practice, as well as spend time on a farm.

I spent my first week at Haydon Vets in Bridport, which specialises in small animals.

I really enjoyed the week and learnt so much about what the job involves. I was able to sit in on patient consultations and operations which was fascinating.

On my second day there was an emergency operation as a cat had been hit by a car and had a hole in its leg. I was able to observe the entire operation and even got to shave the cat before it was operated on! I also learnt how to diagnose certain illnesses through blood tests and looked at bacteria under a microscope.



For my second week I had a fantastic time on a farm at North Bowood.

In the mornings I accompanied the farmer feeding cattle, moving cattle between fields, seeking out and returning cows that had escaped, including one that had fallen down a bank into a river. I also learnt about farm machinery while ploughing and planting maize.

A highlight of the week was accompanying a farm vet and witnessing a calf being born.

In the afternoons, I helped the dairyman to milk 225 cows. I learnt how to use the

machinery and by the end of the week was a confident dairyman myself.

The days on the farm felt quite long and it was hard work, but very rewarding. I really enjoyed it and offered to return in the summer.

Charles Irving-Bell 11W

Work Experience

A personal view of work experience by Kai Kenway

During the first two weeks of May all Year 10 students went on Work Experience.

A variety of workplaces were visited from army camps to accountants, vets to museums and schools; the one thing that stayed in common with them all is the memories made and experience of real-life workplace expectations.

I went to the Castletown D-day centre in Portland for both of the two weeks and enjoyed every minute of it.

I learnt about how the museum is run and met a variety of people, volunteers and visitors, all of whom had an interesting story or bit of knowledge about the war or personal experience.

On many of the days there would be a cruise ship docked in the harbour so I met a mix of Americans, Poles, Germans and Aussies, though the majority were Americans, who absolutely loved the museum as it represents the 1st US infantry division and 5th US corps that left from Portland during the D-day invasion in June 1944.

I learnt a lot about the war and the equipment used in it, ranging from a 60mm mortar to an M4 Sherman! My favourite part would certainly be 'dressing' the tank every morning. This involved opening the hatches, putting the antenna on and mounting the .30 and .50 cal machine guns (which isn't as hard as it seems).

Second best to that was getting to take a ride in the old Willys Jeep they have. The volunteers at the museum are all very knowledgeable and were more than happy to teach me new things, like how to strip a Bren gun or 1911, and test my knowledge, and soon I became part of the team. In fact, I enjoyed it so much that I now go back there during the weekend or holidays.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed my time on work experience and suggest to the following year groups that they make sure they know how to make a good coffee or cup of tea!

The two weeks really helped me gain knowledge on what to expect when I go out into the real world which, dauntingly, isn't that far away.

Kai Kenway 11P

(Kai, kneeling front right)



Top Tips

All work set on ClassCharts can be accessed electronically via computer, tablet or phone.

ClassCharts Any teacher can access student passwords if a student has forgotten theirs
Parents and carers have their own, separate login for ClassCharts

Seneca Students manage their own password
They can click on "Forgotten Password" and a message will be sent to their school email to reset it

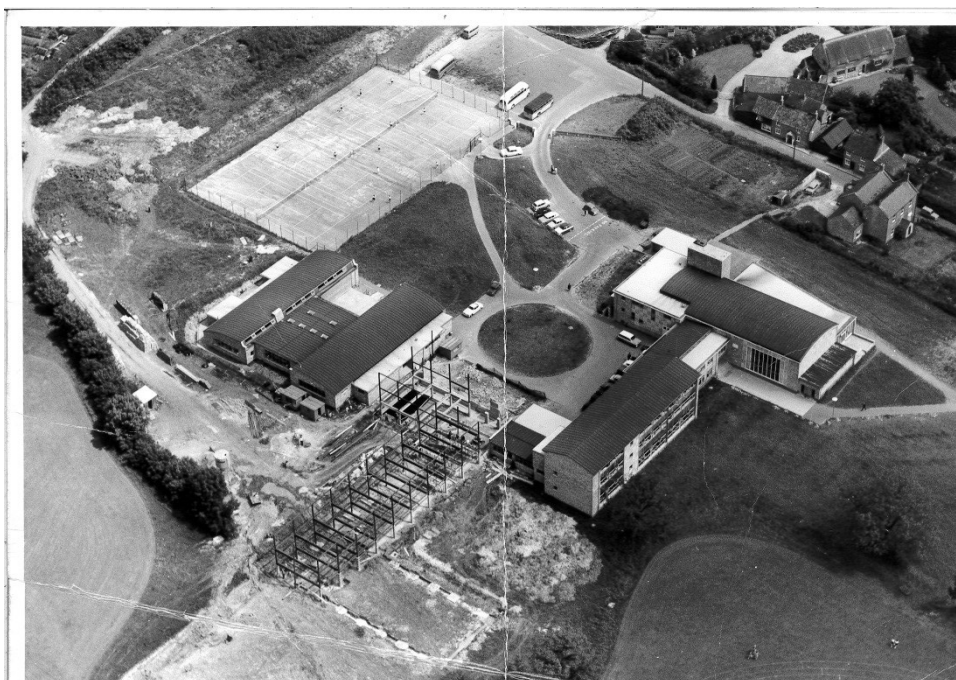
Office365 Students manage their own password

MyMaths Contact the teacher

ActiveLearn Contact the teacher



The School is 60!



The current school buildings were first opened in January 1963 so will be 60 in January, although the school's history in Beaminster goes back much, much further!

We would absolutely love to hear from any former pupils with any old photos or memories to share of their time at Beaminster, so if you, or someone you know went to Beaminster, please contact Mrs Chalkey at the school:

NChalkley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

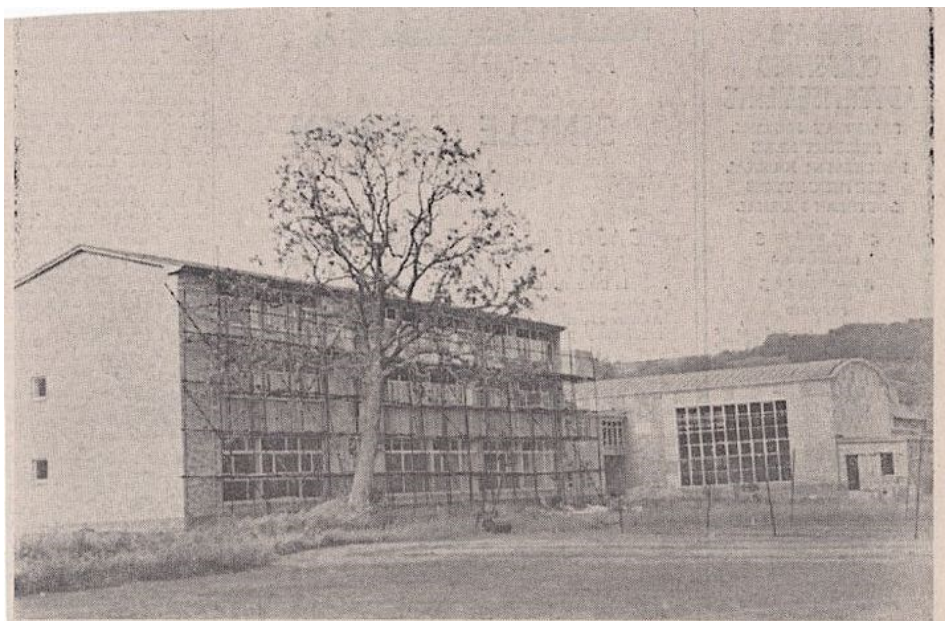


Photo: Devon and Dorset
This picture shows that Beaminster's new Secondary School, which opens next January, is well on the way to completion.

If any students would like to join us and become a Newshound, we meet on Wednesday lunchtimes in Ms Forster's classroom — all welcome!
Contact email: NChalkley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk or call 01308 862633 if there is anything in particular that you would like the newspaper to cover in future.
For more information about the school use the QR code to visit our school website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk





Beaminster School Term Dates 2022-2023

| 2022 | September | | | | | | | October | | | | | | | November | | | | | | | December | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|--|--|--|--|
| | A1 | B1 | A2 | B2 | A3 | B3 | A4 | B4 | A4 | B4 | A5 | B5 | A6 | B6 | A6 | B6 | A7 | B7 | A7 | B7 | A8 | B8 | A9 | B9 | A10 | B10 | A11 | B11 | A12 | B12 | A13 | B13 | | | | | |
| Week | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mon | | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | 31 | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | | | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | | | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | | | | | | | |
| Tues | | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | | | | | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | | | | | |
| Weds | | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | | | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | | | |
| Thurs | | | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | | | | | | | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | | | | |
| Fri | | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | | | | | | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | | | | |

Autumn Term 2022

| 2023 | January | | | | | | | February | | | | | | | March | | | | | | | April | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|--|--|--|
| | A8 | B8 | A9 | B9 | A10 | B10 | A11 | B11 | A11 | B11 | A12 | B12 | A13 | B13 | A12 | B12 | A13 | B13 | A13 | B13 | A14 | B14 | A14 | B14 | A14 | B14 | A15 | B15 | A16 | B16 | | | | |
| Week | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mon | | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tues | | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Weds | | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | 8 | 15 | 22 | | | | | 8 | 15 | 22 | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Thurs | | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | 9 | 16 | 23 | | | | | 9 | 16 | 23 | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fri | | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | 10 | 17 | 24 | | | | | 10 | 17 | 24 | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Spring Term 2023

| 2023 | May | | | | | | | June | | | | | | | July | | | | | | | August | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| | A15 | B15 | A16 | B16 | A17 | B17 | A18 | B18 | A18 | B18 | A19 | B19 | A20 | B20 | A19 | B19 | A20 | B20 | A20 | B20 | A21 | B21 | A21 | B21 | A21 | B21 | A22 | B22 | A22 | B22 | | | |
| Week | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mon | | | 1 | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | | | | | | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | |
| Tues | | | 2 | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | | | | | | | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | | | | |
| Weds | | | 3 | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | | | | | | | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | | | | |
| Thurs | | | 4 | 11 | 18 | 25 | | 8 | 15 | 22 | 29 | | | | 6 | 13 | 20 | 27 | | | | | | | | 10 | 17 | 24 | 31 | | | | |
| Fri | | | 5 | 12 | 19 | 26 | | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 | | | | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | | | | | | | | 11 | 18 | 25 | | | | | |

Summer Term 2023

- = Non-pupil days
- = School Holidays
- = Bank Holidays
- = Academic Monitoring Day
- = Staggered start, only identified Year groups in school (see Term Dates list for full details)

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2022-2023



Ambition · Service · Kindness

AUTUMN TERM 2022

(NB: May be subject to change due to prevailing Government guidance)

| | |
|---|---|
| Thursday 1 st September | Staff Training Day #1 (no students in) |
| Friday 2 nd September | Staff Training Day #2 (no students in) |
| Monday 5 th September | Year 7 Students in ONLY (Week A) |
| Tuesday 6 th September | All Year Groups back in school (Week A) |
| Monday 24 th Oct – Friday 28 th Oct | Half Term (return Mon 31 st October, Week B) |
| Friday 11 th November | Academic Monitoring Day |
| Monday 14 th November | Staff Training Day #3 (no students in) |
| Friday 16 th December | End of Autumn Term |

Christmas Holidays (Mon Dec 19th 2022 – Mon 2nd Jan 2023)

SPRING TERM 2023

| | |
|--|---|
| Tuesday 3 rd January | Staff Training Day #4 (no students in) |
| Wednesday 4 th January | Start of Spring Term for students (Week A) |
| Monday 13 th – Friday 17 th February | Half Term (return Mon 20 th Feb, Week A) |
| Friday 31 st March | End of Spring Term |

Easter Holidays (Mon 3rd April 2023 – Fri 14th April 2023)

SUMMER TERM 2023

| | |
|---|---|
| Monday 17 th April | Start of Summer Term (Week A) |
| Monday 1 st May | Bank Holiday |
| Monday 29 th May – Friday 2 nd June | Half Term (return Mon 5 th June, Week A) |
| Monday 3 rd July | Staff Training Day #5 (no students in) |
| Monday 17 th July | Start of Activities Week (Compulsory for all students in Years 7-10) |
| Friday 21 st July | End of Summer Term |

Key Dates

| SPRING TERM 2023 | | SUMMER TERM 2023 | |
|---------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| JANUARY 2023 | | APRIL 2023 | |
| Monday 2nd Jan | Bank Holiday | Sat 15th April | Premier League trip, Manchester |
| Tuesday 3rd Jan | Staff Training Day (no students in) | Mon 17th April | Start of Summer Term Year 12 Trial Exams start |
| Weds 4th Jan | Start of Spring Term (Week A) | Tues 18th April | DofE First Aid training Year 10 Science trip, Hinkley Point |
| Weds 18th Jan | Year 12 Parents' Evening | Fri 21st April | Bronze/Silver DofE Practice W/end |
| Fri 20th Jan | Year 11 Charity Day Flu Jabs for Years 7-9 | Tues 25th April | GCSE Art exams |
| Mon 23rd Jan | Reading Week #3 Year 9 Art Exhibition | MAY | |
| Weds 25th Jan | Year 8 Parents' Evening | Mon 1st May | Bank Holiday Year 10 Work Experience (2 weeks) |
| Thurs 26th Jan | Year 10/11 Crucible screening | Tues 2nd May | Year 11 MFL speaking exams start |
| Sun 29th Jan | School Play rehearsals | Weds 3rd May | Year 7 Parents' Evening A Level Art exams |
| FEBRUARY | | Mon 8th May | Bank Holiday - King's Coronation |
| Thurs 2nd Feb | School play | Mon 15th May | Reading Week #5 Start of Main Exam season |
| Fri 3rd Feb | House Matches School play | Fri 19th May | Bronze/Silver DofE Assessment W/end |
| Weds 8th Feb | Year 11 Parents' Evening | HALF TERM | Mon 29th May to Friday 2nd June |
| Thurs 9th Feb | 6th Form New York trip out | | |
| Fri 10th Feb | Ski trip out | JUNE | |
| HALF TERM | Mon 13th to Friday 17th Feb | Mon 19th June | Years 7-10 Exams (2 weeks) |
| Mon 20th Feb | Year 11 Food practicals week | Tues 20th June | A Level Art/Photography Exhibition Primary Sports Festival |
| Tues 21st Feb | Year 10 Maths enrichment | Mon 26th June | Reading Week #6 Year 12 Induction Day #1 |
| Weds 22nd Feb | Year 10 Parents' Evening | Tues 27th June | Year 12 Induction Day #2 |
| Mon 28th Feb | Reading Week #4 Year 13 Trial exams start | Weds 28th June | Year 12 Induction Day #3 SCHOOL OPEN EVENING 5-7pm 6th Form Summer Ball, Symondsburly |
| MARCH | | Fri 30th June | Non Uniform Day (Wrong Trousers) Beaminster Festival Concert for students |
| Thurs 2nd March | World Book Day | JULY | |
| Mon 6th March | Year 11 Trial Exams Week #2 | Mon 3rd July | Staff Training Day #5 (no students in) |
| Weds 15th March | "Voice in a Million" London | Tues 4th July | Year 9 College Day Year 10 Be a 6th Former Day |
| Fri 17th March | Comic Relief Day (Non uniform) | Weds 5th July | Year 8 Graduation Year 11 Prom, Haselbury |
| Weds 22nd March | Stop the Clock Day | Thurs 6th July | Summer Concert |
| Thurs 23rd March | House Matches Pyramid Choral Festival | Fri 7th July | Sports Day |
| Fri 24th March | Year 9 Booster Vaccinations | Mon 10th July | Year 6 Induction Day #1 |
| Weds 29th March | Year 9 Options Evening | Tues 11th July | Year 6 Induction Day #2 |
| Fri 31st March | END OF SPRING TERM | Weds 12th July | Year 6 New Parent Information Evening |
| | | Thurs 13th July | House Matches |
| | | Mon 17th July | Start of Activities Week (to Fri 21st) Year 12 Work Experience week |
| | | Fri 21st July | End of Summer Term |

Please ensure that ALL items of uniform and personal property are CLEARLY and INDELIBLY marked with the owner's name or we can't reunite lost property with the rightful owner