

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Our first charity day this year, **Jeans4Genes**, heightens awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with a genetic condition and raises money to fund essential projects that make a tangible difference to the lives of those affected. The students were very generous in their support today, raising just under £500, and I thank Year 8 for co-ordinating.

Monday saw all students have their individual **school photos** taken. This is all now managed digitally by the photographers, Tempest, so parents/carers should have received an electronic link to view and order a copy of their child's photograph if they wish to. **Free delivery of photos back to school closes on Tuesday 3rd October.** If you need any assistance in ordering your photos please contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3) or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk

After settling into secondary school life so well, **Year 7** had a day away from the normal timetable on Tuesday for an on-site team building day. This provided an ideal opportunity for Tutors to see the students in a different environment, and for the students to develop communication skills and problem-solving through a number of fun and challenging team-building activities; congratulations to all those involved for such positive participation.

We also very much appreciated the large turn-out and engagement with our **Year 10 GCSE and Work Experience Information Evening on Wednesday.** As well as the important information that was shared (see [Work Experience Information | beaminsterschool](http://www.beaminsterschool.com/Work-Experience-Information)), it was a real pleasure to see so many conversations between parents, carers and staff afterwards. My thanks to the many senior prefects who helped out and spoke so well about their experiences in Year 10.

Thursday saw the always enjoyable **Fun Run**, the first of our inter-house competitions. The pleasant weather ensured that nearly 500 students ran, jogged, toddled, or walked around the course, with much encouragement from other students and willing staff. There were also some excellent individual performances with records broken by Anna Bibby in Year 7, Rosie Gaines and Jo Whelan in Year 8, Henry Guppy in Year 9 and Zak Zidary in Year 11, who broke the course record in 9:41. Congratulations to them all and to Lewesdon who won overall.

The Sixth Form **Art and Photography trip** are due back later today after three very busy days. Following a number of excellent workshops at Falmouth University, the students visited a number of different museums, galleries and small workshops around St. Ives. All these experiences help to develop their understanding of different approaches, techniques and ideas ready for the development of their own projects back in school. Many thanks to the staff for their work in putting all this together.

Following the generous visit and training provided by **Little Halstock Joinery** in the summer term, they left our Year 11 GCSE Product Design students with a design brief of a Christmas gift that could be manufactured for their clientele. There were three designs that stood out, with managing director, Luke Wycherley, saying: "Firstly, we would like to say how impressed we were with the effort and imagination from our design brief. The students clearly showed they listened to our short introduction to cabinet making and the details we presented." After much consideration and comments about the quality of work they felt that the winner of the Amazon gift voucher should be Isobel Hallett, with Theo Bailey second and April Burnett third.

Kingston Maurward have their Post-16 Open Mornings on Sunday September 24th and October 15th. For more information and to pre-register, visit their website: <https://www.kmc.ac.uk/college/open-events/>

Wessex Water's annual Apprenticeship Open Day takes place on Saturday 14 October 9.30am – 2pm at their head office in Bath. There will be over 20 teams available with seminars discussing the range of opportunities from Level 2 up to Level 6. You can sign up here [Wessex Water Apprenticeship Open Day 2023 \(office.com\)](http://www.wessexwater.co.uk/Wessex-Water-Apprenticeship-Open-Day-2023) or contact earlycareers@wessexwater.co.uk with any questions.

We look forward to welcoming prospective students and families with our **School Open Mornings** next week (poster attached). These will run each morning between 9 and 10am, with a short introduction in the Library, followed by a tour of the school with our senior prefects. There will be a final opportunity to tour the school on the **afternoon of Wednesday 11th October**. Do contact us should you have any questions.

Finally, we have staff vacancies for a **Science Technician, Supervisory Teaching Assistant** and **SEN teacher** and a **Data Officer**. Full details are available on the school website and the Dorset Council website for anyone wishing to join our committed and enthusiastic team.

Enjoy the weekend.
Mr Hales

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