

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 6th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Happy New Year to you all and a very warm welcome back.

The mid-week start and return to routines is always a little discombobulating, but it has been encouraging to see such a positive start from students and a reduction in the number of absences due to respiratory viruses. If we continue with your measured and sensible approach, where if a child is too unwell to learn they stay at home, we won't go too far wrong! Please do remember to contact us about any absences as early as possible before the start of school, ideally on the **Absence Line 01308 861917**, including the student's name, tutor group AND reason for absence please. or office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

The new year also signals the long run-in to public examinations. Our **Year 11 iMedia** students have their first formal examination on Monday afternoon and the **GCSE Art students** are completing their mock examinations on Tuesday and Wednesday; good luck to them all.

We also wish our **Cross-Country teams** well as they travel to Bryanston on Thursday for the final invitational event of the season. With over 30 students competing, across all age ranges, they are our most successful squad ever and have qualified for the county championships on Thursday 19th January.

After many months of rehearsals our school play, **Beauty and the Beast**, is only a few weeks away from its opening night on Thursday 2nd February. This is always a wonderful school event and details of how to purchase tickets will be circulated next week; do put the date in your diary.

This term's **Clubs List** is attached (and can also be found on the school website) with a wide range of activities on offer to students, thank you to all the staff involved. Please do encourage your child to take advantage of, at least, one of these.

We have also been asked to circulate information about other activities and events that may be of interest to some of you: a **cricket session for girls** in Weymouth; a new **badminton club** in Crewkerne; a **music club** for young musicians in Bridport, and for parents and carers, the dates of this term's **Parenting Skills and Strategy sessions**.

Students who travel on the **B5 Misterton-Crewkerne-Drimpton-Broadwindsor bus** should already be aware that First have slightly revised the bus timings from Monday 9th January due to traffic in Crewkerne. A copy of the revised times is attached.

Finally, we welcome a number of new staff members to Beaminster School: **James Dunlop** is covering for Mr Hobby in the PE department this half-term, **Sophie Gibson** joins our TA team and **Stefanie Hayes** joins our admin team with specific responsibility for SEN support.

Have a restful weekend.

Mr Hales

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