

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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22nd May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

The school has felt very busy and productive again this week with the return of Year 10 after Work Experience and the ongoing **GCSE and A-Level examinations** - GCSEs are already now at the halfway stage!

To make good use of the break in proceedings this afternoon, and to provide continued positive contact for staff and students, we had our **Year 11 Celebration Day**. Students had a final assembly to reflect on the past five years, followed by a delicious lunch, served by Tutors and staff, then the traditional signing of shirts, distribution of Yearbooks, speeches, music and farewells. It was lovely to see them all, in their finery, and to share this special time together. They have been a very affable and genial year group and we look forward to seeing many of them continue their studies with us in the Sixth Form.

Congratulations to all our Year 11 and 13 students for their continued composure, maturity and positive approach to this demanding examination period time. I am sure that they will make productive use of this half-term break, as well as maintaining a sense of balance with some time away from their studies.

Miss Rollick provided another stimulating KS3 Reading Week for us with **Everything All at Once: A Fabulous Poetry Collection About Life at Secondary School**. One is particularly poignant for our Year 11 and Year 13 leavers, and I am sure will resonate with many of you, it is called **Parting Thought**:

*Tiny Year 7s swim
past me
like fish*

*Funny to think
I was ever
that small*

*But now
that we're leaving
I do kind of wish*

*I could go
back in time
and
restart it all*

Our **Year 10 GCSE Geography** students enjoyed their first fieldwork day around Bristol Harbour on Tuesday, to better understand the geographical concepts they have studied in the urban unit. Despite the weather, they had a busy day collecting environmental quality surveys to investigate regeneration over recent years, a visit to The M Shed Museum, and a boat trip around the harbour! There are some photos on our Facebook page.

As part of the **70th Anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh Award**, volunteers who have enabled students to achieve this award were invited to attend the Gold Award Ceremony in Buckingham Palace gardens this week. In recognition of her contribution to the Award, Miss Patten represented Beaminster School at the event, with the afternoon spent listening to inspirational talks, and enjoying a cup of tea and a cupcake as the Duke of Edinburgh congratulated participants and volunteers. Miss Patten was very honoured to be invited and to see so many young people achieve, and we hope that many Beaminster students will go on to do the same. There are some photos on the Facebook page.

We held our first **Activities Week** meetings on Thursday to ensure that all students are aware of their three-day programme in July and are fully committed. It was lovely to hear the excited discussions and to look forward to this unique experience in our school calendar. **Year 10 and 12 reports** were also sent home this week.

After a very successful **West Dorset Area Athletics** competition, the following students have qualified for the County Championship trials in Yeovil on Saturday June 13th 2 and will be representing the school; my best wishes to them all:

Minor Boys: Archie Winnett - Shot, Javelin
Junior Girls: Anna Bibby - 1500m
Junior Boys: Oliver Smith - 200m and Long Jump; Harry Mansfield - 800m **or** 1500m
Inter Boys: Joe Whelan - 1500m

Following a very successful Work Experience placement, we wanted to share the great support that **Help and Kindness** provide to the community [Welcome to #HelpAndKindness for Dorset](#) and the projects that they support [#HelpAndKindness Projects](#). One key project included in the link above is the signposting service for anyone looking for some help on anything, and they also operate the County's Community Response by staffing phones for anyone looking for help.

As part of Dorset Council's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, they are asking parents and carers about their childcare needs. This work helps them to better understand the current and future demand for childcare across the local area, enabling them to support families more effectively. The survey has a **prize draw of 5 x £50 Amazon vouchers** and can be accessed here: [Childcare Survey for Dorset Parents and Carers - Dorset Council - Citizen Space](#) **Closing date:** Wednesday 17th June 2026

Nearly 100 families have accessed the free membership and wide-ranging number of talks provided by [FACE Parenting Courses & Talks | ADHD, Behaviour & More](#) (FACE) - please see the **attached programme for June**. 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 choose 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.

Thank you for all the **Year 9 Options forms** returned so far, please ensure any remaining forms are returned to school as soon as possible.

The ever-interesting **Library Newsletter** for June is attached, together with the minutes from the **BSPTA's meeting** held last week, which includes their meeting dates for the next academic year.

Finally, I wish you all a restful and sunny Bank Holiday weekend, and we look forward to seeing the students back on **Monday 1st June**.

Mr Hales
Headteacher

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