

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 23rd June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a real pleasure to join staff, students, parents and carers on Tuesday for the opening of our **Art and Photography exhibition** at The Bridport Arts Centre. As ever, there was a wonderfully rich and wide range of creative pieces on show which reflected the depth of talent across the Beaminster and Sir John Colfox Sixth Form. The show runs until Thursday June 29th and is well worth a visit.

GCSE examinations have now finished and the final A-Level examination is Religious Studies on Monday. Meanwhile, **Year 7, 8 and 10 assessments** have started very well with the students getting used to the routine and rhythm of timed tasks in the hall. These continue all next week.

The PE department continues to see fine team performances in the **Year 9 and 10 athletics** championships, with all teams posting in the top four and our Year 10 girls coming second, narrowly missing out on first place. We also had 24 students attending the **Leadership Academy** at Bryanston, yesterday, where they completed their year-long training by supporting a large number of primary and secondary school pupils in the Dorset Games, and also met Olympic gold medal-winning sprinter, Jason Gardener. Many congratulations to all of them for meeting the standards to become Dorset Young Leaders.

Congratulations also go to **Olly Brown**, in Year 11, who achieved an incredible third place in the Welsh Open Scooter championships.

We have used **assemblies** this week to remind all students about our high expectations with regards to study, conduct, behaviour and uniform, a copy of the presentation can be found on the school uniform page of the school website. We appreciate that there are many other activities taking place outside of the classroom at this time of year, but our standards remain the same as they have been. It was disappointing to have to remove Year 7 from the field this week for overly physical behaviour and we trust that they will acquit themselves better next week.

We are developing a closer link with **Bridport and District Citizens Advice**. They can provide information advice and guidance on problems you may encounter in relation to employment, housing, benefits, debt, consumer and family/relationship issues which can help with financial well-being. They also currently run a number of projects (see attached) which include energy and carbon monoxide advice, help for individuals who have learning disabilities, welfare and cost of living advice, charitable support and help from food banks. To contact them about any of these projects please email www.bridportca.org.uk or ring on 01308 456594 and leave a message with your contact details and they will get back to you.

Next week is very busy, starting with the induction of our **Year 11s into the Sixth Form** on Monday and Tuesday, and our **SustainAbleYou** team competing at Bath University in the South West Sustainable Transport Challenge. It is another **Reading Week** for Key Stage 3, with students looking at morphology and the study of words, we are looking forward to seeing students in all their finery for the **Sixth Form Ball** on Wednesday evening, to Year 11 enjoying their trip to **Thorpe Park** on Thursday, and nearly 100 students are participating in an exciting day as part of the **Beaminster Festival** on Friday.

We are also incredibly grateful to the Lyme Regis **Boat Building Academy** who are providing three days of bespoke training at their facilities for 24 of our Year 10 and Sixth Form technology students next week. This is a rare opportunity for them to see and learn from highly skilled local craftsmen and women.

All Year 10 students are taking part in a "**Be a 6th Former Day**" on **Tuesday 4th July** either going to Yeovil College or an A Level Awareness day across the Beaminster and Colfox sites. The A Level Awareness students need to complete the **short form on the link** in the information that was sent to them by **Friday 23rd June** please (with apologies again for the short timescale).

Wednesday is our **School Open Evening** from 5 until 7pm, where anyone considering a school place is welcome to tour the site, see different subject areas and meet with staff. Do get in touch via office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk if you require any further details – and please do spread the word to any families who may be interested in attending!

As the government are not responding to the Independent Review panel on pay, there will be further **Industrial Action** on Wednesday July 5th and Friday July 7th. We are currently looking at which students we can accommodate but, in the meantime, do note the following event date changes:

- **House Matches** are moved to Thursday July 6th, with the **Summer Concert** at 6.30pm
- **Year 8 Graduation** has been moved to Wednesday July 12th (10.15am-11.15am approx)
- **Sports Day** will now be on Thursday July 13th
- **Year 9 and 10 school play auditions** – Year 10 will now be on Tuesday 4th July, Year 9 will be on Thursday 6th July (no auditions on Wednesday 5th July).

We are looking for a **School Cleaner** to join our current team, full details are on the school website and Dorset Council website, the closing date for applications is Tuesday 4th July.

Finally, we have our last **non-uniform day** of the year on Friday for a £1 donation. This will support Wallace and Gromit's Wrong Trousers Day, raising essential funds for sick children.

Enjoy, another, warm weekend.

Mr Hales

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