

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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20th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

After considerable planning, and your very generous offers of support, all of our Year 8 to 13 were able to experience a rich and varied array of discussions with employers, training providers, colleges and universities at our **Careers Fair** on Thursday. We all know that the key to unlocking potential is for students to be interested and motivated in their work, so it was really inspiring to see them so engaged by the opportunities on offer and to see them in conversation with so many adults. The success of this event was driven by the very positive response from organisations, who are listed below, and the maturity of students, and I would like to pass on my particular thanks to Mr Donovan and Mrs Van Niekerk who made it all happen.

AJ Wakely and Sons

The Army

Bredy Vets

Bridport Leisure Centre

CG Fry and Sons

Dorset Fire and Rescue

Hardwill's

NHS Dorset & NHS Pharmacy

Melplash Agricultural Society

Numatics

Royal Air Force

Symonds & Sampson LLP

University of Plymouth

Weymouth College

Albert Goodman

Bicton College

Bridmet PLC

Buglers

Chedington Estates

Dorset Police

Kingston Maurward College

Marshall James Garden Development LTD

Discover Farming

Pattemores Transport LTD

Skern Training and Skill

University of Exeter

Volunteer Centre Dorset

Yeovil College

Also, on Thursday, we had the termly **SEN coffee morning**. This was an ideal opportunity to come in and meet of our SEN team, discuss some of the many issues that we all face and to hear from representatives of the Autism in Schools project, ASCape (an ASC community support group), and from parent carers forums. It is very encouraging to have such an active parents and carers group and we thank you for your attendance and support.

On Tuesday, another group of our student Leaders attended Bryanston School for their **Sports Leader Training**. During a very busy day, the students were put through their paces with team and skill-building workshops to enable them to deliver sessions back in school. Alongside this, a number of our students participated in a Dance workshop, presenting in front of over 300 students, and others interviewed participants to learn more about media and communication around such events.

After the glorious summer weather of the Fun Run, our second set of **House Matches**, on Wednesday, was a much more inclement day, though at least the rain held off for the morning. It was heartening to see so many willing participants with the competition at its finest in Year 11 this time. It was Lewesdon who had the strongest Netball teams and Eggardon who came out on top for the Rugby. Overall, **Lewesdon have stretched their lead** a little, though the other four houses are only a few points behind.

A quick reminder that girls in KS3 (Years 7, 8 and 9) will be doing **Hockey** after half term so please ensure they have **mouth guards and shin pads**.

Details of this year's **Rotary Club's Photography** competition are attached. The theme is "Rebuilding" and the closing date is Friday 10th November. Students can enter 3 photos and use the QR code on the attached poster to navigate to the folder to put their entries in.

The **whole school photograph** is now available to view and purchase through Tempest on the following link: <https://htmp.st/DO2018-87> Please order within the next two weeks to avoid P&P (delivery to school). For assistance please call 01736 752411 - Option 3 to place an order or Option 5 for Customer Service.

With **Year 11 Trial Examinations** starting on Monday 13th November, we have sent home timetables and revision advice to help the students prepare, which is also available on the school website. Alongside this, **Year 11 reports** went home yesterday with individual targets for each subject, so please do take some time to speak with your child about these and do ensure that they make the most of the October half term.

On Friday, after the morning singing with Mr Smith, Year 7 and 8 had a special assembly to receive their **BookBuzz** selections. This is the second year where all lower school students were presented with a book of their choice to read over the half term break; please do encourage them to make the most of this opportunity.

Looking ahead, we have the upper school **Stop the Clock Day** on Thursday 2nd November. Year 9 are off to Marwell Zoo to follow up aspects of their Biology course, whilst Years 10 and 11 are focusing on a number of personal and social educational issues around a theme of 'My World,' covering topics such as rights, diversity and the law through a series of workshops with our guest speaker, Peter Radford. This is then followed on Monday 6th November with Year 7 visiting Cheddar Gorge and Caves as part of their Geography work, and Year 8 extending their History studies at The Shire Hall and Dorset Museum in Dorchester.

Please do also remember that we have the very valuable **Academic Monitoring Day** taking place on Thursday 16th November, where we look forward to seeing you all, and early notification that the BSPTA will be running **Christmas Bingo** at the school on Friday 24th November so do save the date! We have also been asked to share the attached **Future Roots** newsletter.

We have a current vacancy for a fixed term **Teaching Assistant** so please do spread the word, closing date is Thursday 9th November.

Have a restful half term and we look forward to seeing all the students back in school on Monday 30th October.

Mr Hales

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