

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER
DORSET
DT8 3EP

Tel: 01308 862633
Absence Line: 01308 861917

Email: office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk



Ambition • Service • Kindness

HEADTEACHER
MR K HALES NPQH
DEPUTY HEAD
MR R BARNES MEd
ASSISTANT HEAD
MR K QUIGLEY

Website: www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk

17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I am sure that many of you will share our frustrations with the **lack of internet this week**, not just us but over a large area of Beaminster. We have all become so reliant on this communication superhighway that its absence has caused huge difficulties for staff, and limited our ability to maintain the usual levels of contact that we pride ourselves on. Thank you for your forbearance and for your understanding as we update all our systems over the next few days.

Please can I remind parents, carers and students, once again, that **students should NOT be ringing or messaging home on their mobile phones during the school day**; we are a mobile free site during school hours. If a student is unwell they should report to First Aid and an **adult** will contact home if required; Reception will always help if students need to contact home in an emergency. Your support in reminding students of this is much appreciated.

Our **Year 10 and 12 students** enjoyed three fantastic days at Weymouth Pavilion as part of Bankfest. This was very kindly organised by the Bank of Dreams and Nightmares in collaboration with Dorset schools, and supported by the Portland and Weymouth Towns of Culture 2025. The busy programme provided students with talks, workshops and real insight into the creative industries, politics and law, and the rich range of careers of those who make a living with words. My thanks to our friends at The Bank of Dreams and Nightmares and to Mr Haigh, Mrs Baker and Mrs Carlile for making this event possible.

Year 13 were put through their paces with a challenging week of **Trial Examinations**, and will be ready for a restful weekend! These exams provide essential experience of the formal examination environment, develop revision skills and check student understanding of key topic areas as they move into the final third of their courses.

The **Year 9 Football team** played a hugely entertaining County Cup game against Corfe Hills on Tuesday. Repeatedly taking the lead only to be clawed back, the newly formed back line was a little leaky! There were superb performances in midfield from Dylan Longden and Harry Mansfield, whilst the line up of three 'Smiths' included blistering pace from Ollie, who netted three, and a 4th goal from Will. However, it wasn't quite enough as the team went down 5-4. Mr Hobby looks forward to them showing the same determination in the forthcoming Area Cup matches.

Congratulations to Year 7, **Arlo Moss**, who was put through his paces in a 3 hour martial arts panel grading. After weeks of hard work, practice and refinement Arlo gained his deputy black belt from his Master at Matt Fiddes Martial Arts. His new belt will be presented to him in two weeks.

Further to my update around the **B5 Bus**, last week, and the lack of support from Dorset Transport, I have been meeting with First Bus to explore different ways that journeys can be structured to make them faster, safer and more agreeable for all concerned. This week, First Bus have been running trial routes for the B5 and 6A buses to look at the impact on timings and ensure that any disruption is minimised. We will send out a separate communication early next week with revised timetables for after half term. My thanks for your continued patience whilst we try to resolve this disappointing lack of oversight from Dorset Council.

Due to the ongoing interest in places at Beaminster School for September 2026, we have organised one final **Open Afternoon on Tuesday 21st October at 2.15pm** (poster attached), for anyone who was not able to attend previously; please do contact the school if you would like to book in.

Thanks to Mr Donovan and the Careers Enterprise Company, we are delighted to be able to take Years 10 and 11 to the **West Dorset Careers Fair** at The Sir John Colfox Academy next Wednesday. This is a great opportunity for students to hear from local and national organisations about the world of work, apprenticeships and a wide range of post-16 careers.

Finally, a reminder that our Governing Body is looking to recruit two new **Parent Governors**. Details of how to apply are attached and are available on the school website, or hard copies can be picked up from Reception. This is a great opportunity to be part of our school so please do consider making an application, the deadline is **Friday 24th October**.

Enjoy the final weekend of this first half-term!

Mr Hales
Headteacher

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