

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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Website: [www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)

30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your understanding with the school closure today. The late decision by Dorset Council to cancel all school transport, alongside the closure of other local schools, meant that we would be without the majority of students and a significant number of staff.

However, after months of rehearsal, and all the recent disruption, it was wonderful to see the dedication and skill of our students realised with the first performance of '**Chariots of Fire**' on Wednesday afternoon in front of Year 7 and Mountjoy pupils. This was followed by an atmospheric opening night on Thursday and I am very much looking forward to watching the final show tonight. Tickets are still available on the door, adults £6 and student/child £4. As always, my thanks to Ms Smith for providing this fabulous opportunity and to all the staff who support it, particularly Mr Jeffs and Mrs Harding.

It was a real pleasure to welcome **Year 7 parents and carers** to their first face to face subject evening on Wednesday. There was a very positive feel to the event, purposeful conversations and a well-received presentation from Ms Gibson. We really appreciated your strong attendance and the many conversations that reflected how well Year 7 have settled at Beaminster School.

On Thursday afternoon we hosted over 200 children from **Bridport and Beaminster Primary Schools** who took part in 4 X-Country races on a mild but enjoyably muddy afternoon. Congratulations to Sticklands who won the girls Year 3 and 4 race, Salway Ash who won the boys Year 3 and 4 race and Parrett and Axe who won the Year 5 and 6 races for both boys and girls. Thank you to Mr Hobby for co-ordinating and to all the parents and teachers for their support of the event, which was also supported by 20 Sports Leaders from our Years 8, 9 and 11.

The **Reading Partnership** with Beaminster St Mary's Primary School is now in full swing, with each of our 6th Form students, Rui Powell, Myah Woodley, Imogen Carstairs, Kitty Childs and Juliet Shurvinton, visiting the school to read with their paired classes. Thank you to Mrs Spencer-White and Mrs Woodrow, the Assistant Head and Literacy Lead, who report that the primary students are really enjoying their reading sessions.

Parents of students who travel on the **B4 Holywell bus route** should already be aware of the slight change of time at the start of the journey due to Wessex Water carrying out works, details are attached.

Monday sees the beginning of our third **Reading Week** for Key Stage 3 when staff will be reading from Roald Dahl's engrossing book 'Boy' at the start of each lesson. Providing students with regular exposure to spoken language has been shown to make a real difference to academic achievement as well as broadening and engaging students in rich culture.

A reminder that **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February is the closing date** for applications to be a **Parent Governor**. Details were ParentMailed on 13<sup>th</sup> January and are also available on the school website: [Governor Recruitment | beaminsterschool](http://www.beaminsterschool.gov.uk/Governor-Recruitment) Applications may be dropped in to Reception or emailed to the Clerk to Governors, Tanya Harley: [THarley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:THarley@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)

Looking ahead, The **Bridport Stage Company**, including several of our ex-students and Mrs Goodwin, are putting on Oscar Wilde's classic, 'The Importance of Being Earnest,' in early April, see attached, all money raised will go to Samaritans. **Bridport Gig Rowing Club** have got a junior Learn-to-Row course running in half term, details attached.

Finally, you will have seen earlier in the week that the government have strengthened their guidance on **mobile phones in school**. This supports our long-standing commitment that our school remains a mobile phone free environment for the whole day. **Phones must be switched off and out of sight during the school day.** If seen, or should students be using their phones anywhere on the school site, the phone will be confiscated for the day and a detention issued. We appreciate your support in sharing this expectation with your child.

I wish you all a break in weather this weekend.  
Mr Hales