

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Friday 27th January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Our third Key Stage 3 **Read Aloud Week**, *The Magician's Nephew*, proved to be a riotous romp through London and back to the wood between the worlds, where the land of Narnia is being sung into existence by the great lion, Aslan. As the world is created and animals arrive, will Digory and Polly overcome the wicked witch and reach the tree that will save Narnia? I do hope that your children can tell you!

It was wonderful to be able to share the **Year 9 mono-prints and collagraph prints** at the Sou-Sou-West gallery this week. We really appreciated the care and attention that their team had put into presenting the students' work, though do recognise that a few pieces were omitted in the first exhibition. Thank you to so many families for attending.

Our **Year 8 Netball** team overcame freezing conditions, and very cold fingers, to win two of their four games in the Area competition at Budmouth on Tuesday (photo on our Facebook page). With Year 7 and girls football matches next week, along with Year 10 Netball on Thursday and House matches (Badminton and Football) on Friday, it will be another busy sporting week.

As part of our long-term campus plan, Mrs Rychnovsky has been working with the **Sustainable You** team to increase planting around our site. After the swathes of wild flower seeds sown in Autumn, they are now undertaking some tree planting across several areas of the site to improve the environment for us all (some photos from today's planting are on our Facebook page).

On Wednesday, Mr Crossland welcomed the support of two Degree Apprentices from Leonardos, who worked with our **Engineering teams** for the day. During the morning they worked to develop their understanding of flight, teamwork and careful planning before undertaking the start of their practical work in the Technology rooms. We look forward to seeing their designs come to fruition over the next few weeks.

Thank you to our **Year 8 Parents and Carers** for making the time to meet with us on Wednesday. It was very reassuring to hold so many positive conversations and to discuss ways that we can work together to ensure good progress across the year group. As ever, please do contact your child's Tutor in the first instance should you need any support with your child's learning.

Year 10 and 11 students were able to see a screening of one of their GCSE texts, *The Crucible*, at The Electric Palace last night. Ms Smith wanted to pass on what a credit they were to the school.

On Wednesday, we sent out a link to a **very short questionnaire to all Year 7 parents and carers**, asking for feedback on your experiences and views of your child's first term with us. It only takes a few moments to complete and we would appreciate as many responses as possible by **Friday 3rd February**, thank you.

Next week our focus will be firmly on final preparations for our school play, Disney's **Beauty and the Beast**, which is now only one week away. With rehearsals all day on Sunday, technical work on Monday and a final dress rehearsal in front of Year 7 on Tuesday afternoon, it is a very busy week for staff and students. My sincere thanks to them all for the many months of commitment and we are really looking forward to enjoying the show. Tickets are selling fast so do get organised and purchase them via ParentMail if you want to attend Thursday or Friday!

As set out in the message yesterday, we will only be able to have Years 11, 12 and 13 on the school site on **Wednesday 1st February** due to the industrial action taking place by the National Education Union. However, Wednesday remains a **normal working day for all students** with lessons set online via ClassCharts. We do recognise the disruption that this causes and appreciate your understanding.

Our friends at Prout Bridge are looking for students perform at an event they are holding in March, details attached.

A final reminder of our current **staff vacancies** for a **Science Technician** (closes Tuesday 31st January) and **part-time Admin Officer** supporting SEN (closes Monday 30th January). Full details of both posts are available on the school website and Dorset Council website so do ensure that any final applications are with us by the closing dates.

Enjoy this, final, January weekend.

Mr Hales
Headteacher

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