

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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24th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Despite the creeping tiredness of this long half-term, the students have remained settled and focused with another busy week of opportunities.

After considerable planning, and the very generous support of many organisations, all of our Year 10 to 13 students were able to experience a rich and varied array of discussions with employers, training providers, colleges and universities at the **West Dorset Careers Fair** on Wednesday. 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, and the maturity of students, my thanks to Mr Donovan who made it all happen.

The first round of the **SW Dorset Cross Country** saw another excellent afternoon of athletics at Beaminster School. The Year 7 girls came 3rd overall, with Genevieve Long 4th and Olivia Spurdle 5th, with Freddie Penn 5th and Bryn Saunders 8th in the Year 7 boys. Both the Inter Boys and Girls came third, with Joe Whelan securing another fantastic 1st place, whilst there were strong performances from Ana Bibby (5th), Amelie Passmore (7th) and Harry Mansfield (4th) in the Junior races.

There was great participation and competition in the **House matches** on Monday, ably supported by our fantastic sports leaders. Mapperton were the stand-out team in the Rugby, whilst in Netball the results were evenly spread out across the year groups. Overall, **Mapperton lead** closely followed Eggardon, Lewesdon and Pilsdon with Waddon a little distant and some work to do!

There has also been a feast of **Netball** this week. The Year 9 Girls played in the area tournament with fluency, skill and real strength to win all but two matches and finish 3rd. Year 8 played their first friendly game of the season indoors against Colfox due to the weather! The team fought hard and showed some strong passages of play, but slipped behind in the second half to lose 13-8. Congratulations to Flori Elliott and India Vooght for being voted players of the match.

On the same wet and windy afternoon our **Year 8 Football team** visited Atlantic Academy for a friendly fixture. Atlantic supported their Year 8 team with some very skilful Year 7s and they proved too difficult to handle, losing 5-2 in a competitive game. A fun penalty shoot-out at the end included 3 impressive saves from Drew Paget! Do see our Facebook page for pictures and further information of all these fixtures.

Due to the ongoing interest in places at Beaminster School for September 2026, we enjoyed welcoming a further 25 families for our final Open Afternoon on Wednesday. The rain briefly paused and our senior prefects were, once again, a real credit to the school. Please do remember that the first **deadline for secondary school applications** for September 2026 is 31st October 2025.

The arrival of half-term brings lots of excitement, but also some anxiety and concerns. A reminder that we have provided all families with **free membership to FACE, a family advice organisation**. They provide a range of talks, each month, on helpful topics. The forthcoming schedule is attached and further information can be found at facefamilyadvice.co.uk click on **PARENTS** in the box at the top to view the 16 regular talks for parents.

How to Access Talks and Use the Code

- Choose a topic and click through the booking calendar to find a suitable date and time.
- At the payment stage, where it says **ADD PROMO CODE** enter the code **BM040425**. This will reduce the price from £24 to **£0**.

- Links to recordings of the talks are available for 48 hours after the session. If you cannot make a live session, book on and then email to request the recording link.

The code cannot be used for any other FACE services or shared with parents or staff from other schools. Please do not book the FREE sessions as these are for parents from schools that have not purchased the discount code and are shortened versions of the talk

Looking ahead, we will be welcoming all Year 11 Beaminster and Sir John Colfox students to our **Sixth Form Open Evening**, at the Sir John Colfox Academy from 6-8pm on Wednesday 12th November. This is a very important opportunity for students to make themselves aware of the A Level and BTEC courses that we offer by speaking to current students and staff, do look out for our online adverts.

We also have our annual **Academic Monitoring Day** on the horizon, taking place on Thursday 20th November. This is an incredibly valuable day when all students, parents and carers have a 15 minute discussion with Tutors to reflect on the start of the year and to identify ways that we can work together to improve learning. Further information will be sent out after half term.

Attached is some information we have been asked to share that may be of interest to some families:

- Beaminster Library
- Charity Ball in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support (between Dorchester and Yeovil).
- Yeovil Town half term soccer clubs for boys and girls 4-14 years. Sign up here: [Yeovil Town Football Coaching, Soccer School and After School Club](#)

Yeovil Town Football Club are also offering **reduced ticket prices for schools for Saturday 25th October**, adults £10, kids £1, up to four tickets per transaction. Visit the ticket map page on their website and enter the code **CARL10** in the voucher code box and select tickets in the open areas of the Screwfix stand.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming students back after half term on Monday 3rd November for our **Stop The Clock Day**. Year 7 and 8 will be out on their trips to Wookey Hole and Dorchester, with Year 9 having a Technology Day. Year 10 and 11 are focusing on a number of personal and social educational issues for half a day, alongside revision skills.

In the meantime, I wish you all a very enjoyable and agreeable half term break.

Mr Hales

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