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6th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

It was a real pleasure to welcome all students back to Beaminster School this morning.

The "Welcome" assemblies focused on our core values of Ambition, Service and Kindness, both for themselves and towards others, alongside our high expectations in everything that we do; this year we continue with a focus on Oracy and developing both confident speakers and readers.

As Year 7 reach the end of their first week at Beaminster School I want to thank you for your support and encouragement in making their transition so successful. I know that Mr Hobby and all the Tutors have been very impressed by the students' positive attitude, their presentation, behaviour and real willingness to want to get things right. Year 7 parents should all now have received their own ClassCharts logins and ParentMail details, thank you for your patience while our systems updated, and please do get in touch if you have any problems. Year 7 have also been sent updated details of the exciting Wise Up Team Building day next Wednesday (11th September). Students will need to come to school in their PE kit on the day, all payments are required via ParentMail by Tuesday 10th please.

Due to the large number of students at Beaminster we would very much appreciate it if you could remember to always include your child's full name and tutor group in any communication so that we can respond as quickly as possible, your child's Tutor should always be your first point of contact for any specific queries.

An important reminder also that all school uniform and equipment must be clearly and indelibly named please, it is almost impossible for us to reunite any lost items with their rightful owners otherwise.

You will also see that our site team have been working hard over the summer with improvements to our school estate. This includes the removal of the dilapidated swimming pool, which has created a wonderful space for us to consider, upgrades to LED lighting across many areas of the school, lots of repairs and maintenance and the purchase of a second, smaller, minibus for greater flexibility.

We also welcome a new Catering team, Aspens, who will be providing our school meals service from now on. They are already making a real difference, offering a tasty, varied diet across the week. Please see the attached for further information.

Looking ahead, this term's school clubs and activities will get fully under way next week and I would strongly encourage all students to get involved in at least one of these. Students should be coming home with a hard copy of the extensive list before the end of the week and a copy will also be available on the school website.

Our wonderful Beaminster School Parents and Teachers Association (BSPTA) raise significant funds and provide great support for the school with events and evenings. There are no specific commitments and they would be delighted to hear from anyone who can offer just an evening or two across the year. Further information will be shared before half-term, but anyone interested should contact their treasurer on treasurer.bspta@gmail.com

Prout Bridge are one of our key partners and offer a wonderful array of opportunities for all students. Please see the attached for further information on their evening activities.

Finally, with our year groups very full, we are already received a lot of calls regarding school places for September 2025. We will be holding three short **Open Mornings** from 9 - 10am in the **week beginning 18th September** so that prospective pupils and parents can see the school in action. The information attached has already been widely circulated to primary schools, and is also available on our school website and social media pages. Please do feel free to share the dates and spread the word to any families who may be interested – as always, students are warmly invited to attend the mornings with their parents.

We have **vacancies for 2 Teaching Assistants** to join our team, full details and the application form are available on the school website, the closing date is 26th September.

Please be aware that the B5 Crewkerne bus will not be serving the town centre of Crewkerne or Ashlands Road this afternoon, it will terminate at Lang Road / Kithill.

There will be a few tired students, and staff, after these first few days back, but I am very encouraged by the work completed and trust that you all enjoy a restful weekend.

Mr Hales

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