

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

With Year 11 now fully focusing on their forthcoming examinations, today saw the culmination of the process to choose our next senior student team from Year 10, and agree the new Year 9 sub-prefect roles. After a very competitive set of interviews, I am delighted to inform you that **Danny Stoodley** and **Felicity Hazeldine** will be Head Boy and Head Girl, with **Jacob Barnard** and **Lila Jukes** as their Deputies. Congratulations to the four of them, and well done to all those involved in a very impressive set of interviews.

I would also like to take one final opportunity to thank the current **Year 11 senior team**. They have been great role models within the school, taking on a wide-ranging number of responsibilities, including interviewing over 50 Year 9 sub-prefect applications! They have been lead with great skill by Head Boy and Head Girl, **Frank Harding** and **Eva Murless**, along with **Joey Dunlop** and **Florence Leather** as their Deputies.

Alongside this, there has been palpable excitement, and a little anxiety, as **Year 10 Work Experience** begins next week. Mr Donovan and Mrs Van Niekerk have done an incredible job to ensure that all students have placements over the next two weeks, and we are very grateful to all the employers involved for making this possible. We look forward to visiting the students and hearing about the many experiences that make Work Experience such an important part of our curriculum.

Sixty KS3 students enjoyed a stimulating Wednesday, provided by **The Smallpeice Trust and RAF**. Working in cross-age groups the students spent the day developing prototypes, researching aerodynamics, costing materials and then presenting their ideas, before making and launching their final balsa wood gliders. The students responded magnificently to the challenge and were warmly congratulated for the quality of their work by the presenters. There are photos of the day on our Facebook page

We also very much appreciated the busy evening with **Year 7 parents and carers** on Wednesday, and the opportunity to discuss student progress across the full range of subjects. As always, if there are any matters that need following up, please do speak with your child's Tutor in the first instance.

Our **Year 8 Basketball team** reached the semi-final of the South West competition, playing a very experienced team, Penryn College, who came all the way from Cornwall. After a tight first half, Penryn stepped on the gas in the third quarter and extended their lead to finish worthy winners 60-39. Our team have developed hugely this year and deserve great credit for making it so far in this highly competitive tournament. A further thank you to Craig Sorrell from Bridport Evolution Basketball who knows the boys well and took on the coaching role so Mr Hobby could referee.

It was a real pleasure to see so many students recognised for their engagement and achievements in the **Year 9 Celebration Assembly** today. This included nearly a third of the year group completing their DofE expeditions and many who have been involved in STEM activities over the past fortnight. Congratulations to them all.

The final pre-examination GCSE assessments were completed this week with students tackling their **GCSE French Speaking** with great gusto. The extended weekend then provides Year 11 with some space to prepare for their first formal examination on Thursday. As always, we will be providing ongoing support throughout the examination period, with bespoke revision and carefully guided learning from our experienced teachers. Meanwhile, I really look forward to seeing the work produced by our **Sixth Form Art students** who have three intense days to complete their A Level assessment, starting on Wednesday.

All students will be coming home with a copy of this term's **Clubs and Activities** list today, which is also available on the school website. There is the usual wide selection to choose from and all students are encouraged to take part in at least one club this summer.

The latest **cyber safety parent information** sheet, what you need to know about free speech versus hate speech, is attached, together with forthcoming dates for Forest and Farm Club.

Finally, we are still seeking a **Cleaner** to join our team. Details and application form are on available on our website, applications are required by May 14<sup>th</sup>.

It just leaves me to wish you all a very enjoyable Bank Holiday Weekend, whatever the weather!

Mr Hales

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