

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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22nd November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

The arrival of the first snow of the season, and difficult travelling conditions, certainly made for a challenging day for all of us on Thursday! We very much appreciated all your efforts to get in touch and that decisions had to be made at a local level. With the number of Consultation Evenings and School events over the coming weeks, we have identified after school on **Monday 16th December** as a catch-up time for any missed conversations; further details about this will follow next week.

However, it was a real pleasure to welcome so many of you for our **Academic Monitoring Day**. We are very aware that this requires your support in juggling commitments and are very grateful for the many positive conversations that took place at this important time of the year.

Thank you, also, for your generous support of the **BSPTA Tombola** (donations still welcome) which had a heavily-laden table by the end of the day. Do remember that we have the **Christmas Fair** in the Town Hall from 5.30pm next Friday and **Christmas Bingo** on Friday 6th December at school – see the attached poster.

Alongside the **Year 10 Rotary interviews**, The Brit Valley Rotary Club kindly support our annual **Photography competition**. The topic of 'Wonderful Water' produced a wonderful array of ideas and images which the judges had the unenviable tasks of selecting. After much cogitation, Huck Booth won the Senior category and Francesca Atkinson-Webb the Intermediate group. They will now go forward to the District Finals in January, congratulations to the both.

Year 11 will be pleased to have reached the end of the week, and the half way mark of their first set of **trial examinations**. They have shown a very mature approach and are settling well into the routines required for success next summer. The extended weekend should give them plenty of time for revision along with some space to escape and enjoy a breather.

Dorset Council have a **Targeted Youth Work Team** who support children both inside and outside of school. As part of their work they deliver Detached Youth Work, which means they actively explore places and spaces where young people may be out and about in their community. This enables them to build positive relationships and helps them to understand situations that children find challenging.

Targeted Youth Workers will be delivering Detached sessions after school in our area over the coming months and are keen to engage with young people. They can be identified by their Bright Yellow backpacks with Youth Worker written on the front and they will always have their Dorset Council ID badges on (see attached information). If you would like any further information about their work, please email: westlocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

The half-termly **Reading Week** focuses on a wonderful array of poetry chosen (and a few written) by our senior prefects. Poetry has been shown to help young people process complex emotions as well as stimulating literary elements such as characters, narrative structure, new words, and sometimes rhyming that can help children build foundational and more advanced literacy skills. My continued thanks to Miss Rollick for opening all our eyes to the power of literacy.

The **Cross Country** team are off to Budmouth for the next round of the SW competition on Monday, and our Year 12 **Netballers** have their first match of the year on Wednesday, whilst the annual, and much prized, Primary Kenway Cup takes place on Thursday.

Do remember that we have nasal spray **Flu Vaccinations** taking place on Friday 29th November, the **deadline for the online consent form is Tuesday 26th November**. Please see the ParentMail sent out on 5th November for full details including the link to the consent form, a copy of the information can also be found on the school website. Also, on Friday the BSPTA and I look forward to seeing you in the Town Hall from 5.30pm with the **Christmas Lights** being turned on at 6pm.

This week's **cyber safety information** sheet about scam emails is attached.

After the snow and cold we have storm Bert to contend with this weekend, so do make sure everything is tied down!

Mr Hales

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