

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

BEAMINSTER  
DORSET DT8 3EP

Tel: 01308 862633  
Absence Line: 01308 861917



Ambition • Service • Kindness

HEADTEACHER  
MR K HALES NPQH

DEPUTY HEADS  
MR D WITHERS NPQH  
MR R BARNES MED

Email: [office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)

Website: [www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)

7<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

It turns out that our local Melplash Church, and its quirky badminton court, are more unique than anyone thought! Badminton England have designated it the only church with a marked badminton court, so our students put it to the test for BBC News. The full story can be found here: [Melplash: The village church mixing sermons with shuttlecocks - BBC News](#)

With the days lengthening and some clear skies, it is great to have so much sport going on. Firstly, the **House Matches** were, as always, a real success with lots of participation and plenty of fierce competition in the Girls' Football and Boys' Badminton. Lewesdon have taken back the lead and are now 4 points ahead, followed narrowly by Mapperton and then Eggardon.

On Tuesday our **Year 7 Netballers** did very well down at Budmouth in some very wet and windy conditions. They played a total of 7 matches, winning against All Saints (7-0), St Mary's (3-2) and Wey Valley (4-1), drawing 1 game and losing 3. A cracking effort for their first ever tournament, finishing 4<sup>th</sup> out of 8, and a very proud Miss Lewis, as ever. The **Year 10 Netball team** competed in their Area tournament on Thursday finishing a fantastic third place and, as a result, have qualified for the Dorset County Finals. They had some big wins including 16-0 against Atlantic, 7-0 against Wey Valley and 5-0 against Colfox. A special mention to Year 9, Tilly Grave, who stepped up and absolutely held her own against some very strong Year 10s.

The **Year 7 boys** struggled in the first half of their football game against Stanchester on Wednesday, going down 5-0 at half-time. However, a re-shaped team won the second half 1-0, which Mr Hobby is taking as a draw! The **Year 10 team** played in a very similar manner against All Saints, quickly going three down before recovering in the second half to pull back to 3-2.

On the **Hockey** front, our **Year 7 and 8 team** showed real promise, putting their training into practise and winning their very first fixture against Colfox. Year 9 and 10 took an early lead against Colfox and prevented them from forming any strong attacking phases for much of the game, but lost a little focus to concede some quick goals and go 4-1 down, before rallying well at the end. Player of the match was Erin Thompson, who was picked by the opposition for her outstanding play. **Hockey club** continues after school on Thursdays and new players are always welcome.

The **GCSE Music** students in Year 10 and 11 visited Westlands entertainment centre on Wednesday morning to hear the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra musicians performing and discussing some of the set works the students learn about as part of their course. The morning was very engaging and informative and enjoyed by all, and has already inspired some composition work in class!

Future Pathways is a new Dorset Careers Hub initiative, providing careers support for parents/carers and young people. On **Wednesday 12th February**, in the first of a series of local events taking place during [National Apprenticeship Week](#), you will hear from [Dorset Cornerstone Employers](#) and sector representatives to understand the common building blocks a young person can expect to encounter during the recruitment process. Further information is attached.

As part of our continued work with **MyTime Young Carers**, I attach a letter that sets out all the information and support that is available. Please do contact us, or use the link provided, to let us know what we could do to support our Young Carers.

We are getting an increasing number of requests for **personal messages** unrelated to school to be passed on to students. Whilst we understand that this sometimes unavoidable, our staff are busy, so unless it is essential, please do ensure that you make any domestic arrangements with your child in advance outside of school hours, and thank you for your support with this.

Next week, we have 50 students heading to Bristol for **Science Live** and a number of Year 9 students are working with **Albert Goodman accountants** on their finances. We also look forward to speaking with **Year 11 parents and carers** at the consultation evening on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, as students speed towards their final set of trial examinations. Finally, Friday sees both the **6<sup>th</sup> Form New York** and **Ski trips** head off, with my thanks to all the staff involved for giving up their time to offer these amazing opportunities to our students.

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, our **Year 7 Green School Council group**, led by Darcy Noble, will be holding a bake sale to raise funds to create an allotment area and extend the meadow areas around the school. Any cake donations to sell would be most welcome and should be brought in to school on Friday, and please do encourage students to bring along a pound to purchase their Valentine bakes!

This week's cyber safety information sheet, what children need to know about online bullying, is attached.

Finally, if you are interested in hearing about amazing and **enigmatic swifts**, then Tuesday 11th February at 7.30pm in The Pavilion, Memorial Playing Fields, Beaminster is for you. Entry is free and further details are attached about this inspiring talk from Catherine Simmonds of Shaftesbury Swifts.

I do hope that you all can enjoy a restful weekend.

Mr Hales

*This ParentMail and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. Disclosing, copying or distributing the contents is strictly prohibited without prior permission from the school. If you have received this email in error, please notify [office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@beaminster.dorset.sch.uk)*