

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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Dear Parents and Carers

The blast of warm sunshine has been most welcome this week and also helped to set the perfect backdrop to our **School Open Evening** on Wednesday. It was lovely to welcome almost 100 families from 32 different schools to tour the facilities, speak with staff and students and take advantage of the many activities on offer. My thanks for the very positive feedback and complimentary emails that we have received following this busy evening, with many particularly commenting on how polite and courteous our students are, so well done to all the student helpers for being such fantastic ambassadors for our school. There are some photos on our Facebook page.

We started the week with two very busy days as our Year 11 students joined those from the Sir John Colfox Academy for their **Sixth Form Induction days**. This gives students the opportunity to meet their new classmates, Sixth Form staff from both sites, and to prepare themselves for September with the summer bridging tasks. There was a very positive vibe and we look forward to welcoming them all back after a well-deserved rest this summer.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the Sixth Form, we look forward to seeing Year 13 students for one final bash, tonight, as they celebrate the end of examinations at Symondsburry with their **6<sup>th</sup> Form Summer Ball**.

On a wonderfully sunny Thursday afternoon our feeder primaries came together for their final sporting competition of the year. The **Quadkids** event, organised by Mr Hobby, was run by 35 Sports Leaders from Beaminster School with 64 primary athletes taking part. The children jumped, threw, ran and sprinted, all to accumulate vital points for their schools. After a changing leader board all afternoon, it was congratulations to our winners, Salway Ash, who just pipped Parrett and Axe by 7 points!

There has been a real buzz around the Drama Studio with so many students participating in the **Oliver! auditions**. The quality of performances has been very high and I know that everyone is eagerly awaiting the outcomes of some difficult casting decisions – good luck to everyone!

It was also the final day of the final **Reading Week** of this year. Through our half-termly focus we have introduced students to new texts and cultures, a wide variety of poetry and stimulating articles, had a relentless focus on vocabulary and exposed our students to invigorating stories. My thanks to Miss Rollick who has organised such a rich variety of material over the year.

Our friends at the **Beaminster Festival** kindly provided two exceptional opportunities for our students today. Firstly, thirty of our students were invited to perform at St. Mary's Church this morning where the orchestra, choir and individuals entertained a very supportive crowd. Then, this afternoon, Bona-Fide, a trombone quartet, entertained all of Year 7 with their skill and musical repertoire, as well as explaining how the instruments work and are played ... and how loud they can be! Our thanks to the Committee for their generous support.

Friday was our final Charity Day of the year with students raising money for **'Wrong Trousers'** and Bristol Children's Hospital, thank you to everyone for your support, over £350 (and counting) raised so far.

Looking ahead, we have another exciting week with lots of students out of school on Tuesday participating in the **Year 10 Post-16 Day** and the **Year 9 College Day**. The **Year 11 Prom**, on Wednesday evening, is always a lovely event as parents, carers, staff and students gather for one final hurrah at Haselbury Mill.

On Thursday, at 6.30pm, we have the **Summer Music Concert**. This will, sadly, be the final swansong for **Mr Smith** and I know that many of you are looking forward to seeing the rich repertoire of talent that he has nurtured over many years. To round off a busy week we have **Sports Day**, weather permitting, on Friday.

The latest **cyber safety parent information** sheet, what parents need to know about “sexting”, is attached, together with details of this year’s “**Summer in Dorset**” programme. All sessions and activities are free of charge for students eligible for Free School Meals, details of how to register are on the poster.

Finally, do remember that it is a **Staff Training Day on Monday** and so no students will be in school.

With a plethora of sport, music, summer events, and even politics, going on this weekend, I wish you all an enjoyable end to June!

Mr Hales

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