

BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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Ambition • Service • Kindness

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10th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

The first few days of the **GCSE Examinations** are always a real challenge. However, Year 11 have shown great maturity, and, importantly, a sense of balance, to make a very productive and optimistic start to this demanding period of time. Every student will have a different way to cope with the rhythm of daily examinations, but continued contact with teaching staff and friends at school, use of the targeted revision sessions and maintaining a healthy perspective are all important aspects of this. As always, if there are any concerns please do contact your child's tutor so that we can work with you and support where needed.

An important reminder for any Year 11 students wishing to attend the **Prom** (3rd July at Haselbury Mill) that payment is required by **Friday 17th May** please, the payment item is available in ParentMail. Students attending must see Mrs Channing in the office to confirm their menu choices and seating. A payment item for Year 11s wishing to buy a **Yearbook** will be available shortly.

I must also pass on my admiration and congratulations to the **A-Level Art students** who have been working with such drive and creativity over the past three days. The quality of their work is truly outstanding and a great credit to themselves and staff. We look forward to sharing this with you all as part of the summer Art and Photography Exhibition in June.

The same can be said about our **Year 10 Work Experience** students who are all now through their first week. Despite the early anxiety of transport, clothing, lunch and first day arrangements, we have been delighted by how warmly our students have been welcomed across over 100 businesses. Staff are all really enjoying our visits to see the students in their work places, and hearing about the many wonderful opportunities they are receiving, and so I wanted to re-iterate our sincere thanks to all those involved.

On Tuesday Mr Wagstaff was at the Yeovil Athletics Arena with a talented team competing in the **West Dorset Athletics** competition. Although very early in the season, there were some outstanding performances with the following students hoping to make the County finals: Joe Whelan 1st and Henry Guppy 3rd in the Junior Boys 1500m, Val Bala 1st in Javelin and 2nd in Shot Putt, Grace Papworth 1st in Junior Girls High Jump and Oliver Smith 1st in the Year 7 Boys 100m and Long Jump. Well done and good luck to them all.

The **Primary Multi-Skills event**, on Thursday, saw over 120 pupils from across West Dorset join us for an afternoon of sport. With so many events running, Mr Hobby utilised 25 of our Year 8 and 9 Sports Leaders to help organise and manage the afternoon. The pupils developed FUNdamental skills through activities such as Rock, Paper, Scissor Hoops (for jumping) and Rivers and Fishes (throwing and catching) along with control and coordination, striking, balance and teamwork. The Sports Leaders were highly commended by all involved and made it a hugely enjoyable event.

Continuing the sporting theme, huge congratulations to **Ella Legg**, in Year 7, who competed in her first competition at the Matt Fiddes Southwest Kickboxing Championships and came away from the event with 2 Gold medals! She did a 7 kick combo as well as hand drills, coming top in both disciplines despite only taking the sport up a couple of months ago. Success clearly runs in the family as Ella's little sister, Tilly, also won 2 Silver medals, and her proud Mum won a Bronze medal at the same event. Well done to them all.

Our next **KS3 Reading Week** begins on Monday and will be looking at informational non-fiction texts linked to Mental Health Awareness week. As well as an opportunity to open up conversations about mental health, it is important that we provide students with further experience of analysing text layouts, such as headings, and the skills around information retrieval.

Do remember to check out this term's **Clubs and Activities**. 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 students received a hard copy to bring home last week and the list is also available on the school website.

The latest **cyber safety parent information** sheet, what you need to know about developing healthy sleep patterns, is attached, and a reminder that we seek a **Cleaner** to join our team. Details and the application form are on our website, applications are required by May 14th.

Finally, with the sun finally shining this week, an important reminder that all students should have a **water bottle with them every day, ideally refillable**, to keep themselves appropriately hydrated.

Enjoy some sunshine this weekend, while we can!

Mr Hales

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