



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

3rd December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 11 Mocks

Year 11 mock exams commence next week. To keep our exam venues as safe as possible we will be ventilating spaces appropriately. We advise students to be prepared and to wear warm layers during this period.

In-School Covid Testing January 2022

As you will be aware information has been shared with schools regarding the precautions and preventative measures that should be taken in light of the emergence of the new Covid variant, Omicron. All schools have been advised to test students upon their return after Christmas. The only way to manage this is to have a staggered return in January. We are therefore planning the following; students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 will be tested on Tuesday 4th January, they will then commence lessons on Wednesday 5th January. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be tested on Wednesday 5th January with lessons commencing on Thursday 6th January. I am sure you appreciate what a huge undertaking it is to test all students in this way, it will involve large numbers of staff working flat out over this period. I am sorry about the inevitable slight delay to lessons resuming. Information about how to book your son/daughter into a test slot on one of these days will be published shortly. This will, we hope ensure a safe return for all in January.

Staff Leaving

We are saying goodbye to a few staff at Christmas. Mr Oberst who teaches languages will be leaving at the end of this term. We are also saying farewell to Mr Hutchinson, our Head of Science. Mr Hutchinson has been at the school since 1990 and has made a tremendous contribution to the school, supporting generations of students in Science in this time. He is an outstanding teacher and will be missed greatly by us all.

We also say goodbye to three long standing members of support staff who have key roles in the school. Mrs Oliver who manages HR and ensures the smooth running of all matters related to staffing in the school. Mrs Botting our Bursar, who oversees a number of financial areas including school trips and Mrs Cooper our Business Manager who manages many important areas of school life and has skilfully led us through some challenging periods with regards to school funding. I am very grateful to them all for their tireless work and absolute commitment to the school. We wish them well as they step into retirement. Miss Moss will now be managing matters relating to school trips, any correspondence or communication regarding school trips should therefore be directed to her (kmoss@imberhorne.co.uk).

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Important Announcement

Finally, I have an important announcement of my own to make. I intend to retire at the end of this academic year. This means that I will finish working at the school in August 2022. At this stage I will have completed 9 years as Headteacher in addition to 5 years as Deputy Headteacher. This has been an incredibly difficult decision to make. I thoroughly enjoy my role as Headteacher and feel privileged to lead such a wonderful school. I am sure you appreciate that the role of Headteacher is all consuming, this means that my family have, over the years, made many sacrifices on my behalf. I feel that now is the time for me to invest in those who have always supported me, giving my family more of my time.

I believe the values and ethos of this school run deeply through the staff here. They care greatly about the young people we support and develop as they journey through the school. It saddens me not to see this journey completed for the students who are at the school now. Everyone though reaches the point when they must finally step away from their role. I believe now is the right time to hand the baton onto another who will help lead the school onwards and upwards. I have always been immensely proud to be the Headteacher of Imberhorne School and will never lose the sense of pride I have for being associated with such a fabulous community.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher