



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

6th June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

It was a great pleasure and a moment of immense pride to see our musical performers represent themselves so well in the Federation music performance at Oathall Community College on Monday afternoon. Students performed classics as diverse as Vivaldi and Elton John as part of a contemporary rock orchestra upwards of 150 in size. The performances showed an incredible togetherness and represented exactly why the Federation schools all believe so strongly in the importance and power of the Arts in education. A big thank you must go to Mr Williams and Mr Moorhouse for their support in giving our students this opportunity. This is the second student participation event of this year, following on from the highly successful public speaking event hosted by Imberhorne before the half term break. Next week, some of our students will visit Downlands Community School to participate in a multi-sports event, followed by Year 10 GCSE Dance students performing in a Federation Dance Show at Chequer Mead Theatre on Tuesday 17th June. I will be meeting with the Headteachers of Sackville, Downlands and Oathall later this month to review our work together this year and plan for more exciting events and opportunities for collaboration over the coming year.

We have been delighted to welcome Ms Pegden into our school community this week as she starts to take on the role of SENDCo from Mrs Price. The month of June will be a transitional one where Mrs Price will be working alongside Ms Pegden, who will get to know staff, students and families before Mrs Price departs. I am sure a number of SEND families will come into contact with Ms Pegden over the coming weeks and I know that she is very excited to start working with you.

Although Year 11 and 13 have now moved onto study leave, exams continue for both year groups, as well as targeted revision sessions as per the schedule sent out before the holiday. We were extremely proud of Year 11 in particular on their last formal day of school before the half term break - their maturity and confidence was plain for all to see as they made memories and reflected on their time at Imberhorne. I know that staff will be very sad to say farewell to those that will not be staying on with us for Sixth Form. In a previous letter I had said that our door remains open to leavers should we be able to provide support, advice and guidance and this will always be the case.

Year 9 students will also sit their end of year (and end of Key Stage) exams in the week beginning 16th June. They will have been well informed of these by their teachers, with clear advice and guidance given on the types of questions, specific skills and the knowledge that they will need to revise (as well as methods to do so). Please tell them that they need not worry about these exams. They are an opportunity to showcase their excellent work across the last three years and gain extremely valuable experience of sitting in a controlled exam environment, but we will be seeing these simply as a benchmark, giving us valuable information about how we can support students in their readiness for Key Stage 4. Year 10 mock exams will follow in the week beginning Monday 23rd June.

Imberhorne Lane

East Grinstead

West Sussex

RH19 1QY

Tel: 01342 323562

E-Mail: info@imberhorne.co.uk

www.imberhorne.co.uk



You will have seen that this half term is an extremely busy one in terms of trips, events and extra-curricular activities - a fairly full list of these were provided in my letter before the half term break. This week we hosted a Celebration Evening for students in Year 7 who were nominated by staff for individual and subject-based awards. The pride and community spirit that we have seen from them as a cohort across this year was in abundance and we look forward to the events for Years 7, 8 and 10 in the coming weeks. We are also very thankful for the Year 10 RE trip to the Buddhapadipa Temple and the Year 12 Biology trip to Wakehurst Place that took place this week. I know that staff were, as always, impressed with our students' impeccable behaviour and engagement.

There has been some recent press about proposed changes to legislation around school uniform and branded items, which it is suggested may come into force within the next two years. We would like to be forearmed with the views of our families as well as other stakeholders to enable us to be ready to make any decisions that may be necessary if this legislation is passed. I have therefore created a GoogleForm to take your feedback on our school uniform - please complete this by Friday 20th June 2025: <https://forms.gle/m6C1xdqj6BQng6qv6>.

We have this week had some contact from two very worthy local organisations, Jigsaw South-East and the East Grinstead Food Bank about some fundraising initiatives they are currently undertaking. You may have already seen our social media post about Jigsaw's Summer Star Reading Challenge that they are running as a fundraiser for their work supporting bereaved children and young people. This is an organisation that is very close to our heart at Imberhorne and who have provided our students with some excellent support over the course of the last year. Please do get involved if you can. More information can be found here: <https://www.jigsawsoutheast.org.uk/event/jigsaw-summer-star-challenge/>.

In aid of the East Grinstead Food Bank, the Strolling Saxon will also be walking 26.2 miles in Saxon Armour in and around East Grinstead on Saturday 21st June. The unfortunate reality is that there are members of our community who are reliant on the East Grinstead Food Bank, so any contributions to this event are also greatly appreciated. The GoFundMe page for the walk can be found here: <https://gofund.me/a2069422>.

A reminder we have our Year 7 Consultation Evening on Thursday of next week and this means there will be an early closure at 2.30pm. Travel arrangements for our early closure are as follows for students who catch school coaches/buses and taxis:

- School coach service **903, E579** and all taxis/minibuses are able to collect students at their relevant sites at 2.30pm.
- The following Metrobus services will also run their usual route: **E579, 636 638, 642, 643, 648, 281** at this time. Please note that the 624 service cannot operate at 2.30pm and will therefore run as a normal school day finish.
- Metrobus service 646 will run at its normal scheduled time at 3.15pm as there is not an earlier service available to Lingfield/Dormansland.

Finally, it's Thank a Teacher Day on Wednesday 18th June. We obviously believe that this extends to all school staff and that thanks should be given every day! Should you or your child wish to make the day of someone in school, you can send a free personalised e-card by following this link:



<https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher/thank-a-teacher->

[form/?es_c=3090DECE589CAA1E43122201EF5CFC51&es_cl=0A453B946A3115B839B2A036A89AC692&es_id=ph7%c2%a3o1](https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher/thank-a-teacher-form/?es_c=3090DECE589CAA1E43122201EF5CFC51&es_cl=0A453B946A3115B839B2A036A89AC692&es_id=ph7%c2%a3o1).

We will obviously be giving lots of extra thanks on this day.

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Whatford
Headteacher