

Compassion
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The cornerstones of our learning community

7th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Remembrance Day

This Sunday we will have the great pleasure of representing the school at this year's Remembrance Sunday event in East Grinstead with three of our brilliant Sixth Form students. We look forward to seeing families and friends at this most important community event.

In school we will be holding a two-minute silence on Tuesday 11/11 at 11am, delaying break by two minutes so that our whole school community can observe this. This year we will also be having a short service in our Memorial Garden at the front of our Imberhorne Lane site. This will begin at around 10.45, with the reading of names of those to be remembered, a performance of The Last Post and laying of crosses. We would like to extend the invitation to this event to our community, so should any of our families wish to attend, they are most welcome to do so. There is no need to book a space, please feel free to arrive at around 10.45 and join us.

Starting this year, we would like to gather names of those to be remembered within our community so that we can commemorate them as part of our annual service. If you have someone who has served in the Armed Forces that is special within your family and you would be happy to add their name and details to our service, our annual remembrance installation and this year's social media post, please complete the Google Form here to share their details by Sunday evening (09/11/2025).

Year 11 Parents' Evening

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers into school for our face-to-face Year 11 parents' evening on Tuesday of next week. We are trialling a hybrid approach to parents' evenings this year after feedback gathered last year. This hybrid approach was arrived at as we understand that for some families it is more convenient to have all appointments online. The strict five-minute windows also mean it runs more efficiently. We will be aiming to maintain the efficiency of timing face-to-face and hope to see as many parents and carers as possible to gather some highly valuable feedback.

Festive lunch gathering - Thursday 18th December 2025

You will have seen in my letter before the half-term break that we will be providing a festive lunch for all students this year on Thursday 18th December. To support us in doing so, please firstly complete the form here to specify any dietary requirements and allergies. If you are able to do so, we would also appreciate any donations of £3.50 in order to support the cost of this event via ParentPay. http://www.parentpay.com/

There will be no other hot food available for students to purchase on this day at either site and the Canteen will only be able to offer a limited cold food offer at break time. It is therefore advisable for students to bring extra snacks if they would usually rely on the Canteen for these on this day only. Students will come together and sit with their tutor groups for their lunch session and enjoy what is now an annual school community tradition.









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East Grinstead Museum Calendar Competition

It is with great pleasure that I am able to share with you that five of our students won the East Grinstead Museum Calendar competition and will therefore have their work on display at the museum in December. A huge congratulations to Millie Chalk, Annabel Bornati-Jones, Charlotte Edwards, Archie Cresswell and Sam Fisher. Please do pop in to see their fantastic work if you get the time next month.

East Grinstead Town Council Youth Clubs

We were pleased to hear from East Grinstead Town Council over the half-term break that they are establishing some new Youth Club offerings, one starting next Friday 14th November and the other on Thursdays. The details are listed below.

For ages 13-17 years old there will be a Friday club during term time, running from 3.30pm-5.30pm. It will take place at the Kings Centre, Pavilion Room. The cost is free but there will be a small charge for 'tuck' if students wish to purchase a snack and there is a limit of 25 spaces. For ages 10-13 there will be a Thursday club running every Thursday aside from the Christmas holidays from 6.15pm to 7.45pm at Sunnyside Barn on Dunnings Road.

I am sure these will be a welcome addition to the weekly events calendar for our community. Any enquiries should be addressed to youthclub@eastgrinstead.gov.uk.

Staff sporting success

Some of our school community will be aware that we have some very talented runners in our staff in school. One of those is the brilliant Mr Celani who completed the New York marathon last weekend in an exceptionally impressive time of 2 hours and 52 minutes. We are all astonished at Mr Celani's ongoing athletic prowess and would like to congratulate him for achieving such an incredible finishing time.

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Whatford Headteacher

Sporting and Arts Success U19 football

The Sixth Form boys travelled over to Ifield for a friendly match on Wednesday of this week. With the opposition being a new side, we decided to put the boys to the test and draw positions out of a hat. This resulted in all the boys playing out of their usual position - we even had a keeper with NO gloves.

The result was never really in doubt and early goals from Upton and Kennedy settled nerves, the goals continued to flow throughout the game, making sure everyone got a fair amount of playing time. Imberhorne won 11 - 1! Lots of positives to take away.

Goals: Hunt x 2, Upton x 2, Gibbons x 2, Georgiou, Kennedy, 1 x OG and 2 for debutant Longstaff. A massive thanks to the parents who drove the boys over.

Words by Mr Collyer