



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We are pleased to once again have the school full of students with the associated noise and bustle. The energy our students bring is invigorating. We were also pleased to finally hold our Year 11 prom! A few months after first scheduling it in late June 2021. On Wednesday 8th September we gathered over 140 students from last year's Year 11 at Lingfield Racecourse. They enjoyed themselves immensely and danced the night away. Watching them bond in this way made me realise what an important experience it was for them. The prom marks the end of a particular stage in their education and helps them look ahead to the next steps in this journey.

Welcome to our Year 7

On Monday, at the start of this week, 270 slightly nervous but excited Year 7 students began life at Imberhorne. They have made a fantastic first impression and by Friday looked very confident and comfortable as they moved around the site. I find the start of the year a moving time, there is so much change between the ages of 11 to 16, watching the Year 7 students as they gathered made me ponder their likely future challenges as they move through the school.

Bus Transport

The start of the year brings some uncertainty of course, this year there have been problems with the buses as students learn about changes to their allocation, i.e. the bus they were on last year is not necessarily the bus they are on this year. Confusion was compounded by a number of missing emails! West Sussex Transport department emailed all parents with details about their children's allocation. We have discovered that a number of these emails have gone missing, most likely into spam/junk folders. If your son or daughter travels by bus please check your emails carefully to ensure you have received this information. There have been changes including the withdrawal of the 642 service. If in doubt please check with West Sussex by calling 01243 753530.

School Calendar and Key Dates

We have been notified, somewhat belatedly, about a change to the school calendar for this academic year. An additional non-working day for schools has been allocated by the government to mark the Queen's Jubilee. West Sussex have considered the pattern of the school year in neighbouring local authorities and decided to alter the school calendar by tagging the additional day at the end of the summer term 2022. This will mean that the last day of the summer term will be Thursday 21 July with the 22 July being the start of the summer holiday. We have adjusted our calendar to reflect this change. We understand this information was shared with schools in late July within some other lengthy correspondence, it was therefore missed by ourselves and many other schools.

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Some key dates for this half term are as follows

- Year 12 Parents' Briefing Evening – Tuesday 14th September
- Year 7 Parents' Briefing Evening – Thursday 16th September
- Year 13 Parents' Briefing Evening – Tuesday 21st September
- Non-Uniform Day (raising money for Cancer Research) – Friday 24th September
- **Open Evening (12.20pm finish) – Thursday 30th September**
- **Inset day (school closed to students) – Friday 1st October**
- Year 8 & Year 9 Parents' Briefings – Wednesday 6th October
- Year 10 & Year 11 Parents' Briefings – Wednesday 13th October
- Half Term – Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October

Parents' Briefings

We intend to run briefing evenings as hybrid events. Parents can either book places for face to face presentations in school, so we can control numbers and avoid overcrowding, OR choose to watch virtual presentations. We recognise there is value in attending school and having the opportunity to talk to staff directly, we also recognise that some parents may not feel comfortable in large groups or may simply be unable to attend briefings in person.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher