



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

12th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am sending this letter on the last day of this half term. There have been numerous challenges for all of us during this period of lockdown. I do not underestimate how difficult things have been for parents trying to juggle so many different elements against the backdrop of a global pandemic and the worries you will have regarding the health and wellbeing of family and friends.

I am very grateful for your patience and support at this time as we have sought to work through many changes to what we do and how we operate. I am also grateful to my colleagues who have embraced technology to deliver online learning in the way that we have. As I am sure you appreciate, the technical knowledge and capability of staff can be quite varied. For some, the transition to online learning has therefore demanded a great deal of work and training, this is of course ongoing. I am delighted however with the positivity everyone has shown. We have discovered many great virtual tools, creating new and inventive ways to teach and engage with students remotely.

We now look ahead to a restful break and the gradual return to school for students over the next half term. We hope that greater clarity will be provided about this towards the end of February. Tuesday 9th February was Safer Internet Day. With young people spending so much time on their computers we feel it is a good idea to promote the resources and links available here. <https://www.saferinternetday.org/>. This site provides useful information for students, parents and teachers.

Praise and recognition of effort is central to school life. Over the last week or so we have been celebrating the achievements of students, sending certificates to those reaching certain 'achievement point' benchmarks. I had the pleasure of congratulating two students, by video link, who were receiving their 'Ruby' certificate for gaining over 400 achievement points, since September. I am really impressed with the effort so many are making.

You may be aware that our former student, Sam Tutty, appeared on BBC1 on Sunday evening performing in 'Musicals: The Greatest Show' now available on iPlayer. Sam sang a number from his West End musical, 'Dear Evan Hansen'. Sam is also appearing as Romeo in a filmed theatre production of 'Romeo and Juliet' being streamed online from 13th February: <https://www.romeojuliet2021.com/>. We are extremely proud of his achievements. Seeing Sam perform reminds us of what we are missing in school, life beyond lessons is such an important part of the experience students get. It will be good to once again have a school full of students bringing energy and vibrancy to our empty spaces. I hope the move towards spring heralds such a change.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
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