



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Parent Events/Evenings

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended last night's Year 13 Consultation Evening. We really appreciate your partnership so that we can work together with Year 13 students in a very busy year and ahead of their assessment week next week. A further reminder that we have the Support Your Child Through Year 11 event next Thursday 23rd October, Year 7 Meet the Tutor evening on Wednesday 5th November and Year 11 Consultation Evening on Tuesday 11th November. All of these events will be face-to-face with an early closure of 2.30pm for the Year 7 event only.

Trips

Thank you to the Sixth Form team, led very competently by Mr Moore, for the excellent trip to Sweden last week. We are so proud of how our students represent us in all extra-curricular activities and trips and this was no exception - the feedback from everyone who encountered them was glowing. Thank you also to Mr Monckton, Dr Hall, Mr Nichols and Mrs McDermott for the Year 11 Geography field trips - these are a vital part of the GCSE course, feeding directly into one of the exam papers. I know that students gained a huge amount from this. Thanks finally to Mr Williams and Mr Moorhouse for the now annual Music trip to Glyndebourne. This is such a fantastic opportunity for students to experience a world class music and performance venue. I understand that it was quite an inspirational experience and one that students will really remember.

Half Term, Halloween and Bonfire

Next Friday we break up at normal time for the Half Term break. I would like to extend my thanks to students for the way in which they have engaged with our Strive, Support, Succeed mantra this half term. They have embraced the high challenge, high support approach in the classroom and worked hard to re-establish some extremely strong connections with both each other and staff in school. It has been a pleasure for all staff to see them engaging with us even more than last year, contributing so confidently to our sense of community. I realise that there will need to be some revision for students in Key Stage 4 and 5, but please do ensure that they have proper breaks and time to pursue their interests.

On the note of Half Term, we also have Halloween and Bonfire night on the horizon. This is a time of year that creates great anxiety for some people, including some of our students. Please speak with your children about respecting people's privacy and only visiting houses decorated or sporting a pumpkin on Halloween. I realise that this is also a very obvious thing to say, but firework and fire safety are also paramount concerns for us at this time of year. We are all aware that young people can be less conscious of the dangers associated with this and more prone to risky behaviour!

Construction Department – Donations Welcome

Our GCSE Construction students make fantastic use of a wide range of materials in their practical work and are currently in need of supplies. If you have any spare bricks, tiles (wall or floor), wood, screws, nails or fixings that could be donated, we would be extremely grateful.

Please email jtaw@imberhorne.co.uk with any materials that you might have on offer. Thank you for your support.

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Parent Governor election

We recently appealed for candidates to fill a vacant Parent Governor post. As only one parent applied, they will be elected unopposed, subject to no significant issues being raised by the statutory checks. Further details of this appointment will be shared in a future letter.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 24th October

A reminder that it is the first of our non-uniform days on Friday 24th October, as mentioned in a previous letter, we have made the decision to direct all money raised from these charitable days to our minibus replacement fund. To simplify things for everyone this year, the school are asking for a single suggested contribution of £10 per student via ParentPay

<https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login> to cover all 4 non-uniform days across the school year. We thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

After School Football Coaching – Year 7 Students Only

We are delighted to be able to offer a free trial of a new after school football club for Year 7 students only starting after half term. The free trial will be on Tuesday 21st October – 3.20pm to 4.20pm, at Windmill Lane, no need to book just turn up on the day. Please see the attached flyer for more detail.

Training to teach

A reminder of my message of a few weeks ago about the routes into teaching from our partners across the local area - you may have seen from our social media channels that there are several events going on at Tanbridge and i2i for anyone interested to go and find out more:

- Tanbridge House Inspiring Future Teacher Hub (Based at Tanbridge House School in Horsham): <https://www.inspiringfutureteachers.org/tanbridge> - **please see the event advertised on our social media that is taking place on Monday 17th November from 4-5pm at Tanbridge House School.**
- I2i Teaching Partnership (based at Reigate School, with opportunities to train with a number of schools, including us): <https://teach.i2ipartnership.co.uk/i2i-teaching-partnership-training-centres-reigate-school/> - **please see the events at Reigate School and St Bede's in Redhill on the 8th and 25th November respectively on our social media.**
- Oriel ITT Partnership (based at Oriel School in Crawley, also with opportunities to train with a number of schools, including us): <https://oriel.w-sussex.sch.uk/joining-us/want-to-teach/>

We still also remain keen to provide opportunities for those who might be interested in training to be a teacher as a new or change of career, but aren't entirely sure, to come and have some experience with us in school. This typically means joining us for a day to get a flavour of secondary school teaching by observing lessons. Should you or someone you know be interested in this, please contact Nathan Booth (NBooth@imberhorne.co.uk) who can look at whether this might be possible. Mr Booth also leads on all aspects of teacher training in the school and will be very happy to speak to potential applicants about the training experience.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Matthew Whatford
Headteacher



Sporting and Arts Success

Ballet

Congratulations to Abigail Fowkes in year 7 who has been selected to perform in the English Youth Ballet production of Swan Lake in November. This is an exceptional achievement, and we are very excited to hear about Abigail's success.

U13 RUGBY

Lingfield College 20 : 20 Imberhorne

After the disappointment of losing to Sackville in the Friday Nights Lights clash, this game was about measuring how far we have come since year 7. Last year we lost to Lingfield College by 5 tries to 1, this year's fixture was a much closer one, with the year 8s taking an early 2 try lead. Lingfield hit back to tie the score, before an Imberhorne try on the half time whistle, regained our slender lead. The 2nd half was a much tighter, more physical affair, with tough tackling and great set piece work. A 4 try draw is probably a fair result and an indication that we are still on an upward trajectory.

Tries: Jack x2, Josh x1, Seb x1

Player of the match: Aster

Words by Mr Byrne

Year 8 Football

A short trip across the town for the 'El Classico' saw the year 8 boys take on Sackville, A fast start was required and the boys didn't disappoint 2 goals up within the first 8 minutes through Heavens and Jago- Hough. 2 became 3 quickly through a wonderful "Top Bins" freekick from our very own 'Leo Messi' 3 then became 4 with a lovely team goal finished off by Duvall. Some sloppy defending led to Sackville claiming a goal back just before half time. After lots of changes at half time with the game done Imber pressed on looking for more goals. 2 more goals followed late on from Wright and another for Jago- Hough which completed his hattrick to round off a comprehensive 6 -1 win leading us nicely into Wednesday's last league game. A tremendous team effort. The boys are growing into a seriously good team and playing some beautiful football.

Goals from Jago- Hough x 3, Heavens, Duvall and Wright

POTM- Zach for his tireless running, 3 assists a true team player.

Words by Mr Collyer