



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

20th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Our new video conferencing facility for parents' consultation evenings has been trialled this week with great success. There were inevitably a few technical issues, but the vast majority of appointments ran as expected. Over the coming weeks further consultation evenings are scheduled. We advise parents to have a fall-back plan if your device does not connect when participating in such meetings with your son/daughter's teachers.

Most parents have been using computers/laptops with webcams, a good alternative to this is a phone or tablet. The guidance we provide prior to booking provides information about which web browsers work best. Once the software is up and running it provides a countdown to the start of your appointment and then counts down as you approach the end. Once the allotted time is up, appointments end, unless one is conscious of the countdown it is possible to be cut off midway through talking! I am sure we will all adjust to this new way of interacting with each other.

To facilitate our consultation evenings, we have a slightly earlier finish to the school day. This enables everyone to set up the equipment needed for virtual meetings and have time to prepare. We have two more planned consultation evenings coming up, Thursday 3rd December (Year 8) and Wednesday 9th December (Year 13). School will finish at 2.30pm on both of these days.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that our next Inset Day is Friday 4th December. Students will not attend school on this date.

We have been promoting student leadership over the last few weeks. It is always important to hear the voice of students in the school, at this time it is arguably more important than ever. We had our first, virtual, student council meeting last week. The students provided feedback on a number of issues including how our Covid action plan has been working. Some of their feedback and suggestions have been shared with staff. We are now looking to recruit student leaders in the Sixth Form they have much to offer the school and should take a leading role in supporting younger members of our student council. It is always uplifting to see and hear how passionate they are about the school, sharing ideas about how things can be further developed.



Imberhorne Lane

East Grinstead

West Sussex

RH19 1QY

Tel: 01342 323562

E-Mail: info@imberhorne.co.uk

www.imberhorne.co.uk



I am delighted with the success of our new Imberhorne hoodie, over 650 were ordered in the first week and I know that a significant number have been ordered as part of the second phase. Due to the generosity of a number of Imberhorne parents, we have been gifted 20 hoodies to donate to our students in need. We are very grateful for such kind gestures. As the weather turns colder we are trying to strike an appropriate balance between adequate ventilation in rooms and ensuring that it is not so cold that students and staff struggle to work. Our priority has to be ensuring that the school is safe, this means that rooms will feel colder than normal because windows and doors are kept open. We encourage students to dress for the cold, wearing layers is generally the most effective way to stay warm.

Year 11 and Year 13 students undertook a range of assessments in the first half term to help us gauge where they are with their learning. We have been impressed with the data that has emerged. Whilst clearly there are gaps to fill, progress is not dissimilar to that in previous years, at this stage. We are now digging down to an individual level to see who will benefit from interventions and additional support. My overwhelming impression is that students are becoming increasingly focussed and gratefully taking opportunities for additional help and support. This bodes well for the coming months.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher