



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

17th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Today is the last day of this academic year and brings to a close a truly remarkable period in our life as a school. We have learnt many things about ourselves and, I hope, learnt to value things we may previously have taken for granted. A school is not a school without the hundreds of daily interactions that generate so much energy, ideas and discussion. It is this dynamic interplay that we all miss so much. I have just listened to messages from staff at the school to their departing colleagues. Fun and laughter are common ingredients in their tales, we need to feel the warmth and humanity of each other and can feel a little lost when this contact with others is removed.

Four teachers are leaving us this summer; Mrs Bonaccorsi, our Leader of Technology and Textiles specialist; Mrs O'Dell, Head of Year and English teacher, Dr Hooper, Sixth Form Futures Lead and lead teacher for vocational Science and finally Mrs Adamson, teacher of Maths. Mrs Bonaccorsi and Mrs O'Dell are both retiring. Dr Hooper is relocating and Mrs Adamson has secured a post in another school. I would like to publicly thank them for all they have done for our students and the enormous commitment they have shown the school community over the years. They will be greatly missed.

As you are aware we continue to plan for September and will of course have a busy summer ensuring that everything is ready for a full return with all the extra measures we must have in place. My thanks go to our incredible Premises team and IT team for all their work behind the scenes.

I would like to draw your attention to a few matters for September. Term starts on Friday 4th September for students in Year 7 and Year 10, both year groups will use that day to familiarise themselves with the different sites they are on. We will also embark on Sixth Form enrolment. From Monday 7th September students in Year 7 to Year 11 will all be in school. Sixth Form students undertake a mixture of induction tasks and different activities during the week prior to lessons commencing for them on Monday 14th September.

Students are expected to return in full school uniform. We have been very flexible over the last few weeks but will once again insist on high standards in September.

DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) will continue in September for students in Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9). Students must ensure they bring a reading book to school every day, reading fluently underpins everything we do. The more reading students do, the more diverse their vocabulary becomes.



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We anticipate additional traffic at both sites, particularly in the first few weeks, and request that parents take additional care at the Windmill Lane site. Ideally, students are dropped off a short distance away from the school to avoid the congestion that often arises.

Finally, we will be talking to students about our behaviour principles in September, reminding them to; Be Ready, Show Respect and Have Pride. We will be sharing our expectations with them about their conduct at this time. We are presenting this message in the form of a poster to clarify what we mean. You can access it here:

<http://www.imberhome.co.uk/sites/default/files/Return%20to%20school%20expectations%20A4%20size%20Be%20ready%20Show%20Respect%20Have%20Pride%20%28002%29.pdf>

As you would anticipate, I have spent a great deal of time sharing thoughts and ideas with others. We work as part of a small federation of schools and the help and support of my colleague Headteachers has been of great value to me. In recognition of this close relationship one of our number shared a small gift with the rest of us, a book called 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse'. It is a beautifully illustrated fable that provides many wonderful reflections on friendship and kindness. One particular statement resonated with me, it goes like this 'When the dark clouds come ...keep going. When the big things feel out of control ...focus on what you love right under your nose. This storm will pass.'

I am looking forward to September and what I hope is a slow return to normality. Recent months have been very challenging at times. We have wrestled with decisions and fretted over choices. When people ask me how we have coped during this period I tell them we have trusted our instincts. When all around us has been so uncertain we have simply tried to do what feels right, the collective thoughts and reflections of our community have helped bind us together.

I wish you all a restful summer and look forward to welcoming back our students for the new academic year in September.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown

Headteacher