

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL **IMBERHORNE SCHOOL** Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown Compassion Achievement Respect Endeavour

The cornerstones of our learning community

25<sup>th</sup> September

Dear Parents and Carers

The weather has undoubtedly changed this week, the wonderful sunshine and warmth we have experienced this September has suddenly been replaced by more inclement weather. The rather dramatic cloud bursts on Wednesday seemed to be timed for maximum disruption, catching us at lesson changeover and again at lunch. As you are aware we are trying to keep students outside as much as possible, guidance encourages us to avoid crowded corridors or hallways. Clearly when we are experiencing heavy rain students must be sheltered inside. At other times we will try and keep students outside and therefore rely on them being dressed appropriately. We are encouraging students to ensure they bring a warm coat to school over the coming weeks and months.

Whilst coats and/or warm tops will be necessary outside, once in classrooms we require students to be wearing school uniform or our school PE kit (with the Imberhorne logo). If students are wearing hoodies or other such tops they will be asked to remove them in the classroom. We are flexible about many matters but need to be clear about uniform expectations.

At the moment we still have relatively small number of students not attending school, we anticipate that this may change over the coming weeks with concerns about rising infection rates. From Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September all subjects in the school will have lessons available in Google Classroom. Students will be made aware of the various classroom codes they need and should be able to access this work. In Key Stage 3 lessons are generally organised by Year groups, i.e. Year 7 History, Year 8 History etc. In Key Stage 4 and 5 lessons are likely to be organised by teaching groups. If your son or daughter in unable to attend school because they are isolating, we ask that they follow their timetable and access the appropriate lessons through Google Classroom. If you experience any difficulties with this please contact us, in the first instance this should be your son's/daughter's Head of Year.

I have, unfortunately, been contacted on a couple of occasions in the last week by concerned parents with regards to road safety matters. They have made me aware that a small number of Imberhorne students are riding bikes in what they describe as a dangerous manner. I worry as we move towards darker mornings and wetter weather that if students are not careful they put themselves at risk. If your son or daughter rides to school, I ask that you discuss such matters with them. Whilst most are very sensible, in groups, some may be tempted to be a bit cavalier on occasions.

Finally, we have received a guidance letter from the NHS with regards to 'Test and Trace' that we are sharing through our website. The link is below for your convenience. <u>http://www.imberhorne.co.uk/sites/default/files/NHS%20letter%20to%20Parents%20and%20Carers</u> <u>%20Sept%202020.pdf</u>









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I appreciate the changes we are currently experiencing can feel very unsettling, there is understandable concern about what the next few months might hold for us all. We are working hard to prepare for different scenarios. I am mindful that things feel unsettled for families as well as for staff at the school, and must balance expectations about in-school and online learning with concern about peoples' wellbeing.

I am grateful to my colleagues for the huge efforts they are making to plan and teach lessons whilst dealing with so much change and their very real concerns about the risks they are potentially exposed to working in a busy school environment. Your ongoing support is much appreciated.

Yours faithfully Mr M Brown Headteacher