



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

1st May 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Thank you for your ongoing support at this time, we appreciate as the days and weeks go by online learning continues to challenge us. As parents I am sure there are a range of experiences. I know you worry about 'lost learning' and what will happen when your son/daughter returns to school. Rest assured whilst we continue to follow a curriculum, we know that very varied circumstances mean that some students will be just about managing to complete some work, some of the time. Our overriding priority is that students have opportunities to think, explore and share ideas to some extent and in some way. Remaining intellectually active and engaged is the key.

At the time of writing we are hearing the first tentative plans about schools returning. Whilst no firm commitment has yet been made by the Government, we, like many others, are assuming the likely return date will be after the Spring Half Term at or near the start of June. Clearly school will not immediately resume as it was before. Social distancing will continue to be enforced and this will dictate how we operate. Plenty of ideas and thoughts are being aired about this. Once we have a clearer sense of direction we will share plans with you and invite your thoughts and ideas.

Central to any future planning must be to ensure the health and safety of staff and students. In our large and diverse community, we have a number of vulnerable individuals, we must prioritise looking after them and their families. From a staffing point of view this will reduce capacity. Suggestions vary, but we might anticipate a partial return in some way that might mean a phased start for some year groups over a period of time and/or half days to ensure reduced capacity in classrooms and corridors.

Please continue to communicate with me about issues or problems you experience. I will try to resolve as many as possible, knowing where difficulties lie is important.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that there is a Bank Holiday on Friday 8th May. As previously stated, online learning can be a very intense experience for students and for staff. It is important to provide breaks and opportunities for consolidation. We will therefore not be operating online lessons on the Bank Holiday Friday.

My thoughts go out to you and your families at this time, I wish you well and look forward to a time when we can meet and talk again.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown

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