



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

The cornerstones of our learning community

23rd October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I wish the students and staff a well-deserved break over half term. Whilst there are many restrictions on our travels at the moment I am sure some families will be using this time to get away, if so I hope you have an enjoyable break. We recognise there is a great deal of tiredness in the school, everyone needs to recharge their batteries.

Looking ahead to next half term we have been planning in more detail, the action we will take if we have to send a number of students home to isolate (e.g. due to an identified positive infection).

If isolating, we expect students to follow planned lessons in Google Classroom, information about this has been shared previously. You may find the details on our website under 'Students>Online Services'. Our intention is then to quickly transfer to virtual lessons. The link here clarifies our expectations -

<http://www.imberhorne.co.uk/sites/default/files/Home%20Learning%20Guidance%202020-2021.pdf>

You will note we reference the wearing of uniform when participating in virtual lessons. We are mindful that participation in video lessons with one's peers can make students a little self-conscious about their appearance. Uniform is a great equaliser and helps reinforce the link they have with the school.

We hope, of course, that we do not need to take such action but recognise it is important to be prepared.

I would also like to flag up a few events in our calendar for November. On Thursday 12th November we are holding a virtual Sixth Form Open Evening. School will finish slightly earlier on this day, as already planned, at 2.30pm. This early finish enables staff to prepare for a number of video conferences with Year 11 students, and their parents, along with any external candidates who wish to join us. We are very proud of our Sixth Form, the results achieved over the last two years mean that we are now one of the best performing Sixth Form schools in the whole of West Sussex and certainly, the top performing Sixth Form school in the middle and north of the County. This is down to really experienced and effective subject specialists, working with an experienced and effective pastoral team. We know how to get the best from our students.

We also have our third inset (staff training) day of the year on Monday 30th November. Students are not expected in school on this date.



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We have been conducting increasing numbers of video presentations in recent weeks. We know from the companies we work with that this is being replicated everywhere. The virtual world is dominating everything at the moment. Our latest video shows some new Year 7 students completing a virtual tour of the Windmill Lane site. I am so impressed with their confidence, seven weeks since they started at the school they will happily show prospective parents what our school looks like and feels like. Our amazing students make the school a wonderful place to be. I have provided a link here for you to see what a great job they do in promoting the school to others. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLeO2vxjSiQSZERqCFH-7hAskHQ5gl8q_e

If any concerns or issues arise over the half term break, please get in touch with us. I suggest contacting your son/daughter's Head of Year and am happy to be cc'd into any such communication.

At this turbulent time, I wish you all the very best and look forward to seeing our students again when we return after the half term break on Monday 2nd November.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown

Headteacher