

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

The cornerstones of our learning community

8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been an interesting week; the frantic start has calmed somewhat and we feel as though we can plan more sensibly. We were playing 'catch-up' for the first few days as we reviewed and revised everything, thank you for your patience and support. As previously stated we understand the pressures that are placed on families at this time and want to remind you all that we are here to help and support as best we can. Please get in touch if you have any worries or concerns.

We have a small number of students currently attending school, many of whom we have initiated contact with, recognising that they need our support with their learning. For students attending school we will no longer have any canteen provision from Monday 11th January. With such small numbers we are unable to justify retaining the canteen service. Students attending school must therefore ensure they bring break and lunchtime snacks and refreshments. For students in receipt of free school meals we will be providing access codes to the parents, which can be redeemed at a supermarket of their choice for food purchases.

There have also been some changes to our bus services. From Monday 11th January the following services will run:

- The 642 school designated service will operate from Copthorne Village and Crawley Down Village in the morning and afternoon. The 291 will still operate but is a public service bus and only serves the Imberhorne Lane site.
- The 903 will operate, going via Rowfant to Turners Hill. This service can be extended to West Hoathly and Sharpthorne if required.

We have been made aware of a government initiative to support families with no fixed internet connection and therefore reliant on mobile internet access. If you think you may qualify for such support please contact our Inclusion Manager, Mrs Yates, in the first instance (myates@imberhorne.co.uk).

Our reading initiative, Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) does not lend itself to remote learning and live lessons. We will therefore stop the weekly reading cycle during this period of lockdown. We really value reading as a school and ask that you encourage your son/daughters to read for at least 20 minutes a day, at home. There is plenty of evidence to suggest that reading is very good for our wellbeing as well as enhancing our vocabulary.









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If your son/daughter is unwell and unable to participate in online lessons please use the school absence reporting line to notify us. This information will be shared with teachers so they know who not to expect but are also aware of who they may need to share any resources with.

Finally, a reminder that when teachers are conducting live lessons, via video link, they do expect students to have their cameras on, particularly at the start of the lesson. It is very difficult to introduce a topic to students when looking at a blank screen, it is also important that students feel connected to their classes. We think this is good practice. Once lessons are underway students may then turn off cameras, as appropriate.

I wish you all a relaxing weekend, if that is possible in this climate, and hope next week is a successful home learning experience for all.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown Headteacher