



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

18th February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope, once the strong winds have died down, that you are able to have an enjoyable half term break. It has been a very focussed period since Christmas and I sense that students and staff are very tired at this stage. A half term break should revitalise everyone. School resumes on **Monday 28th February**.

Accelerated Reader

On Thursday 3rd March it is World Book Day. As you are hopefully aware we prioritise reading in the school because it underpins achievement and progress across the curriculum. We frequently talk to students about their reading age, this does not always correspond with chronological age. Nationally the reading age of young people is below their chronological age. At Imberhorne it is quite possible to have students, in Key Stage 3, with reading ages that are several years apart. We have many avid readers who may have a reading age several years ahead of their actual age, whilst other students can have a reading age a few years below their actual age. In Year 11 students will sit GCSE exams that require a reading age of 15 / 16 in order to access the language and vocabulary being used. Please follow the link below to see an article written by Mrs Best, our Leader of English, about Accelerated Reader, a programme we have introduced this year in Key Stage 3 to help develop students as readers.

<http://www.imberhorne.co.uk/sites/default/files/Reading%20Feb%202022.pdf>

Year 11 Practical Assessments and Mocks

We are rapidly approaching key assessment periods in the school calendar. For Year 11 students, some subjects will be undertaking practical assessments in the coming weeks; Food Technology, Drama, Art and Dance are all undertaking or preparing students for coursework components that will contribute to their final grades. It is remarkable how quickly such activities come around. Year 11 students must therefore prepare for **mock exams (running from 4th March to 11th March)** as well as these other assessments taking place before and after their mock exams.

Year 11 Essential Information Evening

We held a very successful Year 11 Essential Information Evening on Thursday. The slides we shared are available to view here -

http://www.imberhorne.co.uk/sites/default/files/Year%2011%20EIE%20Feb%202022_0.pdf

It is important that students prepare well for exams and assessments, some very helpful advice and guidance was shared, at the briefing, by our Leaders of English, Maths and Science.



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Uniform Ordering Update

Due to organisational changes school uniform will soon only be available to order via our supplier, SWI/Banner, directly. This has the benefit that orders are processed efficiently with the supplier and then sent directly to your home address. Please see my letter attached for further information.

General

I had the pleasure of interviewing one of our ex-students for a post at the school this week. I was so pleased to hear him recount his overwhelmingly positive experiences of school, as a student a few years ago, and how these perceptions had been reinforced by his return to the school, as a prospective teacher. When you live and breathe the school on a daily basis you can sometimes lose the perspective that others have. We have received a few visitors in the last week who have all commented on how warm and friendly the school feels. That is a tribute to everyone, not least our wonderful students, some of who act as guides, but who are all encountered in and around the school by visitors. There is undoubtedly a sense that students are happy, they are overwhelmingly positive and good natured, exuding energy and enthusiasm.

Finally, Covid infection rates have now reduced to the lowest we have had in some time with a very small number across both sites. I am very pleased and hope this is a sign that we will be Covid free in the near future.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown
Headteacher