



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

**IMBERHORNE SCHOOL**

Headteacher: Mr Martin Brown

**Compassion**

**Achievement**

**Respect**

**Endeavour**

*The cornerstones of our  
learning community*

27<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We enjoyed running our 'Futures Day' for Year 11 students this week to support them with post-16 choices. We ran a series of Sixth Form taster lessons as well as providing workshops for those likely to follow more vocational courses elsewhere. We were delighted to host Albion in the Community as part of this experience and welcomed input from local colleges such as Plumpton College, via video link. We had plenty of positive feedback from the students about the event and hope it has helped them make informed decisions about future pathways.

We can confirm that exam changes in the summer will allow students and teachers to have some additional teaching time. The first GCSE exams now start in the week before half term (26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May), this is approximately one and a half weeks after exams were previously scheduled to start. On average this will provide an additional 4 – 5 lessons for each subject, whilst this will of course make some difference, it is not as much time as we had anticipated. We continue to hope greater concessions will be made by OFQUAL to ensure that final assessments/exams are fair for all students. In the meantime, it is really important that students in exam years (Year 11 and Year 13) push themselves hard when undertaking our own, internal exams and assessments. We should not discount the possibility that schools will be asked to submit grades for students next summer. The summer exams are scheduled to run until Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Results day (when students can collect their results) has also changed, A level results will be available from Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August and GCSE results from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August.

Normal lessons will run until Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May for both Year 11 and Year 13 students. After the May half term we will construct a revision timetable for students to ensure they are as well prepared as possible for their exams.

We believe that schools sit in the heart of their community and are always looking for ways we can involve students in community events and activities. This year, with all the restrictions we are experiencing, it has been a challenge to maintain such an approach. However, I am pleased to say that we are able to offer, during the festive period, a few meaningful projects, these are:

- Sixth Form Xmas Mask Making – with all proceeds to EG charity shops
- KS3 Festive Hamper Challenge – these will be delivered to local residents who need a bit of extra Christmas cheer this year
- Year 7 Lantern Making - producing lanterns for The Young Epilepsy Winter Wonderland
- Year 10 – Gift a book for W Sussex Children in Care this Christmas - wrapped book donations from Y10 students that will be delivered to children in care in and around the EG/Crawley/Horsham area

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You are aware we experienced a positive case of Covid 19 in the school earlier this week. I would like to remind everyone that communication with the school is vital, ensuring that we can respond in a timely manner and put in place any required actions. If a student tests positive for Covid 19, please contact the school directly as soon as you receive this information. Please email your son/daughter's Head of Year, also including their Head of Key Stage (Mrs Timson for KS3 – Years 7,8,9 and Mr Jones for KS4 - Years 10 and 11, the contact for Sixth Form is Mr Crees). I am also happy to be cc'd into any such communication. Between us we can respond very quickly.

We are running our Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, to ensure we can prepare appropriately we will slightly shorten the school day meaning that school finishes, for students, at 2.30pm.

A last reminder that our next inset day is a week today – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Please note students should not attend school on this day. Year 11 students commence their mock exams the following week so we wish them good luck with their preparation and revision.

I hope you have a restful weekend, we are learning how important it is, at present, to find ways to look after ourselves. Even in a busy school people can feel isolated because they are not working alongside their colleagues, as usual. These feelings can take their toll over time. We are making every effort to reach out to each other and to be as kind as we can be.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Brown  
Headteacher