



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

23rd May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

A huge congratulations to Year 11 students who have finished their formal timetable this week. Their positivity, energy and compassion for one another throughout the exams so far has been hugely admirable and we know that they will continue to work hard for their remaining exams after the half term break. Mrs Abingdon has sent out information on the revision schedule that will run after the break, and you will have seen in my letter last week that we are also offering silent study rooms for students who need a space to work in. These will both be on offer to all students in Year 11.

We wish our DofE Gold students in Year 12 the very best of luck as they embark on their practice expedition in Dartmoor this weekend. Those of you familiar with the DofE course will know about the increasing level of challenge as students take on terrains, conditions and levels of independence that test the skills that they have acquired. A huge thank you must go to Ms Hall and Mrs Jones for all of their support to prepare students, and on the expedition itself. We know that opportunities such as this cannot exist without their quite significant time and effort, often outside of normal school hours.

Immediately after the break on Monday 2nd June we have our second Federation student participation event, where Mr Williams and the Music team will take a group of students to Oathall Community College to perform. This comes after the success of the recent public speaking event and ahead of the upcoming Multi-sports event at Downlands on Friday 13th June and the Dance Show at Chequer Mead Theatre on Tuesday 17th June. We look forward to sharing more details of these excellent events with you and plan to continue to look for opportunities for student collaboration in our work with the Federation schools next academic year.

A polite reminder to parents and carers not to pick up and collect from our staff car parks, particularly at Imberhorne Lane, and to respect the no stopping markings outside Windmill Lane. This is in the interests of staff and student safety and because of the demands on parking and car park access that comes with being a split site. Staff commuting to teach between sites have recently found their access has been impacted by increased traffic in and around our car parks. If pick-ups and drop-offs can instead be on the roads around our sites, it would be very much appreciated.

Next half term we should see the initial work towards our improvements at the Windmill Lane site starting. The first phase of these is due to be completed over the summer holidays, with the aim of having new student toilets in place for September 2025. The next phase that will take place over the academic year is the replacement of some of our modular buildings that are past their intended use life. This is a bigger project and a feasibility study is currently underway to determine how this will be fulfilled. We look forward to sharing more information on this with you in the coming months. Once we have the scope of this project we will be able to determine where we might also have the resources available to make further improvements to both sites in the interests of the whole school community, which remains a top priority for the school.

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We wish all students a restful break over the half term and look forward to a busy summer term. There are a number of key events that I have listed below to highlight for your diaries - more details will follow about each in due course:

- Wednesday 4th June: Y7 Celebration Evening
- Wednesday 11th June: Y8 Celebration Evening
- Thursday 12th June: Y7 Parent Consultation Evening (online)
- Monday 16th-Friday 20th June: Y12 Mock Exams
- Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th June: Summer Stage
- Monday 23rd-Friday 27th June: Y10 Mock Exams
- Wednesday 25th June: INSET Day
- Friday 27th June: Y11 Prom
- Tuesday 1st July: Music Summer Concert
- Wednesday 2nd July: Y6 Induction Day and Evening
- Wednesday 2nd July: Y7 Futures 'Take Your Child to Work Day'
- Wednesday 2nd July: Y8 Futures Day at Imberhorne Lane
- Friday 4th July: Y13 Prom
- Monday 7th-Friday 11th July: Y10 and 12 Work Experience
- Monday 7th-Wednesday 9th July: Y9 Camp at Bewl
- Friday 11th July: Sports Day at Imberhorne Lane (KS3 only)
- Tuesday 15th July: Y10 Sixth Form mini-tasters
- Wednesday 16th July: Y10 Celebration Evening
- Thursday 17th July: Y9 Celebration Evening
- Tuesday 22nd July: School finishes for summer at 12.20pm

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Whatford
Headteacher