



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

14th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to all parents, carers, staff and students for another successful half term. The first half of the year has gone very quickly indeed, and we are extremely proud of the numerous personal, academic, artistic and sporting achievements in our school community. It is always extremely hard each week to go through the Headteacher Award nominations and pick out worthy winners because every single one is worthy of the award. We look forward to the lighter days and all of the opportunities that will follow - please encourage your children to engage as much as possible and to try to broaden their 'window of tolerance'. We will be giving the same message from our end and further raising our expectations to try to help all students to be the best they can.

In a recent letter I explained the unfortunate need to practice lockdowns in school settings. This week we undertook a successful drill at our Imberhorne Lane site and students responded brilliantly, showing great maturity in managing this. You may have seen the tragic news in Sheffield last week which highlights the need for schools to be prepared for circumstances where there is risk to staff and students on school grounds. Miss Marlborough has this week spoken about this incident in assemblies to help students to understand and process the events and all of the complexities around them.

I wanted to highlight the Free School Meals entitlement to families in our community so that everyone who is entitled to this is accessing it. You are entitled to Free School Meals for your child if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

The instructions for families to apply for this can be found here:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/#how-to-apply>.

We are also extremely happy to help with this process as I know it may feel slightly daunting to some families. If you would like our help to complete the application process, please contact Miss Moss at kmoss@imberhorne.co.uk - she will be very happy to guide you through the process. Support and advice is also available from West Sussex County Council directly at fsm@westsussex.gov.uk or 0330 222555.

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Finally, can I please request that over half term you do a check of your child's school equipment so that they have what they need for their lessons. Increasingly we are seeing students arrive at lessons without the basics and this presents a challenge, especially as we often do not have enough spares to lend out. This means that many students cannot fully participate in the lesson. There is a full list in student planners, but as a baseline students will need:

- Pen (ideally more than one and in black)
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Scientific Calculator (we can help students who are in receipt of Pupil Premium/Free School Meals with this if you need us to)
- Highlighters (KS4 and KS5)

We thank you for your ongoing support with this.

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Whatford
Headteacher

Heads of Year and Pastoral Support

Year 7	Mr D Moore, Head of Year 7 dmoore@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs R Treeby Pastoral Support, Year 7 rtreeby@imberhorne.co.uk
Year 8	Mr D Celani, Head of Year 8 dcelani@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs N O'Connor Pastoral Support, Year 8 noconnor@imberhorne.co.uk
Year 9	Mr S Hill, Head of Year 9 shill@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs S Wood Pastoral Support, Year 9 swood@imberhorne.co.uk
Year 10	Mrs J Wells, Head of Year 10 jwells@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs I Longhurst Pastoral Support, Year 10 ilonghurst@imberhorne.co.uk
Year 11	Mrs C Cook, Head of Year 11 ccook@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs M Malone Pastoral Support, Year 11 mmalone@imberhorne.co.uk
Year 12	Mr A Ibrahim, Head of Year 12 aibrahim@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs J Cooper Pastoral Support, Sixth Form jcooper2@imberhorne.co.uk
Year 13	Mr C Dunn, Head of Year 13 cdunn@imberhorne.co.uk	

Mrs T Holley, Assistant Head of Year, Key Stage 3 tholley@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs L Galloway, Assistant Head of Year, Key Stage 4 lgalloway@imberhorne.co.uk
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Ms L Tonks, Assistant SENDCo ltonks@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs L Edmundston, Lead LSA ledmundston@imberhorne.co.uk
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Safeguarding

Mr L Tighe Designated Safeguarding Lead ltighe@imberhorne.co.uk	Mr C Fallick Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead cfallick@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs E Best Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead ebest@imberhorne.co.uk
Mr G Crees Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead gcrees@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs K Abingdon Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead kabingdon@imberhorne.co.uk	
Mrs N Beeney Safeguarding Officer nbeeney@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs S Evans Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead sevans@imberhorne.co.uk	

Senior Assistant Headteachers

Mrs E Best Head of Key Stage 3 ebest@imberhorne.co.uk	Mrs K Abingdon Head of Key Stage 4 kabingdon@imberhorne.co.uk	Mr G Crees Head of Sixth Form gcrees@imberhorne.co.uk
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