



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

Compassion
Achievement
Respect
Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

24th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our parents and carers over the last week, having had so many donations of books and a significant portion of our Amazon wishlist bought for the school. These books will go an incredibly long way in replenishing and expanding our stock at both sites, ensuring that students have a fantastically diverse offer of literature to choose from. We had not anticipated such an extraordinary response, so on behalf of the staff, students and governors, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks.

Congratulations to Susie Brewer in Year 10, who has won the Under 18 category in a photography competition through Newhaven Town Council! Her winning entry of the Newhaven Harbour Lighthouse can be seen here: <https://www.ournewhaven.org.uk/topics/entertainment/public-art/the-best-of-newhaven-2024>, along with all of the other winners and runners up. These are also all on display at Newhaven Town Council offices if any friends of the school happen to find themselves on the Sussex Coast in the coming weeks.

We will be undertaking a Lockdown practice at both school sites over the coming weeks. You may remember me writing about this in my weekly letter on Friday 25th October. Lockdown practices and procedures are currently suggested as best practice in preparation for the expected introduction of Martyn's Law, which is likely to make this a duty for large public organisations. This means that we are expected to practice lockdowns so that all staff and students are familiar with how they work and so that, much like a fire drill, we can review our procedures and make necessary changes or revisions. Students managed the last drill extremely well and we feel that these practices are properly preparing for what they need to do in the unlikely event that we have to do it for real.

A few reminders for parents and carers:

- Next **Wednesday (29th Jan)** is our Futures Fair at Imberhorne Lane, which Years 8-11 will visit during the school day. It is open to Year 7 families and the wider school community after school until 4.30pm. We are very excited about the event and extremely lucky to have representation from a wide range of careers and industries.
- We have an **Inset Day next Friday (31st Jan)**, so school will be closed to students on this day.
- The Year 9 Options process is underway. Students will have the booklet and have begun the form time programme. Please do come along to the Information Evening, held at Imberhorne Lane, on **Wednesday 5th February** - this is a chance to answer all and any questions you may have and to help students cement their choices.
- Please can parents and carers dropping off at Windmill Lane ensure that they do so safely and in designated spaces. The council have recently repainted the no-stopping areas for reference, so please ensure that these are especially kept clear.

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Finally, the 2025/26 academic year feels a long way off, but we will be working on our calendar for it over the coming weeks and months, sharing this with families when it is ready in the summer term. We are, however, now in a position to confirm our **Inset days** for the year, which will be on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th September 2025** (Year 10 and Year 7 students will return to school on Friday 5th September and the rest of the school will return on Monday 8th September.)
- **Friday 28th November 2025**
- **Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th June 2026**

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Whatford
Headteacher

Sporting success

U12 RUGBY

SACKVILLE 0 : 35 IMBERHORNE

The boys were superb today, quick to rucks, great running lines, physical in contact and the intensity level was high from start to finish. What made it a real display of their rugby development, was the ability to put phases of play together, and score "proper team tries," working together to win the ball back, using the forwards to puncture holes in the defence and draw in the opposition, then shifting the ball wide, into the gaps created, at speed, never being greedy. In all honesty, Imberhorne's 3rd try was one of the best tries I have seen scored by a year 7 team. PBY

Try scorers: Jack (2), Aster (1) Seb S (3) Alfie (1)

Man of the Match: Arthur

U12 RUGBY

IMBERHORNE 35 : 10 OATHALL

Owen Farrell once remarked: "Rugby is a game that's constant. If you are not growing with it, you get left behind." And these year 7 boys continue to grow. When I look back at how they played in September, to how they are playing now, the difference is massive. They have bought into the team ethos and mentality, which is what brings success. Players that continually play together and train together, will grow and develop together, and not get left behind. Many of these boys are playing and training together at the club and in school and it is beginning to show. They read each other's game, they work hard for each other, they encourage each other – all very important ingredients for a successful side. PBY

Try scorers: Carter (3), Jack (1), Jonjo (1), Aster (1), Harry (1)

Man of the match: Carter

Words by Mr Byrne

Y11 Football

St. Paul's 4 - 3 Imberhorne (AET)

What an eventful game!

With a heavily depleted squad and no subs, we found ourselves 3-0 down within 20 minutes to a strong St Paul's team. We got through to half time just about hanging on. After a swift half time team talk it was a different Imberhorne and we dominated the 2nd half scoring 3 unanswered goals to bring it back to 3-3 and into extra time. In extra time both sides had chances to win and with only minutes left St Paul's scored the winner and held out to progress to the final.

"The best 45 minutes of football the boys played, their work rate and willingness to keep going were top class and a credit to the school"

Goals: Walton x2 and Golby. **Words by Mr Collyer**