



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

# IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

**Compassion**  
**Achievement**  
**Respect**  
**Endeavour**

*The cornerstones of our  
learning community*

7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Exam season has begun at Imberhorne, with students in Year 11 Food completing their Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) practicals, cooking some highly impressive dishes under exam conditions over the last week. The smells, as you can imagine, have been very enticing and the end products quite spectacular. A special thanks for the Food Tech team who have done such a great job of supporting students. We have also seen the final performances for Year 12 and 13 Performing Arts students before their exam next week. As you know, Year 11 will take their final round of mock exams next week, which we hope will provide them with the platform for confidence in the real things in May and June. This round will also see them receive final detailed feedback and guidance for revision and practice to address any gaps in a full exam experience before the real thing. Please encourage them to take on board as much as they can before designing a realistic revision timetable to take them through Easter and into next term.

Elsewhere, Bronze DofE students have this week completed their First Aid course to enable them to go on practice expeditions in the coming weeks. Over 100 Sixth Form students have also visited the Higher Education Conference at the University of Surrey. We also hosted local schools for the Maths Feast competition, entering two teams of Year 10 students and winning one round. There was no overall winner but students did a fantastic job of representing us against teams from Ifield Community College, Oathall Community College, Sackville School, St. Paul's Catholic College, St. Catherine's School and Riddlesdown College.

We look forward to seeing parents and carers face-to-face next week, Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March for our trial Year 8 Consultation Evening at Windmill Lane. In our previous parent/carer survey there was still a majority who favoured the online setup, but we will take further feedback from attendees at next week's event to see what your thoughts are. A reminder that school will close at 2.30pm on this day to allow for a prompt start to this event.

Travel arrangements for our early closure are as follows for students who catch school coaches/buses and taxis:

- School coach service **903, E579** and all taxis/minibuses are able to collect students at their relevant sites at 2.30pm.
- The following Metrobus services will also run their usual route: **E579, 636 638, 642, 643, 648, 281** at this time. Please note that the 624 service cannot operate at 2.30pm and will therefore run as a normal school day finish.
- Metrobus service 646 will run at its normal scheduled time at 3.15pm as there is not an earlier service available to Lingfield/Dormansland.



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You may have read in my letter before the holiday about the Imberhorne Farm development going to the planning committee on 13/2. The initial permissions to progress this project were granted. As this project progresses, the school will continue to have close contact with all stakeholders involved in its implementation in order to minimise the impact on our community. We will also keep you informed of any progression through these letters. The sports facilities that were approved as part of this first round of permissions will be delivered in the first phase of what will be a multi-year project. We are excited at the potential this offers our curriculum and the local community for use outside of school hours but don't expect to have these handed over until at least the start of the 2027/28 school year.

Finally, we plan to continue to build on our relationships and work with the local community over the coming months and years as a high priority for the school. This week we were delighted to welcome Windmill Day Nursery into our Library at the Windmill Lane site. Mrs Spencer did an excellent job of organising this visit, focusing on careers. Our visitors, who were aged 1-4 years old, went away with books, stickers and bookmarks, having had a fantastic and highly enriching experience. We look forward to working with Windmill Day Nursery and other partners for further events and activities such as this going forwards

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Whatford  
Headteacher

### **Sporting success**

#### **George Pattison - Scottish National Artistic Championships**

An enormous congratulations to George who has qualified for the British National Championships in two weeks' time.

This comes after an extraordinary weekend where George competed at the Scottish National Artistic Championships, winning gold in Parallel Bars, silver on vault, bronze on high bar and bronze in all-round. This makes George the under-14 Parallel Bar Scottish National Champion! We are extremely proud of George and his incredible achievements and look forward to hearing about the British National Championships.

### **U12 RUGBY**

#### **BOHUNT 0 : 45 IMBERHORNE**

A very impressive display from the Imberhorne year 7s who continue to develop. Ruck speed was good and the tackles strong, although we still need to work on our running lines and reading the game picture faster. What really impressed today was our commitment to defence; to keep the opposition from scoring, for a whole game, takes real physical and mental strength. The hard tackling was personified by James P who made hit, after hit, after hit, which is why he is my man of the match over the try scoring machine Seb M. James was single-handedly responsible for stopping at least 2 try scoring opportunities and his double hit at the end of the second half, in a game already won, showed his commitment to the team.

**Try scorers:** Seb M x 4, Harry x 1, Seb S x 1, Carter x 2 (3 if he hadn't mistaken the 5m line for the try line!!), Henry x 1

**Words by Mr Byrne**