



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

Compassion

Achievement

Respect

Endeavour

*The cornerstones of our
learning community*

14th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Remembrance Day

Thank you to our friends and families in the community who joined us for our Remembrance service this Tuesday at Imberhorne Lane. It is the first time that we have hosted the event in this way and we will plan to do similar every year from this point forward. We have left the Google Form open [here](#) to continue to collect names of ex-service people to be remembered every year. Please add to this any names that you would be happy to share - thank you to everyone who has already done so.

School attendance

This academic year, we have continued to focus on supporting excellent school attendance as we know that this is at the root of strong outcomes and the development of the whole student. This means we have raised our expectations around both attendance and punctuality to school and lessons. At Imberhorne School, we aspire for every student to achieve 100% attendance as far as possible; regular attendance and punctuality are vital in preparing young people for the next steps in their education, training or employment. As I am sure you know, there is a well-established link between strong attendance to school and achievement; students with attendance above 96% are almost three times more likely to secure five strong GCSEs compared to those who miss 10–15% of sessions.

Mr Fallick and I in particular would like to thank all our families for their ongoing support with improving school attendance for your children. Our school attendance now shows a highly positive three-year upward trend and that we are currently performing better than the average school nationally. We are extremely proud of the students who attend school every day and arrive to lessons on time and will continue to focus on supporting all students on this upward trajectory. Imberhorne School remains committed to working closely with families to maintain high levels of attendance and ensuring that every student has the best possible chance of feeling successful, happy and fulfilled during their time with us.

Performing Arts Performances

Next week our Sixth Form Performing Arts students will be visiting a number of our feeder primaries, performing short pieces for them. They have worked extremely hard to ready themselves for this over the course of this half term and we are extremely thankful to Mrs Coffey for her excellent work in setting this up.

Festive lunch gathering - Thursday 18th December 2025

Further to my letter last week and before the half-term break, you will know that we will be providing a festive lunch for all students this year on Thursday 18th December. To support us to do so, please firstly complete the form [here](#) to specify any dietary requirements and allergies. If you are able to do so, we would also appreciate any donations of £3.50 in order to support the cost of this event via ParentPay. <http://www.parentpay.com/>

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There will be no other food available for students to purchase on this day at either site. It is therefore advisable for students to bring in extra snacks if they would usually rely on the canteen for these on this day only. Students will come together and sit with their tutor groups for their lunch session and enjoy what will now be an annual school community tradition.

Sussex Safer Roads Partnership Roadshow - Years 7 and 11

Next week we will host the Sussex Safer Roads Partnership for two days at Windmill Lane on Wednesday and Imberhorne Lane on Thursday. This is an annual event that is targeted towards helping students to understand how to use the roads safely at the start of their independence in Year 7, before focusing on the next stages of independence that come from being a motorbike or car user after Year 11. The Year 11 input in particular can sometimes be quite profound in its impact as there are some very important messages given to students - it is worth having follow up conversations with your child after they have attended these events to help them to further process these messages.

Music donations - Fender

This week, we were extremely grateful for a generous donation received from our Imberhorne Lane neighbours and music industry royalty, Fender, who provided us with a number of speakers and two new mixing desks. These kind donations are extremely welcome and will benefit students enormously. It's important that we give our sincere thanks here to Fender for their continued generosity and support of our Music Department as this is not a one-off donation. We are extremely grateful for their partnership and the positive impact it continues to have on our young musicians.

Careers - Working Together

Our Careers Programme at Imberhorne starts in Year 7 and continues until the end of Year 13. As part of our provision, our students have many opportunities to meet and engage with professionals from all backgrounds. In order to continue to provide this enrichment to all students as they pass through the school, we ask our new parents if they can help. We recognise that our families and local community are often keen to get involved and so it is with grateful anticipation that we ask you to complete this [form](#) so that we may collate data for when such opportunities arise. Please feel free to contact lparker@imberhorne.co.uk for more information.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 21st November and Donations

A reminder that our next non-uniform day is on Friday 21st November. The generosity of donations from parents for non-uniform day alone now total an amazing £9,990, which gets us very close to being able to purchase our replacement minibuses. For those that haven't yet been able to contribute, donations can still be made via ParentPay <http://www.parentpay.com/>

Sixth Form Open Evening and Early Closure

It is our Sixth Form Open Evening next week on Thursday 20th November and the school day will finish for all students at 2.30pm. Registration that morning will be cancelled and all lessons on both sites will start at 8.40am. The school day will therefore finish for all students at 2.30pm.

Travel arrangements have been made 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 236 service will run at its normal scheduled time at 3.15pm as there is not an earlier service available to Lingfield/Dormansland.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Matthew Whatford
Headteacher

Sporting and Arts Success

Pistol Shooting - Zac Webber, Y13

Over half term Zac competed in two big pistol shooting competitions.

The first, was the regional South East Schools 10m shoot where he achieved a silver medal for Imberhorne School, earning him a place in the national finals in February.

Zac then travelled to Wales for 4 days to compete in the Welsh International Airgun Championships. This is a highly competitive event and although he made it to the finals, he just missed out on any individual placings.

Zac did, however, achieve a Silver in the mixed pairs, his first medal at this event!

He is now preparing to compete at RIAC in Luxembourg in December.

Well done, Zac!

Imberhorne Equestrian Team

Huge congratulations to Charlotte Clemente, Heidi May Wickington, Holly Deloughery and Morgan Baker after they claimed 1st place in the NSEA showjumping class, meaning that they qualify for the regional championships at Hickstead in May!

ITF Taekwondo Championships – Oscar Bennett-Blanco

Oscar Bennett-Blanco in 10Q won silver in the United Kingdom ITF Taekwondo Championships last week. Oscar is second best in his age group in the whole country, an amazing achievement.