



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

**IMBERHORNE SCHOOL**

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

**Compassion**

**Achievement**

**Respect**

**Endeavour**

*The cornerstones of our  
learning community*

5<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Christmas Concert**

Next Tuesday (9/12) will be our Christmas Concert on the Imberhorne Lane site, taking place from 6-8pm. It will be held in the Di Gasson studio and there will be a small selection of festive treats and refreshments available to purchase. Please follow the link [here](#) if you would like to get some tickets - we look forward to celebrating the festive season and our brilliant musicians with you.

### **Sixth Form**

The very best of luck to our students in Year 13 who have been finalising and submitting UCAS applications in the past few weeks. We are excited on your behalf and look forward to hearing about interviews and offers. We are also extremely proud of all of our early applicants who have been successful in securing interviews for Medicine and Oxbridge. Many of these are taking place in the weeks before the festive break and students have been preparing hard for this, with some highly targeted practice interview support which has seen them flourish.

### **Year 11**

We have all been extremely proud of the way in which Year 11 have approached their mock exams on this most wet and windy week. They have shown great maturity in their conduct, application and revision. Our invigilators have commented, in particular, about this and how impressed they have been. Much work will go into marking these in the final weeks of this term, before a comprehensive feedback cycle to help students to focus on their individual gaps. There will also be some group changes for some students in Maths in January to ensure that all students are supported and challenged in the right way - Mr Burch and Mr Cresswell will be in contact with anyone who is affected by these changes.

Mrs Abingdon and Ms Marlborough will also be beginning the process of tutor group reorganisation to commence after the break. This was outlined in the Support Your Child Through Year 11 event and in the Year 11-focused newsletters. Three out of the five weekly sessions will be used as focused intervention time, known in school as 'regeneration', each week, supporting students in response to any gaps and areas for development identified in their current mock exams. This was a highly successful initiative that we introduced for the first time last academic year, with clear and immediate impact for last year's Year 11 cohort.

### **Local Government Reorganisation**

West Sussex County Council have opened up a consultation on the proposal to reorganise local government based on central government's aim to replace the current county, district and borough councils with a new unitary council or councils responsible for all local services. As a consequence, they are keen to capture the voice of as many stakeholders so that these can be taken into consideration throughout this process. The overview of the proposals and the consultation form can be found [here](#). By clicking on the link you will also be able to view the proposed changes to Brighton & Hove and East Sussex Councils, some of which, if approved by the central government, could see changes to the shape and organisation of West Sussex.

### **Army Cadet Awards**



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We were thrilled to hear of Holly Carr in Year 10's awards for her actions to take charge of the care for a young person who had become gravely unwell. Holly used her First Aid training and leadership skills to ensure that he was put in the recovery position, before administering CPR until the arrival of an ambulance. Holly's bravery, quick thinking and leadership were recognised and she was awarded the League of Mercy's Distinguished Community Service Medal for Cadets and the ACCT UK National Praiseworthy Action Certificate. Everyone at Imberhorne School is immensely proud of Holly.

#### **House of Lords Visitor - Lord Colgrain**

Thank you to Mrs Jones, who has organised for Lord Colgrain DL, a Member of the House of Lords, to visit the school next Friday. There will be an audience of around 100 students invited to the event, where they will be given a presentation about the work of the Lords, followed by a Q&A session. We are very excited to welcome Lord Colgrain into Imberhorne School and are sure that students will gain a huge amount from this experience.

#### **Greenaway Foundation Christmas Wishes**

A reminder of the Greenaway Foundation Christmas Wishes appeal that I wrote about in my letter last week. This annual campaign aims to provide gifts to children and young people across the area where they might otherwise not receive one. Staff have been generously committing to buying gifts for this appeal and if any of our families also feel that this is something that they might also be able to support, please go to the Greenaway Foundation website [here](#), where you can make a donation. Thank you in advance for your kindness at this time of year.

#### **Festive lunch gathering - Thursday 18th December 2025**

You will have seen my letter of this week about the change to our festive lunch plans on Thursday 18th December. We will now be offering a more traditional lunch and ice cream to students who have signed up via ParentPay. The deadline to sign up or cancel your child's lunch is the end of the day today, Friday 5th December, and must be done via ParentPay. Anyone not purchasing lunch will be able to eat their packed lunch with their tutor group, with additional snacks provided for every student.

***A reminder that there will be no other food available for students to purchase on this day at either site.***

Yours faithfully

Mr Matthew Whatford  
Headteacher

#### **Sporting and Arts Success**

##### **Climbing**

Georgie Sloan in Year 9 has recently competed in the Youth Climbing Series, which started in September with the 4 regional rounds. The top 3 from each region then attend the National Final. Georgie qualified 2nd in the region and competed in the National final last weekend, finishing 6th out of 30 girls in her age category from all over the country.

We are immensely proud of Georgie and her excellent achievements!