



WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

IMBERHORNE SCHOOL

Headteacher: Matthew Whatford

19th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Heatwave next week

You may have seen that we are likely to have temperatures of around 30 degrees at points throughout the week next week. Our uniform policy allows for black, tailored shorts, but we will also relax this just for next week to allow students to wear their PE shorts. Please send your child to school with a refillable water bottle and ensure that they have applied sunscreen - a hat is also advisable. We will be advising them to remain out of direct sunlight as far as possible.

Exams

Congratulations to Years 11 and 13 who completed their last exams this week! A long, restful and well-deserved summer break lies ahead. We are extremely proud of all students in these year groups for the extraordinary hard work and resilience they have shown.

Exams season has not ended for other year groups:

- Year 12, who have been sitting their mock exams this week. Well done to them for all of their efforts.
- Year 10 will also sit the majority of their mock exams next week, having started these today. The learning from these will be used to focus them and to target teaching as we move towards Year 11.
- Year 9 will be sitting theirs at Imberhorne Lane, alongside transition activities on Thursday 2nd, Friday 3rd and Monday 6th July.

Social Media Ban for under-16s

Last week I wrote to you about the government's evidence review around screen time, which is taking place over the coming weeks and will seek to provide clear guidance to families. On Monday of this week we had an announcement over the planned ban of social media for under-16s. This comes after the legislation introduced in Australia earlier on this year and with 85% of parents and carers responding to the government consultation stating that they feel the risks to their children outweigh the benefits.

As a school, we would be inclined to agree that anything that protects young people from harm in the online world is ultimately positive but also recognise that the implementation of this approach will be challenging for families. The transition from social media for young people who are frequent users will undoubtedly be difficult, and we will provide any further advice and guidance that is sent through to us for parents and carers who are working with their children. According to the news this week, we expect the legislation to be passed later this year, and to come into force from next spring, which will be after the ban on phones in school, due to come into force in September.

Library Wishlist

Reading is an important part of students' learning, wellbeing, and personal development. To help us continue growing our library and provide a wide range of engaging books for all students, we have created an Amazon Wishlist of titles we would love to add to our collection. Amazon Wishlist: <https://amzn.eu/03E4lDVU>.



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Once an item is added to your basket and you proceed to checkout, the delivery address '**Imberhome Library**' will automatically appear as a delivery option. Please select this address to ensure your donation is sent directly to the school.

The Wishlist can also be shared with friends and family who may wish to support our library. Thank you for your generosity and support. Every donation helps us to provide more opportunities for students to discover the joy of reading.

Imberlink

As you may be aware the school operates a charity account called Imberlink. Contributions into the account, mainly through the School Fund, are utilised to support many school enrichment activities that enable our students to develop and thrive. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission and overseen by Trustees who are also Governors at the school.

In accordance with requirements, an annual report from the Trustees will be presented in an AGM which will be held virtually on the 6 July 2026 at 19:00. If you would like to attend this virtual meeting please email dclements@imberhome.co.uk with your details so that the link to the meeting can be shared.

Pick up and drop off

A polite reminder to parents and carers that **driving onto our site to pick up or drop off your child is not permitted**. This is so as to ensure the safety of students who are arriving and leaving as pedestrians and for the significant number of students who get school buses. It also makes it more challenging for staff who need to commute between sites. We have had to speak to some families politely about this and have not had a polite response back - this is not fair nor reasonable.

It is with regret that I need to write about this, but there has been an increase in parents and carers driving onto our site more recently, especially at Imberhome Lane. In our bus bay, this increases risk to students especially, but in the main car parking area, this often creates blockages, as well as risks. We understand that some families live a distance away from school and that this will necessitate drop offs and pick ups from time to time, but would respectfully request that this is instead done at the nearby public car parks on Imberhome Lane.

We also receive regular concerns from residents and our primary school colleagues on Windmill Lane about safe driving and parking and the risks this creates to pedestrians and students getting on buses. Please can I remind parents and carers not to park in our bus bays nor pick up/drop off in no stopping areas (clearly marked with yellow zig-zag lines). Where possible, it is requested that this instead takes place away from Windmill Lane, with students walking the final steps into school on foot. We appreciate your support with this matter.

Hindleap Warren - Summer Adventure Camp

Hindleap Warren have asked that I share the following with our families:

This summer, we're excited to be running Hindleap Adventure Camp throughout the school holidays, offering exciting outdoor adventure days for children aged 8–12.

The camps run from Monday 20th July to Friday 28th August 2026, 8:30am to 5:30pm, at a cost of £40 per day (sibling discounts available).

Please find our full schedule of activities. at: www.hindleapwarren.org/families/holiday-camps

Updated list of dates for the half term ahead

- Mon 22nd-Fri 26th June: Year 10 Mock Exam Week
- Mon 22nd June: Year 12 Personal Statement and CV Writing Workshops
- Tues 23rd June: Year 12 Sports Day



- Tues 23rd, Thurs 24th and Fri 26th June: Year 7 Geography Field Trips
- Weds 24th June: Music Summer Concert and Year 12 Criminology Trip to The Old Bailey
- Thurs 25th June: Sixth Form Transition Evening
- Fri 26th June: Year 11 Prom
- Mon 29th and Tues 30th June: INSET DAY
- Weds 1st July: Year 6 Induction Day and Evening, Year 12 Art and Photography RA Trip, Year 12 Volunteering in the Community, Year 8 Futures Day (At Imberhorne Lane), Year 7 Take Your Child to Work Day
- Weds 1st July-Fri 3rd July: Year 10 MFL Orals and Year 12 Geography Field Trips
- Thurs 2nd, Fri 3rd and Mon 6th July: Year 9 Assessments and Induction at IL
- Thurs 2nd July: Year 10 Work Experience Preparation Day, Year 13 Prom. Year 7 STEM Theatre Performance
- Mon 6th-Fri 10th July: Years 10 and 12 Work Experience, Year 12 Sweden Trip
- Tues 7th July: Key Stage Three Sports Day at Imberhorne Lane
- Weds 8th-Fri 10th July: Year 9 Camp
- Weds 8th July: Year 8 Hands On History Experience
- Thurs 9th July: Year 7 Hands On History Experience, Art and Photography Exhibition at Imberhorne Lane
- Mon 13th July: Year 10 CV and Letter Writing Workshops
- Weds 15th July: Year 10 Celebration Evening (by invite)
- Thurs 16th July: Year 10 Futures Mock Interview Day, Year 9 Celebration Evening (all families invited)
- Tues 21st July: Year 10 Sixth Form Taster or Challenge Troop Day, Year 12 Volunteering Day
- Weds 22nd July: Last day of term - finish at 12.30pm

Yours sincerely

Mr Matthew Whatford
Headteacher

Student Success

National Psychology Competition

We are incredibly proud of Neeve, Melina, Lily, and Holly, who qualified for the national Psychology competition for schools held at Royal Holloway, University of London. Competing against 60 other teams from across the country, they created a video exploring the question, *"How can psychology help us build a healthier and stronger community?"* and designed a corresponding poster, which they presented to the judges.

Drawing on findings from psychological research, theories, and approaches, the team demonstrated their ability to apply psychological concepts in innovative and original ways. The competition provided an excellent opportunity for them to showcase their knowledge, creativity, and understanding of Psychology.

Congratulations to all four students on this fantastic achievement and for representing Imberhorne so well.

Junior Physics Challenge

In May, fifty-three Year 10 students took part in the British Physics Olympiad Year 10 Junior Physics Challenge. This is an online competition open to all Year 10 students in the country.

The students completed two 25-minute quizzes on Physics topics – some that they will have studied, some new to them and others on general knowledge.



Four students achieved a Gold award, twenty-eight a Silver award and the remaining students a Bronze award.

Well done to our Gold certificate winners: Ben, Louis, Oscar and Adi, and to all those that took part.

Year 8 Cricket

Our Year 8 cricket team arrived to play Oathall in the Year 8 district cup match on Thursday afternoon. Having had warm weather in the morning, we arrived at Oathall as it started to rain. The rain continued throughout the match and made for a soggy scorebook to go along with our loss.

Imberhorne opened the batting and looked to have started well with some nice shots coming from Rueben in the first over (5 runs). Sadly, in the second over two wickets fell quickly and the wickets continued to tumble through the innings with a wicket lost every other over. To be fair, Oathall had some excellent bowlers and added to the wet wicket which meant the ball skidded through quite quickly, Imberhorne struggled to find runs or build up a strong partnership. Cody top scored with seven runs. We were eventually bowled out for 42 runs.

Oathall started their batting with an explosion of fours from their opening batsman and already had 28 runs that they needed after two overs despite getting a breakthrough wicket by Jacob. Sahil removed their best batter with his first ball and took a second wicket in his second over. Reuben also managed to get a wicket but by then the damage was done and Oathall completed a seven-wicket victory.

We move on and look forward to our next match soon.

Best batter – Cody

Best Bowler – Sahil

Words by Mr Celani

Year 9 Cricket

Having beaten The Forest School in the first round of the district cup, the Year 9 cricket team played the quarter final match against Oathall on Tuesday this week. Imberhorne started by bowling against the Oathall opening batters and quickly started picking up wickets with three wickets coming in the first four overs for a total of 5 runs. The team decided to rotate the bowling attack and nearly everyone got two overs under their belts. It was pleasing to see good bowling in action and six of our bowlers came away with at least one wicket – the standout bowler was Curtis with two maiden overs and a wicket to his name. Joshua, on his debut for the school, bowled three overs and got his wicket that was well deserved. A tight field also restricted Oathall to few chances with the bat to score runs and their innings finished with 49 runs after 16 overs.

The batting order, much like the bowling, was rotated and players who have had less batting time were promoted higher up the order. A quick start by Dan and Bertie saw some T20 style shots being played with each of them scoring a boundary. They didn't last long, so Joshua and Lewis steadied the ship scoring seven runs between them followed by a nice partnership with Harry (6) and Tommy (10) scoring 16 runs. This left Henry to score the remaining four runs to win the match.

Well done to everyone who played!

Bowler of the match – Curtis

Batter of the match – Tommy

Words by Mr Celani