

Newsletter

Friday 18th October 2024 Issue 07



Passmores
ACADEMY



Photograph by: Mia Wilson
Year 10

Dear Parents/Carers

Yesterday we welcomed the last of our prospective families for tours as the deadline for making a secondary school decision looms. We have been blown away by the interest that we have seen each Thursday during this half term, with numbers increasing week on week. It has been delightful to meet such an array of families, including current parents and new. Yesterday alone, we toured over 90 people. Hopefully, these are positive signs that we will continue to be oversubscribed next year.

Being able to share what it is like to be at Passmores during the school day is such a privilege. We visit every classroom, discuss every aspect of school life and the families get to see first-hand the calm, focused lessons. And of course, just as important, the transition between lessons when the whole school is moving. We know that there are instances when things can be less than perfect, but on the whole, we have amazing young people who showcase our school in the most positive of ways.

Talking of showcasing talents, there are some wonderful examples of student achievements in the newsletter this week. Please feel free to share any accomplishments that may be happening outside of school as well, we don't always get to hear about them. Email: k.stearn@passmoresacademy.com

Natalie Christie

Principal of Passmores Academy

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TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

Friday 11th October – Thursday 17th 2024

Howe, Tate	Year 7	35
Fernandes, Roman	Year 7	32
Johnson, Lilly	Year 7	32
Lawrence, Ethan	Year 7	32
Leeson, Alfie	Year 7	32
Adams, Mia	Year 7	30
Edwards, Joshua	Year 7	30
Root, Riley	Year 7	30
Charles, Kai	Year 7	29
Laurino, Thomas	Year 7	29

Coe, Mason	Year 9	39
Nicholls, Melissa	Year 9	35
Essafri, Nora	Year 9	33
Quick, Teddy	Year 9	32
Burch, Megan	Year 9	32
Broughton, Marnie	Year 9	31
Brown, Charlie	Year 9	31
Burgess, Shay	Year 9	31
Frimpong, Abena	Year 9	30
Njie, Kasseem	Year 9	29

Mahon, Katie	Year 11	28
Wix, Sam	Year 11	28
Bull, Ilya	Year 11	27
Dixon, Quincy	Year 11	25
Vetori, Rileigh	Year 11	25
Horey, Kelsey	Year 11	24
Roffey, Alice	Year 11	24
Holmes, Katie	Year 11	23
Cobie, Izzy	Year 11	22
Selby, Mimi	Year 11	22
Webb, Macey	Year 11	22
Kelso, Bryony	Year 11	22
McDonald, Bobby	Year 11	22

Klarzak, Leon	Year 8	33
Bartram, Mason	Year 8	29
Cairns, Frankie	Year 8	27
Mfon, Makiah	Year 8	27
Wild, Gracie	Year 8	26
Brandle, Aiden	Year 8	24
Barzey, Joseph	Year 8	23
Costantinou, Daniella	Year 8	23
Jackson, Annie	Year 8	23
Surtees, Amelia	Year 8	23

Dolling, Tommy	Year 10	44
Stevic, Lana	Year 10	34
White, Beth	Year 10	31
Reid, Maisie	Year 10	30
Foster-Gaish, Lily-May	Year 10	30
Vrabie, Nick	Year 10	30
Yordanov, Teodosi	Year 10	29
Goward-Johnson, Darcie	Year 10	28
Mahmuud, Hassan	Year 10	28
Dack, Benjamin	Year 10	27
Egbo, Francis	Year 10	27
Mortimer, Evan	Year 10	27

Year Group Attendance (7th to 11th October 2024)

Year 7	94.7%
Year 8	91.18%
Year 9	89.46%
Year 10	87.9%
Year 11	84.48%
All Students	89.61%

PASTORAL UPDATE

Thought for the Week

This week's Thought for the Week focused on **Allergy Awareness**. Students learned about the seriousness of allergies, understanding that while some may be minor, others can be life-threatening. They explored how important it is to take allergies seriously, to know how to help someone with a severe allergic reaction, and to show kindness and respect towards people living with allergies. Students discussed how allergies can cause feelings of fear, frustration, or embarrassment and reflected on how we can be supportive friends by creating an inclusive and understanding environment for everyone.

In the News

In the News this week continued our exploration of **Black History Month**, focusing on the theme of "**Reclaiming Narratives**." Students delved into the importance of learning Black history and celebrating Black voices that have historically been marginalised. They explored ways to celebrate Black History Month not just in October but throughout the year and discussed why it is important to hear a variety of stories, particularly from those whose voices are often silenced.

Other News

It was a busy and productive week, especially for **Year 11** students as they gear up for their **mock exams**. They learned valuable strategies for effective revision, improving memory, and how to create a strong revision timetable, which they then had a go at making themselves. On Thursday, they also had a visit from **Stansted Airport College** to explore more post-school options.

On Monday, **Year 7** students enjoyed an assembly by **Good News for Everyone**, and on Tuesday, **Year 9** students were introduced to the **Duke of Edinburgh Award** in their assembly. Year 7 also received some timely advice on **Halloween and fireworks safety** on Friday.

In addition to these events, we hosted a **maths challenge House event** and **Year 9 netball and rugby competitions** as part of our House activities. It was also **Golden Ticket Week**, where we celebrated students who have had a positive and impactful start to the new school year!

Looking Ahead to Next Week

As we head into the final week before half-term, we have a few exciting events to look forward to:

- **Thought for the Week** will focus on the **Young Essex Assembly**, where students will learn about this important platform for youth voices.

- **In the News** will offer guidance on how students can stay safe during **autumn festivities**, especially around Halloween and Bonfire Night.

- **Year 11** will reflect on their **careers programme** from this half-term and where they stand in terms of college applications. They will also have an assembly from **Epping St John's Sixth Form** to explore more educational opportunities.

- Finally, we will wrap up the term with **end-of-term House assemblies** and a **non-uniform day** for the winning House in each year group.

Let's finish the half-term strong!

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Charlie Mahon Joshua Mimms Lilly Hogg Jessie Powell Thomas Laurino	Mason Bartram Fin Hodson Jayden Holloway Frankie Cairns Shay Burgess	Charlie Daltrey Frankie Boland Layton Parlour Lilly White Freddie Quigley	Logan Meredith Harvey Hymas Michael Dewberry Benjamin Dack George Howell	Tasheeka Jackson Ruby Layer Luke Batt Senan Phelan Ben Algar

SUBJECT/INFORMATION UPDATES

3D DESIGN TRIP: Harry Potter Studio Tour... A Magical Experience!

On Monday, our Year 11 GCSE 3D Design students embarked on an unforgettable trip to the Harry Potter Studio as part of their coursework on prop design. The day was filled with excitement, learning, and plenty of creative inspiration, making it a truly magical experience for everyone involved!

An exclusive lesson was delivered by the studio's expert design team, where students learned about the intricate world of prop creation in the Harry Potter films. Gaining insight into the creativity and craftsmanship that goes into bringing the wizarding world to life.

Following the lesson, students had the opportunity to explore the studio and discover the behind-the-scenes magic of the film series. From iconic props like the Marauder's Map to fantastical creatures and spellbinding costumes, students were able to see up close how designs evolve from concept to finished product. Armed with cameras and notebooks, they captured ideas and details that will inspire their upcoming coursework, where they will design and create their own props based on a fusion of different film styles

The students left with plenty of new ideas for their GCSE projects. It was fantastic to see their passion and creativity ignited by the trip, and we can't wait to see how they'll incorporate their new knowledge into their work.



DRAMA – Operation Mincemeat



On Tuesday 15th October the drama department took their Year 10 & 11 GCSE students to see Operation Mincemeat at The Fortune Theatre in London's West End.

This smash of a show has been getting repeated extensions on its West End run because it is so popular, and we were delighted to be able to take our learners along to enjoy the show.

This musical is based on true events in World War II – Operation Mincemeat was a covert operation intended to get disinformation to the Nazis, so they pulled their troops out of Sicily and redeployed them to Sardinia in order to make way for Allied Forces to enter Europe from the south.

The cast of 5 actors did a sterling job of telling this story in a hilarious and entertaining way. Students saw so many wonderful examples of good theatre practise, including use of multirole, semiotic use of props, costume and set, brilliant characterisation and a skilled rapport with the audience. All deftly delivered by an energetic cast that sang, danced and rapped their way through the story. We saw some amazingly fast costume changes, including several that take place on stage. Everyone was moved by Hester's song about her letter to her lover that never returned from battle and the show artfully navigated highs and lows for the audience, delivering poignancy and much humour as well.

Year 11 drama learners will be writing about this show in their mock exam, coming up in the next few weeks, whilst Year 10 will use this experience to start learning how to compose their exam evaluation essays prior to their Year 10 exam later in the year. They will all have plenty to say!

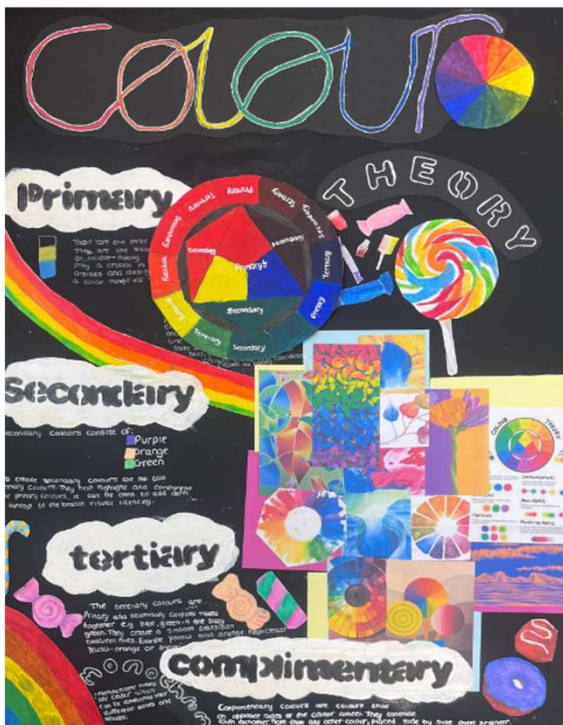


In other drama news... Year 7 & 8 drama club is going well – members are now in their performance groups, and some have started rehearsing their short plays.

Year 9, 10 & 11 drama club is in a similar position, with two plays chosen for rehearsal and performance. We will be holding a drama showcase event in January where you will all be invited along to come and watch these performances and see how wonderful our actors are! This will be a lovely warm up before we get started on our usual big production for the end of the academic year.

We'll be back with another update after our next big trip to Harlow Playhouse's pantomime "Dick Whittington" in December. Letters going out to all Year 7 and 8 students this week!

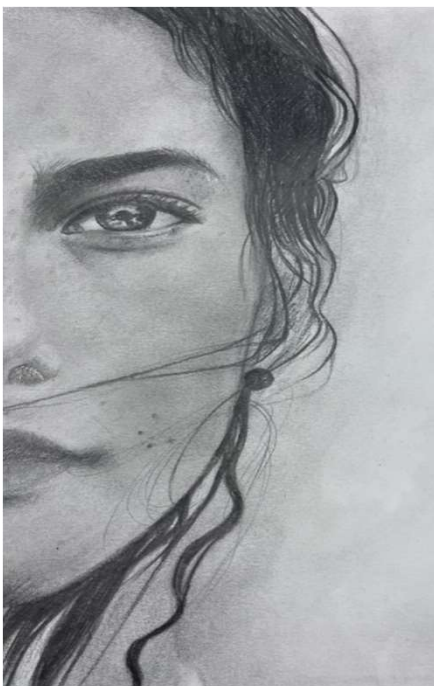
This week our very talented year 10 art students completed their colour theory boards. Two exceptional boards demonstrated great painting skills and understanding of colour theory. Pop of colour at its best. Well done girls!



Artist: Layla Curtis – Year 10



Artist: Ola Akinyeye – Year 10

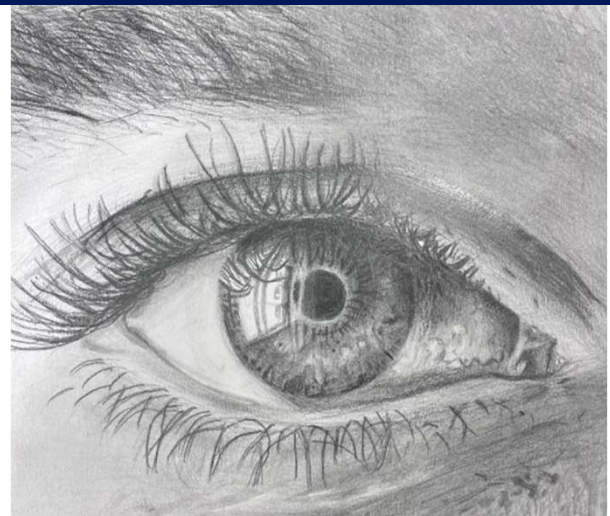


Artist: Kira Terela – Year 10

Kira has been working on Tone within her GCSE art classes. She has created this outstanding portrait of actress Kaya Scodelario.

Amazing!

Artist: Cora Laporte – Year 10
Cora has worked extremely hard on her Tone response within GCSE art this week. She has produced this realistic eye focusing on her highlights mid-tones and Shadows. Well done, Cora!



For more amazing artwork, make sure you're following us on our new art Instagram page: [Passmores_art_dept](https://www.instagram.com/Passmores_art_dept)

PHOTOGRAPHY – Cambridge University Botanic Gardens



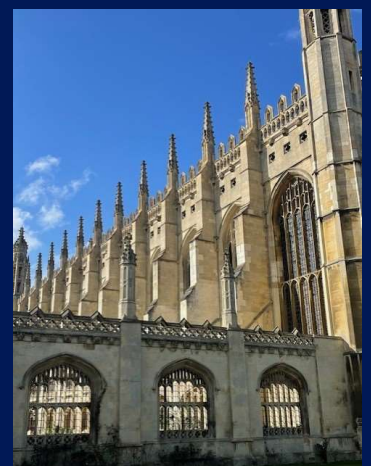
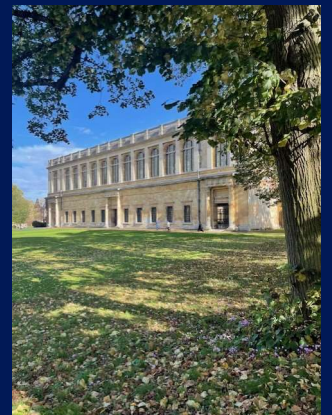
Last week, our Year 11 GCSE Photography students had the unique opportunity to visit Cambridge University Botanic Gardens and take part in a walking tour of the iconic colleges. This trip was a key part of their coursework project titled URBAN: Manmade vs Nature, allowing them to explore how human-made structures and the natural environment coexist and contrast.

The Botanic Gardens, with its diverse plant life and stunning landscapes, provided a perfect backdrop for students to capture nature's beauty. From intricate close-ups of flowers and trees to wider shots of pathways winding through the greenery, the students focused on how natural elements could tell stories through their lenses.

In contrast, the walking tour of Cambridge's colleges offered a glimpse into the grandeur of manmade architecture. The ancient stone buildings, cobbled streets, and modern structures gave students the chance to explore the textures, lines, and forms that make up urban spaces. The juxtaposition of the old and new, human-made and organic, helped inspire creative approaches for their coursework.

The students worked diligently throughout the day, experimenting with various angles, lighting techniques, and compositions. Their images will form part of their final portfolios, as they aim to demonstrate how the urban environment and nature collide, merge, and shape our surroundings.

It was a fantastic day of creativity and exploration, with students returning inspired to develop their ideas further. We look forward to seeing the stunning results in their upcoming projects!



Year 11 Booster Sessions

We are encouraging all our Year 11 students to come along and take advantage of these after-school booster sessions. Please note that the staff are putting these sessions on voluntarily, so this is a FREE lesson! It would be good to see as many Year 11s there as possible and if they need to know what is being delivered, they should speak to individual subject teachers.

Week 1				
Day	Subject	Aimed at or Set	Time	Room(s)
Tuesday	Textiles	11Y textiles	3.15-4.30	D103
	Geography	Whole cohort exam prep	3.15-4.00	U005
	Photography	11Y photography	3.15-4.30	D101
	Hospitality & Catering	Year 11	3.15-4.15	D104
	Hospitality & Catering	Year 11	3.15-4.15	D105
	Computer Science	Whole cohort	3.15-4.15	G105
	Maths	Grade 1-2	3.15-4.15	G005
	English	Whole cohort	3.15-4.15	Upstairs Unicorn
Wednesday	Child Development	Whole cohort exam prep	3:15-4.00	G106
	History	Grade 6+	3:15-4.00	U007
	Maths	Grade 5+	3:15-4.00	G005
	Spanish	Aiming for upto grade 5	3:15-4.00	L103
	French	Targeted students	3.15-3.45	Heart space
	Maths	Grade 6+	3:15-4.00	G003
	English	Poetry focus	3.15-4.15	U105
Thursday	Music	Composing coursework	3:15-4.00	L110
	3D Design	Whole cohort	3:15-4:15	D002/D003
	Textiles	11Y textiles	3.15-4.30	D103
	Psychology	Exam practice	3:20-4:00	U002
	Photography	11Y photography	3.15-4.30	D101
	Computer Science	Creative and Technical Enterprise	3.30-5.00	G105
	Art	Whole cohort	3.15-4.15	L104/L105
	French	Targeted students	3.15-3.45	Heart space
Friday	Maths	Aiming for Grade 4	3.20-4.20	U102
	Drama	Whole cohort	3.20-4.20	G101
	Spanish	Aiming for 5+	3:15-4.00	L103
	Psychology	Targeted students	3:20-4.00	U002
	BTEC Sport	Coursework	3:20-4.00	Y005

Week 2				
Day	Subject	Aimed at or Set	Time	Room(s)
Tuesday	Textiles	11Y textiles	3.15-4.30	D103
	Geography	Whole cohort exam prep	3.15-4.00	U005
	Photography	11Y photography	3.15-4.30	D101
	Maths	Grade 1-2	3.15-4.00	G005
	English	Whole cohort	3.15-4.15	Upstairs Unicorn
Wednesday	Child Development	Whole cohort exam prep	3:15-4.00	G106
	History	Grade 6+	3:15-4.00	U007
	Spanish	Aiming up to grade 5	3:15-4.00	L103
	French	Targeted students	3.15-3.45	Heart space
	Maths	Grade 5+	3:15-4.00	G005
	Maths	Grade 6+	3:15-4.00	G003
	English	Poetry focus	3.15-4.15	U105
Thursday	Music	Composing coursework	3.15-4.00	L110
	3D Design	Whole cohort	3:15-4:15	D002/D003
	Textiles	11Y textiles	3.15-4.30	D103
	Photography	11Y photography	3.15-4.30	D101
	Art	Whole Cohort	3.15-4.15	L104/L105
	French	Targeted students	3.15-3.45	Heart space
	Science	whole cohort for 1st HT	3:15-4:00	L003
Friday	Maths	Aiming for Grade 4	3.20-4.20	U102
	Drama	Whole cohort	3.20-4.20	G101
	Psychology	Targeted 6+	3:20-4:00	U002
	Spanish	Aimed at grade 5+	3.15-4.00	L103
	BTEC Sport	Coursework	3.20-4.00	Y005

PLEASE NOTE: CHANGE OF DATE...
NOW: MONDAY 4TH NOVEMBER

Year 11 Movie Night:
An Inspector Calls

Monday 4th November
 Straight from School
 Main hall
 Featuring:
 Pizza & Popcorn




SPORTS/PE UPDATES

The Year 9s played their final warm up tournament at Harlow rugby club on Tuesday 8th October. They played 3 fixtures coming out with 2 losses and 1 win. Overall, there was a huge improvement from last time out, with the addition of Frankie Jay who managed to score 2 length of the pitch tries against St Nicks. Here's to hoping the boys have saved their best for the final's week in two weeks' time.

Tuesday 15th October, was the Harlow District rugby finals for the Year 11 team. The other two schools involved were Burnt Mill and St. Mark's having already played these schools previously in the practice week, the boys knew they would be in for some tough games. First up was Burnt Mill school, both teams tried to play an expansive game from the first kick-off unfortunately Burnt Mill converted their chances and ended up winning 15-5. Then St Marks entered the playing field for our final game of the competition, they came with a different approach keeping the ball tight and picking and going from the base of the rucks. This played into our forward based team hands. Again, the score didn't play out how we anticipated with St. Mark's capitalising on two handling errors near our own try line.

I can't fault the effort or the commitment from the boys who left everything on the pitch, and they represented the school with great attitude.

Wednesday 16th October, was our final night for house events, and it was finally time for the Year 9s. Firstly, the boys turned up in their numbers to represent their houses. With plenty of rugby happening at Passmores in the last few weeks, it was no surprise that there were some excellent moments of teamwork and individual skill on display. But it was Dragon house once again, who went undefeated to take home the win.

The girls took to the netball courts for their final house events, and again there was strong representation for all houses, this time it was Unicorn who came away with the victory and bragging rights. A huge well done to all that participated in the recent house events you have done all your houses proud.

Coming up later this week are some netball fixtures and football fixtures that we will provide the result of in next week's newsletter...





Join 'RateMyApprenticeship' and some of the UK's Best Apprenticeship Employers for an exclusive look at all things apprenticeships. They are offering **TWO bumper virtual sessions** filled with Q&As, panel discussions and a truckload of prizes to be won. This is a great way to learn more about the routes into apprenticeships and hear from those already in apprenticeships. (See poster on next page).

Assemblies for Year 11

This week our Year 11's heard from Stansted Airport College about the range of courses they offer, including aviation operations, event management and aircraft engineering.



We also had Sir Frederick Gibberd Sixth form giving a presentation to students who are considering studying A levels.

Next week Epping St. John's Sixth Form will be delivering an assembly on what it is like to study A levels with them, entry requirements, expectations, and subject choice.

Since September, Year 11's have had the opportunity to attend assemblies from the above, as well as:

Hertford Regional College

Harlow College

The Bishops Stortford High School

Herts & Essex Sixth Form

New City College Sports & Tottenham Hotspurs Football Academy

After half term, we have the F2 Academy and CRE8 coming in to talk to students.

APPRENTICESHIP ACCELERATOR

Want to find out more about apprenticeships
and what they can do for you?

Come along to our two-part virtual event.

PART I

WHAT, EXACTLY, IS AN APPRENTICESHIP?

Explore the world of apprenticeships, what they are and how to nab one.

Thursday 28th November 2024
5 - 7pm

PART II

HOW TO LAND YOUR DREAM JOB

Find out what employers really want and how to wow them in applications.

Thursday 30th January 2025
5 - 7pm

- ➡ Learn **insider tips and tricks** to stand out in applications
- ➡ Get a **behind-the-scenes** look from real apprentices
- ➡ Get your **questions answered** by leading employers
- ➡ Leave with **all the tools you need** to jumpstart your career
- ➡ Take part in the quiz and have the chance to **win a whopping £250 voucher**.



IT'S FREE.
SCAN TO ATTEND.



★ RATEMYAPPRENTICESHIP

www.RateMyApprenticeship.co.uk

Sixth Form & College Open Dates 2024/2025

Colleges & Sixth Forms	Contact No.	Open Date
The Bishop's Stortford High School www.tbshs.org	01279 868686	Weds 6 th Nov
Birchwood School, Bishop's Stortford www.birchwoodonline.co.uk	01279 655936	Thurs 14 th Nov 4pm-7.30pm
BMAT STEM Academy www.bmatstemacademy.org	01279 621570	TBA
The College at Braintree (Now part of Colchester Institute) www.colchester.ac.uk	01206 814000	Mon 21 st Oct 5.00-8.00 Sat 9 th Nov 10.00-1.00
Cambridge Regional College www.camre.ac.uk	01223 418200	Weds 23 rd Oct 4.30-7.00 Sat 16 th Nov 9.30-12.30 Sat 25 th Jan 10-12.30 Thurs 24 th April 4.30-7.00
Capel Manor College, Enfield www.capel.ac.uk	08456 122122	Sat 5 th Oct 10-3pm Tues 19 th Nov 5.30-7pm
Chelmsford College www.chelmsford-college.ac.uk	01245 265611	Weds 9 th Oct 6-8.30 Weds 13 th Nov 6-8.30 Weds 5 th Feb 6-8.30
New City College (Epping Forest), www.ncclondon.ac.uk	0208 508 8311	Sat 23 rd Nov 10-2.00
Epping St Johns 6 th Form www.eppingstjohnsschool.org/	01992 573028	Weds 20 th Nov 6-8pm
F2 Academy www.vluk.org/course-location/f2academy/	07525 495818	TBA
Fashion Retail Academy www.fashionretailacademy.ac.uk	0207 3072345	Sat 19 th Oct Sat 30 th Nov

Sixth Form & College Open Dates 2024/2025

Harlow College www.harlow-college.ac.uk	01279 868000	Thurs 17 th Oct 5.00-8.00 Tues 11 th Feb 5.00-8.00 Weds 30 th April 5.00-8.00
Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge www.hrsfc.ac.uk	01223 247251	TBA
Helena Romanes School, Great Dunmow www.helena-roman.essex.sch.uk	01371 872560	Weds 13 th Nov 5.30-8.00
Hertford Regional College www.hertreg.ac.uk	01992 411400	Thurs 21 st Nov 5.30-8.00 Tues 4 th Feb 5.30-8.00
Herts & Essex High School, Bishop's Stortford www.hertsandessex.herts.sch.uk	01279 654127	Tues 7 th Nov
Hockerill Anglo-European School, Bishop's Stortford www.hockerill.herts.sch.uk	01279 658451	Sat 23 rd Nov
Long Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge www.longroad.ac.uk	01223 631100	Summer 2025
Leventhorpe School, Sawbridgeworth www.leventhorpe.net	01279 836633	Tues 5 th Nov 6.00-9.00
Joyce Frankland Academy (Formerly Newport) www.jfan.org.uk	01799 540237	Weds 16 th Oct
Presdales Sixth Form www.presdales.herts.sch.uk	01920 462210	Thurs 14 th Nov 6-8pm
Sir Frederick Gibberd www.sirfrederickgibberdcollege.org	01279 307235 (c/o Burnt Mill Academy)	Sat 16 th Nov 9.30-12.30
St Marks School, Harlow www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk	01279 421267	TBA
St Mary's Catholic School, Bishop's Stortford www.stmarys.net	01279 654901	TBA

Sixth Form & College Open Dates 2024/2025

Colleges & Sixth Forms	Contact No.	Open Date
Stansted Airport College www.harlow-college.ac.uk	01799 513030	Sat 12 th Oct 10.00-2.00 Thurs 23 rd Jan Weds 7 th May
Writtle College www.writtle.ac.uk	01245 424200	Sat 12 th Oct 10-3.00 Sat 16 th Nov

Please contact the institutions to check details and times before attending. Also, be advised that most ask for you to book a place for these events online.

ANY OTHER INFORMATION

The Arbor Student Portal is now live! Students will be able to submit homework assignments, view their timetable and attendance, and much more in their portal.

Please refer to the guide on this page to assist your young person in signing in:

<https://www.passmoresacademy.com/page/?title=Apps+for+Learning&pid=156>



The Arbor Student Portal is currently web based only, but there will be a new app available very soon.

If you have any queries, please email datateam@passmoresacademy.com

ABSENCE LINE

If you need to report a student absence, please ensure you are following the correct procedure and are calling the absence line: **01279 770877**.



LOST PROPERTY

Lost property will be left out on the tables on **Wednesday 23rd October 2024**. Anything unclaimed will be going to charity.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 18 th October 2024	FOPs Quiz Night
Thursday 24 th October 2024	INSET DAY
Friday 25 th October – Friday 1 st November 2024	Half Term
Monday 4 th November 2024	Autumn Term 2 Begins
Wednesday 6 th November 2024	Annual General Meeting – 6pm
Thursday 7 th November 2024	Year 7 Social Evening – 5pm - 6pm Year 8 Social Evening – 6pm - 7pm
Monday 11 th November – Friday 22 nd November 2024	Year 11 Mock Exams

The logo for TEACHarlow features the word "TEACH" in a grey, sans-serif font, followed by "arlow" in a blue, sans-serif font. The letter "a" in "arlow" is stylized with a rainbow-colored arc above it.

Interested in becoming a primary or secondary teacher?
Contact Gareth Walsh on g.walsh@passmoresacademy.com

Friends of Passmores
Presents

QUIZ NIGHT

FRI 18TH
OCTOBER

7pm to 10pm
£5 Per person

Doors open at 7pm. Quiz Starts 7:30pm
Other games will be played from £1
Bring your own food & drink



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6th November 2024 - 6pm

Passmores Academy,
Heart Space

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

TOO SCARED?

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

Meet Our Expert

John Insley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/horror-films-and-age-ratings>

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS!

With the ever-increasing amount of hoax/scam callers ringing us and loved ones, here are some step-by-step instructions of how to register your own number and/or those of your nearest and dearest with the TPS (Telephone Preference Service) – the FREE opt out service enabling you to record your preferences on the official register and therefore prevent any unsolicited call:

- Google: www.tpsonline.org.uk
- Scroll down until you find the actual TPS Link
- Click on Register Phone Number
- Scroll down to STEP 1: Choose RESIDENTIAL / Press Continue
- STEP 2: Enter the telephone number you would like to register (without a space between the area code and telephone number / Press Continue
- STEP 3: Enter the Postcode for this telephone number e.g: XXXX XXX / Press Search
- Scroll down to the correct address for this telephone number and press on it – this will confirm the address details / Press Continue
- STEP 4: Press on your reason for registering with TPS – Go to .. Other Reasons and Type: To prevent unwanted marketing calls and Scam Calls / Press Continue
- STEP 5: Press on where you heard about TPS eg: TV or Other (School Newsletter) / Press Continue
- STEP 6: Enter your email address / confirm your email address + the name of whoever's number you are registering with TPS i.e: Mrs XX XXXXXX
- An email will then be sent to this email address from TPS Registration - Click on the link sent to complete and activate your registration.



TPS is a completely FREE Service for consumers – you will NOT be contacted again for any reason. TPS is the central opt out register on which individuals or organisations can register their landline and mobile telephone numbers if they do not wish to receive unsolicited, live sales or marketing calls.

Another common scam call/text message is the one pretending to be one of YOUR children, saying he/she has lost their mobile phone and are using a stranger's phone to message you for help/send money. A good tip is to have this conversation with your children and instigate a code word or phrase that they should use when contacting you in an emergency, so that you know it is really them asking for help and prevent you from calling them back on a number that will drain your bank account!



joules



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simonballepsa.org.uk

Outlet Sale

Friday 8th November 2024

Simon Balle All-through School, Mangrove Road, Hertford, SG13 8AJ

The Joules Outlet team are visiting Simon Balle All-through School on Friday 8th November where they will be showcasing heavily discounted and end of season items.

Snap up a pre-Christmas bargain, with up to 70% off retail prices.

We are able to offer pre-booked shopping slots for the event, with an early bird price for bookings made by 25th October.



6-6.30pm Early preview tickets:

£8 if booked by 8th October, £9 if booked after 9th October
(Limited to 50 tickets)

6.30-8.30pm General Sale:

£6 if booked by 25th October, £9 if booked after 25th October
(Limited on the door tickets, subject to availability)

Please book your tickets carefully, as **NO REFUNDS** can be offered. You will only be permitted entry to the pre-booked shopping slot stated on your ticket. Your ticket will **NOT** be valid for other times. Please note this is a charity event run by volunteers. Stock is sold as seen and returns are not possible.

Children are allowed in for free, however we don't recommend bringing them if possible. Pushchairs will **NOT** be allowed into the sale area, you may leave them outside at your own risk.

Food and drink will **NOT** be allowed in the sales area.

Proceeds from the ticket sales go to Simon Balle PSA, a registered charity.

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www.lordstaverners.org/super1s



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TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER

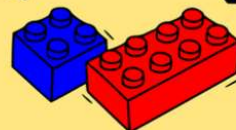
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31st OCTOBER 2024

- ⚽ 11am start
- ⚽ £5 Per player
- ⚽ Up to 8 players maximum per team
- ⚽ Medals and trophy for winners
- ⚽ Medals for runners-up



Contact for more information and to
enter your team

Anthony: 01992524393
Jack: 07398267338



Location:
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Rayley Lane
CM16 6AR



Spotlight on services... FREE Parenting courses

Did you know, **ACL Essex** has a wide range of parenting courses, some are face to face, some are virtual, some are one off and some are a series. They are all FREE.

Subjects include;

- ☐ SEND support for families
- ☐ Positive Parenting
- ☐ Family Wellbeing
- ☐ Understanding Teens.

ACL will also collaborate with you to provide bespoke courses where you have a cohort of parents.

For further information
[Community & Family Learning - ACL Essex](#)