



Principal Letter – Autumn Term

Week Ending 15 December 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

It has been a wonderful week of celebration, both with the Principal's Challenge trip on Wednesday and the Christmas Concert last night. We have the most amazing children at Passmores, and we showed our appreciation this afternoon as staff visited lessons to give them all a treat as a 'thank you' for everything that they do as part of our Passmores Acts of Christmas Kindness advent.

Now, I know some schools in Harlow have broken up today, not us just yet, four more get ups. I think some of you may be secretly thankful that we are continuing for a bit longer; a chance to finish your Christmas shopping! The last day of term next week will be a combination of lessons and celebration. Every year group will have an assembly where we will present certificates and prizes whilst being entertained by some musical extracts from the Christmas concert. The talent on show was quite exceptional, I know the students absolutely love the opportunity to perform again in front of their peers, I wonder who Mr Butler will choose? During break students will have the chance to join DJ Bell for a festive sing-along in the memorial hall and of course we will find out who is leading the house competition. All very exciting! We have made a slight tweak to the last day and will be finishing at 12.30pm.

When we return in January, we will be making some changes to when year groups have lunch. The dynamics of the current arrangement with key stages having lunch together hasn't worked as we would have hoped, and recent student voice has asked us to look at something different. So, as of January years 7, 9 and 11 will be on first lunch (12.15-12.45) and years 8 and 10 will be on second lunch (1.30 – 2.00).

Our final newsletter next week will include all those young people who will be recognised in the end of term assembly.

Have a great weekend and thank you for your continued support and to all of you who were able to attend the Christmas concert this week.

Top Passmores Points Achievers – 8th December – 14th December 2023:

Emily Abery	Year 7	53
James Afram	Year 7	41
Edward Borland	Year 7	40
Jaydon Watson	Year 7	40
Rachel Ricketts	Year 7	40
Casey Mirza	Year 7	39
Iyahna Miller	Year 7	39
Scarlett Nolan	Year 7	39

Oscar Julian	Year 7	38
Amy Layzell-Whitchurch	Year 7	37
Sophia Clark	Year 7	37
Aashnee Luchmun	Year 7	36
Isabella Cox	Year 7	36
Lewis Green	Year 7	36
Phoebie Suzanne Savill	Year 7	36
Aiden Brandle	Year 7	35
Amelia Surtees	Year 7	34
Casey-Ann Jones	Year 7	34
Nela Ozimek	Year 7	34
Jesse Kennedy	Year 7	33
Mason Crouch	Year 7	33
Mitchell O'Callaghan	Year 7	33
Oliver Harding	Year 7	33
Zacharie Turner	Year 7	33

Melody Everett	Year 8	49
Nicolas Silva Magri	Year 8	49
Enzo Rocha Santos	Year 8	47
Ella Irons	Year 8	46
Frankie Boland	Year 8	46
Taliah Rufuse	Year 8	46
Henry Rocha Santos	Year 8	44
Mary Norton	Year 8	44
Ruben Kiss	Year 8	42
Samuel Cudmore	Year 8	41
Max Kane	Year 8	40
Lola Wickes	Year 8	39
Katie Watters	Year 8	38
Noah Norris	Year 8	38
Ellie Ashford-Kemp	Year 8	37
Harrison Morgan	Year 8	37
Bo Walsham	Year 8	36
Max Surtees	Year 8	36
Aiden Stringer	Year 8	35
Amber Norburn	Year 8	35
Frankie Macmaster	Year 8	35
James Babb	Year 8	35
Othniel Defor	Year 8	35

Pj Sunshine	Year 9	46
Benjamin Dack	Year 9	34

Dylan Theophil	Year 9	34
Sid Francis-Melvin	Year 9	34
Joshua Wheatley	Year 9	33
Beth White	Year 9	30
Ian Budka	Year 9	30
Brayden Rouse	Year 9	29
Luisa Osei	Year 9	29
Elissa Morris	Year 9	28
Pink Hatton	Year 9	28
Stan Hills	Year 9	28
Emily New	Year 9	26
Molly Reeve	Year 9	26
Rhys Salberg	Year 9	26
Sadie Shaw	Year 9	26
Teddy Delieu	Year 9	26
Amy Johnson	Year 9	25
Gwen Kearns	Year 9	25
Jaime Wyburn	Year 9	25
Jennifer Wan	Year 9	25
Jersey Harvey	Year 9	25
Lily Mills	Year 9	25
Mason Mehmet	Year 9	25
Ronnie Jay	Year 9	25
Yasemin Withey-Yilmaz	Year 9	25

Angel Fernandes	Year 10	49
Rhoda Adesina	Year 10	38
Mckenzie Laney	Year 10	37
Keira Webb	Year 10	31
Lola Hughes	Year 10	31
Dylan Jones	Year 10	28
Lacey-Mae Stafford	Year 10	28
Maggie Chalk	Year 10	27
Tommy Newnham	Year 10	27
Amy Kwok	Year 10	26
Mario Olaru	Year 10	26
Olivia Bullock	Year 10	26
Chloe Green	Year 10	25
Darcie Wilkinson	Year 10	25
Frankie Martin	Year 10	25
Wiktorina Krupowies	Year 10	25
Bobby McDonald	Year 10	24
Ella Wyatt	Year 10	24

George Champ	Year 10	24
Robert Viliman	Year 10	24

Jayden Alade-Mason	Year 11	34
Sophie Daniels	Year 11	27
Tru Dawson	Year 11	27
Blessing Danquah	Year 11	25
Kayden Edridge	Year 11	25
Michael Sesay	Year 11	25
Rex Dance-Bishop	Year 11	25
Gemma McAusland	Year 11	24
Kyla Tombs-Stevens	Year 11	24
Thomas Curtis	Year 11	24
Angel Boorman	Year 11	23
Kalvin Allen	Year 11	23
Sophia Atkinson	Year 11	23
Jamie Hughes	Year 11	22
Kimberley Homes	Year 11	22
Oakley Harrison	Year 11	22
Karim Withey-Yilmaz	Year 11	21
Sophie Hegarty	Year 11	21
Haydn Kearney	Year 11	20
Nicholas Vladimirov	Year 11	20
Orla Daniels	Year 11	20
Peter Beregi	Year 11	20
Ruby Guinness	Year 11	20

House Passmores Points – 30th October – 14th December 2023:

Dragon	41025
Griffin	38815
Lion	39386
Unicorn	38555

House Attendance – 27th November – 8th December 2023:

Dragon	93.57%
Griffin	93.33%
Lion	92.87%
Unicorn	92.87%

Year 7 & 8 Panto trip review

Well, what a week we've had! The long awaited and keenly anticipated Panto trips finally arrived.

Year 7 were the first to enjoy a lovely festive afternoon at Harlow Playhouse on Thursday, watching this year's pantomime, *Beauty & The Beast*, with Year 8 following on the Friday. There was a lovely buzz around the school on both mornings as pupils prepared themselves for their afternoon out. As we mustered them to the Sports Hall before walking them over to Harlow Playhouse, it was clear everyone was very excited and for some it was their first trip to a theatre to watch a show.

The production itself was great fun, it had all the usual Panto conventions, and it was lovely to hear Year 8s, who have been learning about Pantomime this half term, identifying slish scenes, slapstick routines and terrible jokes, as well as the expected audience interaction with Silly Billy, Dame Cherry Bonbon and Morgiana, the evil wolf queen. The cast were excellent, many of them having West End performance experience and there were some wonderful surprises courtesy of the show's technical design team, including snowfall, magical chairs, falling petals and even Billy's flying machine! It's been a wonderful end to the week and a real treat to see so many of our school community thoroughly enjoying themselves and joining in. Pupils represented the school well on the walk to the theatre and were quick to pick up and apply correct theatre etiquette on our entry to the auditorium. It would be fair to say that the Year 7s definitely outdid the Year 8s in terms of cheering, whooping, booing and clapping along! We'll see if this record holds for next year!

A huge thanks goes out to the staff that accompanied the trips across both days. As ever, events of this scale require staff to support and manage the large number of pupils attending and we wouldn't have been able to do it without such wonderful colleagues. Thanks goes to all parents as well for making arrangements to collect children from Harlow Playhouse and save us the need to get them all back to school afterwards!

We'll be back in the new year as we take our GCSE drama students to the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith to watch *Frantic Assembly's* adaptation of Franz Kafka's novella, "*Metamorphosis*" on February 14th.

Look out for our drama clubs' showcase evening in the new term; we have a glorious collection of silly short plays to share with you and our wonderful young actors cannot wait to get their work on stage, in front of a live audience. The date for this event will be confirmed in the new term, it is likely to be within the first week or so of February.

We wish you all a wonderful Christmas and hope you enjoy spending some quality time with family over the holiday, and hope you get at least one or two pyjama days in!

See you in 2024 (eeek)!

The Drama Department

Kooth Digital Health

With the winter break fast approaching, Kooth Digital Health appreciate there will be some young people who may struggle during the holidays without the access to the daily pastoral support, trusted adults and friends that the school community provides. Equally, seasonal illness and the closure of many services at this time of year can lead to extended wait times across both adult and young people's NHS and community services.

Kooth have put together a short (2:47) 'we are still here' Kooth video- we will be sharing this with our students next week, but the link is below if you would like to watch it too.

Please via a link to the video- [HERE](#)

Barcelona 2024

Thank you to the parents and carers who have already sent me this information, but if your young person is going on the Barcelona trip (1st - 3rd March 2023), could you send their passport details to Mr Farmery or Mrs Friedner please to the following addresses:

a.farmery@passmoresacademy.com

c.friedner@passmoresacademy.com

CHRISTMAS CRAFT DAY - 21st December

YCT would like to invite you all to YCT's Christmas Crafts, a festive day full of candle painting, card making and various other crafts. There will also be a raffle drawn the day after; prizes include a massage, beauty treatments and restaurant vouchers to name a few. Our Christmas Crafts is suitable for all ages, with free tickets for those under 18 years of age. For those over 18 years old, tickets are £5, payable on the day of the event.

The event will take place on 21st December at YCT House on Maddox Road in Harlow, starting at 2pm and finishing at 8pm. Those who wish to come can just drop-in as and when it suits. All the money raised will go directly towards their charitable purpose.

In case you do not know about them, YCT is a local mental health charity for children and young people aged 5 to 25 years; they offer free counselling and associated therapies in Harlow, West Essex, Hertfordshire and parts of Greater London. YCT are wholly dedicated to improving the lives of children and young people, helping them to lead fulfilling lives, free from mental trauma.

Please see the flyer at the end of the newsletter.

PARK SAFE SCHOOL LAUNCH

We're working with the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) to improve road safety and parking outside the school. We already have some measures in place to tackle inconsiderate and dangerous parking however, some parking issues remain. We have been working with NEPP to introduce their Park Safe Schools scheme.

This new scheme will increase the parking monitoring and enforcement activity directly outside the school. For more information about the scheme, including FAQs, please visit:

north.parkingpartnership.org/park-safe-schools



Careers News

Year 11

Tottenham Hotspur Education and Football Development Centres Recruitment Event on 11 Jan at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

Bookings and more information can be found here:

[Education and Football Development Centres Event \(tottenhamhotspur.com\)](https://tottenhamhotspur.com/education-and-football-development-centres-event)

Interested in medicine? The Premed Projects Team are delivering a virtual medical careers day. The cost is £69 and students will receive a certificate of attendance. More information can be found at Medicine Careers Day Live - March 30th 2024 - Premed Projects

Year 11 - Sixth Form Application Deadline dates:

- Leventhorpe - Weds 20th Dec
- Birchwood - Weds 20th Dec

12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season – Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparking stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

21ST DECEMBER 2023

2PM-8PM

CANDLE DECORATING, CHRISTMAS
CARD MAKING, A RAFFLE
& FREE REFRESHMENTS

CALL TO BOOK YOUR SLOT: 01279 414090



FREE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18
£5 PER ADULT

Maths Problem of the week:

HOLIDAY MATH RIDDLE!

How many total squares are in the diagram?

(Hint: Some squares are overlapping!)



HOLIDAY MATH RIDDLE!

Nick has a box of ornaments that he uses to decorate his tree each year. All of them are blue, except for six. All of them are green, except for six. All of them are red, except for six. How many of each colored ornament does Nick have?



Answer to the last Maths Problem:

Problem 1:

Answer: FIVE Remove the 2 letters F and E from five and you have IV which is the Roman numeral for four.

Problem 2:

Answer: Drop the "S".

Forthcoming Events:

Thursday 21 st December	End of term (12.30pm)
Friday 5 th January	INSET Day
Monday 8 th January	Start of the new term



Natalie Christie

Principal of Passmores Academy

TEACHarlow

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