

Newsletter



Friday 13th September 2024 Issue | #02

Passmores
ACADEMY



Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to those of you who attended the Year 10 / 11 Parent Information / Meet the Teachers evening this week. To be able to meet with families and engage in meaningful conversations so early into term was lovely, especially for KS4 students as a way to ensure they know what is expected of them. This was the first time we have held this event, in response to feedback that you wanted more opportunities to meet with our staff and we are so pleased with how it went.

For year 7, 8 and 9 this week's PIEs are purely for information. There will be opportunities later in the year for you to meet with staff face to face.

On Monday students will be given letters for our up and coming Open Evening on Thursday 26th September. There is already a lot of excitement from students who want to be involved and we know that they are our best advocates and look forward to welcoming as many as possible to support. Please return the permission slips as soon as possible so that we can finalise plans for the evening. Our tours began this week, for prospective families and will continue every Thursday until half term. If you have younger children in year 6, or have friends who do, then please do book onto a tour. We really enjoy welcoming people into the building, it is a privilege for them to see learning in action.

Natalie Christie
Principal of Passmores Academy

- 2 TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS
- 3 YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE
- 3 PASTORAL UPDATE
- 5 SUBJECT INFORMATION/UPDATES
- 6 SPORT/PE UPDATES
- 6 CAREERS NEWS
- 7 ANY OTHER INFORMATION
- 11 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVER

Monday 2nd - Thursday 12th September 2024

Smith, Luke	Year 7	66
Layer, James	Year 7	63
Tedder, Archie	Year 7	62
McIntosh, Jack	Year 7	59
Atkinson, Oliver	Year 7	56
Mealing, Lacey	Year 7	56
Cowell, Leah	Year 7	55
Maylen, James	Year 7	55
Masaniello, Leonardo	Year 7	54
Smeed, Harley	Year 7	54

Toku Appleton, Ethan	Year 8	52
Biro, Emma	Year 8	50
Wright, Megan	Year 8	50
Evans, Tillie	Year 8	45
Wild, Gracie	Year 8	45
Jones, Max	Year 8	44
Aimes, Olly	Year 8	43
McGill, Harry	Year 8	43
Morgan, Dexter	Year 8	42
Paxton, Bobby	Year 8	41

Defor, Othniel	Year 9	47
Hockley, Rhys	Year 9	46
Judge, Ella-Rose	Year 9	46
Denkewicz, Jan	Year 9	45
Keen, Rein	Year 9	45
Chambers, Callum	Year 9	43
Benge, Maddie	Year 9	42
Salter, Billy	Year 9	42
Arber, Matthew	Year 9	41
Collins, Lily	Year 9	40
Norburn, Amber	Year 9	40
Pullum-Ward, Isabella	Year 9	40

Foster-Gaish, Lily-May	Year 10	53
Goody, Rebecca	Year 10	53
Dolling, Tommy	Year 10	51
Sunshine, Pj	Year 10	48
Reeve, Molly	Year 10	47
White, Beth	Year 10	47
Dorrington, Ava	Year 10	45
Munns, Xander	Year 10	44
Rossiter, Bailey	Year 10	44
Reid, Maisie	Year 10	42
Young, Lacey	Year 10	42

Olaru, Mario	Year 11	51
Kearns, Connie	Year 11	42
Vetori, Riley	Year 11	41
McDonald, Bobby	Year 11	40
Charlton, Abbey	Year 11	38
Horton, Charlie	Year 11	38
Bricknell, Evie	Year 11	36
Gerty, Ryan	Year 11	36
Mahon, Katie	Year 11	36
Nicholls, Ella	Year 11	35
Vatansever, Savash	Year 11	35

YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE

Wednesday 4th September - Thursday 12th September 2024

	Average Attendance
Year 7	96.8%
Year 8	91.9%
Year 9	87.4%
Year 10	92.9%
Year 11	88%
Whole School Attendance	91.45%

PASTORAL UPDATE



Thought for the Week

This week, Thought for the Week was delivered through assemblies. Students were introduced to their revamped Passmores Passports, which outline exciting challenges they can take on throughout the year. These challenges give students the opportunity to win prizes, while Year 11 students who complete their passports will secure their ticket to prom. The assemblies sparked great enthusiasm as students began exploring the possibilities within their passports and how they can embrace the school's values in fun and engaging ways.

In the News

In this week's In the News segment, students delved into the topic of the summer riots. Through thought-provoking discussions, they examined the causes, the lasting impact, and the lessons that can be drawn from these events. Students were encouraged to think critically and reflect on their beliefs and values as well as societal issues, deepening their understanding of how such events affect communities and individuals.

Other News

It was fantastic to see so many students showing eagerness to apply for the wide range of student

leadership opportunities on offer this year. There is still time to apply, with the deadline for applications set for Friday, 20th September. We encourage all interested students to get involved! We were also pleased with the turnout for our Year 10 & 11 Parent/Carer Information Evening. It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers supporting their young people as they prepare for the important stages of their academic journey.

Looking Ahead to Next Week

Next week, Thought for the Week is all about House identity. Students will attend their first House Assembly of the new academic year. This is a great opportunity for them to embrace their House spirit and come together as a community.

The In the News segment will continue the exploration of the summer riots, focusing on the role that misinformation played.

We also look forward to welcoming parents/carers of year 7, 8, and 9 students for their information evenings, where we will outline key details for the year ahead and offer guidance on how to support our students in reaching their full potential.

Another exciting week awaits as we continue to settle into the new academic year.

CAUGHT DOING GOOD

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Maxwell Coleman Sophie Addison Brandon Bidmead James Layer Kyei Kwarteng	Lilly May Penny Howard Aiden Brandle Fin Hodson Isabella Stewart	Esme Owen Madison Benga	Christine Snell Ola Akinyeye	Dylan Meredith Luke Batt



SUBJECT INFORMATION/UPDATES

Come and Join the Steel Pans Music Groups at Passmores Academy!

We currently have some spaces for students in years 7-11 to join the Caribbean Steels Pans groups. Students do not need to be able to read music to participate, but they should have an enjoyment of music and a little sense of rhythm and beat. They will learn to play a variety of contemporary songs in a supportive environment as part of a band, while also having fun and making new friends. All the groups are free to join and are run by experienced musicians Daniel Barwick and Jasmine Devine who are both ex-students of Passmores Academy.

Please encourage your child to attend one of the sessions outlined below if you think that it would be something that they would enjoy or would like to try out. It would be a fantastic opportunity for them to develop their musical skills and have fun at the same time doing so. All they need to do is turn up on the day!

The steel pans groups rehearse at the following times:

Student group 1 - 3.30pm-4.30pm in L109 of the music department

Student group 2 - 4.30pm-5.30pm in L109 of the music department

SEND Information for New Parents

Welcome to our Passmores family – we are so happy that you are joining us this year. I am writing to you in my role as SEND Coordinator. We have a large team supporting our students with SEND and we are fully aware that transition into Year 7 causes both students and parents/carers a lot of anxiety. This year we have an extremely high number of new students with SEND, 22 with EHCPs and just over 60 with One Plans on SEN Support. We have had detailed conversations with all local primary schools, and they have provided excellent information about each young person entering Passmores on the SEND register. This is invaluable and we have passed this on to all teaching staff who have a head-start sorting out groups, adapting work, seating plans etc. as well as highlighting specific strategies that help individual pupils in lessons.

The SEND department will now need this first term to assess and gather feedback about individual students and their learning needs. This is vital for us to decide what provisions and interventions each young person will need to maximise their learning potential. This will include getting to know each student and collecting their views for their Pupil Passport – this is similar to what primary schools call a one-page profile and it will be sent to all the teachers who have classes with your young person. Once this is achieved, we will be able to decide which pupils need a SEND Lead. This will be the key liaison person from the SEND Team that will work with your family. They will hold termly One Plan meetings, discuss support, set targets and monitor progress. They will also be your number one contact for queries going forward. Some students may be able to have all their needs met with quality first teaching in the classroom and they will be kept on the SEND Profile on our monitoring list but not have any active interventions straight away.

In the meantime, I would like to direct you to the SEND Information Report which can be found on our school website by following this link - [download.asp \(passmoresacademy.com\)](https://www.passmoresacademy.com/download.asp). Hopefully this will provide you with a lot of interesting and relevant information about SEND at a secondary school and the systems we have in place here at Passmores. However, we are always seeking ways to improve our communication with parents. If you find the information that you require is not available in this report, please get in touch and let us know so we can make the necessary additions. You can do this by emailing our admin assistant d.berkley@passmoresacademy.com. She is also the best person to email with general enquiries as she can then triage the enquiry to the right member of the SEND Team. Please be patient – we aim to reply within 48 hours (sooner if we can) but with over 300 SEND students in the school, sometimes we have a lot of queries to work through.

All the best,

Dawn Moore

SEND Coordinator

(SENCo)

SPORTS/PE UPDATE

This week saw our afterschool clubs returning and we saw a high turnout from our students who were excited to get back into clubs! We had over 30 year 7 boys turning up for football club Wednesday, with similar numbers in netball and rugby too. Additionally the return of basketball club has been welcomed by students of all ages taking the time out of their break to come and shoot some hoops.

CAREER NEWS

On Thursday we have our first Post 16 assembly with Hertford Regional College coming in to talk to year 11 about their college and the range of courses they offer. This is a great way to help students understand course levels, applications and more.

Careers Fair - We have organised a careers fair for students in years 10 and 11 at Harlow Study Centre on the 9th October. We have lots of exhibitors including most local colleges and sixth forms, universities, training providers and local employers including Princess Alexandra Hospital, 4 Wall, Border Force, Army, Leisurezone and many more. Make sure you add this event to your diaries as it is a great way to find out about the full range of Post 16 options under one roof.

JOINT CAREERS FAIR 2024

WITH PASSMORES AND STEWARDS



WHO
YEAR 10 & 11

WHEN
Wednesday
9th October
5:00pm -
7:00pm

WHERE
Harlow Study
Centre
Harlow
Essex
CM18 6BW

FEATURING • Harlow College • Hertford Regional College • Princess Alexandra Hospital • Taylor Wimpey • Stansted Airport College • Herts & Essex • Leventhorpe • St. Mark's • The Bishops Stortford High School • CRE8 • Sir Frederick Gibberd • Border Force • Anglia Ruskin • Ashton Roofing • F2 Academy • Army • and loads more...

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY

The best approaches to conflict resolution are restorative. This means that rather than adults imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them. Allowing them to handle it can feel empowering to young people and will hopefully teach them to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.

2 ACTIVELY LISTEN

Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.

3 BE CURIOUS

Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a mature and empathetic mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. Model this by asking inquisitive-yet-respectful questions about the issue at hand. Really try to understand where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other sides of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.

4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES

Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates and embraces diversity in all things – including diversity of opinion – means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.

5 BE SUPPORTIVE

Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.

6 MENTALLY PREPARE

Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and finding somewhere quiet to relax. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, fed and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to remember that physical discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.

7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.

8 STICK TO THE POINT

Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral chairperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points, detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.

9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED

It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others ladders to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good – and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.

10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT

No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and mistrust, and ultimately doesn't help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. These should help you find a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with mediating overall.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lowri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and advisory teacher. She founded her company, Neuroteachers, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>

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@senclub2024  



Under 12s

£10 per Child

£3 per Sibling

Sundays

10.30am to

12.30pm

*Crafts – Biscuit decorating –
Lego – Toys – Music*

**A fun, lively club for
children with SEN and
their families**

TO BOOK: [HTTPS://BUYTICKETS.AT/SENCLUB](https://buytickets.at/senclub)

Time & Space, The Mousery, Beeches Road, Battlesbridge, Essex SS11 8GH

Contact: Laura 07740362441 Senclub2024@gmail.com

Parents must supervise their children at all times

5D'S DODGEBALL LEAGUE

Harlow

**FRIDAY
EVENINGS**

**PASSMORES
ACADEMY**

**5.30PM - 6.30PM: Y3-4
6.30PM - 7.30PM: Y5-6**

Join the fun from the first week of October...



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Tickets: Adult £6/Child £2.50 from
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Epping Hall, St John's Road, Epping, CM16 5JU

Part Funded by Home Instead Charities, Reg 1156700

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 18th September 2024	Year 9 Parents Information Evening (PIE) - 5.30pm
Thursday 19th September 2024	Year 6 Tours
Thursday 19th September 2024	Year 7 Parents Information Evening (PIE) - 5pm
Thursday 19th September 2024	Year 8 Parents Information Evening (PIE) - 6pm
Thursday 26th September 2024	Open Evening
Thursday 24th October 2024	Half term

TEACHarlow

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