



Principal Letter – Autumn Term Week Ending 13th October 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Friday the 13th, a day long seen as an ominous day filled with bad luck in Western superstition. There is even a psychological term for those who fear the day itself: “paraskevidekatriaphobia”. For some of our young people they may well be feeling that today has been an unlucky day for them as we announced our newly elected Deputy Head students. There could only be two winners, from what was an incredibly strong field. Everyone involved would have been worthy of the role and undoubtedly there are going to be some very disappointed young people this evening, but I hope that they can all feel proud of what they have achieved during the process, I know that we are.

Congratulations to our Deputy Head Students - Alfie Read-Smith and Rileigh Vetori.

As we draw to the end of this half term, we are all looking forward to the possibility of a non-uniform day. For the winning house in each year group, this is the prize to be aiming for! This is slight change to previous years, where we would have had one overall house winner, but we want to recognise the different contributions made by every year group as they vary within each house and it gives an additional element of competition amongst friends. Who is going to be successful, who will be taking part in ‘dress down Friday’? There is still time to influence the outcome, students just need to be here doing the right thing.

There are lots of fliers at the end of the newsletter, maybe some opportunities for your young person during half term. For any of you coming tonight to the Trivia Night, good luck and may the best team win!

Top Passmores Points Achievers –6th October – 12th October 2023:

Scarlett Barone	Year 7	67
Isobel Baynes	Year 7	65
Albert Trofin	Year 7	64
Florence Norton	Year 7	64
Amelia Grzankowska	Year 7	60
Ellen Clarke	Year 7	59
Rosie Stacey-Bocking	Year 7	58
Fin Hodson	Year 7	56
Chloe Guiver-Kirk	Year 7	55
Gemma Scott	Year 7	55
Oliver Harding	Year 7	55

Freddie Quigley	Year 8	71
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Jan Denkwicz	Year 8	70
Sophia Euesden	Year 8	65
Grace Renker	Year 8	63
Jacob Webb	Year 8	63
Krystian Cerek	Year 8	60
Tommy Shaw	Year 8	60
Jack Redding	Year 8	58
Thea Ely	Year 8	58
Layla Clark	Year 8	56

Pj Sunshine	Year 9	62
Rebecca Haynes	Year 9	54
Yasemin Withey-Yilmaz	Year 9	52
Dylan Theophil	Year 9	46
Hassan Farhan	Year 9	45
Jack Crutchlow	Year 9	45
Logan Meredith	Year 9	43
Louis Dinnell	Year 9	42
Arune Sestavickaite	Year 9	41
Benjamin Dack	Year 9	38
Frankie Fearon	Year 9	38
Lily-May Foster-Gaish	Year 9	38

Ellie Blake	Year 10	51
Luke Batt	Year 10	50
Amy Wang	Year 10	49
Bobby McDonald	Year 10	49
Christopher Scott	Year 10	47
Keira Webb	Year 10	47
Callie Wood	Year 10	45
Izzy Cobie	Year 10	43
Sam Wix	Year 10	43
Taylor-Grace Maycock	Year 10	43

Maisie Peacock	Year 11	63
Karys Bailey	Year 11	57
Eloisa Bellamy	Year 11	54
Heidi Peppard	Year 11	53
Millie Humphries	Year 11	53
Razvan-Stefan Jipa	Year 11	48
Sophie Hegarty	Year 11	48

Jeyla Onac	Year 11	47
Harry New	Year 11	46
Lauren Fearon	Year 11	45

House Passmores Points 5th September – 12th October 2023 (up to 8:00am):

Dragon	43896
Griffin	41812
Lion	42136
Unicorn	42064

Careers News

Upcoming Open Events

- Sat 14th Oct - Stansted Airport College 10am-2pm
- Sat 14th Oct - Writtle College 10am-3pm
- Mon 16th Oct - Braintree College 5pm-8pm
- Weds 18th Oct - Cambridge Regional College
- Thurs 19th Oct - Harlow College
- Mon 23rd Oct - F2 Academy
- Monday 30th Oct – TBSHS 10am-11am
- Thursday 30th Nov – Stansted Airport 10am-11am

Careers Fair

Passmores Academy and Stewards Academy were absolutely delighted to welcome our year 10 and 11 students to our joint Careers Fair on Wednesday 11th October 2023, held at Passmores Academy. It was a highly successful event, with the school buzzing from start to finish. Various providers attended, including Sixth Forms, Universities, and all our local Colleges as well as employers and training providers representing a wide range of career paths.

Visitors had the opportunity to speak with the providers about post-16 options and to get a better understanding of what is available to them once they leave Secondary School education. We were so pleased to see how happy the students seemed as they left the premises with a much clearer understanding of not only what they want to do after school, but also, the grade boundaries/criteria for their chosen path as well as brochures to take away (and even a goodie bag too!).

Students and parents who attended the event said:

“The evening was really helpful and informative. Gave us some things to think about, and information on how to get onto the right path for the desired career”.

“Was nice to see how many different options of Colleges, Sixth Forms and Apprenticeships are available to young people in this area”.

Providers who attended the event said:

"Great evening, we had lots of enquiries". (Harlow College)

"Fantastic event, with lots of opportunities for pupils". (St Marks)

"Lots of nice, meaningful conversations with students". (Writtle College)

"Well organised event that was very well attended". (Royal Navy)

"Excellent as always". (Make Happen)

We hope that all of the students who attended are now even more excited for their post-16 journeys, and if you have any questions at all about careers, please contact your School's careers team.



The latest digital trend growing in popularity for our children are apps on their phone or tablet that look like one thing but are secretly hiding another purpose. They first became particularly popular in 2016. However, children are becoming more and more familiar with 'secret' photo hiding apps, where an app which looks relatively ordinary is actually a hidden gateway to private photos and videos. These apps allow their users to hide images, videos and notes within the app which is also passcode protected. One of the most common types of hidden app used is a 'fake calculator' app however many others are also available.



What parents need to know about HIDDEN PHOTO APPS

MAY HIDE 'SEXTING'

The most common use for the apps is to hide 'sexting' images which young people may be sending or receiving. This problem is growing rapidly amongst students, and from an increasingly early age. Not only is sexting dangerous, but it is illegal when it involves a minor even if both the sender and receiver are underage. By storing and sending these images, young people should be aware that they are committing a crime.

ENCOURAGE IMPULSIVE BEHAVIOUR

Young people tend to act more impulsively if they believe that their behaviour will go unnoticed and remain secret, so often they will produce content for these apps thinking that it will be safe. Let's face it, how many adults read all the small print in the terms and conditions, so why would we expect our children to.

FAKE/DECOY PASSWORDS

Some of the most secure apps that are available offer the ability to set-up a decoy feature as an added layer of security. This allows the user to provide a fake password which, when used, directs people to a decoy folder containing content of the user's choice or just stock photos. The real password provides access to the secret folder within the app.

PRIVACY RISK

If you are aware that your children are using the app, you should read the small-print in the usage policy/terms and conditions to ensure the developers do not have access to any of the images stored on the device. If the photos are linked to a cloud storage, then the images stored are also in danger of being released if the application is compromised/hacked.

BYPASS PARENTAL CONTROLS

Although these apps are not specifically 'targeting' their advertisements towards children, they can generally be used by anyone over the age of 4. This means that these apps will not be blocked automatically by parental controls. Whilst online platforms, such as Apple, have removed these apps on numerous occasions from their app store, due to their popularity and potential profitability for creators, they continue to be produced and find their way into the stores or available for download.



Safety Tips For Parents



TRY TO REMAIN VIGILANT

There is a natural human instinct to believe that what we see on screen is real and accurate. If you are concerned that your child might be using secret apps, you may want to look at their phone. The search feature on a device can be used to type keywords such as 'secret', 'hidden' and 'photo vault'. On iOS, this can be done by swiping down on the home screen to open a search bar. If the app appears and says 'Open' then the app is installed. If it says 'Get' then it is not installed. On an Android device, you can go to the apps menu and use the search bar at the top of the screen.



QUESTION THE AUTHENTICITY OF DUPLICATE APPS

You should be aware that almost every mobile device will have pre-installed apps, such as notes and calculator, so the first major warning sign would be to look for duplicates of these apps. By default the pre-installed apps are almost always displayed on the first page of the home screen.



DISCUSS THE DANGERS OF 'SEXTING'

Ensure your child is aware of the dangers of sexting, and how it is illegal to keep or distribute images of minors. Try to talk to your children in a positive way and encourage them to take control of their online persona and what they are posting to others. Remind them that they always have a choice and that they can say no to anything that makes them feel even the slightest bit uncomfortable.



LOOK OUT FOR IN-BUILT 'HIDDEN' FEATURES

iPhones have the option to lock notes within the default Notes app. Users can paste images into a note file and lock it using Touch/Face ID and a password. In addition, iOS allows their users to move images to a Hidden folder in the photos app. When an image is moved to the hidden folder, it is removed from the 'All Photos' folder. To find this folder, open the 'Photos' app, scroll down and click 'Hidden'. Users may also create folders to try and hide the app on their home screen or on a second or third page. If you see a folder on your child's device, ensure you check each page for hidden apps.

CONTROL APP USAGE

If your child's iOS device is linked to your Apple ID account, you are able to set a password for downloading apps which only you know. This will mean every time your child tries to download an app, they will need your password to do so. If you do not have access to your child's Apple ID, you can delete the app without a passcode. This will delete any images stored on the app and will not be recoverable, even if the app is redownloaded.



Meet our expert

Emma Davis is a cyber security expert and former ICT teacher. She delivers cyber awareness training to organisations nationally and has extensive knowledge and experience of managing how children access services and apps online.



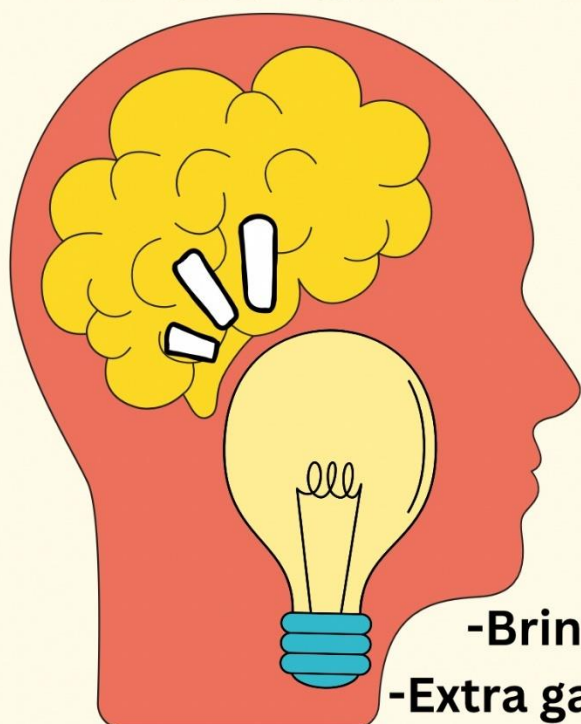
SOURCES: <https://www.businessinsider.my/apple-pulls-private-photos-calculator-from-app-store-2018-4/>, <https://smartsocial.com/private-photo-calculator-app/>, <https://offspring.lifehacker.com/is-your-teen-hiding-sexting-photos-in-a-fake-calculator-1629529749>

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.02.2020

TRIVIA

NIGHT



DO YOU
HAVE WHAT
IT TAKES?



- Bring your own food and drink.
- Extra games throughout the night.
- CASH ONLY
- Students to have an accompanying adult on their team.

FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER

7pm | Passmores Academy



OCTOBER CAMP

TWO DAYS OF NETBALL
PERFORMANCE AND FUN!

DATES AND LOCATIONS

HERTFORDSHIRE

23rd & 24th October
Wodson Park Leisure Centre | Ware

ESSEX

26th & 27th October
Passmores School | Harlow

MORE THAN A CAMP

Attacking and Defensive Masterclasses
Technical Skills and Tactical Thinking
Performance Focused Training
Final Day Tournament

OPEN TO
YEARS
4-9

FROM
£45

BOOK NOW

[NETBALLEXCELLENCETRAINING.COM](https://netballexcellencetraining.com)

The National Private Fostering Week

from the 6th to 10th November 2023

Please be on the look out for **Activities about Private Fostering** including virtual Sessions with **CORAM BAAF** on the 8th November 2023 - see below link



[press here for more information](#)

What is it?

Private Fostering is when a child/young person under 16 (18 if disabled) lives with someone who is not a close relative for more than 28 days. It is a legal requirement for parents and private foster carers to notify the Local Authority about private fostering arrangements.

Once notified, the Private Fostering Team will regularly visit the arrangement, undertake safeguarding checks and complete an assessment to ensure that the child is safeguarded and that the private foster carers are able to provide a reasonable standard of care.

Download the Essex Private Fostering App

Google Play Store



Apple Store



Online Parent Groups



Supporting Teenagers Emotional Wellbeing

Suitable for parents of children aged 12-19 years. This course is run over 3 weeks, with an optional fourth session.

This will look at ways to help your teenager manage their emotional wellbeing.

Monday 6th November 2023
Monday 13th November 2023
Monday 20th November 2023
Monday 27th November 2023 (optional)

5:30-7pm via Zoom

Challenging Behaviour (at home)

Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 6 weeks.

This will focus on an issue you are experiencing with your child and will work on strategies and ways to help deal with the issue/behaviour.

Tuesday 7th November 2023
Tuesday 14th November 2023
Tuesday 21st November 2023
Tuesday 28th November 2023
Tuesday 5th December 2023
Tuesday 12th December 2023

7-8:30pm via Zoom



Helping your Child Manage their Fears and Worries

Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 4 weeks. This will help parents work on a focussed issue they are experiencing with their child and work out strategies to help.

Thursday 9th November 2023
Thursday 16th November 2023
Thursday 23rd November 2023
Thursday 30th November 2023

1-2:30pm via Zoom



To access this FREE service you must:

- Have a child attending an school that our Mental Health Support Team (MHST) are currently working with in Harlow, Epping Forest District and Uttlesford.
- Have access to Zoom
- Able to attend ALL pre-planned sessions

If you are interested, please complete the application form by scanning the QR code



If the course you are interested in is not showing, this is because it has reached full capacity of attendees.

We will send you an email to confirm a place on the course along with joining instructions approx. 1 week prior to the course start date. Please check your mailbox regularly including your Junk/Spam folders.

If you have any queries, please contact your area admin:

Harlow - mhstharlow@mindinwestessex.org.uk

Epping Forest - mhsteppingforest@mindinwestessex.org.uk

Uttlesford - mhstuttlesford@mindinwestessex.org.uk

There are limited places available so please book your place as soon as possible.

Friends of Passmores

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Everyone is welcome.

Stay informed and get involved.

9th November 2023

6pm

Heart Space, Passmores Academy

Free tea and biscuits



Parentkind
Member Association



CHRISTMAS FAIR

JOIN US FOR CRAFTS, MUSIC
AND DELICIOUS TREATS!

1ST DECEMBER 2023

6-8:30PM

PASSMORES ACADEMY
TRACYES ROAD
HARLOW

ENTRANCE FEE
ADULT: £1
CHILD: 50P
OVER 60: 50P
UNDER 5: FREE

Maths Problem of the week:

Problem 1:

You know $2 + 2$ gives you the same total as 2×2 . Find a set of three different whole numbers whose sum is equal to their total when multiplied.

Problem 2:

A grandfather, two fathers, and two sons went to a movie theater together and everyone bought one movie ticket each. Movie tickets cost \$7.00 and their total was \$21.00. How?

Answer to the last Maths Problem:

Question 1:

6,457 because the last number is moved to the front to make the next number in the series.

Question2:

20 times (8, 18, 28, 38, 48, 58, 68, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 98)

Forthcoming Events:

Friday 13 th October	Trivia Quiz Night - all welcome Doors 7.00pm for 7.30pm start
23 rd – 27 th October	Half Term
Thursday 9 th November	FOP's Annual General Meeting - parents and staff welcome 5.30pm - 6.30pm



Natalie Christie

Principal of Passmores Academy

TEACHarlow

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