Newsletter Friday 14th February 2025 Issue 20





Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Valentines Day everyone! We have been sharing lots of love today, the place has been awash with smiling faces and excitement. A few new love matches have been sparked, who knows how some of these may develop moving forward!

I learnt a new take on Valentines Day this morning, 'Galentines' Day. Have you heard of it? This is where girlfriends choose to get together instead of embarking on the more traditional romantic evening with partners. Maybe choosing a film to stay in for, some cocktails and pyjamas. I know what I would rather be doing on a Friday night after a long week at work!

We are now halfway through the year; it never ceases to amaze me how quickly time flies. Next half term we will get to know who has been offered a place for year 7 and for our year 9s they will be choosing their options ready for KS4.

For now, we just all want to make the most of the half term and look forward to Spring and lighter mornings and evenings. You all have a wonderful week.

Natalie Christie Principal of Passmores Academy TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

PASTORAL UPDATE

SUBJECT INFORMATION/UPDATES

SPORT/PE UPDATES

CAREERS NEWS

ANY OTHER INFORMATION

13 FORTHCOMING EVENTS

USEFUL LINKS

Parents/Carers Letters **Clubs and Activities** School Calendar **ParentPay**











Mimms, Joshua	Year 7	41
Howe, Bailey	Year 7	35
Seip, Joshua	Year 7	35
Denkewicz, Maria	Year 7	34
Mahon, Charlie	Year 7	33
Addison, Sophie	Year 7	32
Chui, Kingsley	Year 7	31
Shraka, Mia	Year 7	31
Cooper, Elsiemay	Year 7	30
Howe, Tate	Year 7	30
Mahon, Olly	Year 7	30
Root, Riley	Year 7	30

Pay, Amelia	Year 8	36
Butterfield, Harriet	Year 8	33
Golding, Faye	Year 8	33
Ozimek, Nela	Year 8	33
Mati, Alvin	Year 8	32
Wright, Megan	Year 8	32
Paxton, Bobby	Year 8	31
Surer, Shakil	Year 8	31
Boorman, Isabelle	Year 8	30
Brandle, Aiden	Year 8	30
Hollis, Lucy	Year 8	30
Steel, Kayla-Rose	Year 8	30
Stewart, Isobella	Year 8	30

Benge, Maddie	Year 9	37
Collins, Lily	Year 9	35
Redding, Jack	Year 9	34
Andersons, Erik	Year 9	33
Hill, Sadie	Year 9	33
Warner, Max	Year 9	33
Renker, Grace	Year 9	32
Hockley, Rhys	Year 9	30
Brown, Charlie	Year 9	29
Buhaescu, Fabiana	Year 9	29
Euesden, Sophia	Year 9	29

TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

7th to 13th February 2025

Man, Charlotte	Year 10	42
Sunshine, Pj	Year 10	41
Dolling, Tommy	Year 10	40
Tawonezvi, Tanaka	Year 10	39
Rossiter, Bailey	Year 10	38
White, Beth	Year 10	38
Morris, Elissa	Year 10	37
Hurley, Leon	Year 10	34
Honan, Faraya	Year 10	33
Daku, Edi	Year 10	32
Dinnell, Louis	Year 10	32

Brandle, Charlie	Year 11	20
Hall, Charlie	Year 11	19
Boylan, Holly	Year 11	17
Larkin, Toby	Year 11	17
Stringer, Lara	Year 11	17
Dorrington, Harry	Year 11	16
Jackman, Jude	Year 11	16
Mustafa, Emin	Year 11	16
Labalpiny, Erin	Year 11	15
Erikume, Victor	Year 11	14

Year Group Attendance (3 rd to 7 th February 2025)		
Year 7	89.96%	
Year 8	88.22%	
Year 9	87.61%	
Year 10	87.48%	
Year 11	85.45%	
All Students	87.77%	

PASTORAL UPDATE



Thought for the Week

This week, students explored Safer Internet Day, reflecting on how we use the internet and the potential dangers it can pose. Key messages included:

- The internet is a powerful tool that can be used for both good and harm.
- To stay safe online, we must be vigilant, use strong passwords, and enable two-step verification.
- Personal details should never be shared with someone we don't know.
- If ever in doubt, speak to a trusted adult, as advised by the young people in this week's video resources.

In the News - National Apprenticeship Week

Students explored National Apprenticeship Week, learning about alternative career pathways and the benefits apprenticeships can offer. By gaining insight into apprenticeships, students can make more informed decisions about their future educational and career choices.



Safer

Internet

Day 2025 11 Februar

saferinternetday.org.uk

Tuesday

Other News

Mind Matters & Time to Talk – Session 4

- Mind Matters focused on healthy ways to express emotions, using scenarios and discussions to help students develop emotional intelligence.
- Time to Talk provided an opportunity for students to practise, extend, and develop these skills with their peers.

Golden Ticket Awards

 Students who engaged positively in their Mind Matters and Time to Talk sessions this half-term were awarded Golden Tickets in recognition of their efforts.

End of Term House Assemblies

- These assemblies celebrated the incredible achievements of students, both individually and collectively.
- As a reward, students from the winning House in each year group wore non-uniform today. Due to mock exams, those winning year 11 students will have their non-uniform day Monday 3rd March.

Year 11 Mock Exams

 Year 11 students have completed their first week of the two-week mock exam window – well done to all for their dedication and effort!

Music House Competition

 Music lovers from each House competed with pride, showcasing their musical talents and passion for performance.

Continued on the next page...

Looking Ahead to the Week After Half-Term

➤ In the News – We will be marking LGBTQ+ History Month, reflecting on the contributions and experiences of the LGBTQ+ community throughout history.



➤ Thought for the Week – Students will take part in Session 5 of Mind Matters and Time to Talk, continuing their journey in emotional well-being and communication.

We hope everyone has a well-deserved and restful half-term break! See you all soon for another exciting half-term ahead!



CAUGHT DOING GOOD...



(Monday 10th to Friday 14th February 2025)

Year 7
Zoe Richards
Millie McNeilly
Mia Adams
Jude GowardJohnson

Year 8

Xavier Peters

Archie Gale

Reggie Gates
Isobella Stewart

Olly Roberts

Year 9
Amber Norburn
Thea Ely
Preston Miller
Jokubas Garmata
Melanie Da Mata

Year 10
Roksana Ozimek
Lily Mills
Yas Somerville
Teddy Delieu
Hannais Luzitu

Year 11
Katie Mahon
Charlie Doye
Ethan Rouse
Lewis Richards



Ellie Cooper	Dylan Aley	Paige Bedford	Rosie Aken
Lilia McGinley	Amelia-Mae Keeble	Daniella Costantinou	Lucas Andrews
Lily Shimmen	lvy-Mae Rann	Millie Higgins	Rein Keen
Ruby Warner	Ashanti Smith	Livvy McAlpine	Emylei Windeler

SUBJECT/INFORMATION UPDATES

Drama

Happy Friday all! Performing Arts team here again!

We have had a very exciting fortnight! After recovering from our two showcase events in January, we have jumped straight into preparation for our school musical this year which is "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory".

Last week we held auditions, and it was so lovely to see so many of our school community trying out for principal roles. It's been an absolute pleasure watching and hearing what everyone can do and when we got to Thursday and had to make decisions about casting, it all became very difficult. However, after much discussion and trying out different pairings, we managed to successfully choose our principals, and the expressive arts corridor was a very excitable place to be at lunchtime on Friday when the final cast list was posted. There were many happy faces and even if people did not get the exact role they wanted, they all seemed happy with the role they were offered. We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who put themselves out there for a main part and we are excited about the future of the school show as we move forward. It's taken us a while to see pupils take risks since coming back after lockdown, and this year feels so positive and lovely. All those of you that did not get the part you wanted this year, don't worry — we will be back with another show next year and cannot wait to see how you've come on in your musical skills by the time we reach next February.

We started rehearsals this week and it's all sounding good so far! Principals have started their read-through, and our ensemble have done some early work on their Oompa Loompa characterisation. All I can say at this stage, is that it's going to be lots of fun!

We also managed to squeeze a trip in this week, to the Apollo Victoria Theatre in London, with our drama club members and some of our Year 9 drama students. We thoroughly enjoyed the stage musical version of Wicked, which is now entering its 22nd year on stage!

Prior to the show, the students enjoyed a scenic tour of London's famous sites, taking in the history and culture of our capital city.

On arrival to the theatre, we were all wowed by the beautiful set, including a giant dragon which looms over the auditorium. Throughout the performance, the students showed wonderful theatre etiquette and were fantastic ambassadors for our school. They even managed to resist singing along to the famous "Popular" and "Defying Gravity" numbers!

If you were eagerly awaiting Wicked Part 2 later this year, we apologise for any spoilers that your young person may have shared with you. The students were very excited by the plot twists revealed in Act 2 and enjoyed making the links with the original Wizard of Oz story.

Our next exciting trip is for Year 10 and 11 GCSE Students. They will be visiting the National Theatre on the 19th of March to see 'Alterations', a comedy set in a tailor's shop which explores the Guyanese experience of 1970s London and the aspirations and sacrifices of the Windrush generation. This trip is in preparation for the Year 11 final exam in May and the Year 10 mock exams this summer.





Year 10 Jack Petchey Speak Out



On Monday and Tuesday this week 60 year 10 students took part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out workshops. The purpose of the workshops is to instill confidence in our students when delivering speeches or speaking in interviews.

The trainers were very complimentary of the students who took part. On each day, 5 students were nominated to take part in a further Speak Out challenge which will take place in the English Department after half term.

A finalist will be chosen to represent Passmores at the Jack Petchey Speak Out Regional finals which will be held at Davenant School in May.

Year 11 A Christmas Carol Production

This term we invited a theatre company into Passmores to perform "A Christmas Carol" to our Year 11 students. The students study this text as part of the English Literature course and they are expected to have a good level of understanding of the novella. The 3 actors who performed the roles were fantastic and the performance was true to the plot outline of the novella. It helped to bring the events in the novella to life and it has helped to embed the knowledge of the text.



The 60-minuteperformance was a resounding success and it was enjoyed by all the Year 11's as well as the English teachers.

Exciting News: Book Fair at Passmores



We are hosting a book fair from Wednesday 26th March - 3rd April. It is a great opportunity to purchase some newly released books as well as some old favourites at very good prices. Students will be able to purchase books during break and lunchtime.

So, please support this fantastic opportunity ahead of the Easter holidays.

News flash: The newly released Hunger Games book will be available to buy at the book fair!





HALF TERM REVISION SESSIONS

FEBRUARY 2025

OVERVIEW

DATE	SUBJECT	TIME	ROOM
MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY	TEXTILES MUSIC ENGLISH PAPER 1 & PAPER 2	10AM - 3PM 9.30AM - 1.30PM 10AM - 12PM	D103 L110 U101, U102 & U103
TUESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY	DRAMA - YR 10	10AM - 12PM 10.30AM - 1PM	HALL G101
WEDNESDAY. 19TH FEBRUARY	DRAMA - YR 11	10.30AM - 2PM	L10 <i>7</i>
FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY	MATHS - FOUNDATION MATHS- HIGHER	10AM - 1.30PM	G104 G006

SPORTS/PE UPDATES

Boys U14 - Cricket

The U14 boys took part in the Essex indoor cricket qualification on Tuesday 11th at Forest School. This involved a round robin tournament with Forest School, Chigwell School and Mayfield School.

The two former teams are private education establishments, where they specifically have boys attending on cricket scholarships. Our first game was against Chigwell, and they scored 48 runs, so it was always going to be a challenge to chase the score down. Lawrence Forde put on a respectable 24 but unfortunately, we only managed to score 38 runs, so lost out by 10 runs.

Next up were the tournament favourites Forest School. We set them a good target of 42 runs to beat and they nicked the win in the last over scoring 44 runs, with the boys tightening up their fielding and making important runs between the wickets when batting. So, it went down to the final game to see who finished 3rd, and we saved the best to the last game.

We scored a very convincing score of 46 runs for Mayfield to chase down, and with some exceptional bowling from Lawrence Forde and Charlie Daltrey, we managed to keep the opposition only to 26 runs overall.

Well done boys you did Passmores proud.

Boys U13 - Football

This week saw our mighty U13s play against St. Mark's in a match that ended 11-0! Having already also beaten Stewards previously, this means we now qualify for the Harlow District final against one of the BMAT schools which will be played later this year.



CAREERS NEWS





We are inviting Y10 and Y11 students to Writtle College in the February half term for a Football Academy Taster Session with Leyton Orient. Students and their parents will have the opportunity to learn about our Level 3 Sport Coaching and Development with Football Academy course, and students will have a chance to join a football coaching session run by the Leyton Orient coaching team.

No prior football experience is necessary.

Session breakdown

9:45-9:50 - Arrival and registration

9:50 - 10:05 - Introduction to Writtle College

10:05 - 10:15 - Introduction to Leyton Orient

10:15 - 11:15 - Football Training with Leyton Orient coaches

11:15 -11:30 - Debrief, competition and prizes

Available dates

Tuesday 18 February 2025

9.45-11.30am Writtle College Sports Pavilion, Foxburrows Lane, CM1 3SS

How to book:

Slots are first come first served for individual students and can be booked below. Places are limited, and booking is essential.

Book Female Taster Session

Book Male Taster Session



This week was National Apprenticeships Week. Students were given a quiz in tutor time to find out what they know about apprenticeships.

Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study. They are paid, so offer the opportunity to learn while bringing in a wage. Young people work alongside experienced staff and gain skills unique to the workplace, as well as an increasingly well-respected qualification, over a period of one to four years. Apprenticeships are offered from intermediate level to higher/degree level. You can use the governments national apprenticeship website to find out more and search for vacancies www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

You can test your own knowledge by answering this quiz https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/the-apprenticeship-quiz-2025/.

Choices magazine is produced monthly and gives parents lots of information on apprenticeship routes and opportunities. You can access the February issue on https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/choices-magazine-february-parent-carers-guide/.





School leaver engineering apprenticeships being advertised on the 'Find An Apprenticeship' website:

Apprentice Production Technician – Find an apprenticeship – GOV.UK (closing date 5th March).

Apprentice Electrical Engineer - Enfield - Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK (closing date 21st Feb).



To buy your tickets, click the link below:

<u> http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-passmores</u>



GET YOUR TICKETS FROM Y030 OR

FOP@PASSMORESACADEMY.COM





Alton Towers family 4-day pass Magician's Table Immerse experience x 2 Pircio's Restaurant voucher Mayfield Bakery handcrafted cake Cammas Hall farm Football golf x 6 Suzi Q ear piercing Scratch 18 Virtual Golf Go Karting for Fun Bella Tots handmade gifts **Church Langley Tesco** Dog & Pickle voucher Make Believe 1 month class Top Golf x 4 players 2 games **Create Identitee voucher** Harlow College beauty voucher Wild n Wacky pass **HIP HOP POP voucher Marcanto Restaurant voucher** Wagamama voucher **G9 Football** Legends Hairdressers girls style voucher more to come

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 6 th March	KS4 Hollywood Night
Thursday 20 th March	KS4 Options Evening
Friday 28 th March 2025	Passmores Got Talent
Thursday 3 rd April	Year 9 Parent/Carer Evening
Thursday 24 th April	Year 10 Parent/Carer Evening

Moved house? Changed your phone number? Have you let us know?



Please can you remember to let us know if any of your contact details have changed, so that so that we can update our records.

You can do this easily by emailing our Data Team:

datateam@passmoresacademy.com or via the Arbor app.



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

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE RELATIONSHIPS & DATING APPS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? Dating apps are used to help people find new relationships – whether casual or more long term – matching users based on age, interests, gender and more. Some may consider dating apps harmless to under-18s because they aren't able to use them, but effective age verification measures are quite scarce, and it's been known for young people to end up on apps of this type.

EASE OF ACCESS

The relatively lacage verification process of many dating appa makes them incredibly occossible to children who really shouldn't be using them. This comies the abvious risk of exposing under life to a dating scene populated by abults – who many not even be expresed the young person's true age. This is concerning when we consider the making butter common on these apps – with many people using them to arrange costual sesual encounters.

CONTACT AND CONDUCT RISKS

Once someone is active an a dating app, their speak invests profites can be sixed to the app, and might be accessed by others. This can lead to random users stilling into their DM's' (sending a direct message) without consent. Complete strangers could start bornbarding a young person's index with protures, messages and sexual comments.

SCAMS AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Same young people may feel they've formed a real bond with someone through ordine dating, but there's always a risk that it's not genuine. Scammers on these apps often build remuntic connections with their victims - then accu they feel they have their victims trust, they begin acking for maney under take pretences (such as suggesting they meet in person and requesting o four to cover a train tacket).

UNVERIFIED ACCOUNTS

As with all online interactions, you may not be taking to whom you think you are. Without poying a subscription, users of during apps can often only view a certain number of profiles at a time. A Tikfor trand has advised young people to set their age limit to 80 years and over - putting them in a sparse and more exclusive, category to bypass the usual settictions. Unless underly, this can lead to matches with some nucle cities.

PEER PRESSURE

The pressure to be in a relationship can be huge, and many young people use online dating appe, as a cast-effective way to meet others. Some users find it difficult to meet people organically are to their lifestyle, and may not have the time or maney to go out and socialise. It's also common for young people to set up accounts for their single friends in the loope of finding a match for someone they know.

SKEWED PERSPECTIVES

Dating apps can promote an unrealistic view of what makes someone attractive. With such wast appliant, some users can become both picky and extremely harsh about others' appearance. Utilimately, all you see on these appearance. Utilimately, all you see on these appearance. Utilimately, all you see on these oppes are pictures (with no insight into someone's personality), and some young people struggle with the fear of being judged. Deen when someone does start dating, there's a personality and potentially better match.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK ABOUT DATING APPS

Let young people know that they can talk to you about anything, even something as private as their dating life. At school, the relationships, sex and health curriculum can assist with conversations around healthy relationships, consent and online safety. Emphasise the message that you want to help them make healthy, sale and informed choices. If they feel emborrossed talking to you, make sure they have a trusted adult who can help them.

ENCOURAGE DATA PROTECTION

Empower young people to protect their data and personal information. Explain why including things like their school, age and surname in their profile could potentially be dangerous. Make sure they know never to give out personal details, and that there's no reason for other users to ask for them. If they feel uneasy about a situation online, they need to speak to someone that they can trust.

VERIFICATION STAMPS

taploin that someone using a dating app should only communicate with those who have game through a verification process. Online dating apps use a variety of methods to ascertain a user's identity, including scanning valid documents (such as a driver's ficence or passport). Verification can use involve users taking a selfie to ensure that the photos on their profile match it.

REPORT AND BLOCK

Remind young people that they can elegis report or block (or both) anyone who makes them leef uncomfortable on any platform. Ask if they know how to do this and offer to help them figure it out if they're unsure. Every app should have advice on how to report or block another user, so be sure young people are familiar with the settings.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecco Jennings works of BAISE (www.ralseducation.org.uk) in the field of relationships, sex and health education, providing educational, age-appropriate workshops for pupils around the more sensitive arose of the curriculum – including anime safety and healthy relationships.





The National College



Mixed Ability Rugby Sessions for ages 6-24

FREE Inclusive Fun Social **Time:** Alternate Saturdays, 9am-10.30am from 15th of March 2025, follow us on social media for updates.

Location: Harlow Rugby Club, CM20 3FD



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