

Newsletter

Friday 20th September 2024 Issue 03



Passmores
ACADEMY



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those of you who were able to join us for the Parent Information Evenings this week, we hope that you found them useful. Keeping you as up to date as possible with what is happening is important to us, as is your feedback. Can I please ask that you complete the feedback survey, even if you were unable to attend, we will use this to help us make any necessary changes for next year.

As you can see from the newsletter, clubs and activities are now in full swing, and the staff have been blown away by the enthusiasm shown

by our young people. There is lots to look forward to in the coming weeks regarding fixtures, trips and showcase events. This part of school life is so important, and we are thrilled that so many students are getting involved. Talking of getting involved, we have had over 350 students express an interest in helping at our Open Evening next week. We are in the final throws of allocation and students will find out on Tuesday where they will be placed. Consent forms must be returned to take part.

On Monday we will be launching the Arbor Parent App, and the student app will follow later in the week. All the information will be shared with you next week, so look out for the communication.

Natalie Christie
Principal of Passmores Academy

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TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

Monday 2nd - Thursday 12th September 2024

Stannard, Macie	Year 7	41
Layer, James	Year 7	39
McIntosh, Jack	Year 7	39
Smith, Luke	Year 7	38
Hardwidge, Archie	Year 7	35
Knox, Blake	Year 7	35
Laurino, Thomas	Year 7	34
Van Bosch, Christiaan	Year 7	33
Dinnell, Jacob	Year 7	32
Mahon, Charlie	Year 7	32

Surtees, Amelia	Year 8	54
Jackson, Annie	Year 8	42
Beckwith, Olivia	Year 8	41
Groves, Dexter	Year 8	37
Evans, Tillie	Year 8	36
Osagie-Ighodaro, Jennifer	Year 8	35
Boorman, Isabelle	Year 8	34
Borland, Edward	Year 8	34
Cairns, Frankie	Year 8	33
Stewart, Isobella	Year 8	33

Melnyk, Oleh	Year 9	32
Rocha Santos, Enzo	Year 9	32
Salter, Billy	Year 9	31
Silva Magri, Nicolas	Year 9	30
Warner, Max	Year 9	30
Brown, Charlie	Year 9	29
Chambers, Callum	Year 9	29
Sowunmi, Ronel	Year 9	28
Blackburn-Curpen, Logan	Year 9	27
Burgess, Shay	Year 9	27

Francis-Melvin, Sid	Year 10	38
Shipwright, Ronnie	Year 10	34
Foster-Gaish, Lily-May	Year 10	32
Vobe, Daisy	Year 10	32
Breeds, Riley	Year 10	31
Edwards, Melissa	Year 10	30
Honan, Faraya	Year 10	30
Laska, Wiktoria	Year 10	30
Martin, Lewis	Year 10	30
Vobe, Evie	Year 10	29
Carey, Alix	Year 10	29

Laney, Mckenzie	Year 11	29
Rouse, Ethan	Year 11	28
Wix, Sam	Year 11	28
Sherif, Ahmed	Year 11	28
Read-Smith, Alfie	Year 11	27
Lawrence, Owaen	Year 11	27
Mustafa, Emin	Year 11	26
Hummerston, Suki	Year 11	25
Roffey, Alice	Year 11	24
Kwok, Amy	Year 11	23
Olaru, Mario	Year 11	23

PASTORAL UPDATE

Thought for the Week

This week's Thought for the Week saw students embrace their **House identity and spirit** in the first House assemblies of the year. Each House revisited its vision and values, setting the tone for the year ahead. There's a lot of excitement and anticipation, with all Houses aiming to be crowned House Champions. Will Lion House make it three wins in a row, or will another House rise to the top this year?

In the News

In this week's In the News segment, students delved into the topic of **misinformation** and its significant role in shaping events like the summer riots. Through these discussions, students developed a deeper understanding of how misinformation can fuel misunderstandings and unrest, both in society and in their everyday lives.

Other News

In other exciting news, **Year 11** students had a visit from **Hertford Regional College**, offering valuable insights into post-16 options and pathways.

We also welcomed **Year 7, 8, and 9** students, along with their parents and carers, for the annual **Parent/Carer Information Evenings**. These evenings provided crucial information about the academic year and how to best support our students' success.

Looking Ahead to Next Week

Looking ahead, next week promises more engaging opportunities for our students. Thought for the Week will focus on celebrating European Day of Languages. Linked to this, our first House event will be hosted by the French department. The In the News segment, will explore the link between social media and mental health. To support this, students will have a virtual assembly from Kooth.com. Year 11 students will have a visit from Herts & Essex.

It's going to be another exciting week as we continue to focus on achieving excellence in both academics and personal development!



SUBJECT INFORMATION UPDATE

Computer Science

Our new Year 7 cohort have all embarked on their journey towards achieving their iDEA awards. This is the equivalent to a Duke of Edinburgh award and is industry recognised! Alongside this, they are experiencing Python programming for the first time.

Year 8 are exploring the hardware and software that makes up modern computer systems and Year 9 are investigating the threats companies and individuals face digitally in their cybersecurity unit.

Our new year 10s have started fantastically on their GCSE courses, researching about the media industry in Creative and Technical Enterprise and our Computer Scientists have discovered that there are 10 types of people in the world, those who understand binary and those who don't.

Our year 11s continue to impress us with their devotion to their qualifications and outcomes and we are looking forward to seeing them through their final year with us.

Drama subject update

Welcome Back! In the drama department we have hit the ground full pelt and clubs are up and running as usual, along with exciting opportunities to see theatre and plans for the rest of the year! Let's go 2024-25!

Our three clubs have started with a bang. Our Year 7 & 8 drama club had over 50 attendees on Tuesday this week! All of whom were brilliant and funny and keen to share their creative skills with us all. It was slightly chaotic, but great fun! We will be seeing who our regular attendees are in the coming fortnight and assigning short plays for each group to rehearse for a performance later in the year (probably December or January) in our showcase night. More to follow once we have a schedule in place.

Year 9, 10 and 11 Drama Excellence Club has also returned. There is still room for more in this group so if you child loves drama and performing, encourage them to join us next session (which won't be until Thursday 3rd October due to Open Evening taking place next week – 26th Sept). This elite group will be putting together a short play, of their choosing, rehearsing and getting everything to a reasonable standard before sharing the performance at the aforementioned showcase event in December or January.

Technical Theatre Club runs on a Friday after school. This club is run by an ex-pupil who now works at Harlow Playhouse and studies production arts at Harlow College. If your child is interested in learning how to operate sound and lighting, manage the stage and get involved with set design, please send them along to learn skills ready for our school production in the summer.

In the classroom – we have enjoyed a wonderful start to the academic year. The engagement and participation from pupils has been fantastic. Every lesson has been fun and we are looking forward to seeing what pupils can achieve as we get stuck into our various units this year.

Upcoming trips:

Friday 20th September: Key Stage four (Y9, 10 & 11) trip to Harlow Playhouse to see “James Rowland Dies at the End” – a one man show.

Tuesday 15th October: GCSE Drama (Y10 & 11) trip to see “Operation Mincemeat” at The Fortune Theatre in London’s West End. All GCSE drama students are expected to attend this trip. Letters will be out next week. The show is excellent – funny, poignant and exciting. We are very excited to be able to offer this very popular show as a school trip.

Friday 6th December: Key Stage three (Y7 & 8) trip to see “Dick Whittington”, pantomime at Harlow Playhouse. This trip will take place during the day and involve a walk to Harlow Playhouse before watching the show and being collected from Harlow Playhouse by parents once it is done. We have the entire auditorium booked for this one so can take up to 390 students for this festive afternoon out! Letters to follow in the next fortnight.

12th February 2025: Key stage three (Y7, 8 & 9) trip to see “Wicked” at London’s Apollo Theatre. This will be a matinee performance so pupils will be expected to bring lunch to eat beforehand. The coach will return to school sometime around 6pm we think (depends on traffic). Letters will come out a little further into the school year. We don’t want to bombard you with too many letters all at once!

We’ll be back once we’ve caught our breath from all this exciting trip planning! Stay posted for news on our showcase event in the winter. We can’t wait to welcome you back into our wonderful performance space and share the work your fabulous children have created!

Here are some pictures from our first session with Y7 & 8 drama club....



SPORTS/PE UPDATES

We had a very promising start to our Rugby season, with the U13s and U16s teams taking to the field this week at Harlow Rugby Club. Both age groups, boasting full squads with lots of experience and full of enthusiasm. The U13s started strong with a fantastic performance against St Nick's, a great tackle and quick thinking at the breakdown saw Bobby Paxton break down the left wing to score the winning try in an impressive 10-5 win. There still things to work an as Passmores saw defeat in their last 2 games but there is still a lot more to expect from this exciting side.

The U16s saw a similar record to our younger side. An impressive 14-0 win over Burnt Mill set the standard with an incredible carry and offload by Ethan Rouse, finding the hands of Alfie Davidson to register his second try of the game. Even though results didn't always favour our teams, there are many positives to take away as we look forward to competing in our District competitions over the coming weeks.

Good luck to our U12 and U14 teams who will be competing next week!

Clubs continue to attract high numbers of students, keep this up you will see the benefits.

Next Thursday will see our girls U13 and U14 football season start with friendlies against Molsham High if you are interested, please visit Miss Wiley.

CAREERS NEWS

Careers Fair
Don't forget to plan in our careers fair for students in years 10 and 11 at Harlow Study Centre on the 9th October, 5pm-7pm. 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, Avant Garde, 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.

NHS England – South East Nursing Insight Event
Thursday 10 Oct | 18:00 -19:00 - For students in years 10 and 11
Explore Opportunities in the NHS and Healthcare in South East England!
This is your moment to dive into the world of healthcare and discover the amazing opportunities the NHS has to offer! The NHS is one of the largest employers in the world, with 1.3 million staff dedicated to providing exceptional services. Join this free insight event to find out more.
Free sign up: <https://pathwayctm.com/event/nhs-se-insight-3/>



College open events
Hertford Regional College - Tuesday 24th Sept 5.30pm-8pm

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.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about FINAL FANTASY XIV

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
16

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

The video game Final Fantasy XIV launched in 2010, and, despite being critically panned, it saw an overhaul that has made it one of the biggest success stories in gaming. Its huge world, epic story and versatile combat system have continued to draw in new players, but there's a lot that trusted adults need to be aware of – not least the cost of paying monthly to play.

ALWAYS ONLINE

Final Fantasy XIV is an MMORPG, which stands for Massively Multiplayer Online Role-Playing Game. Much like World of Warcraft, players create a character in a chosen class and level up by completing quests to gain power and items. The game requires a constant internet connection, whether you're playing on PC, Mac, PlayStation or Xbox, and there's no option to play offline.

REGULAR EXPANSIONS

As with similar titles in the genre, players can purchase expansions to unlock additional content for the game. Those without the expansions will be locked out of certain new quests and activities, meaning that young people who play regularly will potentially have the next release earmarked on their calendar, ready to buy it as soon as possible.

IN-GAME PURCHASES & SUBSCRIPTION FEE

Users need to pay £8.99 per month to play Final Fantasy XIV, but there is a free trial. If someone stops paying, they'll lose access to their character (although they'll be able to pick up the payments again and resume where they left off). If a player forgets to cancel their payments, however, those subscription fees will continue rolling on automatically.

FREE TRIAL

VOICE & TEXT CHAT

Final Fantasy XIV lets players send chat messages in-game or speak to each other over voice chat. On the one hand, that provides plenty of choice for how those enjoying the game can interact with their fellow fans. On the other hand, however, it's easier than in many games to receive unprompted messages from a stranger, with whom you constantly share your play space.

VIOLENCE

While Final Fantasy XIV has a fairly light tone throughout some of its quests, many involve killing enemies and sometimes even wild animals. The violence isn't especially strong – more comparable to a cartoon or anime style – but the act alone may make some children feel uncomfortable, if they're not yet able to separate fictional harm from the real kind.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

As with World of Warcraft, there's an element of addiction to Final Fantasy XIV. The gameplay loop can be quite engrossing, as minutes turn into hours and hours into days while playing alone or with friends. This can potentially lead to missing real-life events, a lack of interest in any activities not related to the game and procrastination around responsibilities like schoolwork.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MANAGE PLAYTIME

Playtime limits are a great way to counter the addictive qualities of games like Final Fantasy XIV. They allow you to discuss why it's still important to enjoy things outside of gaming while still letting a child enjoy playing online with their friends when it makes sense to do so. It's all well and good to have fun with a game, so long as they're able to step away and reconnect with the real world.

MAKE USE OF THE FREE TRIAL

The Final Fantasy XIV free trial is a generous one, with no limits on how long someone can play until their character hits level 70. That's easily dozens of hours for a child to go through the game, complete quests, and see if they enjoy it before purchasing expansions or subscribing to a membership. They may well move on to something else before you need to spend so much as a penny.

PLAY TOGETHER

The free trial makes it extremely easy to jump into Final Fantasy XIV and play alongside a child, provided they're old enough. Not only does that help you ensure that settings are adjusted for their privacy and safety, but it may also end up becoming a bonding experience for you both and any other family members that want to try it out.

REMEMBER, IT'S A PEGI 16

Despite its often-relaxing nature, Final Fantasy XIV carries a PEGI 16 rating for violence and drugs (although the latter is due to a character smoking a pipe on occasion). There's minimal blood, but characters can attack enemies (and other players) with weapons and spells. Take a look at some gameplay videos to see if the content is appropriate for a younger player.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor-in-Chief of GRecon, and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A longtime fan of online games, he's also a parent, and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has previously been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/final-fantasy-14>



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Young People (11-16)

GAME

Great Activities Mindfulness
and Eating

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CLUB IN TOWN!**

GOOD
VIBES



Cooking

Table Tennis

Arts and Crafts

Pool

Console Games

Culture exchange

Mental wellbeing awareness
and more !!

Monday

Hare Street Youth centre
from

5pm to 7pm

Harbets Road, CM19 4AY

Wednesday

Xperience Centre

from

6pm to 8pm

Broadley Road, CM19 5RD

For more information contact

Ashton: 07709852825 -

ashton.livermoreroses@barnardos.org.uk

Gerald: 07526582976 -

gerald.sibindi@barnardos.org.uk

GAME Whatsapp Channel
QR Code



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Multiply Maths



Transition workshop for parents of children in Year 6

Want to support your child as they transition
from Year 6 maths to secondary school Year 7?

Including an overview of the
curriculum at Year 7, common
challenges and concerns,
strategies to support children
and exploring useful resources.



**Stewards Academy,
Parnall Road, Harlow, CM18 7NQ**

The transition course consists of one session:

1st October - 5.30pm to 7.30pm

Book your FREE place today! [Click here](#) to book online

Contact the school office or email: info@tiegr.org



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www.lordstaverners.org/super1s



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**20th September
25th October
22nd November
20th December**



2024 Dates are on our Website

Book online or pay cash at the door

Check out our website for Special Events, Party's and offers

Tel: 07507878927 - email: enquiries@sallys.me.uk

Passmores Academy

Tracyes Road, Harlow, Essex CM18 6JH



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Monday 23 rd September 2024	Year 7 Road Safety Play
Wednesday 25 th September 2024	Year 11 Road Safety Play 'Dead End'
Thursday 26 th September 2024	Year 6 Tours and Open Evening
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



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