

Spring Term 2025

February 2025

Issue 6

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Staff,

This month's newsletter is all about where the money we raises goes to. We realised that we ask you to come along to events and spend your money but never tell you where the money goes.

Over the years we have given grants to departments to spend where they wish but recently, we have asked departments what they would like to better their student's education, and then we go shopping for them.

It is great to see staff and students' faces light up when we drop off their order; it is almost like Christmas and birthdays all come at once. We then ask the department to capture the students' learning from our grant. It is great to hear feedback from the students. Below are a few departments' feedback and some photos from students and staff.

At the bottom of the newsletter, you will find information on our next fundraising event... the Raffle... We have some incredible prizes for you this year, and at only £1 per ticket, you won't want to miss out.



## Grants

### Technology

We requested an iPad to help students create digital drawings, refine designs, and photograph their coursework for their portfolios. This resource bridges the gap between traditional and digital design, allowing students to explore industry-standard tools and present their portfolios to a high standard. We are incredibly grateful to Friends of Passmores for this generous gift, which will enrich our students' learning and prepare them for future creative careers.

### Spanish

Thank you so much for the dictionaries that FOPS purchased for us. They have been invaluable in supporting our students with dictionary skills - independent learning in Spanish lessons - as well as broadening their vocabulary in both languages.

### Geography

Here's the photo of the equipment used on our geography field trip to Walton-on-the-Naze. Students have to measure the sediment along the groynes to see if they are effective at stopping longshore drift – it is vital data for their GCSE enquiry paper.



### English

The English department ordered a variety of things: a set of thesauri, three visualisers and 100 copies of "A Christmas Carol".

In our lessons we are intent on our students broadening their vocabulary. Using a thesaurus is an ideal way to help students develop their vocabulary. Currently, in the English classrooms we have a limited number of thesauri and we would like ensure that all our students have access to this resource. The FOPs have generously purchased more thesauri for us. This will help enhance the students' experiences in our classrooms.

We also put a request in for three visualisers. A visualiser connects work to the whiteboard and it very useful when we are modelling examples to our students or showing the class work exemplars from the lesson. It is a great tool to help our student improve their work by seeing how editing of written work can take place, or to show a student how to begin and develop a piece of work.

We also put a bid in for 100 copies of "A Christmas Carol" as it is a new text that we are currently studying at GCSE, and we need to build up our resources. Students will now have access to new copies of the text which is fantastic!

Thank you so much to "Friends of Passmores" for supporting the English Department.



## Computer Science

Thank you for the *Code and Go* mice. They have been very beneficial to the learning of year 7s during their Python Turtle unit, aiding them with their programming skills.

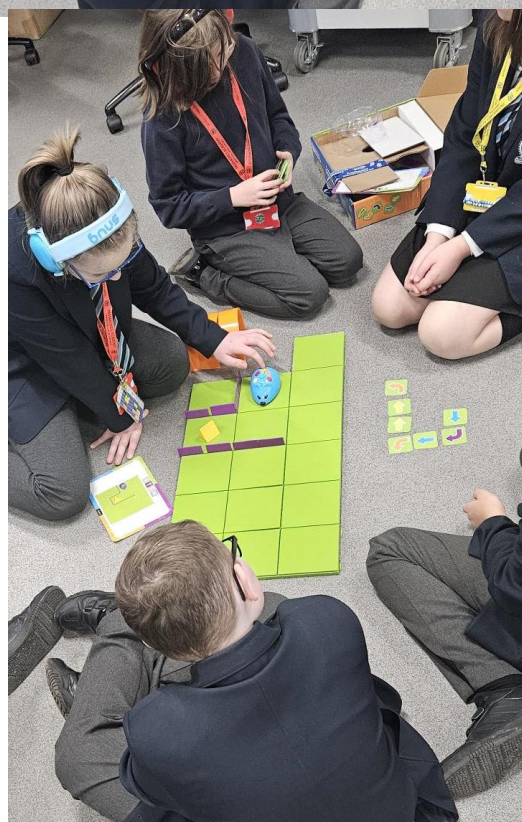
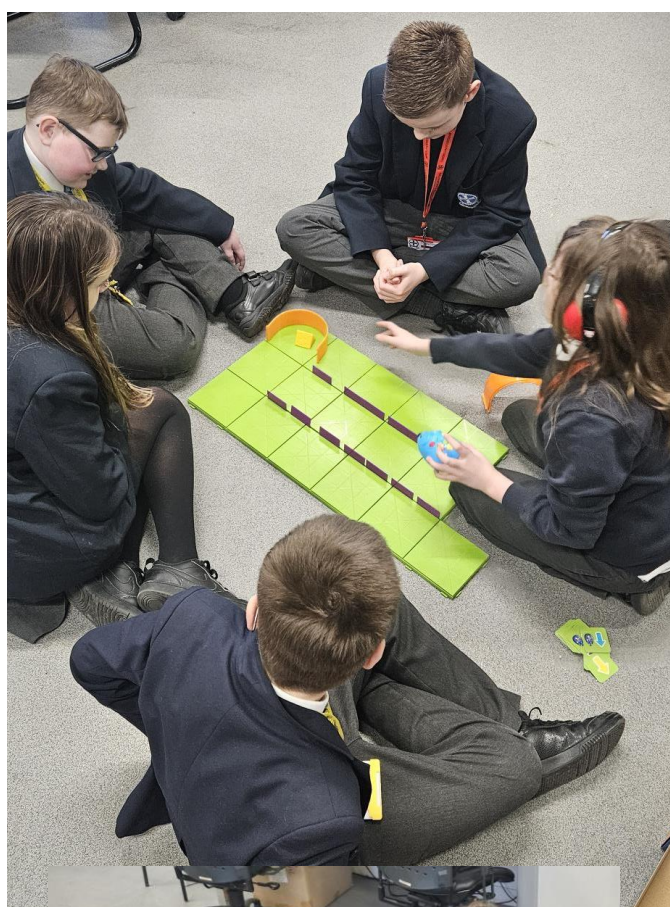
For some of the students this has been a fun learning experience and a great boost to their confidence, when they have struggled to go from book to computer.

Sophie in Year 7 gave us a little note about it:

“The reason why our new mouse is fun and useful is because it helps us learn directions and programming. Understanding how we program in different ways has helped us to show Miss Hampson our knowledge and skills that we have learned when we programme.”

Another student said:

“It’s good to use the mouse, we have fun and learn at the same time. When Miss shows us something new, we can practice with the mouse, and it helps us learn it and remember.”





## The Den

Students with Social Emotional or Mental Health needs often struggle with building and maintaining relationships and can feel anxious, scared and misunderstood. This can lead to difficulties in engaging with education and peers.

The below diagrams help show some of the ways we can help support our students



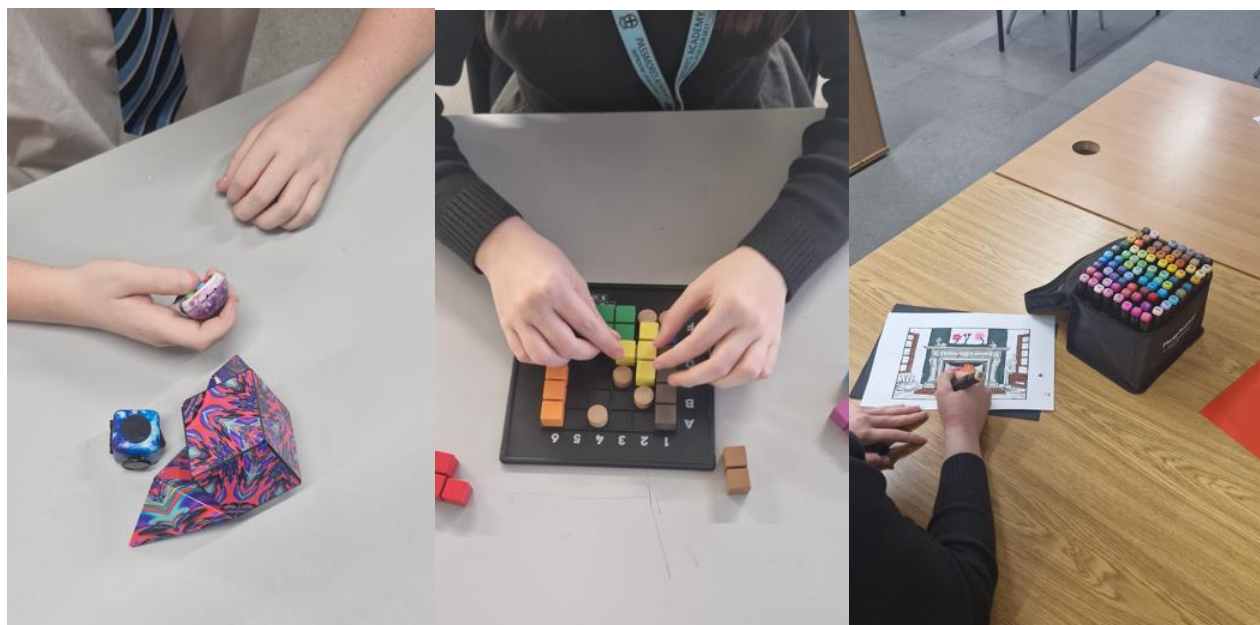
We showed an expression of interest for an awarding grant from FOPs and were successful with our application. This grant enabled us to buy equipment to support our Den students. Below are just some of the ways the items can help:

**Anxiety Tools:** Help student focus and relieve anxiety through tactile stimulation.

**Sensory Play Kits:** Engage students in activities that promote sensory integration and emotional regulation.

**Therapeutic Games:** Help students explore their emotions and develop coping skills in a fun and engaging way

**Art Supplies:** Provide an outlet for self-expression and emotional release through creative activities.

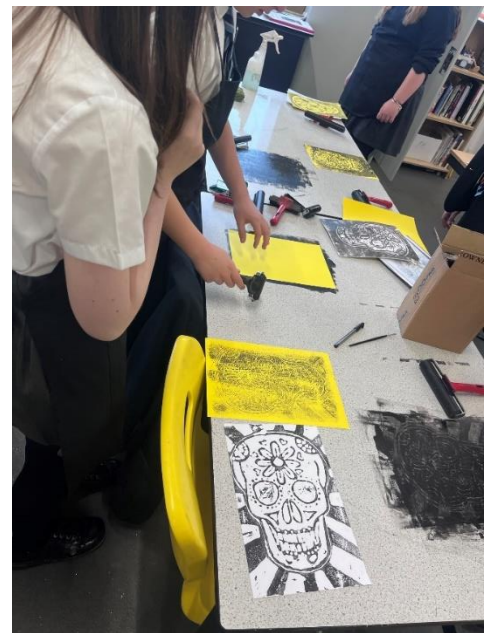


Student feedback has been very positive, and they have benefited from having a variety of tools to help with regulation and social interaction.

Thank you again - Miss Clark.

## Art

Year 8 using the art press



Passmores' Got Talent

On March 28<sup>th</sup> FOPs are hosting a Talent Show for students and staff to be involved in, showing off their amazing hidden talents. We can now confirm there will be CASH prizes for the winners as well as goodie bags for participants! You can buy tickets at: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-passmores](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/friends-of-passmores) at £5 each. Our raffle will also be drawn on this night.



## Raffle

As you may be aware, there is an event in the calendar for 7<sup>th</sup> February: this is the launch date for our raffle tickets to go on sale! A small list of prizes up for grabs is below – there are lots more to come:

- Alton Towers family four-day pass
- Pircio Restaurant voucher
- Suzi Q ear piercing
- Scratch 18 Virtual Golf
- Go Karting for Fun
- Bella Tots handmade gifts
- Church Langley Tesco voucher
- Dog & Pickle voucher
- Make Believe - one month free
- Create Identitee voucher
- Wild n' Wacky pass
- HIP HOP POP Voucher
- Marcanto Restaurant Voucher
- Wagamama Voucher
- G9 Football
- Legends Hairdressers Voucher



Tickets are £1 each and will go on sale on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February - students can get these at tutor time or break time from Y030. Passmores Crew will be coming round to tutor bases with tickets. Please email [fop@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:fop@passmoresacademy.com) if you would like to pay by bank transfer.



**FRIENDS OF PASSMORES PRESENTS**

**RAFFLE**  
**FUNDRAISER**

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>TICKETS AVAILABLE<br/>FROM 7TH FEBRUARY</b> | <b>£1<br/>PER TICKET</b> |
|--|--------------------------|

**RAFFLE WILL BE DRAWN ON 28TH MARCH AT  
PASSMORES' GOT TALENT.  
AMAZING PRIZES TO BE WON.**

**GET YOUR TICKETS FROM Y030 OR  
EMAIL:  
[FOP@PASSMORESACADEMY.COM](mailto:fop@passmoresacademy.com)**

## Easyfundraising

Last year FOPs signed up to EasyFundraising, this website is the easiest way to raise money for us. Easyfundraising partners with over 8000 brands, who will donate part of what you spend to a cause of your choice. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand.

We have raised £300 so far with 20 supporters - think of what we could achieve if we had 100 supporters.

Please follow this link to sign up.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends-of-passmores> or scan the QR code above.



## How can you help?

We are always looking for more parents/carers to help at events or coming to meetings to brainstorm new ideas. We do not expect you to be at every meeting/event but to know you could be available to help means the world to us. If you can help with any of the above events, please email the team using the address at the bottom on the newsletter, or use this link to fill out the online form, so one of the team can contact you:

<https://forms.office.com/e/UQHL7gMVub>

**Thank you for your support we look forward to seeing you at our events.**

**Email:** [fop@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:fop@passmoresacademy.com)

**Instagram:** @passmores\_community

**Facebook:** Friends of Passmores

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> February     | Raffle tickets go on sale               |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> February    | Catch-up meeting, 5pm in Heart Space    |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> March       | Talent Show meeting, 5pm in Heart Space |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> March       | Talent Show meeting, 5pm in Heart Space |
| <b>28<sup>th</sup> March</b> | <b>Passmores' Got Talent – 7pm</b>      |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> May         | Event TBC                               |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> June        | Event TBC                               |





# Sign up and see retailers donate towards our 2025 fundraising target

