



Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

It has been another busy week, much of which has been captured in this week's letter. I am so grateful to our amazing staff who go and above beyond in ensuring our young people are given opportunities to develop and grow, within and beyond the classroom. I know that our students value these experiences, and it is always so lovely to hear the conversations that ensue after an event or an activity. Making memories is so important.

It doesn't always feel that all students are appreciative of what we do in school. I know that too much of our time is being spent correcting uniform at present and reinforcing basic rules such as the size of earrings, students chewing gum or hoodies being worn under blazers. Our biggest challenge is skirt length; the ever-shrinking skirt that for some is barely visible below the line of their blazer. Some students are now in trousers because of this.

This problem is certainly not helped by some of you buying skirts that are too big which then must be rolled or buying skirts that do not fit our standard length of just above the knee. Staff should not have to be correcting the length of student's skirts. A problem that if we cannot resolve by working with you and the students, we will have to find another solution to moving forward.

On February 25th, 17 staff from across Passmores Academy and Stewards Academy are embracing the cold and taking part in the London Winter Run to raise funds for No Child Without. For many of the staff involved this is not something that they would normally partake in, and there has been much sweat and tears in preparation. If you feel that you contribute, contribute however big or small please follow this link <https://www.justgiving.com/page/pclclondonwinterrun2024>.

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No Child Without charity believe that no child should miss out on any opportunity due to financial circumstances that are out of their control. They are here to try and help young people to achieve their potential. Established in 2013 the charity aims to provide financial support for young people to help them access educational and extra-curricular opportunities that may usually be beyond their means. The charity can be used in many various ways to help young people, for example purchasing equipment and clothing to helping to finance school trips and extra-curricular activities.

Finally, good luck to year 11 who embark on their second set of mocks on Monday. Have a good weekend.

TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

Monday 2nd February - Thursday 8th February 2024

Sophia Clark	Year 7	80
Isabella Cox	Year 7	75
Mason Bartram	Year 7	72
Anyia-Joan Addison	Year 7	67
Alicia Beeharry	Year 7	65
Amelia Surtees	Year 7	65
Shakil Surer	Year 7	60
Emile Jankauskaite	Year 7	59
Florence Norton	Year 7	59
Lily-Mai Cope	Year 7	59
Mason Crouch	Year 7	59

Maya Oprea	Year 8	46
William Ward	Year 8	45
Harry Adams	Year 8	42
Hayden Zuna	Year 8	42
Henry Rocha Santos	Year 8	42
Jan Denkwicz	Year 8	42
Melody Everett	Year 8	42
Ryan Youens	Year 8	42
James Babb	Year 8	41
Amber Norburn	Year 8	40
Harrison Morgan	Year 8	40

Jack Wiggins	Year 9	51
Joshua Wheatley	Year 9	45
Louis Dinnell	Year 9	42
Stan Hills	Year 9	42
Rebecca Haynes	Year 9	41
Pink Hatton	Year 9	40
Tommy Dolling	Year 9	40
Lillie Saunders	Year 9	38

Dylan Theophil	Year 9	36
Lily-May Foster-Gaish	Year 9	36
Rea Burgess	Year 9	36
Yasemin Withey-Yilmaz	Year 9	36

Sam Wix	Year 10	50
Angel Fernandes	Year 10	44
Harrison Houghton	Year 10	44
Molly Croome	Year 10	37
Amy Wang	Year 10	34
Bryony Kelso	Year 10	34
Ryan Salberg	Year 10	34
Robert Viliman	Year 10	33
Abbie Newman	Year 10	32
Izzy Cobie	Year 10	31
Phoebe Tombs	Year 10	31
Quincy Dixon	Year 10	31

Madeleine Hooker	Year 11	35
Jayden Alade-Mason	Year 11	34
Lola Hummerston	Year 11	28
Sienna Ismail	Year 11	28
Eloisa Bellamy	Year 11	27
Millie Humphries	Year 11	27
Hayden Cook	Year 11	26
Heidi Peppard	Year 11	25
Ronny Bostock	Year 11	25
Blessing Danquah	Year 11	24
Renea Coppeard	Year 11	24
William Forde	Year 11	24

HOUSE PASSMORES POINTS

Monday 8th January – Thursday 8th February 2024

Dragon	31594
Griffin	30110
Lion	30524
Unicorn	30062

YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE

Friday 2nd February – Thursday 8th February 2024

	Average Attendance
Y7	93.03%
Y8	87.95%
Y9	91.15%
Y10	87.79%
Y11	85.48%
Whole School Attendance	89.11%

PASTORAL UPDATE

Thought for the Week: Climate Change - Cultural Appreciation Day

In this week's tutor time, our students delved into the pressing issue of climate change as part of Cultural Appreciation Day. Through engaging discussions and activities, they explored the impact of climate change on our planet and the importance of sustainable practices.

In the News: Children's Mental Health Week

The "In the News" segment focused on Children's Mental Health Week. The theme this year was 'my voice matters'. Tutor time activities explored how every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. Children's Mental Health week helps to bring awareness to the importance of mental well-being among our students. Through informative discussions and activities, students learned about positive mental health, emphasising the significance of maintaining positive mental well-being for academic success and overall life satisfaction.

National Apprenticeship Week

This week was also National Apprenticeship Week. National Apprenticeship Week empowers students to make informed decisions about their future, broadens their understanding of available career paths, and equips them with the skills needed to thrive in a dynamic and competitive job market. Students explored what an apprenticeship is and gained valuable insights into alternative pathways for their future careers. Year 10 students had the privilege of attending a special assembly conducted by representatives from Ryanair. This unique opportunity provided valuable insights into apprenticeship programs and career opportunities in the aviation industry. We were also fortunate enough to have a representative from PricewaterhouseCoopers International Ltd (PwC) visit the school. PwC is a multinational company and is considered one of the big four accounting firms along with Deloitte, EY and KPMG. They are based in 157 countries. They offer higher and degree apprenticeships and work experience, so this was a great opportunity for our students to network and learn more about the routes into finance. These collaborations with industry leaders enrich our students' understanding of the diverse paths available to them beyond their academic journey.

House Events

House events continued this week with students afforded the chance to represent their Houses in various events, fostering a sense of camaraderie and healthy competition within the school community. Unfortunately, due to

unforeseen circumstances, the Bake Off House event had to be postponed, but we look forward to rescheduling it soon.

Looking Forward to Next Week

In the upcoming week, students will embark on a journey to explore the British value of democracy, gaining insights into the foundations and principles that underpin our political system. They will have the opportunity to engage first hand in the democratic process on Wednesday as they will have the opportunity to vote in the UK Youth Parliament elections. Additionally, they will learn about the significance of Lent, connecting with traditions and values that contribute to the rich cultural tapestry of our school. We encourage all students to actively engage in these learning opportunities, fostering a deeper understanding of the world around them.

Thank you for your continued support in promoting a well-rounded education at Passmores Academy.

The following students have been “caught doing good during social time” –

YEAR 7

- Kaya Sahin
- Mason Bartram
- Mia Harding
- Isobel Baynes
- Ella-Louise Whitmore

YEAR 8

- Amy Daltrey
- Lacey Armstrong
- Othniel Defor
- Alisha Tapambwa
- Henry Rocha Santos

YEAR 9

- Yasmin Withey-Yilmaz
- Bethany White
- Able Joes-Adom
- Abdul Kamara

YEAR 10

- Joe Parker
- Riley Knox
- Lilly Nunn
- Abbie Newman
- Miley Saint

YEAR 11

- Callum Burch
- Ella Erikume
- Milena Muliuolyte
- Alfie Heathorn
- Skye Morris

SPORT / PE UPDATES

Passmores Academy U12s won pool B of the U12 Essex indoor cricket county cup. In the pool group Passmores played Norlington and last year's overall winners Ilford County High school. We won against both teams in the final over in two thrilling matches. We progress to the Essex County finals day on 12.3.24 at the home of Essex cricket in Chelmsford. Good luck Passmores U12 boys cricket team.



Passmores boys U13 basketball team made it through to the West Essex Basketball finals at Stewards Academy. The boys put up a good fight finishing 4th in The group and making Passmores proud.



SUBJECT INFORMATION / UPDATES

Textiles

On Thursday, 6 of our Year 10 Textiles students helped Mrs Evans in delivering a William Morris Textiles workshop for students from Potter Street and Purford Green. They used different design and printing techniques to make a William Morris inspired sketchbook. The primary school students had a great time and produced some fantastic and inspirational outcomes.



Drama

Spring 1 round up

We'll start with a great big thank you to everyone who attended Wednesday evening's Drama Showcase event. We had some sterling performances from our Year 7s and 10s as they presented four short comedies they have been working on since September in our extra-curricular clubs. First up were a fabulous group sharing a tale of evil spies and comedy capers in "The Perils of Pauline". This was followed by some of our Year 10s performing a political satire adapted from GoGo's, "The Government Inspector", which involved one of the funniest slow-motion sequences we've seen for a while. Then we had a classic melodrama, "The Black Hearted Villain", which left us on a cliffhanger with our hero possibly jumping to his death to save his beloved Amelia. And we finished on a classic, "The King's New Clothes", which contained an inventive costume that helped capture the King's finest moment, stepping out to see his people!



Thank you to the lovely audience who clapped, laughed, and cheered in all the right places and a massive well done to all who performed. The club has been a real success this year, with year 11 GCSE drama students supporting the Year 7s in rehearsing and directing their plays. Thanks to Karys Bailey, Jackson Iona, Jamie Rowlett, Freya Nash, Shayla Surer & Eloisa Bellamy for giving up precious time after school to support and progress our enthusiastic, talented, and committed Years 7s. It is worth noting that even though they made it look easy on stage, there has been lots of time and effort over the last few months, from all involved, to get the

pieces ready. We are looking forward to seeing what all our wonderful performers have got 'in the bag' for our upcoming school production!

Which leads beautifully onto.... this year's school musical, "The Addams Family". We are starting the audition process this week. All those interested have the opportunity to get some guidance on the audition songs from Mr. Tarling after school on Friday (9th Feb), with auditions for main roles taking place on Tuesday 13th & Thursday 15th February (next week). Only those interested in taking on a main role must audition; the door is open to anyone who wants to be in the show or help with technical and backstage operations. We ask that if you are interested in taking part, please come and sign up, so we know how big our cast and crew are before we start planning our dance numbers, scenes and songs. The show dates this year are Tuesday 9th – Thursday 11th July 2024. There are compulsory dress and tech rehearsals on Sunday 31st June & Sunday 7th July that all crew and cast must attend for health and safety reasons. Please check you can make all these dates before auditioning or signing up.

And finally.... our Year 10 & 11 GCSE Drama students are off to the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith on Wednesday 14th February (with a few lucky Year 9s). We are excited about seeing Frantic Assembly's latest project, "Metamorphosis" and all GCSE students will be analysing and evaluating this performance for the final part of their written paper (or mock paper for Year 10).

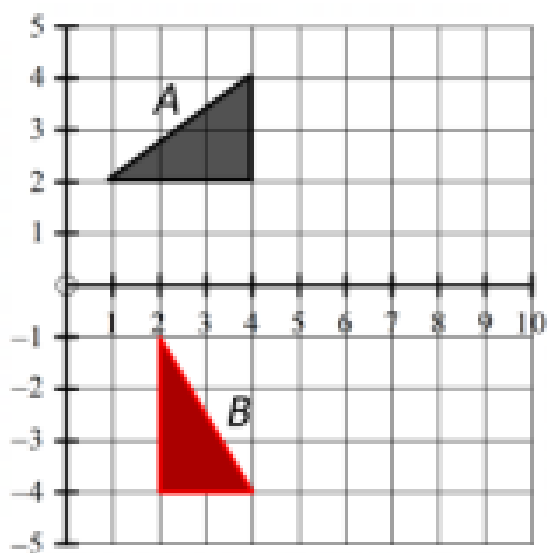
We'll be back next half term with a round-up of trips, exam performances, opportunities and show updates as we head into Easter.

Please remind your Year 11 GCSE Drama students that there is revision/rehearsal session in the half term break, on Tuesday 20th February, where Mrs. Glover will be in the building from 10am – midday to support students getting ready for the Presenting & Performing Texts exam on Monday 14th March, and a final reminder to Year 10s that their Devising Drama exam is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 6th March.

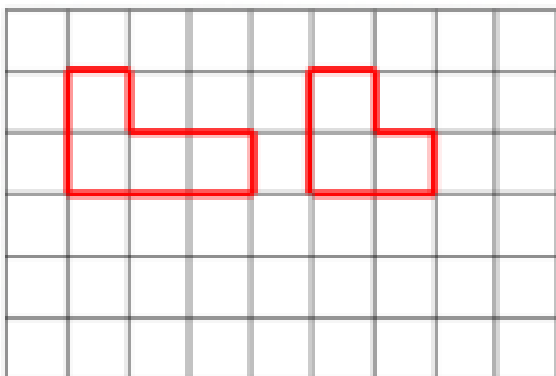
Booster sessions for Year 11s who require assistance with their drama coursework remain on Wednesdays after school and Years 10s can access support with Miss Warncken on Fridays after school.

Answer to last week's Maths Problem

Solution 1:



Solution 2:

**CAREERS NEWS**Open Events

Harlow College, Tuesday 13th Feb, 5pm-7pm, [Harlow College - Harlow College Open Evening \(harlow-college.ac.uk\)](https://www.harlow-college.ac.uk)

Harlow College also have an open event for **students with EHCPs, or MLD needs** on Thursday 15th Feb, 6pm-7.15pm
[Harlow College - Supported Studies Open Evening \(harlow-college.ac.uk\)](https://www.harlow-college.ac.uk)

Year 10 Work Shadowing Day

On Thursday we delivered an assembly to all year 10 students to inform them of a work shadowing day scheduled for Thursday 2nd May 2024. This is an opportunity for students to gain a real insight into the world of work and to be given the chance to observe a job role which may be of specific interest for future career choices. Students have been told that they will need to work with family or a close friend of the family. A letter to parents will be sent shortly. The deadline to find a placement is Thursday 28th of March 2024.

ANY OTHER INFORMATION



Valentine's Day



we will be celebrating Valentine's Day at Passmores Academy on **Wednesday 14th or February.**

Cupids will be visiting your lessons throughout this day to deliver your **Valentines Cards**, **Love Heart Lollypops**, and **Valentines Sweets** to each other.

Valentines Cards, **Love Heart Lollypops** and **Valentines Sweets** will be for sale in the Heart Space every lunchtime from **Monday 5th Feb – Friday 9th of February.**

All **Valentines Cards** cost **50p**, **Love Heart Lollypops** cost **£1** and **Valentines Sweets** cost **£1.50** and are delivered anonymously.

All money raised will go to 'No Child Without'. So help share the love in Passmores and raise money for charity at the same time by sending a Valentines gift to a friend or that special someone.

YEARS 10 & 11
**A NIGHT IN
HOLLYWOOD**

Mocktails

Sweets

WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH
6:00pm-8:30pm

DJ Bell

Prizes

Casino

Photos

**Tickets cost £3 – buy yours
from 12th February
(Student Services)**



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MONKEY

Also known as Monkey Cool, this platform aims to fill the gap left by Omegle (which has now shut down) by placing users in random video chats with strangers. Participants use their mobile number and Snapchat username to connect to the service, where they can make matches, message other people and join group chats. The mobile version has been removed from the App Store due to safety concerns, but iPhone owners can still access the site via their web browser. The app remains available on Google Play, where its listing claims that Monkey has more than 30 million users worldwide.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

The app claims to use AI to detect sexual content or activity that violates its policies, along with having a 24/7 moderation team. However, reports in the media continue to indicate that explicit content remains commonplace on Monkey (including sexually graphic or violent material) and is therefore accessible to anybody who uses the app – including those aged under 18.



CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

The obvious risk in accepting random video chat partners is that users cannot know what or who they will see on their next connection. Talking to strangers is, of course, potentially dangerous – especially for children who might be persuaded to meet up with these people offline. The app lets users find each other by location, increasing the chances of a child being matched with a stranger from their local area.



IN-APP SPENDING

While Monkey is free to download, it nevertheless offers in-app purchases promising to unlock access to premium features. For example, users who wish to make use of 'Knock Knock chat' (Monkey's text-based messaging option), rather than the app's Chatroulette-style random video calling feature, will need to pay to be able to do so.



INTRUSIONS ON PRIVACY

According to Monkey's privacy policy, personal information (such as name, profile picture and date of birth), user-contributed content (any photos, texts, videos and screenshots shared) and each user's browser and IP address are collected. That is a considerable amount of data for Monkey to gather on its users – and all of this information is shared with third parties.



Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

Even if you're comfortable with your child using Monkey, it's still important to talk about the potential dangers. It's crucial, for instance, that young people recognise the risks that stem from video chatting with strangers; that they understand not to share identifying information (like their street or school name); and that they know what to do if they are exposed to inappropriate content.



RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASING

If your child is accessing Monkey via an Android device, you can prevent them from making in-app purchases through the device's settings. If you do allow your child to use the site, we'd recommend that you enable this feature: young people have been known to spend significant amounts of money in their desire to unlock more features in apps such as this.



REPORT INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Monkey states in the safety section of its site that "people are given the power" and that, to a large extent, Monkey is "self-governing." If a user is exposed to sexually explicit or inappropriate content on the platform, they can select the 'police' emoji in the top right corner of their screen to submit a report for Monkey's moderation team to review.



SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child is spending too much time on Monkey – or that they may have been exposed to inappropriate or distressing content – it's important to watch for potential indications that they've been affected emotionally. They could be unusually irritable or unable to concentrate, for example, or failing to complete their homework or even to eat regular meals.



Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



The National College



National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

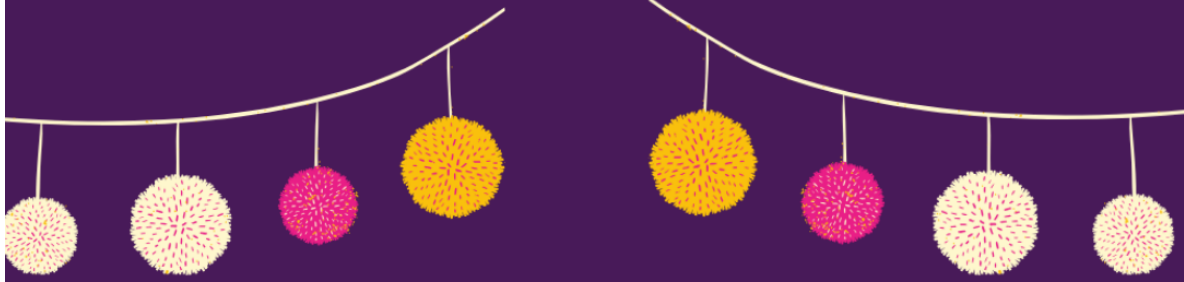
@atnationsafety

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@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 07.02.2024



fop@passmoresacademy.com



HARLOW



WE NEED YOU!

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR BUSINESSES FOR THE
FOLLOWING EVENTS:**

- **RAFFLE PRIZES FOR OUR EASTER RAFFLE
- MARCH.**
- **FOOD STALLS FOR OUR MULTI-CULTURAL
FOOD FESTIVAL
- 4TH MAY.**
- **SPIRITUAL OR WELLBEING STALLS FOR
OUR SUMMER EVENT
- 29TH JUNE.**



Gota **degree** you're not really
using? Looking for a challenging
new career? Time to
think about becoming
a **teacher**...?



Graduates of 2022-23

Train to teach here, or at another school local to you! Gain qualified teacher status (QTS), and an optional **post-graduate certificate in education (PGCE)** through the **Essex Schools ITT** initial teacher-training programme.

Join our next online information event:

Tuesday 5th March, from 7.30pm

Scan the QR code to view our events page and register via Eventbrite:

<https://www.essexschoolsitt.com/events/>



Davenant is the lead school of the programme, which allows you to train here or in a nearby partnership school. You'll work as a member of the school team and learn your skills from **experienced professionals**, supplemented by high quality, **online learning sessions** through Tes Institute.

Get tailored, one-to-one advice today:

Call: 020 8498 6718

Email: teach@essexschoolsitt.com

Visit: <https://www.essexschoolsitt.com>

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in partnership with **tes**

School-based teacher training with a flexible, online learning programme through Tes Institute. Obtain QTS with optional PGCE.

93%

Completion rate
(far higher than most providers or institutions)

100% pass rate for PGCE

TRAIN AT THIS SCHOOL OR ANOTHER ONE LOCAL TO YOU

45

Secondary & primary schools in our partnership... and growing!

100%

Employment rate in the last 10 years

Every year, around **75%** of trainees secure posts at their main placement school, or nearby partnership school

BURSARIES UP TO **£28K PLUS**
FULLY- FUNDED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE
ENHANCEMENT COURSES (PAYING £175 PW)
FOR MANY SUBJECTS

PART TIME OPTION
AVAILABLE FOR
STRONG APPLICANTS -
WE WELCOME CAREER
CHANGERS AND
THOSE RETURNING TO
WORK AFTER RAISING
FAMILIES

TEACHING OFFERS
GENEROUS
STARTING PAY AND
EXCELLENT
PROSPECTS FOR
PROMOTION



PGCE WITH QTS

IS AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED
QUALIFICATION



"THE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE, FROM DAY 1, REALLY
PREPARED ME FOR SCHOOL LIFE. THIS, FOR ME, WAS THE
BEST ROUTE INTO TEACHER TRAINING"
SONAL, TRAINEE, 2021-22

"THIS HAS BEEN ONE OF THE BEST YEARS OF MY CAREER.
I'VE LEARNED SO MUCH AND FEEL LIKE I'VE FOUND SOME
REAL PURPOSE WITHIN TEACHING"
JAMIE - TRAINEE, 2021-22



teach@essexschoolsitt.com
020 8498 6718
www.essexschoolsitt.com



**ESSEX
SCHOOLS
ITT**
in partnership with **tes**

Online Parent Groups



Challenging Behaviour

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.

14th February - Session 1
 HALF TERM

28th February - Session 2
 6th March - Session 3
 13th March - Session 4
 20th March - Session 5
 27th March - Session 6

Wednesdays 13.00-14.30 via Zoom

FULLY BOOKED!

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.

29th February - Session 1
 7th March - Session 2
 14th March - Session 3
 21st March - Session 4

Thursdays 13.00-14.30 via Zoom



Supporting Teenagers Emotion Wellbeing

Suitable for parents of children aged 12-19 years. This course is run over 4 weeks. This will look at ways to help your teenager manage their emotional wellbeing.

27th February - Session 1
 5th March - Session 2
 12th March - Session 3
 19th March - Session 4 (optional)

Tuesdays 17.30-19.00

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. If you would like to access the course, but do not have access to the internet, please see your school or contact our team (see above)

KIDS EAT FREE



12TH-23RD FEBRUARY. MONDAY TO FRIDAY

Bill's

**KEEP IT
COLOURFUL**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT BILLS-WEBSITE.CO.UK

Forthcoming Events:

Monday 11 th - Friday 1 st March	Year 11 Mocks
Friday 16 th February	Non uniform day – winning house in each year
Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd February	Half term



Natalie Christie

Principal of Passmores Academy

TEACHarlow

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