



Principals' Letter – Spring Term 2020 Week Ending 10th January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy new year and we hope that your time with the young people was time well spent. This letter is particularly long and we will do our best to make it more succinct in the future. We want to take the opportunity to forward a message that we have just received from Essex police of an incident that occurred elsewhere in the county. A parent was contacted by TEXT from a number that said they were the school nurse asking for details about the family including dates of birth etc. The message was not from the school nurse and the information was used to gain access to an online shopping account. Please remember that we will never contact you by text asking for any information of this type so please do not reply to any such message.

Water Bottles: This is an update of a message sent before Christmas about reusable water bottles. The school has added extra water fountains around the building that enable students to fill up their water bottles more quickly. The aim is to encourage greater use of reusable water bottles and to cut down on our use of single use plastics. Water bottles can be bought from student services using Passmores House Points and are a great way for our young people to do their bit to help the environment. Your support in encouraging students to bring their own water bottles to school would be much appreciated.

Recycling Christmas Cards: We are running a house competition to recycle Christmas cards that have glitter on them (as these are non-recyclable). So, before you throw them out can you please send them into school. They are being collected in a box outside the Head of House office, it will be there for the first two weeks so we can meet the deadline below. Thank you.



Year 11 Information: Would you like to support your Year 11 student through their English Language GCSE or their mathematics GCSE? Passmores Academy is offering a free six week course to parents and carers, where you will be shown the skills to be able to support your child through their GCSE journey. It does not matter about your current skills in English or mathematics, as the course will be run to enable you to spot the common mistakes made by students and therefore allow you to guide your child at home - when they are revising or doing homework. All courses run from 6pm to 7pm on the following dates:

English Language (Tuesday)	mathematics (Wednesday)
25/02	26/02
03/03	04/03
10/03	11/03
17/03	18/03
24/03	25/03
31/03	01/04

There are limited spaces, so please contact:

m.gladen@passmoresacademy.com to reserve your English space

s.jackson@passmoresacademy.com to reserve your mathematics space

Post Year 11 Opportunities: Writtle College has their Open Day on Saturday 11th January between 10am and 1pm.

Year 11 Parents'/Carers' Evening: We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the 63% of parents/carers, of year 11 students, that made it to school this week to meet the teachers and to receive the vital information that will support their child in being successful this summer. Obviously, we wish it was 100% but we are aware that for some the three-hour window clashed with other commitments. If you have any ideas about how we can make the event more accessible, so more of you are able to come, please do let us know as the ones that were able to attend now have an advantage over those that couldn't.

Year 11 Revision Support: This week every year 11 student has received a revision package on paper (they can also access it through an app) and a list of the booster classes that happen every night after school. You will receive a shortened, 'fridge door friendly' version of it in the post if your child is in that year by Monday. The revision replaces all homework for year 11 for the next 6 weeks as completing it fully will increase the grades your child gets now and in the summer. The feedback from students, that followed the plan properly for the last set of practice exams, was that they improved by up to three grades.

Welcome to the 500 Club: The following students deserve special recognition for reaching the 500 Passmores Points mark this week. This is an excellent achievement achieved by fewer than 10% of the school's students, so far.

Shalom - Elise Defor	D9 TBT	555	Year 8	Dragon
Ocean Steel	G3 SHO	541	Year 8	Griffin
Oliver Matthews	G4 VNS	541	Year 7	Griffin
Aimee O'Connor	L3 RAD	537	Year 7	Lion
James Forde	G4 VNS	535	Year 9	Griffin
Sydney Cass	G2 SRS	535	Year 8	Griffin
Archie May-Denton	L6 JSD	534	Year 7	Lion
Scarlet Webber	L5 ROH	532	Year 9	Lion
Eduard Turcu	D4 BPS	532	Year 8	Dragon
Megan Norris	D7 ALL	532	Year 7	Dragon
Jessica Richards	L6 JSD	531	Year 9	Lion
Louise Lai	L2 ABM	530	Year 8	Lion
Brooke Pugh	D5 EJM	528	Year 7	Dragon
Charlie Holmes	U5 ASA	527	Year 8	Unicorn
Freya Rhodes	U5 ASA	526	Year 7	Unicorn
Caitlyn Daly	L3 RAD	526	Year 7	Lion
Grace Evans	G3 SHO	526	Year 10	Griffin
Lola Clark	D9 TBT	525	Year 7	Dragon
Fin Tovell	U9 CFR	524	Year 7	Unicorn
Joel Defor	D9 TBT	523	Year 7	Dragon
Sonny Brooks	U1 ARO	523	Year 7	Unicorn

Riley McFall	L1 SGR	522	Year 8	Lion
Lucy Martin	L3 RAD	522	Year 7	Lion
Riley Dedman	D4 BPS	522	Year 7	Dragon
Jayden Almond	U2 ACK	521	Year 7	Unicorn
Cade Ford	U1 ARO	520	Year 9	Unicorn
Demi Pite	L6 JSD	520	Year 7	Lion
Maheen Anwar	L7 AFY	520	Year 7	Lion
Millie Evans	G3 SHO	518	Year 7	Griffin
Oliver Enderson	D5 EJM	517	Year 7	Dragon
Tamara Khabbازه	D3 JSO	516	Year 7	Dragon
Faith Horn	L2 ABM	515	Year 7	Lion
Evie Rocha	D4 BPS	514	Year 7	Dragon
Millie Humphries	U2 ACK	514	Year 7	Unicorn
Grace Stevens	U1 ARO	513	Year 7	Unicorn
Logan Young	L5 ROH	511	Year 8	Lion
Sienna Mensah	L6 JSD	510	Year 7	Lion
Mia Fuller	U5 ASA	510	Year 7	Unicorn
Lilly Kilbey	D9 TBT	509	Year 8	Dragon
Aaron Burch	G7 PWN	508	Year 8	Griffin
Elizabeth Chung	U3 AMT	508	Year 7	Unicorn
Rhys Barron	U6 THR	506	Year 9	Unicorn
Bailey Palmer	G7 PWN	504	Year 9	Griffin
Priya Sivathanu	U2 ACK	503	Year 7	Unicorn
Ronny Bostock	D4 BPS	502	Year 7	Dragon

Music Quiz #1 (answers in next week's letter): From which songs do the following songs lyrics come from?

1. 'Cos I'm a model, you know what I mean? (Clue: 90s)
2. I see it glitter in the sun then it's freezing in the moonlight (Clue: 80s)
3. It's not about your make up, or how you try to shape up (Clue: 2000s)
4. Don't touch me please, I cannot stand the way you tease (Clue: 80s)
5. Just who do you think you, stop acting like some kinda star (Clue: 90s)
6. A little gambling is fun with you're with me (Clue: 2000s)
7. It doesn't hurt me, do you want to feel how it feels? (Clue: 80s)
8. Blue canary in the outlet by the light switch (80s)
9. Do it nice and easy now, don't lose control (80s)
10. My feet is my only carriage so I've got to push on through (80s)

English Problems of the week:

Year 7 – Poetry



assonance rhythm rhyme
alliteration onomatopoeia

Year 8 – How to guides




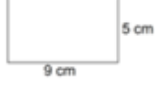

inform persuade argue
explain review

Key Stage 4 - An Inspector Calls

W F T Z Y W D F I H O A Z C V
 O R Z R B E E I D J H V T G Y
 F B E P S H S P I O B Z H C Q
 Q W E S T U U H S N T K R L N
 V S S Y P W X E C F Y H I A N
 J A K C H O Y K R W L B L S F
 Q Y R H Q U N R I P T I L S W
 J O X O Q V Q S M E T F E U Q
 W L T L D B E I I X D N R P X
 F C J O E C C L N B Q V Z V I
 R U G G B F O P A T I T T O O
 O T W I R Z M U T X R L O Z A
 D S G C T O U I I R O D I T Z
 H I W A J C M L O C F R Q T R
 T K C L I K E O N F J K C N Y

Responsibility discrimination psychological
 Thriller class


Maths Problem of the Week:

<p>Calculate the perimeter</p> 	<p>Calculate the area</p> 	<p>If the area of the rectangle is 27 cm^2 calculate x</p> 									
<p>Calculate the perimeter of the large rectangle</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="375 1041 837 1310"> <tr> <td>12 m^2</td> <td>20 m^2</td> <td>24 m^2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 m^2</td> <td>25 m^2</td> <td>30 m^2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 m^2</td> <td>35 m^2</td> <td>42 m^2</td> </tr> </table>			12 m^2	20 m^2	24 m^2	15 m^2	25 m^2	30 m^2	21 m^2	35 m^2	42 m^2
12 m^2	20 m^2	24 m^2									
15 m^2	25 m^2	30 m^2									
21 m^2	35 m^2	42 m^2									

Maths Solution from the last letter:

HOLIDAY MATH RIDDLE!

Buddy and Hermy were both born on Christmas Eve. When Buddy was 6 years old, Hermy was half his age. If Buddy turns 100 years old this Christmas Eve, how old is Hermy going to be?




mashupmath #2 of 5

Answer: When Buddy is 100, Hermy will be 97.

HOLIDAY MATH RIDDLE!

How many total squares are in the diagram?

(Hint: Some squares are overlapping!)




mashupmath #5 of 5

Answer: There are 14 total squares (15 if you count the square at the center of the bow on the wreath)

HOLIDAY MATH RIDDLE!

Nick has a box of ornaments that he uses to decorate his tree each year. All of them are blue, except for six. All of them are green, except for six. All of them are red, except for six. How many of each colored ornament does Nick have?



mashupmath #1 of 5

Answer: Nick has 9 ornaments in total: 3 blue, 3 green, and 3 red.

Student Book Review – Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire. Reviewed by Will Grant- Year 8:

If you're looking for a fun and adventurous title, then this is a brilliant read! Harry embarks on yet another adventure when his name is surprisingly revealed from the Goblet of Fire, even though he did not enter the competition as he is too young. He sets out to complete 3 dangerous challenges to win the vast competition and at the end there is a dark and evil twist where The Dark Lord returns!

My favourite part about the book is the big change where Harry and Voldemort duel. Lots of mysterious things happen and the dark lord's victims return in spirit to help Harry escape "He Who Must Not Be Named".

This is a great read for children if they are looking for an interesting book to read and I am sure that many people will enjoy it. I give this book a 9/10 rating and I can't wait to read the next lot of books to see what Harry and The Dark Lord will do next!

Staff Book Review - Simon Kernick 'Die Alone'. Reviewed by Mr David Butler
Associate Senior Leader & Head of Music

Released in November 2019, 'Die Alone' is the third and final instalment of the 'Bone Field' trilogy of books written by English contemporary crime writer, Simon Kernick. It follows the first two books in the series - 'The Bone Field' and 'The Hanged Man'. However, you don't need to have read these two books first in order to enjoy 'Die Alone' as it also works well as a standalone novel. I sat down to read this fast-paced 400 page thriller over a long weekend in the holidays after having received it as a Christmas present, and it didn't disappoint.

The plot centres around the figure of Alistair Sheridan. It appears that he has it all - wealth, good looks, a beautiful wife and children, and a real chance of becoming the new Prime Minister. But Alistair has a secret. He's a serial killer with a taste for young women. Only a handful of people know what kind of monster he is, and disgraced detective Ray Mason is one of them. Awaiting trial for murder, Ray is unexpectedly broken free by armed men and given an offer: assassinate Alistair Sheridan and begin a new life abroad with a new identity. The men claim to be from MI6. They say that Sheridan is a threat to national security and needs to be neutralised. Ray knows they are not who they say they are, and that their real motives are far darker. The only person Ray trusts is ex-cop Tina Boyd who's also keen to settle her own scores with Sheridan. With enemies on every side, only one thing is certain. No one wants them to get out alive.

I really enjoyed reading this book as the action comes thick and fast with plenty of subplots and unexpected twists that you don't see coming. With striking imagery and imaginative description, Kernick draws us in to his believable world of crime, violence and corruption without letting up. It has a strong ending and is a fitting and exciting final book in the trilogy. Highly recommended!

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 23rd January	-	English Dept's Evening Production of an Inspector Calls
Friday 31 st January	-	Inset Day
Wednesday 12 th February	-	Aspire Day
17 th February – 21 st February	-	Half Term



Natalie Christie & Vic Goddard
Co-Principals of Passmores Academy