



## Principals' Letter – Spring Term 2020 Week Ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The term continues to get busier as does this newsletter therefore we are not going to waste too much space with our bit! Please make sure you look at the dates at the end of the letter for upcoming events and we'd particularly like to highlight the Parent/Carer Council meeting next Monday at 6pm. It is open to all parents/carers; all you need to do is turn up. We have many things that we try to do to improve and it is vital we get feedback from you in order to continue to do so. Miss Cunningham runs the Parent/Carer Council and has provided lots of great feedback which has led to us having Show My Homework for instance. Please do come along if you can.

We have had a great day looking at 'fake news' and please forgive us if you were taken in by anything you saw on social media last night about winning the lottery. You are not alone because so were the Daily Mirror and several other national media organisations!

**Word of the Week:** Establish(ed)

Establishing is when someone sets up something new.

Established means it has been set up.

Establishment is the act of setting something up.

OCCASIONALLY The establishment is also a word to describe how things have been set up (often a long time ago).

**English Department Book Plea:** If anyone has any fiction or non-fiction books at home that they would like to donate to the school, the English department would be very grateful as their stocks are getting very low. All donations can be left in the English faculty office or handed to any of the English teachers. Thank you in advance.

**BIG Award:** Passmores Academy is the first school to achieve the BIG Award for the 7th year running! We are aware that bullying can happen in any school, but Val McFarlane, Director of the Bullying Intervention Group said that *"Passmores work hard to ensure that they have all the necessary measures in place to both prevent bullying and intervene should an incident occur. Their range of measures include involving parents, having a focus group, awareness raising, monitoring and recording and having a good peer support scheme and up to date policy. Through this, they continue to allow their students to learn without fear of intimidation in a caring environment. I am so pleased to award them for their 7th year! Well done Passmores Academy."*

**BETT Exhibition 2020:** On Friday the 24th of January Mr Chadwick accompanied 5 students who were invited to join one of our online resource providers Century Tech at the BETT Education exhibition at London Excel in Docklands. The exhibition is where companies who are involved in education, showcase what they have to offer. The students chosen were those who had completed the most online "nuggets" in Year 9. A nugget is an online quiz/test based on some area of the English, Maths or Science curriculum. Each nugget takes about 10-20 minutes to complete and involves watching a video or viewing online flashcards explaining the topic. Students then complete a quiz to assess their understanding.

The group set off from school just after 10am and arrived at the exhibition just before lunchtime. Century Tech then hosted us and showcased 3 lessons one in maths, one in English and one in science. The students then had to participate in the quiz with the public (eg teachers and headteachers) observing and asking them questions about their experience. After the lessons (which lasted over 2 hours), they browsed the stands to investigate areas of interest. The students even got to meet Colin Hegarty, the voice behind Hegarty Maths which we also subscribe to. Mr Chadwick said "It was amazing to see how Passmores students were engaged in the learning and represented the school so positively. As a reward, they will all be receiving 20 Passmores points." A huge thanks to the students:- **Tom Brazier, Keanu Barnsley, Konrad Chochorowska, Ben Vessey and Harry Warren.**

**Paris Trip:** On the 17<sup>th</sup> January Ms Corkery, Mr Chadwick, Mr Fay, Mr Farmery and Mrs Jones took 39 students to Paris, France. They all stayed in the heart of Paris for the weekend and saw the delights of what the city has to offer. On Friday night they visited the Eiffel Tower and watched it sparkle at 8pm – what a sight to behold! Saturday consisted of shopping on the Champs Elysees with lunch at the Monte Carlo restaurant. This was followed by a boat cruise on the river Seine, visiting Montmartre and Sacre Coeur before dinner at the Chez Mimi. On Sunday the students visited the Louvre where lots of them practiced their French. Especially **Cameron Cansdale** (Year 10) and **Elizabeth Ward** (Year 11). Well done to you both. Ms Corkery said that the behavior on the trip was exemplary and she was very proud of them all. The Year 11s even sang at the French restaurant on the Saturday – a special mention goes to **Freddie Hardie** and **Mason Newman Sharpe**. Une experience exhilarante!

**Chess Competition:** 28 staff and students are currently battling it out to be Passmores first Chess Champion. We hope this will be the first of many such competitions and we will announce the winner once the final has been played. Once the competition is over, we will be looking to start a chess club to start teaching and training the students who join.

**Mental Health Week:** Next week (3rd to 7th February) is Children’s mental health week and the school are involved in several activities to promote awareness of this. On Friday 7th February we will be encouraging students to wear it yellow to show awareness of mental health issues although this is not a non-uniform day. Students can wear yellow hairbands, wrist bands, socks, badges and lanyards to show their support with this important issue. If students want to pay a voluntary £1 contribution to wear it yellow, then the proceeds will go to an appropriate mental health charity for young people. In addition to this we are also promoting a drop in session at The Wellbeing Centre, Bush Fair on Thursday 6th February from 3-6 pm where staff from the ‘Time to Talk team’ will be there to answer questions about mental health or give help and advice about how to best help young people who are in need of mental health services. There is a poster at the end of this letter with the details.

**Parent/Carer Council Meeting.** Our next Parent/Carer Council meeting will be held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 6pm in U007. We will be discussing the following agenda items.

1. Year 11 Revision App – what more can we do to support you with supporting revision at home?
2. Parents Evening – how can we increase attendance? An online booking trial for Year 9
3. Key Stage 3 Evening – feedback?
4. SIMS Parent App
5. Century Tech
6. Accelerated Reader – Year 7 and Year 8

The Parent Council is a small, informal group that meets once every term. We always welcome new members as we need a variety of perspectives. You don’t need to let us know in advance, just turn up on the night and be ready to give your views and opinions. Please contact Miss Cunningham if you would like any further information on this. [a.cunningham@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:a.cunningham@passmoresacademy.com)

**Drama News - Barbican Box Project:** The drama department were lucky enough to attend some training in the first week of term for a new and exciting upcoming project in partnership with The Barbican. Two classes in Key Stage Four will be working on the Barbican Box Project over the coming months. GCSE Drama classes in Year 9 and 10 will have the opportunity to explore and develop their own piece of theatre for performance at Harlow Playhouse in June. Students will be exploring political themes and historical events as part of this creative process and we are very excited to see what they produce. The project gives them access to some exciting resources which have already been delivered in their ‘box’ and they will be learning some new acting and movement skills for use in their final piece. We will keep you updated on their progress and notify you when tickets for the performance go on sale.

**Theatre Visit:** Last week Year 10 GCSE and BTEC drama classes went to see DNA by Dennis Kelly. This was a performance produced by the professional youth theatre company Quirky Birds. The company tours schools in the UK, performing exam texts and giving Q&A sessions. Not only was this a great opportunity for the students to see one of their exam texts performed live, during the Q&A they were able to ask the young actors questions about working in theatre giving them an insight into the profession.

**DRAMA TRIP ALERT!** On the 25th February there will be a trip for all Performing Arts students to see Frantic Assembly’s 25th anniversary show, I Think We Are Alone, co-directed by Kathy Burke. Frantic Assembly has developed into one of the UK’s most successful and best loved theatre companies. As well as their own

productions and projects, Frantic have collaborated on other productions such as the award-winning National Theatre show *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, as well as for other projects such as the BAFTA nominated TV series *Humans*. This is a really exciting opportunity for our students and I hope to see as many join us as possible.

**KS3 Performing Arts Showcase:** On the 26th February, Year 7 and Year 8 drama club alongside KS3 Musical Theatre club will be producing an evening of entertainment to showcase the work they have done in the last term. The students have worked extremely hard during extra-curricular time to develop their performances and look forward to welcoming family and friends to their evening. A date for your calendar.

**WHO RULES THE WORLD?** Well, according to Beyonce it is “girls,” and to look at our Top 100 students for collecting Passmores Points, it would be hard not to notice a correlation. However, here are 25 young men who would beg to differ, all of whom are in our current Top 60.

<b>Dylan Hammond</b>	U8 SWT	848	Year 8	Unicorn
<b>Adam Filipek</b>	L3 RAD	816	Year 8	Lion
<b>William Forde</b>	G4 VNS	803	Year 7	Griffin
<b>Mitch Ward</b>	G6 JKG	722	Year 7	Griffin
<b>Aaron Bhunjun</b>	D3 JSO	715	Year 8	Dragon
<b>Josh Sanderson</b>	U8 SWT	696	Year 8	Unicorn
<b>Callum Burch</b>	G7 PWN	695	Year 7	Griffin
<b>Emaan Baig</b>	U1 ARO	691	Year 8	Unicorn
<b>Huey Lai</b>	U8 SWT	691	Year 7	Unicorn
<b>Marcus De Freitas Sousa</b>	L2 ABM	683	Year 8	Lion
<b>Joe Savage</b>	D4 BPS	682	Year 8	Dragon
<b>Tristan Thira</b>	G7 PWN	677	Year 7	Griffin
<b>Harry New</b>	D1 MHT	674	Year 7	Dragon
<b>Joel Defor</b>	D9 TBT	658	Year 7	Dragon
<b>Toby Palmer</b>	L4 KJR	654	Year 8	Lion
<b>Ryley O'Grady</b>	G3 SHO	653	Year 9	Griffin
<b>Blaze Hibbert</b>	U8 SWT	653	Year 7	Unicorn
<b>Oliver Matthews</b>	G4 VNS	652	Year 7	Griffin
<b>David Griffiths</b>	L3 RAD	646	Year 8	Lion
<b>Archie May-Denton</b>	L6 JSD	644	Year 7	Lion
<b>James Forde</b>	G4 VNS	637	Year 9	Griffin
<b>Reece Fenton</b>	D5 EJM	636	Year 7	Dragon
<b>Josh Goodbun</b>	U1 ARO	633	Year 8	Unicorn
<b>Riley McFall</b>	L1 SGR	630	Year 8	Lion
<b>Eduard Turcu</b>	D4 BPS	629	Year 8	Dragon

**The House Christmas Card Competition:** The House Christmas Card collection has been counted and the total number of cards collected was 840. The results are below:

1st <b>Unicorn:</b>	334	100 points
2nd <b>Lion:</b>	210	75 points
3rd <b>Griffin:</b>	182	60 points
4th <b>Dragon:</b>	114	50 points

**Sports Fixtures Next Week:**

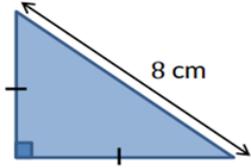
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Year 10/11 Football v Mark Hall – away game
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 8 Football at Passmores Year 8/9 Girls Basketball tournament against Stewards
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 9 Football v Mark Hall
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 7 Basketball Finals – Stewards Year 10/11 Girls district football

**Year 10 & 11 Open Evenings:**

Harlow College                      Wednesday 5th February 5pm-8pm  
Chelmsford College                Monday 10th February 6pm-8.30pm  
Stansted Airport College        Wednesday 12th February 5.30pm-8.30pm

**Maths Problem of the Week:**

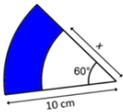
Here is an isosceles triangle.  
The hypotenuse is 8cm.



Find the area of the triangle.

**Maths Solution from last week:**

The unshaded and shaded areas in the sector below are equal.  
Calculate x


$$\frac{\pi}{6} \times x^2 = \frac{\pi}{6} \times (10^2 - x^2)$$
$$x^2 = 100 - x^2$$
$$2x^2 = 100$$
$$x = 7.07 \text{ cm}$$

www.mathsbox.org.uk

**Forthcoming Events**

- |   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January                       | - | Inset Day                         |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February                       | - | Parent/Carer Council Meeting 6pm. |
| Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February                   | - | Aspire Day                        |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> February – 21 <sup>st</sup> February | - | Half Term                         |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> February (Evening)                   | - | KS3 Performing Arts Showcase      |



Natalie Christie & Vic Goddard  
**Co-Principals of Passmores Academy**

# Time to Talk afternoon



Thursday 6th  
February 3-6pm

AT



## The Wellbeing Centre in Bush Fair, Harlow

Choose talk, change lives.  
Together we'll end mental health stigma.

time to change  
**time to  
talk day**  
06/02/20

#timetotalk

[www.time-to-change.org.uk](http://www.time-to-change.org.uk)

proud to support  
**time to change**  
let's end mental health discrimination

# TEACHarlow

- Would you like to be a Primary or Secondary teacher?
- Do you have a degree?

## Drop in session

Wednesday 12th February 2020

10:30am—12pm

At Passmores Academy



<https://www.teachharlow.com/>



Twitter: @TEACHarlow

For more information, contact Gareth Walsh

[g.walsh@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:g.walsh@passmoresacademy.com)

01279 770800