



Principals' Letter – Spring Term 2020 Week Ending 7th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We'd like to use our bit of the newsletter to encourage you to consider becoming a governor of our school. The local governing body carry out the role of 'critical friend' at Passmores. They focus on the progress and wellbeing of the staff and students by monitoring our school improvement work and asking the awkward questions we need. The role is not about your child but making sure we are supporting ALL young people. One plea is that you don't read this and say 'That's not for me. I'm not that kind of parent.' We genuinely want a diverse group of people so if you are interested you can send an email to the Clerk of Governors - Deb Bartram – on

d.bartram@passmoresacademy.com

Word of the Week w/b 10th February 2020: EVIDENCE

Evidence: Reasons to believe something is true.

Also, Evident Reasons to believe something is true,

and Evidently It appears, based on the evidence, that...

Very different things constitute evidence in different school subjects.

OPTIONS SURVEY: We are in the process of reviewing our curriculum offer and in order to help us make an informed decision we would really value your feedback and views. At present we provide a balanced and broad curriculum in Year 7 and 8 and students begin their GCSE options at the beginning of Year 9. The aim of this survey is to gain your views on the current split of the Key Stages to see if what we are doing is still the best thing for our young people. The survey should only take a few minutes and will close on Friday 14th February. Please answer the relevant survey depending on the year group of your child/children:

The Year 7/8 survey: <https://forms.gle/fUKmMTuQZvxQ9kYd8>

The Year 9/10/11 survey: <https://forms.gle/vJ6q7Df14GRE5j556>

Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge: Last Wednesday, a group of Year 10s took part in the annual Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. This begins as a one-day workshop funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation and run by a public speaking expert from the Speakers' Trust. As ever, it was a fantastic day and the students were all fully engaged in the activities designed to improve their confidence with public speaking. This year we had a range of speeches from issues of mental health, the NHS and science v religion to how wonderful dogs are and food-based promotions of tea, bacon and eggs!

The workshop gives participants the opportunity to take part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge competition and last year's Passmores winner, **Freddie Hardie**, spoke to the students about his experience at the Regional Finals. Ex-student **Jenna Buller** came back to help judge the final speeches. Highly Commended awards went to **Tony Bell** and **Joyce Luzitu**. The winners, who will now compete to represent Passmores at this year's Regional final, are **Beau Burridge**, **Isabelle Carey-Young**, **Grace Evans**, **Callum Hartgrove**, **Todd Hatton** and **Jade Maxwell**. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to our winners. We look forward to hearing your final speeches.

Passmores Summer Production: This week saw the start of the summer production process with the sign up and first of the auditions for our summer production. This year we are putting on Starlight Express (without skates). If your young person is interested in joining the cast and crew for the show and has still not signed up, please tell them to speak to Mr Tarling or Mrs Guyton. Further auditions will be on Wednesday and Friday of next week. Details are on the production notice board.

The KS3 Celebration Evening was a roaring success: Each department showcased some of the amazing work that has been happening during the first term at Passmores Academy. Young people wowed the adults with their beautiful letters in English and amazing POP art in the art department. They toured their parents 'virtually' around school using their language skills before showcasing some of their work in humanities and science. In the tech wing they proudly explained how they took a raw material and turned it into something beautiful and could see their stunning REAL Project books on display. Expressive arts showcased some of their incredible work and finally Mr Butler signed off their bingo card once they had performed their masterpiece on the keyboard. An amazing evening was had by all. All of the bingo cards were placed into a box for a prized draw. The two lucky winners are **Elena Iona** and **Stanley Seager**. They will both receive their prize soon. Thank you for attending and I hope you are as proud as we are of your young people.

TOP THIRTY (GIRLS): Last week we looked at the top-performing male students in terms of collecting Passmores Points. This week is the time of our female cohort.

Maria Thira G7 PWN	1229	Year 8	Griffin
Emelia Abbott G1 MTR	913	Year 8	Griffin
Amy Bryson L4 KJR	885	Year 7	Lion
Shelby Paterson G8 DDE	867	Year 8	Griffin
Lily Quigley G4 VNS	807	Year 8	Griffin
Bailey Pearce G1 MTR	782	Year 7	Griffin
Emma Connell G4 VNS	780	Year 7	Griffin
Karys Bailey U8 SWT	770	Year 7	Unicorn
Niamh Warman L2 ABM	755	Year 7	Lion
Maddie Kimble D9 TBT	748	Year 7	Dragon
Daisy Burbeck L5 ROH	743	Year 7	Lion
Freya Nash D6 HTR	738	Year 7	Dragon
Louise Matlock-Jeffery G3 SHO	733	Year 7	Griffin
Gemma McAusland L5 ROH	730	Year 7	Lion
Lucy Clay G1 MTR	725	Year 8	Griffin
Daisy Hooker G3 SHO	724	Year 9	Griffin
Dixie Hughes U5 ASA	723	Year 8	Unicorn
Sian Kearney D3 JSO	721	Year 10	Dragon
Amy Kenway G5 KFS	717	Year 7	Griffin
Jeyla Onac D8 MBY	716	Year 7	Dragon
Evie Matthews D9 TBT	715	Year 10	Dragon
Misty Eren D7 ALL	712	Year 8	Dragon
Alyssa Crandle U4 AHN	703	Year 7	Unicorn
Erin Murphy L2 ABM	694	Year 7	Lion
Ocean Steel G3 SHO	683	Year 8	Griffin
Shalom - Elise Defor D9 TBT	682	Year 8	Dragon
Kallie Jackson D3 JSO	681	Year 7	Dragon
Louise Lai L2 ABM	676	Year 8	Lion
Lacey Dedman D4 BPS	672	Year 7	Dragon
Scarlet Webber L5 ROH	669	Year 9	Lion

National Apprenticeship Week: It was National Apprenticeship Week this week, which is designed to raise awareness and provide information relating to an increasingly popular and highly valuable post-16 and post-18 pathway. The National Apprenticeship Service has lots of really useful information about the range of options open to young people and advice for employers who might be considering employing an apprentice. If your child is looking for an apprenticeship at the moment, or may be interested in the future, can I remind you that the Government's website updates weekly. Please see the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>. Finally, Amazing Apprenticeships website has some guidance information relating to subject areas that may be of interest to you and your child. The link is <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/>. Students can also

speak to Mrs Kay, Careers Adviser for further help and information about all of their options. Students can also take a short quiz to see how much they know about apprenticeships:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprenticeships-quiz/>

Sports News: We have had news that **Mia Rowan** had a great weekend competing at the London Games held at Lea Valley last week. It was her first run over the 60M hurdles this indoor season and she came 1st in her heat with a new PB 9:69, which we have been informed is a new Harlow Athletics Club Record (although she is waiting for confirmation of this from the chairman). This currently has Mia ranked as 18th in the UK. Well done Mia!

Sports Fixtures Next Week:

Tuesday 11 th February	Year 7 Harlow District at Passmores Senior Girls Basketball – Stewards WESSA U14 Basketball at Passmores Academy
Wednesday 12 th February	U16 Girls Football vs Roding Valley at Passmores
Thursday 13 th February	WESSA U16 Basketball Finals Tournament at Passmores

Book Review by Mr Lovell: Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

A well-known but sadly under-read novel which introduces us to the zany, chaotic and sometimes threatening world of Wonderland. Come with Alice as she dives down the rabbit-hole and find yourself plunged into a strange place populated by talking animals, croquet playing cats and girls who are forever changing sizes. The book is simple enough even for the youngest of readers but will easily hold the attention of adults through its lopsided and madcap view of growing up. Alice is a charming, if sometimes frustratingly girlish heroine and readers will be delighted with her no nonsense take on a world filled with nothing but nonsense. Although now over 150 years old, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland remains a must-read for lovers of children's literature or anyone who fancies a roller-coaster ride through Lewis Carroll's expansive and unique imagination. If there ever was an excuse to read the book and not just watch the film, this little gem of a novel is it!

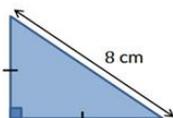
Maths Problem of the Week: GCSE Quick 5 Questions

- 1 Expand and simplify $3(2a + 3b) + 2(a + 2b)$
- 2 Solve $2(4a + 1) = 10$
- 3 Work out $£15.50 \times 24$
- 4 Express 84 as a product of primes
- 5 Find the nth term of 4, 7, 10, 13

Maths Solution from last week:

Here is an isosceles triangle.

The hypotenuse is 8cm.



Find the area of the triangle.

Call other two sides x as they are equal

Using Pythagoras

$$x^2 + x^2 = 8^2$$

$$2x^2 = 64$$

$$x^2 = 32$$

$$x = \sqrt{32} = 4\sqrt{2}$$

Area is

$$\frac{4\sqrt{2} \times 4\sqrt{2}}{2} = 16 \text{ cm}^2$$

Forthcoming Events

Wednesday 12 th February	-	Aspire Day
17 th February – 21 st February	-	Half Term
Wednesday 26 th February (Evening)	-	KS3 Performing Arts Showcase
Wednesday 11 th March 6.30pm-8.30pm	-	KS4 Hollywood Night
Wednesday 25 th March	-	Year 10 Parents' Evening



Natalie Christie & Vic Goddard

Co-Principals of Passmores Academy