



Principals' Letter – Spring Term 2020 Week Ending 28th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back everyone, can you believe that we are halfway through the year! We hope that you all had a good half term. With some of us returning from trips abroad, plans for trips in the very near future and heightened media coverage many of you have been contacting this week asking questions related to the Corona Virus. So as to keep everyone as informed as possible a separate letter has been sent this afternoon explaining our current position.

Thank you to those parents who took the time to complete our survey regarding our curriculum review. Your feedback is very much appreciated and will be really useful as we finalise plans for the next academic year. More information will follow once the review has been completed.

Our Year 11s have now finished the last of their formal preparations for their upcoming GCSE exams. They should all be really proud of their efforts and focus during the last few weeks, they have again been excellent role models for the rest of the school. Students will be receiving feedback from their class teachers during the next week or so; it is really important to use this information to identify those areas which need more specific focus and revision. Parents of Year 11 don't forget that the free support sessions being offered by the English and Maths department have begun and will be running for the next five weeks from 6-7pm. English every Tuesday and Maths every Wednesday. If you missed the first session, it is not too late to come along!

Word of the Week: FACTOR

1. **A fact that influences the result of something:**
Heavy snow was a contributing factor in the accident.
The economy is regarded as the decisive/key factor in the outcome of the election.
Too little exercise is a contributory factor in heart disease.
2. **A positive whole number that divides exactly into another number, with no left-over fraction.**
The factors of 12 are: 1,2,3,4,6 and 12.

Calling All Parents – Passmores Governing Body Needs YOU!

An opportunity to recruit an additional parent governor to our Local Governing Body has arisen. Parents and carers with parental responsibility of a registered student at Passmores are eligible to apply. Governance is a challenging role, but also a very rewarding one. As a parent governor, you would work in partnership with the Co-principals, senior leadership team and other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all our young people. If you would like more information about the role and/or an application form, please contact our Governance Manager, Mrs Deb Bartram by email d.bartram@passmoresacademy.com or by phone 01279 770872. The closing date for applications is Friday, 27th March 2020 at 4pm.

Second-hand Book Plea: The English department would like to thank parents/carers for their donations to their library but they are still in great need of reading books as their stocks have depleted a lot over the last few months. Can we please ask if you are able to have a look at home to see if any borrowed books can be returned and whether anyone has any reading books that they no longer want that could be donated to the school. Any books will be gratefully received and can be left in the English Faculty room. Thank you in advance.

Performing Arts Theatre Visit: On Tuesday, 30 Performing Arts students from Year 7 to 11 had the opportunity to attend the opening night of Frantic Assembly's new production *I Think We Are Alone*, directed by Kathy Burke. The evening was enjoyed by all and our students represented Passmores with maturity, true theatre goers! Keep an eye out for news of our next trip, *A Monster Calls* on the 26th March.

KS3 Performing Arts Performance: On Wednesday this week, KS3 Performing Arts students performed in an evening showcase of their work. Year 7 performed "*Ernie's Incredible Illucinations*". Year 8 previewed an extract of their upcoming performance of *The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty* (the full version will be performed on Thursday 2nd April) and the KS3 Musical Theatre club had the audience singing along to songs from *The Little Mermaid*. For many of our students, this was their first time on stage and there was mix of nerves and excitement as the lights came up. It was a lovely evening for performers and audience alike and we are extremely proud of the student's hard work and commitment. Well done to the students running the tech deck too. They did a great job. The drama team would like to thank all parents and carers that turned up to support the hard-working performers and a special thanks to those who were kind enough to make a donation towards future shows, in the collection after the show. We were overwhelmed by some of the generosity. We look forward to greeting you all at the next one!

Upcoming Performing Arts Dates for your Diaries: All of the following performances will be taking place in the main hall; doors will open at 5.45pm. Please come along and watch.

- Monday 9th March - Year 11 GCSE drama exam preview – extracts performed from three plays (*Shakers* – Jane Thornton & John Godber. *4:48 Psychosis* – Sarah Kane. *Metamorphosis* – Steven Berkoff.) accompanied by sound and lighting design done by students as well.
- Tuesday 31st March – Year 9 set text performance, "*Gizmo*" by Alan Ayckbourn – a physical comedy with some thrilling moments. Performed by Year 9 GCSE drama students as preparation for the written aspect of their examination.
- Thursday 2nd April – "*The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty*" by David Calcutt – Year 8 Drama club. Written in 1984, a play that examines the horrific impacts of bullying on a young man that is new to the area.

Sweden – Junior Summit: On the back of our hugely successful trip to New York for our sustainability summit, Mr Elston and Mrs Montgomery will be taking 8 students to Lund, Sweden for the Junior Summit. During the summit the students will participate in a variety of workshops and visit a variety of places that currently run a plethora of sustainable projects. The students who applied and have been successful for the trip are: **Daisy Hooker, Harry Dean, Ethan Meredith, Bryony Gibb, Joshua Goodbun, Lilly-Mae Kilbey, Joe Savage and Kaisha Hayward**. We would like to thank the **Sharifi** family who have kindly funded this amazing trip to carry on their work and dedication in the local area.

Book Review: Murder Most Unladylike – Amelie Norden Year 8

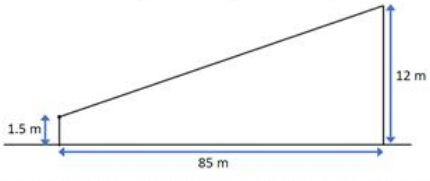
The *Murder Most Unladylike* collection takes readers on a thrilling journey with the Detective Society uncovering different murders in each book. Come with Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong and see what mischief these teenage sleuths get up to this time. Whether it's at the Deepdean School for girls or at the Rue Theatre, they always seem to find themselves knee deep in a murder mystery! This is a perfect series for children aged 10 and above or any mini detective in the making. If you like puzzle solving, then you will love this collection of exhilarating murder mystery books.

Sports Fixtures for Next Week:

Tuesday 3 rd March	Year 7 District Football Tournament - Passmores Academy
Wednesday 4 th March	Year 9 Football vs Burnt Mill – Burnt Mill Academy
Thursday 5 th March	Year 10 vs Burnt Mill - Burnt Mill Academy
Thursday 5 th March	Year 11 vs Burnt Mill – Burnt Mill Academy

Maths Problem of the Week:

Zip-it are looking to install a new zip wire at one of their parks as shown in the plan below (not to scale)




The fixings and safety harness cost £530. The wire costs £42 per metre and Zip-it needs to buy the length required plus an additional 10% for fastenings. What will be the total cost of the equipment needed to install the new zip wire?

www.mathsbox.org.uk

Maths Solution from last week:

A full can of soup is poured into a circular pan of radius 6 cm.



Calculate the depth of the soup in the pan.

Volume of the can = $\pi \times 3^2 \times 12$
 $= 108\pi$ (339.292 cm³)

Area of the base of the pan = $\pi \times 6^2$
 $= 36\pi$ (113.097 cm²)

Depth of soup = $108\pi \div 36\pi$
 $= 3$ cm

www.mathsbox.org.uk

Forthcoming Events

- Wednesday 11th March 6.30pm-8.30pm - KS4 Hollywood Night
- Wednesday 25th March - Year 10 Parents' Evening



Natalie Christie & Vic Goddard
Co-Principals of Passmores Academy