



## Principals' Letter – Autumn Term 2020 Week Ending 18th September 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

It is hard to fathom that it is Friday again! We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support this week. It is no great surprise that, having not all been together in one building for six months, there are a few coughs and colds around that have nothing to do with Covid-19. The BBC has a useful guide called 'Is it a cold, flu or Coronavirus?' Which you can see here - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-54145299>



Covid symptoms:  
Is it a cold, flu or  
coronavirus? -  
BBC News

Colds, flu and Covid-19  
are caused by different  
viruses, but can have  
similar symptoms. It can  
be hard to judge which

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

As always when we get to the end of the week we will reflect on what has worked and what hasn't in order to continue to improve the smooth running of school. We are delighted with the level of focus and commitment to their work from almost all of our young people. They have come back ready to do everything they can to be a success which includes helping us to manage with some of the new systems such as arriving promptly to lessons to ensure we can sanitise successfully. Please pass on our thanks and reinforce how much it helps to keep us all safe and learning.

We continue to encourage our students to choose to wear a mask if they can medically but with limited success to be honest. Staff continue to protect themselves and those around them when moving between classrooms and we will continue to encourage our young people to make the same socially responsible choice.

Whilst it is encouraging to see that the infection rate is lower than average in Harlow we are aware of the direction the country seems to be heading so we will keep you informed if we hear of anything changing. We really hope that the choices we can all make will help keep Harlow out of lockdown. Considering the rising rate we have had a few requests about what will happen if/when we have a positive case therefore we will send a letter out early next week that will go through that eventuality for you.

Please stay well and look after each other.

**Friends of Passmores Update:** The Christmas Fayre has been cancelled due to restrictions on public gatherings. However, we are currently exploring an online fayre and will update you as soon as we have spoken to our elves. We are always keen for new members to help out at events or help us with our planning of them. We are particularly keen to recruit someone with financial experience to act as a treasurer for us. Our AGM will be on Monday 2nd November at 6pm. We are intending to hold this via Zoom and will appoint post-holders for the year during it. If you would like an invitation email so that you can "attend" then please contact Assistant Principal Russell King on [r.king@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:r.king@passmoresacademy.com)

**Charity Sky Dive:** Our wonderful Ms Conway has signed herself up for a sky dive on Saturday 26th September. She has decided to do it as a charity fundraiser. The two charities she has chosen to support are No Child Without and Cancer Research UK. Her just giving pages below.

[https://www.justgiving.com/team/Rebecca-maldon?utm\\_source=whatsapp&utm\\_medium=team&utm\\_content=Rebecca-maldon&utm\\_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm\\_term=fc4599ae536b4c7abb2aacba240ab386](https://www.justgiving.com/team/Rebecca-maldon?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=team&utm_content=Rebecca-maldon&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm_term=fc4599ae536b4c7abb2aacba240ab386)

If you would like to support Ms Conway and donate, the just giving page will allow you to donate to either charity via donate to team, the top one is Cancer Research UK and the bottom one is No Child Without. Good luck Miss!

**Happy New Year:** This weekend is Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and as a community we would like to send out our best wishes to any students and their family who are Jewish, and hope they enjoy their celebrations.

**History News:** As part of being a Beacon school for the Holocaust educational trust, we are promoting a wider education of the issues relating to the Holocaust. Should you wish to know more about this you can contact Mr L Pickering (Lead Teacher) at [l.pickering@passmoresacademy.com](mailto:l.pickering@passmoresacademy.com). A related matter was in the news this week where it was reported nearly two thirds of all Americans between 18-29 did not know that 6 million Jews were killed during the holocaust, and 10% of this age group actually believe the Jewish population brought the holocaust upon themselves. This report highlights just how important our programme of holocaust education is, in addressing issues of racism, prejudice and discrimination within society.



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