



Principals' Letter – Autumn Term 2020 Week Ending 20th November 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

It seems that we are constantly writing to you this week! Sorry about that.

One of the things we have learned very quickly since Covid became an issue is just how bad it is for the environment. We are currently issuing about 200 masks a day and we are getting calls from, understandably, upset neighbours as they are not being disposed of properly. We are spending time walking around the neighbourhood trying to pick them up which is unnecessary. If it is possible to provide your young person with a re-usable cloth mask we would be very grateful (as would the planet) and if that is not possible please continue to encourage them to use the bin as they leave school to dispose of them. Only a handful of young people continue to need to be reminded about their responsibility to look after other people in the building and their families at home. Unfortunately, for those young people not willing to comply, we are reaching the point where they will not be allowed to have break/lunch or move around the building at the same time as everyone else as we are unwilling to let them selfishly put others at risk.

Good luck to year 11 in their mock exams next week and please reassure them that this is just one opportunity to show us what they can do and, just as importantly, highlight the areas that we need to work together to improve. Also, a big thank you to the parent(s)/carer(s) of Year 9 for your support and to those that will do the same by looking after Year 8 next week.

Please remember that Friday 27th November is a training day for all year groups.

Stay well

Friday 27th November: Friday 27th November is Black Friday and I'm sure most of us are tempted to look for that 'bargain' online as we can't go to the shops. However, this is also 'National buy nothing day' which aims to get us to think about what we buy and why we are buying it. Nobody is denying there are important things we need that might be a genuine saving on Black Friday, but how often do we just buy something for the sake of it? What 'National buy nothing today' wants us to think about is where all the waste goes when we buy things we don't need and then ends up in the bin. Or how 'experiences' give us more pleasure than spending money like going for a walk with family and friends (after lockdown). It's worth remembering we are running out of landfill space, so where will all our unwanted things end up if the waste units are full?

Tassomai: This week's Science Tassomai Champions are:

Year 11

Sasha Newman

Zara Man

Skye Hudspeth

Year 10

Kyran Ackerman Mond

Jamiya Yussif

Mia Rowan

‘Rising Futures’ World at World virtual trip: The Year 9 and 10 students who are currently participating in the Rising Futures programme have recently taken part in their first virtual trip of the year – a World at Work day at the London-based architects firm Hawkins Brown. Each group of students had a 90-minute session during which they heard from key staff about what it is like working at an architects company. This was conducted live through Zoom using tablets. They learned about various job roles and the skills and qualifications needed to get there as well as participating in a quiz guessing the cost of a range of projects. This was followed by a speed networking activity where students worked in pairs with members of staff who rotated around the group answering all the students’ questions. This went really well, and it was great to see the students gaining confidence and communicating well. Throughout the day, students were engaged, listened brilliantly and really warmed up to the networking with staff asking lots of questions. Congratulations to all the following students who were involved: **Sophie Clark** 10L2 ABM, **Albie Hibbert** 10U2 CFA, **Francesca Pickering** 10D2 MBY, **Rega Canaj** 10L2 ABM, **Freddie Thornton** 10U1 ASA, **Kevin Traci**, 9U2 JBH, **Lewis Martin** 9G2 DDE, **Kaisha Hayward** 9S2 AKT, **Joshua Brown** 9U2 JBH, **Lily Daly** 9L1 JSD, **Selin Bozkurt** 9U2 JBH, **Kayleigh McConnell** 10D2 MBY, **Jedd Taylor** 10L2 ABM, **Markus Dignan** 10G1 AWE, **Shane Shaw** 10G2 JKG, **Bryony Gibb** 9G1 VNS, **Will Grant** 9G1 VNS, **Rebecca Nicholls** 9L1 JSD and **Shelby Patterson** 9G2 DDE. The next Rising Futures coaching session will take place on Thursday 3rd December.

Year 11 Information:

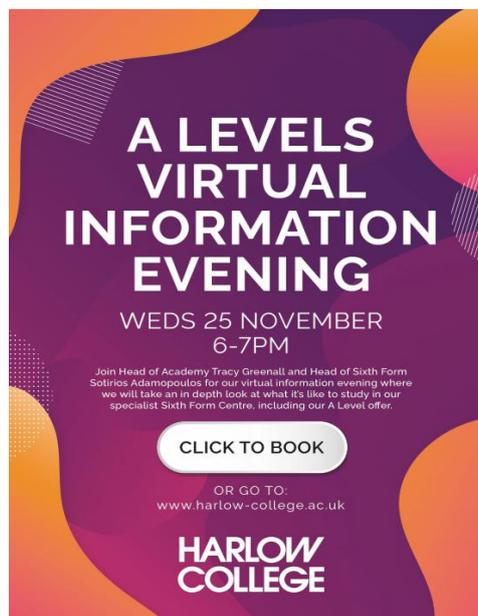
Open Dates:

Cambridge Regional College, Saturday 21st November, 9.30-12.30 – virtual

New City College (Epping Forest Campus), Saturday 21st November, 10am-2pm – virtual

Epping St Johns Sixth Form, Tuesday 24th November, 6.45pm – virtual

New City College Epping Forest are having an online Open Day on Saturday 21st November 2020 from 10.00am-2.00pm. Year 11 students need to register now for the sessions of their choice if they are interested. Students will be able to join live tutor talks to find out about their course of interest, view 360° tours of campuses, listen to recorded interviews with students and ask any burning questions through a live chat with their friendly staff. Whilst nothing beats visiting in person, their online Open Day is as close as it gets to the real thing!



Teacher Training: Following the success of the last online information event for teacher training, they are holding another next week on Tuesday 24th Nov, from 7.30pm. They have many potential ITTs signed up already – if you want to hear more about the innovative School Direct programme, please follow the link below to look at the events page: <https://www.essexschooldirect.com/events/> or you can go straight to the Eventbrite link and set a reminder for yourselves. If you're the twittering type, please RT <https://twitter.com/TeachESD>



Natalie Christie & Vic Goddard
Co-Principals of Passmores Academy

