Newsletter

improving upon our best

Friday 5th September 2025 Issue 01

BACK TO SCHOOL

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year and of course to our new parents and carers of year 7; we are delighted to have you as part of our Passmores family. We have had a fantastic first week, it has been so lovely to see everyone, looking so smart and keen and eager for what this year will bring. The building just isn't the same without the noise and laughter of our young people.

Apart from our year 7s, we are all adjusting to the new timings of the day. It is definitely going to take some time to remember what time the bells are going to ring and 60 minutes seems to be flying by. I think it is taking longer for our staff to get to grips with this than the students, maybe it is an age thing? Some of our young people have had their first double periods this week, it has been amazing to see how much they can learn within this time. Because of the increased transitions, students are being encouraged to go to the toilet between lessons rather than during. Any missed learning time is crucial and we need to build good habits as quickly as possible.

What else is new? To help free up time for tutors during morning registration so they can focus solely on the pastoral care and taking the register, when students arrive they are being greeted by an array of staff in the foyer. Here their uniform is being checked, and phones are being placed and locked in their Yondr pouches before entering the building. It would be helpful if students could arrive a little earlier, it would help to reduce the bottle neck just before the bell goes. Our skirt infringement on Arbor is also now in use for those students who are choosing to wear their skirts too short. We work within a business environment and therefore how we present ourselves is important. Skirt length has been an ongoing battle and one that we hope to solve with this new system. All students have had assemblies to reinforce expectations, and for the most they have been fantastic this week. Long may this continue!

Rewarding our young people for doing the right thing is a key focus for us this year. Our staff have already given 34,905 Passmores Points, in four days! I can only imagine what that number will be by the end of the year if everyone carries on in the same way! You can see our Top Ten on the next page who are setting the early pace, but so many more young people are hot on their heels. We have introduced a number of opportunities to gain streaks through positive actions; more will be explained at the PIEs. Rewards mean prizes and there are some good ones!

Our partnership working is crucial, so we are looking forward to seeing you all over the next few weeks at our Parent / Carer Information Evenings (PIEs). Letters have already been sent for the Year 7, Year 10 and 11 PIEs next week, 8s and 9s to follow shortly.

Open Evening is Thursday 18th September, such an important night for us, made by the young people who help out. You have received a letter asking for permission to join us, please encourage your young person to take part and complete this by Wednesday 10th September.

We leave on a high today, buoyed by the positive start to term and looking forward to next week.

Natalie Christie

TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

Week Commencing 1st September 2025

Gould, Reggie	Year 7	54
Cleverdon, Freddie	Year 7	50
Fisher, Lois	Year 7	48
Wallace, Molly	Year 7	48
Kozikowska, Ola	Year 7	47
Clements, Fifi	Year 7	46
Foster-Carr, C-Jay	Year 7	46
Holcroft, Sofia	Year 7	45
Lawrence-Ely, Riley	Year 7	45
Luca, Daria	Year 7	45
Mair, Harry	Year 7	45
Mulligan, Riley	Year 7	45
Smith, Luke	Year 8	48
Raggio, Rylea-Ray	Year 8	41
Langham, Mason	Year 8	40
Byrne, Harley	Year 8	38
Gege, Tolu	Year 8	37
Nunn, Lois	Year 8	37
Adams, Mia	Year 8	36
Charles, Kai	Year 8	36
Lawrence, Ethan	Year 8	36
Burd, Ruby	Year 9	43
Nemeth, Danique	Year 9	36
Gaine, Lexi	Year 9	34
Okeke, Goodluck	Year 9	34
Ozimek, Filip	Year 9	34
Stano, Karina	Year 9	34
Essafri, Sara	Year 9	33
Freeman, Preston	Year 9	33
Goodson, Riley	Year 9	33
Laurino, Benedetta	Year 9	33
McAlpine, Livvy	Year 9	33
Paraman, Donte	Year 9	33
Stewart, Isobella	Year 9	33

Buhaescu, Fabiana	Year 10	38
Arber, Matthew	Year 10	33
Blackham, Ella	Year 10	29
Fargeot, Maddie	Year 10	29
Abbott, Sofia	Year 10	28
Allen, Mia	Year 10	28
Benge, Maddie	Year 10	28
Dixon, Naavah	Year 10	28
Ely, Thea	Year 10	28
Groves, Isabelle	Year 10	28
Gunter, Noah	Year 10	28
Zuna, Hayden	Year 10	28
Aiyamenkhue-edigin,		
Joanne	Year 11	38
Ball-Parrish, Maizie	Year 11	31
Morris, Elissa	Year 11	31
Vaux, Oliver	Year 11	29
Wheatley, Joshua	Year 11	29
Anderson, Frazer	Year 11	28
Dugard, Amelia	Year 11	28
Jay, Ronnie	Year 11	28
Stevenson, Harry	Year 11	28
Theophil, Dylan	Year 11	28

Year Group Attendance w/c 1 st September 2025		
Year 7	97.4%	
Year 8	92.8%	
Year 9	92.4%	
Year 10	88.8%	
Year 11	92.4%	
All Students	92.7%	



Thought for the Week: Getting to Know Our Tutor Group Family

This week, students spent time getting to know the people in their tutor groups—both familiar faces and new ones. Through fun activities, they explored the importance of building strong relationships at the start of the year.

The intended outcomes were clear:

- **Belonging** helping students feel comfortable and safe in their new group.
- ➤ **Positive relationships** creating opportunities for friendships to form and strengthen.
- Supportive environment encouraging students to see their tutor group as a "home base."
- Respect and empathy learning about each other's backgrounds and strengths to promote inclusivity.
- ➤ **Group identity** setting the tone, routines, and culture for the year ahead.
- Wellbeing and learning understanding that feeling connected boosts confidence, engagement, and attendance.

This focus ensures every student starts the year with a strong foundation of trust and support.

In the News: Welcoming Back the Passmores Family

In The News, students reflected on the start of a new school year. This included:

- Looking back at their summer holidays.
- > Considering what will feel different this year and the challenges they may face.
- > Setting personal and academic goals for the months ahead.
- Focusing on positive behaviours and the importance of teamwork.
- Supporting others and strengthening the bonds of our Passmores family.
- > The emphasis was on coming together as a community—making sure everyone feels part of the journey ahead.

Other News

- > Every year group took part in assemblies reminding us of our standards and expectations and the role each of us plays in shaping the culture of Passmores.
- On Friday, students and staff put on their best smiles for school photos—capturing memories for the year ahead.
- > Year 10 students also attended a special assembly introducing the Deputy Head Student application process, an exciting opportunity to step into leadership.

Looking Ahead to Next Week

- Thought for the Week: Students will explore the wide range of student leadership opportunities available this year, and how they can get involved.
- > In The News: The focus will be on the importance of resilience and adaptability—two key qualities for success in the year ahead.

We've had a wonderful and positive start to the new school year. It has been fantastic to hear the hustle and bustle and feel the energy around the building. We're excited for the year ahead and all the opportunities it will bring!



It's a new school year, and the first winners of our weekly prize draw are...

Weekly Winners

Arune Sestavickaite
Ashton Mills
Oscar Bricknell
Mason Langham
Poppy Perkins
Denise Long
Jermaine Jackson
Jesse Howard
Jazmyn Taylor



CAREERS NEWS

Year 11

With open days for colleges and sixth forms looming, I have been organising some post 16 assemblies for our year 11 students. Some are compulsory for all, and other students can choose if it is a provider they are interested in finding out more about. These assemblies are a great way to find out more about what that college or sixth form offers, entry requirements, extra-curricular activities and how to apply. This will help students to decide which open events they would like to attend. The assemblies planned so far are:

Weds 10th Sept - Writtle College

Thurs 11th Sept - Hertford Regional College

Weds 17th Sept - St Marks Sixth Form

Thurs 18th Sept - Harlow College

Weds 24th Sept - Sir Frederick Gibberd Sixth Form

Weds 1st Oct - Herts & Essex Sixth Form

Thurs 2nd Oct - Epping St Johns Sixth Form

Weds 22nd Oct - The Bishops Stortford High School Sixth Form

Attached on the next page is a list of open events that I am currently aware of so that students can plan their open evenings for this term.

Year 10 & 11

On the 9th October we are hosting a joint careers fair with Stewards Academy. This will be held from 4.30pm-7.00pm at Passmores Academy. Almost all the local colleges and sixth forms will be attending alongside Anglia Ruskin University, Manchester Airport Group Stansted, Derrick Wade Waters, The Army, Kidz Ok, Derrick Wade Waters, Group 1 Auto, Ashton Roofing, and many more. It is an ideal opportunity for our students to talk to a range of post 16 providers under one roof to find out about courses, apprenticeships and career opportunities. I have attached a poster and we look forward to seeing you there.

If your young person has questions relating to their next steps from Passmores, please encourage them to book a careers guidance meeting with myself. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend. I work Weds, Thurs & Fri.

Sixth Form & College Open Dates 2025/2026

Colleges & Sixth Forms	Contact No.	Open Date
The Bishop's Stortford High School www.tbshs.org	01279 868686	Weds 5 th Nov
BMAT STEM Academy www.bmatstemacademy.org	01279 621570	Awaiting date
The College at Braintree (Now part of Colchester Institute) www.colchester.ac.uk	01206 814000	Mon 13 th Oct 5pm-7pm Sat 8 th Nov 10am-12.30pm
Cambridge Regional College www.camre.ac.uk	01223 418200	Weds 22 nd Oct 4.30pm-7pm Sat 15 th Nov 9.30am-12.30pm Sat 24 th Jan 10am-12.30pm Thurs 23 rd April 4.30pm-7pm
Capel Manor College, Enfield www.capel.ac.uk	08456 122122	Tues 16 th Sept 5.30pm-7pm Sat 11 th Oct 10am-3pm
Chelmsford College www.chelmsford-college.ac.uk	01245 265611	Wed 1 st Oct 6pm-8.30pm Weds 12 th Nov 6pm-8.30pm Weds 4 th Feb 6pm-8.30pm
New City College (Epping Forest), www.ncclondon.ac.uk	0208 508 8311	Sat 22 nd Nov 10am-2pm Sat 31 st Jan 10am-2pm
Epping St Johns 6 th Form <u>www.eppingstjohnsschool.org/</u>	01992 573028	Thurs 13 th Nov 6pm-8.30pm
F2 Academy www.vluk.org/course-location/f2academy/	07525 495818	Awaiting date
Fashion Retail Academy www.fashionretailacademy.ac.uk	0207 3072345	Sat 27 th Sept
Harlow College www.harlow-college.ac.uk	01279 868000	Thurs 16 th Oct 5pm-8pm Tues 10 th Feb 5pm-8pm Weds 29 th April
Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge www.hrsfc.ac.uk	01223 247251	Open date in the summer term for year 10 students
Hertford Regional College www.hertreg.ac.uk	01992 411400	Tues 30 th Sept 5.30pm-8pm Tues 2 nd Dec 5.30pm-8pm Tues 3 rd Feb 5.30-8pm
Herts & Essex High School, Bishop's Stortford www.hertsandessex.herts.sch.uk	01279 654127	Tues 11 th Nov
Hockerill Anglo-European School, Bishop's Stortford www.hockerill.herts.sch.uk	01279 658451	Awaiting date
Long Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge www.longroad.ac.uk	01223 631100	Open date in the summer term for year 10 students
Leventhorpe School, Sawbridgeworth www.leventhorpe.net	01279 836633	Tues 4 th Nov 5pm-8pm
Presdales Sixth Form www.presdales.herts.sch.uk	01920 462210	Awaiting date
Sir Frederick Gibberd www.sirfrederickgibberdcollege.org	01279 307235 (c/o Burnt Mill Academy	Awaiting date

Sixth Form & College Open Dates 2025/2026

St Marks School, Harlow www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk	01279 421267	Awaiting date
St Mary's Catholic School, Bishop's Stortford www.stmarys.net	01279 654901	Awaiting date
Stansted Airport College www.harlow-college.ac.uk	01799 513030	Sat 11 th October
Writtle College www.writtle.ac.uk	01245 424200	Sat 11 th October 10am-3pm

Please contact the institutions to check details and times before attending. Also, be advised that most ask for you to book a place for these events online.



Passmores & Stewards

Careers Fair

When: 4:30pm-

7:00pm

Oct 9th

Who: Year 10 & 11

Where:
Passmores
Academy
Tracyes Road,
Harlow, CM18 6JH



ANY OTHER INFORMATION

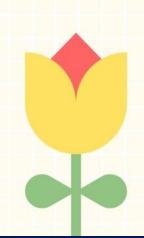
We would like to give notice of the AGM of Friends of Passmores, to be held on 14th October 2025. The meeting will start at 6pm in the Heart Space, refreshments will be provided.



OCTOBER 14TH 2025

6PM

Heart Space,
Passmores Academy
Refreshments provided



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 9 th September	Year 7 - Parent Information Evening
Thursday 11 th September	Year 10 & 11 - Parent Information Evening
Thursday 18 th September	Open Evening 5:30pm – 8:30pm
Friday 19 th September	Late Start for All Students – 9:55am
Thursday 25 th September	Year 8 & 9 - Parent Information Evening
Tuesday 14th October	Friends of Passmores AGM – 6:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 23 rd October	INSET DAY (2)
Friday 24 th October – Friday 31 st October	HALF-TERM
Monday 3 rd November	School Opens for Autumn Term 2



Interested in becoming a primary or secondary teacher?
Contact Gareth Walsh on g.walsh@passmoresacademy.com











Browse all family learning courses

Back-to-School Boost: Support Your Child & Grow Your Skills

Free ACL Essex courses to help your child thrive, and give you a boost too.

Uniforms labelled (mostly), lunchboxes found (miraculously), and the school run has resumed its daily sprint. As the kids head back to school, this is the perfect moment for parents, carers and grandparents to reset routines and sharpen your own skills for work and life.

At ACL Essex, we've lined up free, friendly, practical courses, many Online Live so you can join from the sofa while enjoying a cup of tea. Below you'll find a hand-picked selection starting this month.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN GOING BACK TO SCHOOL

Change can be hard for children to manage. Going back to school after a long summer break might cause them to feel uncertain about their friendships, school routines and relationships with new teachers. However, trusted adults play an important role in providing both practical and emotional support.

LEARN WHAT EQUIPMENT YOU NEED

Figure out a list of oil equipment needed for the start of the school year, so you can candontably get your hards on the necessary items in time. If children have any linencial issues and receive free school meals, the school may be able to provide some monetary aid or offer other support.

COMMUNICATE WITH THE SCHOOL

If you notice that a child is feeling ancious about a change of feacher or school, arranging a one-to-one meeting with their new teacher can be a good way to alleviate some of the anxiety. Just knowing that they understand the child a worner and will be able to help them if the need arises can build the foundations of a good working relationship. Knowing that you can contact them with any queries can use the reassuring.

CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

There will be planty of information about the start of term on the school's website to keep you updated. Furthermore, you should be able to find other useful information such as contact details for stall, important school equipment, clubs, and news about any special events on the school exercise the year, it could be helpful to look through this with the following the condition of the properties with most research them.

HELP TO MANAGE FRIENDSHIPS

If a child is feeting ancious about making new friends expecially if they to moving up to secondary school It can be a good idea to remind them of what they could do at say when meeting new classimates. Investigating the extraourisular activities available could be a good way to open a conversation about their hobbies and positimes, and joining such clubs could allow new friendships to be built on this mutual

5 PLAN SELF-CARE

laking to children about how they can manage then self-care can be an effective way of helping them understend its importance. This might involve playing a computer game they lave with friends, a seekly visit to the library, getting to bed at the same time each night, or a range of other activities that support their well being and provide the familiarity and safety of a routine that works for them.

Meet Our Expert

Amy Sayer is a freelance mental health trainer for schools, on author and a content writer, the is an Associate for Diverse Educators, a lellow of the Chartered College of Tooching and ITT wellbeing coach. Amy has previously been a SMH, coach, helping many different settings audit their mental health provision and support them to create and implement a strategic plan based on the specific needs of each setting.



Explain that it's along to have difficult feelings around returning to school. This can help reduce any shame or embarrassment a child might be feeling over those amotivns, Implicates that other children – even some of the teachers – will be feeling the same way. Consider practical ways to manage these feelings and help children foetmore in control of their emotions forme examples include fidget tays, preaching exercises or a notecoal for docaling.

SECURE A SCHOOL UNIFORM

Parents and carest should try to buy a child's uniform for the new academic year well in advance of the new term (athrough allowing for petential holiday growth spurts) and give them time to adapt to dry changes. Make sure they can comfortably change into and out of it for PE secons. Doubte areast the requirements for PE on the school's website, as some achieve will also have requirements for PE title.

PREPARE FOR TRANSITION DAYS

trisuring that children effects transition days is a vital step in preparing for the new year. Some schools also have transition evenings for parents and covers to attent, affecing extra opportunities to reach out for any additional support.

9 READ THE MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

If a young person struggles with their mental health, It's important to understand their school's mental health palicy and provision to know what support is available. This should be on the school's website. A range of bid is typically on other—hom individual smetable omendments to group sessions an emotional websery. You can then discuss these options with the child to reassure them that help is there if they need it.

LEARN ABOUT SEN SUPPORT

If a child has SFN and receives help in school, try to confirm exactly what support is available, to ensure they's be having their needs mer. If they're snowing up to secondary school, it's a good idea to meet with the SENCO to ensure that all too hers receive the most selector, up-to-done information about the child's needs and have a contact to take with it these change over time.



The National College

