









Principal Letter

Spring Term 2024

Week Ending Friday 2 February 2024

Issue 18



Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Please take a moment to examine this week's APP GUIDANCE at the end of this newsletter. It regards the possible risks associated with a new app from France that has begun to be used by British children.

The app, Wizz, allows users to scroll through profiles that show a person's picture, first name, age, local area and zodiac sign. Wizz advertises the app as a "safe space" to meet new friends and allows users as young as 13 to join and connect with users of a similar age. It resembles the dating app, Tinder. Although it has Al-driven age verification, it would still be possible for adults to impersonate young people on the app.

Our advice would be to approach with caution and to always maintain open discussions with your young person, so that they know they can talk to you if they encounter anything that does not feel right, online.

Quick links

TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

HOUSE PASSMORES POINTS

YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE

PASTORAL UPDATE

SPORT / PE UPDATES

SUBJECT INFORMATION / UPDATES

CAREERS NEWS

ANY OTHER INFORMATION

Limiting the amount of time young people spend on social media was one of our main drivers for moving to a device free school. We have certainly noticed a positive difference around the building as a result. However, we have seen a spike in the number of phones that have been confiscated this week. Just a reminder that phones should off and in school bags. If phones are found to be in blazers, or young people are found to have used them during the day they will be confiscated, and sanction set for that evening. If you need to get a message to your young person during the day, please phone reception and we will pass it on.

TOP PASSMORES POINTS ACHIEVERS

Monday 29th – Thursday 1st February 2024

| Annie Jackson | Year 7 | 47 |
|------------------------|----------|----|
| Brooke Preston | Year 7 | 44 |
| Megan Wright | Year 7 | 44 |
| Max Hollands | Year 7 | 43 |
| Shakil Surer | Year 7 | 43 |
| Sienna Coyle | Year 7 | 43 |
| Chloe Theophil | Year 7 | 42 |
| Eva Aiyamenkhue-Edigin | Year 7 | 41 |
| Isobella Stewart | Year 7 | 41 |
| Isabelle Boorman | Year 7 | 40 |
| Makiah Mfon | Year 7 | 40 |
| Saner Bozkurt | Year 7 | 40 |
| | | |
| Rhys Hockley | Year 8 | 53 |
| Layla Clark | Year 8 | 51 |
| Grace Renker | Year 8 | 50 |
| Jack Redding | Year 8 | 48 |
| Melody Everett | Year 8 | 48 |
| Nicolas Silva Magri | Year 8 | 47 |
| Enzo Rocha Santos | Year 8 | 46 |
| Leah Cuming | Year 8 | 46 |
| Karim Chohan | Year 8 | 44 |
| Ryan Youens | Year 8 | 44 |
| | | |
| Riley Breeds | Year 9 | 39 |
| Elza Rozenbite | Year 9 | 34 |
| Ronnie Shipwright | Year 9 | 34 |
| Benjamin Dack | Year 9 | 33 |
| Pj Sunshine | Year 9 | 30 |
| Rhys Salberg | Year 9 | 27 |
| Sid Francis-Melvin | Year 9 | 27 |
| Brayden Rouse | Year 9 | 26 |
| Gwen Kearns | Year 9 | 26 |
| Harvey Hymas | Year 9 | 26 |
| Teddy Delieu | Year 9 | 26 |
| | <u> </u> | |
| Maya Connell | Year 10 | 27 |
| Amy Abery | Year 10 | 26 |
| Callie Wood | Year 10 | 26 |
| | L. | |

| Phoebe Tombs | Year 10 | 26 |
|---------------------|---------|----|
| Abbie Newman | Year 10 | 25 |
| Keira Bliss | Year 10 | 25 |
| Ella Wyatt | Year 10 | 24 |
| Ellie Doherty | Year 10 | 24 |
| Emma Edwards | Year 10 | 24 |
| Gracie-May O'Connor | Year 10 | 24 |
| Rhoda Adesina | Year 10 | 24 |
| Tazmin Hussey | Year 10 | 24 |

| Mimi Richards | Year 11 | 33 |
|--------------------|---------|----|
| Harry New | Year 11 | 31 |
| Michael Sesay | Year 11 | 31 |
| Jayden Alade-Mason | Year 11 | 30 |
| Karys Bailey | Year 11 | 30 |
| Freddie Seow | Year 11 | 28 |
| Yousef Aggouche | Year 11 | 28 |
| Isobelle Jones | Year 11 | 27 |
| Sienna Ismail | Year 11 | 26 |
| Ashton Andrews | Year 11 | 25 |
| Katelyn Mulvey | Year 11 | 25 |

HOUSE PASSMORES POINTS

Monday 29th – Thursday 1st February 2024

| Dragon | 25580 |
|---------|-------|
| Griffin | 24192 |
| Lion | 24658 |
| Unicorn | 24365 |

YEAR GROUP ATTENDANCE

Monday 29th - Thursday 1st February 2024

| | Average Attendance |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Y7 | 92.8% |
| Y8 | 89.6% |
| Y9 | 89.9% |
| Y10 | 91.5% |
| Y11 | 85.8% |
| Whole School Attendance | 90.0% |

PASTORAL UPDATE

In the News: LGBTQ+ History Month

In this week's tutor time, our students delved into the significance of LGBTQ+ History Month. Through engaging discussions and activities, they explored the rich history, accomplishments, and challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community. By fostering understanding and empathy, we aim to create an inclusive environment that celebrates diversity and promotes acceptance within our school community.

Thought for the Week: Building Resilience

This week's "Thought for the Week" centred around the theme of building resilience in oneself and others. Students participated in discussions and activities focused on developing the mental and emotional strength needed to navigate life's challenges. Emphasising the importance of resilience aligns with our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals who are equipped to face adversity and thrive in all aspects of their lives.

Peer Dialogue Coaching Sessions

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance communication and interpersonal skills, students actively participated in peer dialogue coaching sessions. These sessions provide a platform for constructive conversations and goal setting, allowing students to develop the ability to express themselves effectively while fostering a supportive and empathetic community within the school. These skills are not only valuable in academic settings but also crucial for personal and professional growth.

House Events and Representation

In addition to the enriching discussions and activities, students had the exciting opportunity to represent their respective Houses in basketball and football this week. These activities not only promote healthy competition but also strengthen the sense of community and belonging within our school. The camaraderie displayed during these events reflects the positive spirit that defines the Passmores Academy community.

Looking Forward to Next Week

Looking ahead, we have a bustling schedule that includes National Apprenticeship Week, Cultural Diversity Day, and Children's Mental Health Week. These themed weeks provide valuable opportunities for learning, awareness, and community engagement. Moreover, the much-anticipated Passmores Bake Off will add a delightful and creative touch to our House events. We encourage all students to actively participate and make the most of these upcoming opportunities for personal and collective growth.

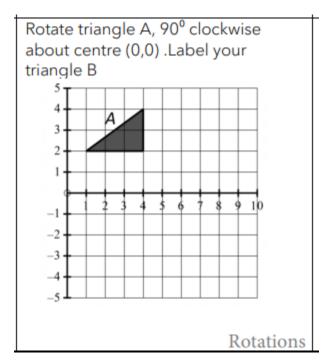
Thank you for your continued support in creating a vibrant and inclusive learning environment at Passmores Academy.

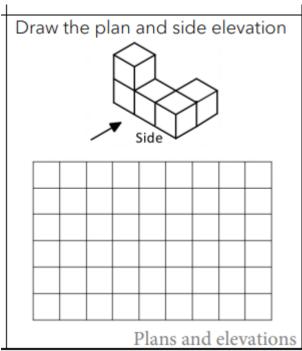
SPORT / PE UPDATES

- Tuesday 6th February Year 7 District Football Tournament @ Passmores Academy
- Wednesday 7th February Year 10 Boys/Girls House Events
- Thursday 8th February Year 11 Boys Football vs St Marks (Tournament Replay)/ Year 8 WESSA Basketball Finals @Stewards/ Year 8 & 9 Girls Basketball @ St Marks/ Year 11 girls house events.
- Friday 9th February Year 11 boys house events.

SUBJECT INFORMATION / UPDATES

Maths Problem of the week





CAREERS NEWS

- Hertford Regional College, Tues 6th Feb, 5.30pm-8.00pm
- Harlow College, Tues 13th Feb, 5pm-8pm

Writtle College Football Academy Trials

On the 20th February, year 10 and 11 students can attend a taster session of the **Level 3 National Extended Diploma** in **Sport Coaching and Development with Female/Male Football Academy** course. This will be led by coaches from Leyton Orient FC. They will be running two separate sessions on the day for boys and girls.

9:30am-10.00am Arrival

10:00am-11:00am Training with Leyton Orient Coach

11:00am-11:30am Academy Talk (allows for Q&A)

11:30am-11:45am Fun competition (prize up for grabs)

Click here to book your place on the Male Football Session

<u>Click here</u> to book your place on the Female Football Session

Online Virtual Work Experience

NHS Allied Healthcare Work Experience begins this Sunday 4th February for students in years 10-13. Work experience is crucial to all allied health careers, so this is a fabulous opportunity for students. The link for the programme is https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/.

During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. They will gain a unique insight into how patients interact with a variety of healthcare professionals and what it's like to work in an NHS multidisciplinary team. This includes:

- Nursing, Midwifery, Paramedicine, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietetics, Radiography, Prosthetics and Orthotics, Speech and Language Therapy, Pharmacy

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals throughout each day. Once registered, students will be emailed links to their virtual work experience portals. Students are awarded a Work Experience Certificate for every session they complete. Those who complete the full 6-month programme will be awarded a Highly Commended Reference from the Presidents of Allied Healthcare Mentor. These are fantastic additions to their CVs!

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 6-month programme using the link below. Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs.

https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/



NHS Healthcare Careers Virtual Work Experience - Allied Healthcare Mentor

Let us help you to take your first steps into the world of healthcare careers. It is live, giving you the chance to interact will healthcare professionals,

alliedhealthmentor.org

Springpod - Offers **FREE** online virtual work experience, in a wide range of sectors. Many are on demand and usually take around 7 hours to complete, which can be done over a 2 week period. Students also receive certificates on completion. To find out more and apply for programmes, use Virtual Work Experience Search (springpod.com).

National Apprenticeships Week 5th -9th February

This is a week-long celebration that brings together businesses and apprentices across the country to shine a light on the positive impact that apprenticeships make to individuals, businesses and the wider economy.

Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study. They are paid, so offer the opportunity to learn while bringing in a wage. You have the chance to work alongside experienced staff and gain skills unique to the workplace, as well as an increasingly well-respected qualification, over a period of one to four years. You can gain an apprenticeship as a school leaver on an intermediate or advanced level and can work your way up or you can enter an apprenticeship at a higher/degree level. You can use the governments national apprenticeship website to search for vacancies www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship. You can also find out more about apprenticeships on What are the different types of apprenticeships? (successatschool.org).

To celebrate this week in school, we are talking to all students in tutor time about what an apprenticeship is and how they can find out more. We have **Ryan Air** coming in to deliver an assembly to students in year 10 about engineering apprenticeships.

We also have a fantastic opportunity for all students interested in a career in business & finance to come and have a chat with a representative from **PricewaterhouseCoopers International Ltd (PwC)**. PwC is a multinational company, and is considered one of the big four accounting firms along with Deloitte, EY and KPMG. They are based in 157 countries. They offer higher and degree apprenticeships and work experience, so this is a great opportunity for our students to network and learn more about the routes into finance.

PwC will be available to speak to, in the careers area near the Heads of Houses, during break time on **Friday 9**th **February**.

National Apprenticeships Week 5th -9th February (Webinars)

<u>Warner Bros</u>. Discovery's Early Talent Team is hosting a virtual event - Championing Apprenticeships - on <u>Tuesday 6th February at 6:00PM GMT</u> in support of <u>National Apprenticeship Week</u>. Attendees will get the opportunity to hear from current apprentices and how the different projects they have worked on has provided them with the #SkillsforLife. The webinar is a chance for students to learn more about careers in the entertainment industry. To register go to <u>Webinar Registration - Zoom</u>.



Success at School are hosting a free webinar, where three apprentices will give their accounts of how they have overcome different barriers to share their personal journeys to land an apprenticeship! After attending an Open Day at Cambridge, Iman decided that university was not for her. Despite being rejected by 30+ apprenticeships, she didn't give up and secured a job at Microsoft!

Do you think it's possible to get an investment banking apprenticeship with a BTEC, having grown up in a problematic area? Zion proves that you can!

Jordan did all the research on apprenticeships by herself. If you find yourself not knowing where to start, her story may help you understand how you can help your child to find the right apprenticeship for them!

On: 7th February 2024 At: 6.30 – 7.15pm Register here!



Engineering Technician Apprenticeship, Ware, UK, 2024 in Ware, United Kingdom | GSK Careers

For interested students in Years 11, GSK Application Process is open for the above apprenticeship at the Ware Global Supply Chain manufacturing site. Apprenticeships are available at Level 3 and require a minimum of 5 GCSEs grades 4-9 including maths at grade 5-9. The successful candidates will start working with us in September 2024.

This vacancy is also being advertised on Engineering Technician Apprenticeship - Find an apprenticeship (findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)



Mercedes-Benz Apprenticeships

Currently advertising for 5 apprentices to join their team across all four of their sites; Hemel Hempstead, Stevenage, Hertford and Bishops Stortford. They are holding open evenings on:

6th February – Hemel Hempstead

7th February – Stevenage

Mercedes-Benz 8th February – Hertford

These open evenings will give prospective apprentices the opportunity to have a look where they will be working and ask questions about the apprenticeship. They are encouraging anyone interested in the Bishops Stortford to attend the Hertford event. You can find out more and confirm your place on Technician Apprenticeship Open Evening 2024. (landlautomotive.co.uk)



Accountancy Apprenticeship Opportunities with the NAO

Is your child finishing school this year and considering a different pathway to university?

If so, then why not come along to our virtual webinar with National Audit Office to hear from the Early Careers Team about how they can earn and learn and start a career in accountancy!

> When: 20 Feb 2024 Time: 6:30-7:15pm

Register Here!



Putting the 'Green' in Green Skills: Discover Plant-Based Careers in Horticulture!

Join us on our webinar where you'll hear from people working at the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) about careers in horticulture.

You will also get to hear of opportunities to gain more practical experience prior to looking for entry-level positions and training at the RHS, such as work experience, volunteering, and paid internships in the Royal Horticultural Society's world-class garden and science teams.

When: 5 March 2024 Time: 6:30-7:15pm

Register Here!

ANY OTHER INFORMATION



No Child Without charity believe that no child should miss out on any opportunity within their education due to financial circumstances that are out of their control. They are here to try and aid young people to achieve their potential. Established in 2013 and aims to provide financial support for young people in order to help them access educational and extra-curricular opportunities that may usually be beyond their means.

The charity can be used in many various ways to help young people, examples of this being; purchasing equipment, clothing, helping to finance school trips and extra-curricular activities.

On February 25th, 17 staff from across Passmores Academy and Stewards Academy are embracing the cold and taking part in the London Winter Run . We are asking all those in our community to see if they can contribute however big or small to the No Child Without charity on this link

https://www.justgiving.com/page/pclclondonwinterrun2024



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ACTIVE ESSEX FOUNDATION

TRY OUR EXCITING, HIGH ENERGY KICK BOXING CLASS AT OUR **FULLY EQUIPPED MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE** FULLY FUNDED BY ACTIVE ESSEX INCLUDING HEALTHY SNACK AND DRINK

MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2PM-4PM FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 2PM-4PM

THE MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE, NICHOLLS FIELD, HARLOW, CM18 6DY







SPACES LIMITED SCAN QR CODE TO BOOK OR CALL 01277 262800



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

LETS



WHAT ARE THE RISKS? Wizz is a networking app which allows users to connect and chat with other people around the world.

Its principle is similar to a dating platform; users have a profile with up to three photos, along with optional interests and hobbies tags. This allows other like-minded people to be recommended in searches. If a user likes what they see on someone's profile, they can initiate conversation through the instant message feature; otherwise they swipe on. The app does use age verification technology when an account is created and groups users by age.

INTIMATE IMAGES

OVER-SHARING

Immediately after setting up an account, users start receiving friend requests (mainly from the opposite gender). For many young people, this will be exciting and a boost to their confidence. As young people tend to be more trusting online and may believe what others tell them, however, this can lull them into dropping their guard and revealing personal information to strangers.

CHAT

CATFISHING AND PREDATORS

Wizz uses Yoti, a digital ID system, to verify users' age. The Al only detects approximate age, though — so an older person who looks younger could be grouped with teens (or vice versa). Also, profile pics on Wizz don't have to match the face of the person who did the initial age verification: it would be fairly easy to create a fake account using another person's photos with a made-up name and one

EXPLICIT CONTENT

18

NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

SECRETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT OUT

an arise from engaging with strangers online a onsider using a similar app with more robust sa

BE SUPPORTIVE

3

NOW

When connecting with strangers on apps like Wizz, seemingly innocent chats can quickly progress to become sexually explicit and lead to nudes being sent. Make sure your child knows to come to you if they're uncomfortable about anything they're been sent or been asked to send. If they're already shared something that they now regret, reassure them that you'll support them no matter what.

EMPHASISE CAUTION

KEEP THINGS TRANSPARENT

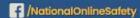


Meet Our Expert









MEET STRANG





CLINICAL PILATES

Therapist led classes
Small group
Individual attention

Clinically proven to support back & neck conditions



Thursday 15 February 5.30pm



Harlow Rugby Club Latton Way

New clients - £95 for 1:1 initial assessment & 6 classes

Current clients - £60 for 6 classes

to sign up e: info@baphysiotherapy.co.uk m: 07961 602735

dm: @baphysio







HARLOW

WE NEED YOU!

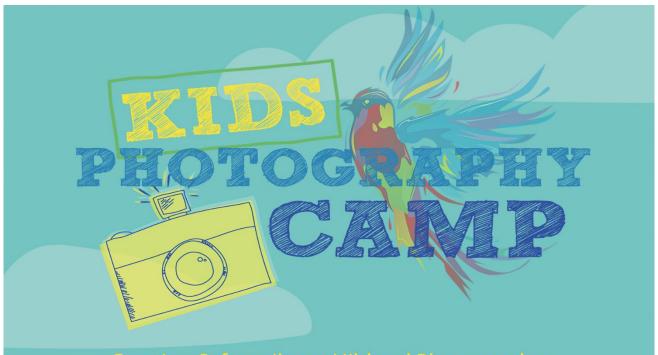
WE ARE LOOKING FOR BUSINESSES FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

- RAFFLE PRIZES FOR OUR EASTER RAFFLE MARCH.
- FOOD STALLS FOR OUR MULTI-CULTURAL FOOD FESTIVAL - 4TH MAY.
- SPIRITUAL OR WELLBEING STALLS FOR OUR SUMMER EVENT 29TH JUNE.









Creating Safe smiles at Hibbard Photography







Does your child have a passion for photography and looking to explore more about what photography is and how everything works?

I am providing a 5 day camp or a 1 day workshop with two class ages 5-7 years or 8-11 years



Scan the QR Code for more info and to book

Where: Hibbard Photography, Moot House, The Stow, Harlow, Essex CM20 3AG www.hibbardphotography.co.uk louise@hibbardphotography.co.uk







I'm Louise; the award-winning photographer behind L.Hibbard Photography, with over ten years of experience covering Studio Sessions, Events, Weddings & more!

Welcome to my world as an all-inclusive photographer, where I believe that every photo is a precious treasure worth keeping. I am committed to capturing all the special moments, from the big smiles to the little details.

Louise Hibbard Leer Managing Director of Hibbard Photography
louise@hibbardphotography.co.uk | 07719 322319 | www.hibbardphotography.co.uk

| / hibbardphotography | / hibbardphotos | @ @l.hibbardphoto)









Inclusive Sessions: Most of my sessions include all images for one set price, rather than a charge per image. You are always guaranteed 10 images but typically I provide 50+ that are available to view and download from an online gallery. Additional extras like a USB or Prints from my on demand printing service can also be purchased. Your memories are my passion!

KIDS PHOTOGRAPHY CAMP

Does your child have a passion for photography?

Allow them to explore the media and how it all works.

Choose from a 5day camp or 1 day workshops. Two class ages groups available: 5-7 yrs or 8-11 yrs

February half term dates now available with more being added.

Visit my website for more information and to book ->





contact renee.joyce@ntlworld.com 01279 434028

www.neweditionsingers.co.uk





Online Parent Groups



Challenging Behaviour

Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 6 weeks.

This will focus on an issue you are experiencing with your child and will work on strategies and ways to help deal with the issue/behaviour.

14th February - Session 1 HALF TERM 28th February - Session 2 6th March - Session 3 13th March - Session 4 20th March - Session 5

Wednesdays 13.00-14.30 via Zoom

27th March - Session 6

FULLY BOOKED!

elping your Child Manage thur Fears and Worries

Suitable for parents of children aged 4-11 years. This course is run over 4 weeks. This will help parents work in a focussed issue they are experiencing with their child and work out strategies to help.

29th February - Nession 1 7th March - Session 2 14th March - Session 8 21th March - Session 4

Tursdays 13.00-14.30 via Zoom



Supporting Teenagers Emotion Wellbeing

Suitable for parents of children aged 12-19 years. This course is run over 4 weeks. This will look at ways to help your teenager manage their emotional wellbeing.

> 27th February - Session 1 5th March - Session 2 12th March - Session 3 19th March - Session 4 (optional)

> > Tuesdays 17.30-19.00



To access this FREE service you must:

- Have a child attending an school that our Mental Health Support Team (MHST) are currently working
 with in Harlow, Epping Forest District and Uttlesford.
- Have access to Zoom
- Able to attend ALL pre-planned sessions

If you are interested, please complete the application form by scanning the QR code

If the course you are interested in is not showing, this is because it has reached full capacity of attendees.

We will send you an email to confirm a place on the course along with joining instructions approx. 1 week prior to the course start date. Please check your mailbox regularly including your Junk/Spam folders.

If you have any queries, please contact your area admin:

Harlow - mhstharlow@mindinwestessex.org.uk

Epping Forest - mhsteppingforest@mindinwestessex.org.uk

Uttlesford - mhstuttlesford@mindinwestessex.org.uk

There are limited places available so please book your place as soon as possible. If you would like to access the course, but do not have access to the internet, please see your school or contact our team (see above)

Forthcoming Events:

| Monday 11 th - Friday 1 st March | Year 11 Mocks |
|--|--|
| Friday 16 th February | Non uniform day – winning house in each year |
| Monday 19 th – Friday 23 rd February | Half term |

Natalie Christie

Mehnole

Principal of Passmores Academy



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