

POTTER STREET ACADEMY NEWS

With our first half term drawing to a close, I would like to thank all the children, families and staff for a fantastic start to this unprecedented year!

On behalf of all the staff at Potter Street, we would like to say thank you for respectively following the new procedures we have had to put in place during this time. We know at times it can be inconvenient and we understand that, but for now, this is our new normal. What will always remain the same though is our commitment to ensure your children are as safe and happy as possible.

We wish you all a happy half term and look forward to seeing you all again on 2nd November 2020.

Parents Consultation Meetings

We would like to invite all parents/carers to join us for parent consultations. This will be an opportunity for your child to discuss how they have started the year and discuss how we can work together throughout the rest of the year. We feel it is important to meet with parents and carers face to face, so we have thought through how we are able to do this safely. This means things will look slightly different this year and we are offering two options for parents and carers - **face to face meeting in school or telephone consultations**. An email has been sent to all regarding this. Please email the school to book an appointment.

Secondary School Applications for Sept 2021 – Reminder for Year 6 Parents

As you may be aware, the statutory closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children (for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2021) is **31st October 2021**. Applications can be made via the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

Harvest

Thank you for the excellent response and donations of food for Harvest Festival, the largest collection the school has ever received, we are overwhelmed with your generosity.

Donations from EYFS, Potter Class



All donations have gone to Harlow Foodbank



House Points

Children are busy earning house points by showing how well they keep the school values – responsibility, respectfulness, fairness, caring and trustworthiness.



Dragon 802



Griffin 781



Lion 942



Unicorn 854

House Captains

After some fabulous speeches to the school, I have pleasure in announcing the new House Captains. A huge congratulations to Gracie, Ruby P, Millie and Summer who are House Captains and to Ollie, Adrian, Jack and Rhianna who are the Vice Captains. Well done to everyone who took part and had the courage and resilience to stand up and speak in front of everyone.



World Mental Health Day

Thank you to everyone who helped raise money for World Mental Health Day. We have raised £225.30 which has been donated to YoungMinds.

Once again many thanks for your continued support.



Walton-on-the-Naze



Year One had a wonderful day at Walton on the Naze on Wednesday. When we arrived we noticed human and physical features of the beach before having fun building sandcastles! Some of us even had a little paddle. The children were very well behaved and enjoyed an icecream at the end!

Morning Times

To support parents dropping off in the mornings, teachers have agreed to open their doors early for **siblings of Year 5 children and below** to save parents waiting in the rain and cold. Children can walk into class and read until the rest of their class comes in.

We hope this helps and we would like to thank all parents for continuing to observe our one-way system and keeping children safe.

Homework

A couple of parents have discussed concerns around how long homework is taking. We are setting slightly more home learning than normal; this is to support children catching up on missed learning during lockdown. If you are struggling with homework, please talk to the class teacher who will be happy to help.

Starting School, September 2021

If you or someone you know has a child starting school next September the application process opens in November. Potter Street Academy are still offering tours of the school on a one to one basis with adults wearing face masks. Please contact the office for more information and to book a place.

Relationship & Sex Education Policy

You should have all received an email with further information about our policy and how we will be teaching Health, Relationships and Sex Education in school.

If you have any questions, there is an opportunity for one parent from each household to come along to a meeting on Monday 2nd November at 4.30pm with Miss Bloomfield. Please let Mrs Pope in the office know if you are able to attend by Thursday 22nd October.

School Photos

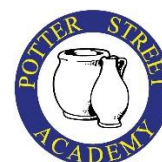
Our school photographer is booked to come into school on 19th November to take individual photos of the children. The photographer will have a face mask, visor, anti-bacterial wipes and hand sanitizer and will be distanced at least 2 metres from the children and all hygiene / health procedures will be adhered to. We will not be offering sibling photos this year to avoid cross bubble mixing. We are hoping to be able to offer this in the summer term.

This year, our photography company will not be supplying proofs of the school photos and will be using PhotoTickets. PhotoTickets will be handed to the parent by the class teacher, you can then scan the QR code from these to view and order the photos. All orders will be done online with the option of 'delivery to the school' (1 delivery) or posted directly to your home at a cost of £4.25.

Job Vacancy – Purford Green Primary School

Purford Green Primary School is looking for an enthusiastic Learning Support Assistant to provide support for a child with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) in their EYFS Reception class. Further information can be obtained by clicking the link below.

<http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=61279>



Christmas Card Competition

An email was sent to all parents / carers from Mind in West Essex regarding a Christmas card competition that they are running. If you child would like to participate then -

1/ Send a photo of the design (please keep original as this will be needed for printing if a winner)

trailblazer@mindinwestessex.org.uk

2/ Send to their office: MHST, Mind in West Essex, Wellbeing Centre, 10-11 Corner House, Bush Fair, Harlow, CM18 6NZ

Closing date is 23rd October 2020



Flu Vaccinations

An email has been sent to all parents / carers regarding the flu vaccinations that is being offered to all the children at the school on Thursday 26th November 2020.

Please can you return the e-consent form by **Wednesday 18th November 2020.**

There is a contact number on the letter should you have any questions that you would like to discuss with a nurse.

Emailing the School

If you wish to contact the school via email, please do so by using the email address admin@potterstreetacademy.com.

We have noticed some parents are emailing us on the Potter Street Academy (Please Do Not Reply) email address. This account is not monitored for responses and we are concerned we may miss important correspondence from yourselves. Thank you.

Foodbank Parcels for Families

We are now holding food parcels on behalf of Harlow Food Bank. If your family is struggling for food please contact us and we may be able to provide your family with food direct from school.

School Council

Our fantastic School Council had their first meeting today where Rebecca (Y6) was elected the Chair, Bailey (Y6) the Vice Chair.





Friday 23rd October

Last day of half term – children finish at normal time

Monday 2nd November

Children return to school

Monday 2nd November

Meeting in school 4:30pm RSE policy

Tuesday 3rd November

Parents consultation 3:30pm – 6:30pm *One adult will be able to attend*

Thursday 5th November

Parents consultation 3:30pm – 6:30pm *One adult will be able to attend*

Friday 13th November

Children in Need

Thursday 19th November

School photos – individual pictures

Thursday 26th November

Flu Vaccinations

Friday 27th November

Inset Day

Thursday 3rd December

Year 2 to Colchester Zoo

Friday 18th December

Finish for Christmas Holidays, school finishes at 1:30pm **NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**