

POTTER STREET ACADEMY NEWS

Dear Parents / Carers

As we come to the end of our Autumn Term, I would like to wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas. Having worked hard all term, the children will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries!! We've had a busy and productive term with lots to tell you about. We are all very proud of everything the children have achieved and how well they have represented the school.

We finish school at 1:30 pm on Friday 20th December (no after school club) and look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

Sports For Champion Event

On Tuesday 3rd December, former international professional basketball player Pierre Henry-Fontaine visited Potter Street Academy for a sponsored fitness circuit challenge, followed by an inspirational assembly with Pierre encouraging the children to try their best to achieve their goals. The whole event was organised in partnership with Sports for Champions UK.

Pierre Henry-Fontaine took each class through a circuit challenge, which involved a number of exercises from burpees to star jumps! Pierre then spoke to the children on how he got into basketball and his journey to becoming professional, the food groups that make up a balanced diet and the importance of eating well and leading healthy lifestyles.

Every child in the school participated in this fundraising event and a staggering £2,518.70 was raised which will go towards training athletes and PE equipment for the school.



Part of the Passmore's Cooperative Learning Community

Web: www.potterstreetacademy.com

Twitter: @PotterStAcademy

Pupil Wellbeing Solving Conflicts Day

Recently, we had a whole school focused day on helping children to resolve their conflicts they have with their peers. Last year, in our pupil wellbeing survey, a number of children identified that this was an area that they often needed help with and found a challenge so as a school this has become a focus of our school development planning and a life skill to master in all year groups.

As part of the day, children have explored different feelings experienced when you fall out with others, learnt different ways of calming down and cooling off, practised sharing their feelings assertively and also used our new step by step approach to try and solve some conflicts given to them. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter to see how we are encouraging children to solve their conflicts within school.

Reward Trip

On Monday, the three children from each class with the highest house points enjoyed an afternoon at Kidzz Kingdom at Harlow LeisureZone. Well done to you all!!

Children's termly total now returns to zero so everyone has a chance to win a place at next terms trip.



Christmas Performances

Thank you to Reception and KS1 children for their Christmas performances,. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to all those who were able to attend.

Carol Concert – Year 3 & 4

On Wednesday afternoon, Y3 and 4 performed their carol concert. The children sang a selection of Christmas carols beautifully. Thank you for all their hard work and dedication for practising and singing so well!! It was lovely to see the family and friends of the children who came along to watch.

Y3 – Colchester Castle

'We got to look down a deep wishing well and then got to go down the long staircase underneath the castle. We had to count the number of stairs because that helped us work out how old the castle is.'

Rosie and Chloe

'We got to dress up as Celts and Romans in different outfits and look at different artifacts from the Roman times such as coins, a sphinx and bodies'

Ella

Pantomime 2019

The children watched with awe and loved every moment of the Pantomime, Peter Pan. All the children were involved from the start and loved joining in the story telling and the songs. Mrs Beesley and Mr Hammond also loved being on stage singing and dancing!! Thank you to the PTA and parents for your generous contributions all year which paid for the panto.

Christmas Dinner

A massive thank you to Mrs Gibson, Miss Jackson and Miss Delanbanque for providing the children and staff with Christmas dinner.

Coats in School

As the weather has turned colder, please ensure all children have coats in school. We also recommend that they also bring in hats and gloves. Thank you

PE Kits

Please can you ensure all children have their PE kits with them when they return to school in January 2020. P.E. is an important part of the National Curriculum and, for hygiene reasons children should have a P.E. kit to change into. The children need a T-Shirt and shorts and a change of footwear i.e. plimsolls/CLEAN trainers. These should be in a named bag to be kept in school.

We ask that as part of the PE kit for the winter months all children have a tracksuit with them.

PE kit should include socks for girls if they come to school wearing tights.

House Points

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



Dragon 2685



Griffin 2652



Lion 3035



Unicorn 2056

Christmas Jumper Day

Following our Christmas Jumper Day we raised £157.50 for Save the Children. We are very grateful for your support. Thank you all!!

Christmas Fete

A big thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas Fete, the event was a huge success and great fun was had by all. The event raised £524.00.

A huge thank you to Mrs Porter and Mrs Kimble for organising the event.

Time to Say Goodbye

As we approach the end of term we will be saying goodbye to two members of staff.

Mrs Harriss is leaving to move onto pastures new and Ms Kimble will be leaving her current job at Potter Street Academy, however we are very pleased to say that she will still be part of the PCLC family in a completely different role. We thank them for all their hard work and support.

And hello to Miss Green who will be joining the EYFS team in January.



EYFS – Wrights Court

Last week the children in EYFS visited the residents at Wright's Court to sing them songs from our nativity. Children also took along handmade Christmas cards for every resident and gave them out after our performance. The children sang beautifully and all adults, residents and children came together to sing "We wish you a Merry Christmas." Thank you to the staff and the residents at Wright's Court for hosting this event. We look forward to making more memories with the residents in the new year.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

JANUARY 2020

6 th Jan	Inset day
7 th Jan	All children return to school
9 th Jan	Open morning, reception 2020 – 09:30 10:30am
31 st Jan	Inset day

FEBRUARY 2020

3 rd Feb	Young Voices at the O2
10 th Feb	Reception class road safety talk
10 th Feb	Parents consultation afternoon, 1:30 – 4:00pm
11 th Feb	Parents consultation evening, 3:30 – 6:00pm
13 th Feb	Evening of Mediumship, 7:00 – 10:00pm
14 th Feb	Y5 road safety talk
14 th Feb	Finish for Half Term – 3:00pm
24 th Feb	All children return to school



How to solve our conflicts

1. Cool Off



Before you can problem solve, you need to be calm. Use one of these cool down strategies or one that works for you.

- Deep Breaths
- Take a Walk
- Get a Drink of Water
- 5 Minute Drawing
- Self-Talk
- Mindful Minute

Social Emotional Workshop

2. Share, Listen, Check

First, one person shares. The other person listens and then checks they understood. Next, the other person shares. The first person listens and checks they understood.

Share
Share what you think happened or what is upsetting you. Use an I-Message.
I feel _____ when _____ because _____.

Check
When the other person is talking, you are listening. Try to hear what they are saying and understand their feelings.

Listen
"I think I heard you say you feel ..."
"so you want me to ..."
Check you understood by rephrasing or summarizing what the person said.

Social Emotional Workshop

3. Take Responsibility

Usually, both people involved in a conflict have some degree of responsibility.
Think about how you may have contributed to the conflict.

"Sometimes, I expect Todd to only play with me. That isn't fair. Todd likes to play with other people too."

Social Emotional Workshop

4. Brainstorm Solutions

What are 3-5 **solutions** to the **problem**? Does the solution consider how each person feels or what each person needs?



Do you have any ideas about how you might solve this problem?

Remember what each person shared about how they felt and why.

Social Emotional Workshop

5. Choose a Solution

What solution works best for both people?

What solution is likely to stop the conflict from happening again?

Be ready to compromise.

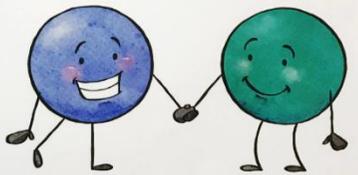


Social Emotional Workshop

6. Affirm, Forgive, or Thank

Affirm - End the agreement with a handshake, hug, or kind word.
Forgive - If you want, you can forgive the person for their previous mistakes.
Thank - Thank the person for working this problem out with you.

"Thanks for talking this out with me."



Social Emotional Workshop

