

# POTTER STREET ACADEMY NEWS



Dear Parents / Carers

A very warm welcome back to all of our returning children and a big hello to all of our new pupils. We are looking forward to another fantastic year of learning.

We also welcome our new members of staff, Mrs Barnes-Martin, Mrs Tracey and Miss Game and are sure all new children and staff will enjoy being part of the PCLC community.

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## New Children

Well done to all of our Reception children who have made a brilliant start at Potter Street Academy. They have been so brave saying goodbye to their parents in the mornings and are eager to learn every day. Well done as well to our new children in other year groups who have come from other schools and some from other countries, all these children have settled in well. We look forward to watching them grow and develop throughout their time at Potter Street Academy.

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## Free School Meals

A reminder that automatic entitlement to a Free School Meal ended at the end of Year 2.

To find out if you are entitled to Free School Meals you will need to make an application online at [www.essex.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.essex.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

An application must be made even if your child has a sibling that is already in receipt of Free School Meals.

Please note that if you do not apply for Free School Meals you will be charged for each meal that your child has which is £2.00 per day.

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## Contact Details

Please can you ensure that the school office has up to date contact information and details such as telephone numbers and email addresses so that all letters and school information is able to reach you. We do need 3 contact details for every pupil to meet safeguarding requirements.

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## House Captains

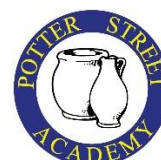
After some fabulous speeches to the school, I have pleasure in announcing the new House Captains. A huge congratulations to Riccardo, Missy, Lara and Katie who are House Captains and to Alfie, Teddy, Connie and Teah who are Vice Captains. Well done to everyone who took part and had the courage and resilience to stand up and speak in front of everyone.

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## Meet the Teacher

We hope you found our meet the teacher sessions useful.

We have emailed a copy to all parents.



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## House Points

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



**Dragon** 492



**Griffin** 496



**Lion** 525



**Unicorn** 394

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## Family Holidays and Term Time Leave

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Just a reminder that parents/carers should ensure that family holidays and any term time leave are arranged outside of school term time.

Parents/carers should not remove their child from school during term time without having first requested a leave of absence in writing from the Headteacher.

All requests for authorised absence will be responded to in writing and will only be authorised in the most extreme circumstances. If permission is not granted, but the child is still absent, the absence is classed as unauthorised and parents/carers may be issued with a penalty notice.

Requests are rarely authorised.

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## Secondary School Places for Sept 2020

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From 12 September 2019 you can apply online for your child's secondary school (year 7) place.

You must submit an application by the national closing date of 31 October 2019. Applications

received after this date will be considered late and you may reduce your chance of being offered a place at your preferred school.

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## Primary School Places for Sept 2020

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From 11 November 2019 you can apply online for your child's primary (Reception) school place.

You must submit an application by the national closing date of 15 January 2020. Applications received after this date are considered late and will reduce your chance of being offered a place at your preferred schools.

It is the parent / carer responsibility to apply for a school place at the correct times. Essex County Council no longer send letters to inform you to apply for your child's school place.

Applications for secondary and primary school places can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions)

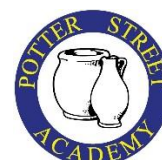
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## Reminders

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Please ensure that your children's book bags, lunch boxes, water bottles and ALL clothing, including shoes, coats and anything else that you do not want to lose is labelled. Any unlabelled items will end up in our lost property box, which can be found in the main school entrance and is available to be looked through before and after school every day. Thank you!

Please ensure that your child is dropped off and picked up promptly, school doors open from 8:40am and learning tasks begin at this time, all children should be in class by 8:50am. If you are using our breakfast club, children MUST be accompanied into the main office for registration. Payments for dinners, breakfast club and after school club must be paid for prior to using via the online agora system.



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## Uniform

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A few reminders:-

- All children should be in school uniform with black shoes. Trainers are not allowed except for PE
- Children must have a change of footwear for PE
- Long hair must be tied back
- Jewellery is not allowed in school, earrings should only be studs and children must be able to take them out themselves. Children should not wear earrings during P.E. lessons and these should be removed before the lesson begins. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings, we would ask that they be removed before they come to school, covering them with tape is no longer permitted

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## Clubs

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Hopefully you will have seen the letter regarding clubs, if you need a copy please pop into the school office. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come basis.

Thank you to all the staff that are running the clubs and we hope you will take advantage of the wide range of opportunities that we are offering.

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## Homework

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We expect all children to complete homework tasks and those who do not will be kept in at lunch time to complete. As well as their on-going projects, children need to learn their common exception words, times tables and number bonds. Children are also expected to read at home every night. Children can log in to TT Rockstars and learn their timetables from any device that has internet connection.

Mrs Hawkes is also running a parent / child homework club on a Monday if you need a quiet space in school to work with your child. This

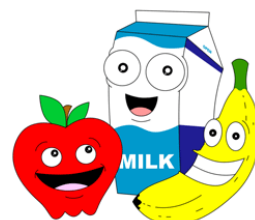
session is open to all year groups, please let the school office know if you would like to attend.

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## Healthy School Lunches

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Thank you for your support in keeping our school a healthy nut free school. I know that finding things to go in packed lunches can be difficult, the following link has ideas to help parents with packed lunch ideas:



<http://www.nhs.uk/Change4Life/Pages/healthy-lunchbox-picnic.aspx>

I am sure you will all understand that chocolate, sweets and fizzy drinks in a packed lunch are not allowed.

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## Snacks

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Children in Reception and Key Stage 1 receive a piece of fruit daily. Children may bring a **healthy snack** to enjoy at playtime – fruit and vegetables are ideal. Please do not send fatty or sugary **snacks** such as crisps, sweets or chocolate.

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## Life Skills

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This year we have introduced life skills for each year group. These are a list of skills that we feel children need to help them be successful in each stage of their life. Once achieved children will be able to mark them off on their 'Skills Passport' throughout the year. We hope you will enjoy helping your child to achieve these by practising at home.

### Reception Class Life Skills Challenge

- I can say please and thank you
- I can dress myself on my own and look after my own belongings
- I can use the toilet and wash my hands after
- I can blow my own nose

- I can use cutlery to eat
- I can show I am sorry
- I can write my own name
- I can name healthy foods
- I can resolve conflicts I have with my peers

#### **Year 1 Life Skills Challenge**

- I can use a knife and fork to cut up food
- I can brush my hair
- I know when my birthday is
- I can work in a team
- I can describe what makes a healthy meal
- I have fire safety awareness
- I know how to cross a road safely
- I can describe how someone else feels
- I can resolve conflicts I have with my peers

#### **Year 2 Life Skills Challenge**

- I know my left and right
- I know my address
- I know how to make an emergency call
- I can point to where I live on a world map
- I can pay someone a compliment
- I can use dining etiquette
- I can set myself a target
- I know what to do if I am lost
- I can resolve conflicts I have with my peers

#### **Year 3 Life Skills Challenge**

- I can tie shoelaces
- I can wrap a present
- I can check the weather forecast
- I know how many days there are in each month of the year
- I can carry out research using a search engine
- I can teach something to someone else
- I can make a sandwich
- I can measure, choosing the appropriate equipment
- I can resolve conflicts I have with my peers

#### **Year 4 Life Skills Challenge**

- I can read and follow a map
- I can calculate the change from £1, £5 and £10
- I can give directions
- I can write and post a letter
- I can swim a length
- I can read a bus timetable
- I can tell the time on an analogue and digital clock
- I can follow a simple recipe
- I can resolve conflicts I have with my peers

#### **Year 5 Life Skills Challenge**

- I can send an email
- I know how to behave appropriately online and on social media
- I can fill in an application form
- I can prepare for an interview
- I can use a compass
- I can make a cup of tea
- I can give a presentation to an audience
- I understand the changes that happen during puberty
- I can resolve conflicts I have with my peers

#### **Year 6 Life Skills Challenge**

- I can prepare and cook a simple hot meal
- I can take part in a debate
- I have an awareness of basic first aid
- I can find out about a range of careers
- I have an understanding of drug and alcohol misuse
- I can tie a tie
- I can read a timetable and follow a schedule
- I know how to manage money
- I can resolve conflicts I have with my peers



## Aldi Kit for Schools



This term we are collecting Team GB stickers with **Aldi's Kit for Schools** for the chance to be one of 20 primary schools to win £20,000 to build a health legacy at our school!

From 6 September–3 November, when you spend £30 or more in any Aldi store, you will receive a special Team GB sticker – if our school works together to collect 300 stickers, we will automatically receive an exclusive school sports kit, in addition to entry into the £20,000 prize draw!

Please send any stickers you receive into school with your children and post them in the post box outside the front of the office, and we will add them to our Aldi's Kit for Schools sticker poster.

Collect and win with Aldi's Kit for Schools.

We hope everyone will enjoy collecting Team GB stickers and exploring healthy eating this term. Remember, Aldi's Kit for Schools Team GB stickers are available until 3 November when shopping in any Aldi store. We will keep everyone up to date with how many stickers we have collected, and how many we have to go!

Thank you so much for your support on this project – we look forward to receiving any stickers you collect!

## Exciting News



I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mrs Taylor, who is expecting her second baby. Mrs Taylor left on 18<sup>th</sup> September to start her maternity leave.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### SEPTEMBER 2019

18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Year 6	Swimming starts
19 <sup>th</sup> Sept		Open Evening, Passmores

### OCTOBER 2019

2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Year 1	Walton-on-the Naze Trip
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	Year 5	Puberty Talk
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 3	St Mary Magdalene Church
16 <sup>th</sup> Oct		World Café Day
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct		Flu Immunisation
18 <sup>th</sup> Oct		Halloween & Firework Assembly
21 <sup>st</sup> Oct		Parent Consultation Afternoon, 1:30pm – 4:00pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct		Parents Consultation Evening, 3:30pm – 6:00pm
25 <sup>th</sup> Oct		School Finishes for Half Term, 3:00pm

### NOVEMBER 2019

4 <sup>th</sup> Nov		Children Return to School
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