

potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a very busy Autumn Term, I would like to wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas and thank you on behalf of all staff for your continued support. The children have worked hard all term and will be ready for a break! We've had a busy and successful term. 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 Wednesday 21st December (no after school club) and we look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 9th January 2022.

Kath Holland

Associate Headteacher

Christmas Performances

Thank you to the EYFS and KS1 children and staff who impressed us with their lovely production which they confidently performed to the whole school. Thank you for attending and being such an appreciative audience.

Carol Concert – Year 3 & 4

Thank you to the Y3 & 4 children and staff who reminded us of the Christmas story. They impressed us with their beautiful carol singing. Thank you for attending and being such an appreciative audience.

Christmas Dinner

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



Free School Meals

We would like to confirm that families who receive FSM vouchers will do so over the holiday. The vouchers were sent to all on Monday 19th December.

House Points

Children are busy earning house points by showing how well they keep the school values – responsibility, respect, resilience and relationships.



Dragon 1245



Griffin 1095



Lion 1069



Unicorn 1264

Congratulations Unicorn house for winning the House trophy with the most house points during all of Autumn term.

Attendance

Well done Lion House for achieving the best attendance for the Autumn term.



School Values

Well done to Dragon House for winning the School Values trophy for the Autumn Term.



Christmas Bazaar

We had a wonderful Christmas Bazaar full of festive fun, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

A huge thank you to the PTA and Mrs Beesley for organising this and to all the parents, carers and staff who volunteered and to everyone who came along and supported it! A massive £670.00 was raised.

A very special thank you to Santa who was the 'star of the show'.

Reward Trip

On Monday 19th December, the three children from each class with the highest house points enjoyed a morning at Wild 'n' Wacky. The children had a wonderful time and represented the school beautifully. Members of the public commented on their fantastic behaviour and manners. Well done to you all!!

EYFS	Shavonne, Abigail, Elliott
Y1	Colby, Millie, Oakley
Y2	Georgi, Jamie, Jacinth
Y3	Aubree, Luca, Amber
Y4	Jessica, Viktoria, Poppy
Y5	Savanah, Skylar, Calum
Y6 BS	Megan, Samuel, Rosie
Y6 HBM	Mikayla, Chloe, Lexi

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



Wrights Court

Year 3 enjoyed a lovely morning at Wrights Court carol singing to the residents there!



Y6 - Duxford

The children in Year 6 had a wonderful time on their trip to Duxford Imperial War Museum. The children were able to see a range of WWII aircrafts and artefacts. The children were able to discuss with members of staff their learning.

Colchester Castle

Year 3 visited Colchester Castle. They learnt about the Romans and the Celts, whilst underneath the castle! We found out about the weapons each side had and how disorganised the Celts were. We enjoyed looking at the artefacts and dressing up as historical figures throughout time.



PE Kits

Please ensure all children have their PE kits with them when they return to school in January 2023. 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.

Colchester Zoo

On Monday 5th December Year 2 visited Colchester Zoo. They were able to visit many different animals from tigers and elephants to goats and wallabies. Some brave children even held some creepy crawlies! The children were lead through a secret tunnel by Sprinkles the Elf. They learnt all about penguins including facts such as penguins only live in the southern hemisphere and they cannot fly because they are too heavy and have fluffy feathers. Finally, the children were able to meet some real life penguins and Santa! What a fantastic day!



Cheerleading Festival

On Thursday 8th December 12 of our cheerleaders attended the Christmas Cheerleading Festival at Mark Hall. The children wowed everyone with their routine to 'Underneath the Tree'. All the girls demonstrated our Potter Street values brilliantly and are looking forward to future events and competitions. Thank you Mrs Bambridge!!



Clubs

Extra - curricular clubs for children will start again in the middle of January. Mrs Gant will send out details of these at the beginning of the new term.

Online Safety – Make Sure New Devices Received at Christmas are Safe

The Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) are reminding parents and carers that if their child receives new technology for Christmas, it's important to set up devices correctly to keep them safe when online. There are resources from Brook Essex looking at how to support young people to have healthy relationships in a digital world, and Brook's popular podcase on "Consent" will also be shared once again. The [resources](#) created by the ESCB and partners will help provide parents and carers the information they need to support their child to safely navigate the online world.

Free Park and Ride in Chelmsford and Colchester

Shoppers heading to Colchester and Chelmsford after 12pm (noon) on Saturdays in December can use the Park and Ride Services in both cities completely free. This includes Christmas Eve, allowing some last-minute shopping and Saturday 31 December 2022, allowing people to visit Colchester and Chelmsford for free on New Year's Eve. Park and Ride users can also pick up a free Christmas bag at the Park and Ride sites while stocks allow. Further information can be found on the [Essex Highways](#) website.

Road Safety

Last week Reception Class & Year 5 had a visit from Emma Michaelides from Essex Highways.

They learnt all about road safety & which dangers to look out for when crossing the road.

The children were very engaged during the sessions & asked lots of questions.

Christmas Card Deliveries

Thank you to Postmen Archie, Corey, Mason and Samuel for making sure all the Christmas cards were delivered safely to all the children and staff.



Please refer to our School App for the full list of events for the academic year

You can access our school APP by downloading Piota Schools from the Google Play or Apple Store.

Apple Store Download - [Piota Schools on the App Store](#)

Google Play Download - [Piota Schools – Apps on Google Play](#)

DATES FOR THE DIARY

21 st December	Last day of school, finish at 1:30pm (no after school club)
9 th January 2023	Children return to school Y1 Phonics meeting for parents – 3:10pm
10 th January	Y5 swimming at Stewards Academy Y6 SATs meeting for parents – 3:10pm
11 th January	Open morning for Reception 2023 children – 9:30am Y4 multiplication check meeting with parents – 3:10pm
12 th January	Y2 SATs meeting for parents
17 th January	EYFS parents writing lesson – 9:00am
24 th January	Young Voices
25 th January	Lloyd Webber Class Assembly – 9:15am
26 th January	Elton John Class Assembly – 9:15am All school panto at Passmores Academy
27 th January	Inset day