

September 2023

NEWSLETTER

potter street academy news



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to a new school Year at Potter Street. We have been very impressed with how the children have settled back into school routines and learning after the long summer break. A very special welcome to all those families who have joined Potter Street this year, including EYFS who have settled into school brilliantly. We look forward to watching them grow and develop throughout their time at Potter Street Academy.

Thank you for attending our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. We hope that you found them useful and now feel well informed about curriculum content and information.

It has been lovely being greeted by so many parents at the school gate in the morning. I look forward to working in partnership with you.

Kath Holland
Associate Headteacher

Contact Details

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

Reminders

Please ensure that your children's book bags, lunch boxes, water bottles and ALL clothing, including shoes and coats are labelled.

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 in advance via the online payment system.

Family Holidays and Term Time Leave

Parents/carers should ensure that family holidays are taken 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 unauthorised and parents/carers may be issued with a penalty notice.

Requests are rarely authorised.

Secondary School Places for Sept 2024

If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place between 12th September and 31st October 2023.

You must submit an application by the national closing date of 31st October. Late applications may reduce your chance of being offered a place at your preferred school.

Primary School Places for Sept 2024

You can apply for Reception school place at an Essex primary school between 6th November 2023 and 15th January 2024.

You must submit an application by the national closing date of 15th January 2024. 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 parents / carers 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

PE Kit Needed in School

Please ensure all children have their full PE kit in school.

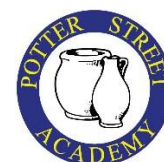
All lessons will take place outside even if it is cold. Only heavy rain will prevent classes going out so please make sure your child has a black or grey tracksuit as part of their PE kit.

School Uniform Reminder

I would like to thank all our parents who ensure their children wear school uniform. However, I have noticed increasing numbers of children who are not wearing correct school uniform. Furthermore, our expectations around uniform extends to hairstyles, hair accessories and jewellery, below is a reminder of the uniform and expectations for ALL our children.

- Plain black, grey or navy-blue tailored trousers (not "skinny leg", cords, leggings or jeans)
- Plain black, grey or navy-blue tailored skirt on or near the knee. Tight lycra skirts are not acceptable
- Royal blue (with or without school logo) sweatshirt / jumper / cardigan
- Royal blue or white (with or without the logo) polo shirt
- White shirt / blouse
- Blue/white checked or striped dress. Summer only
- Black, grey, white or navy-blue socks or tights. No patterns or logos
- Black flat shoes should be worn at all times, shoes with high heels are not deemed suitable. Trainers are not allowed except for PE lessons
- Royal blue fleece or waterproof jacket
- Hairstyle and colour should be appropriate for school. Long hair must be tied back
- No make-up/tattoos or nail polish is to be worn

I have reminded the school of our rules and class teachers will re-enforce our message to maintain high standards. Individual letters will then be sent home to children who continue to wear the uniform



which is not in line with school rules. Thank you for your support.



House Captains

After some fabulous speeches to the school, I have pleasure in announcing the new House Captains. A huge congratulations to:-

Dragon:

Captain- Skylar

Vice- Reggie

Lion:

Captain- Teddie

Vice- Riley B

Griffin:

Captain- Kai

Vice- Janelle

Unicorn:

Captain- Savanah

Vice- Dorcas

Well done to everyone who took part and had the courage and resilience to stand up and speak in front of everyone.

House Points

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



Dragon 165



Griffin 190



Lion 169



Unicorn 183

Children Arriving Late to School

Please support us by ensuring your child arrives at school on time.

If your child is in KS2 and is late to school, they will be required to make the time of lost learning up in their lunchbreak.

Dogs on School Site

For health and safety reasons, dogs (except guide dogs) should **not** be brought on to the school premises **at any time. (this includes them being carried in your arms).**

Thank you for your co-operation.

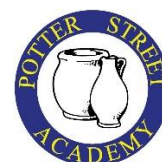
Class Dojo

We hope you are all enjoying Class Dojo, this is a fantastic way for the school to communicate with our families and provides a great opportunity for families to interact with teachers, upload any home learning and complete additional tasks. If you need any other 'school' information / guidance please continue to call the school office who will be happy to help. If your child is absent, please still follow our usual protocol and telephone the office or school absent line, messages should not be sent to teachers via Dojo.

Please be mindful teachers will not dojo during the day, in the evenings or at the weekend – if there is an emergency then you should still telephone the office.

Home Learning

At Potter Street, we believe that the partnership between home and school is essential in supporting all our children's progress. Home learning is compulsory. If you have any issues supporting home learning, please contact the teacher so we can remove any barriers. Please note, pupils will be asked to stay in at play or lunch time to complete missed home learning.



Reception 2024 Tours – Potter Street Academy

We are offering tours of the school for families of children that will start in Reception in September 2024.

If you would like to book onto one of the tours, please contact the school office on 01279 866504.

The dates are:

- Wednesday 11th October - 9:30am
- Tuesday 7th November - 1:30pm
- Thursday 23rd November - 9:30am
- Wednesday 10th January - 9:30am

Please note that spaces are limited.



Year 6 tours will commence on Thursday 14th September and will run until Thursday 19th October 2023. Tours will run from 9.00am - 10.00am and 11.15am - 12.15pm. Please email s.westbrook@passmoresacademy.com to book your Thursday morning tour. Please advise what date and time slot. Mrs Westbrook will email confirmation of your tour.

Sporting Events

Children from KS2 attended a PE festival at Church Langley, the children loved being able to explore different sports through lots of fun games and activities.

Year 5/6 attended a Futsal festival, the children demonstrated great determination and worked well as a team. We were very proud of the way our pupils supported each other and the other teams throughout the festival.



Dates for the Diary

Dates for
the Diary:

27 th September	Harvest assembly (children and staff only)
28 th September	Mark Hall open evening
5 th October	St Marks open evening
6 th October	Girls football at Mark Hall, years 5 & 6
9 th October	World Mental Health Day
13 th October	Girls football at Mark Hall, years 3 & 4
17 th October	Parents afternoon, 1:30pm – 4:00pm
18 th October	Parents evening, 4:00pm – 6:00pm
20 th October	Non-uniform day
	Football festival, years 1 & 2
23 rd October	Half term
1 st November	Children return to school
3 rd November	World Café Day
8 th November	Year 3 trip to Matilda
10 th November	Remembrance assembly
	PE festival at Church Langley, KS2
13 th November	World Kindness & Anti-Bullying Day
16 th November	Individual / sibling photos
17 th November	Children in Need
	Boccia at Mark Hall, years 3 & 4
22 nd November	Year 5 trip to Kidzania
24 th November	Inset day
1 st December	Badminton festival at Mark Hall, KS2
7 th December	Christmas cheerleading festival at Mark Hall
8 th December	AMA PE at Mark Hall, years 5 & 6
	Christmas bazaar
	Christmas jumper day
12 th December	School panto at Passmores - Cinderella
13 th December	Years 2 and 3 Carols to school
	EYFS and Y5 road safety talk / walk
	EYFS / Y1 performance - PM
14 th December	EYFS / Y1 performance – AM
	Flu immunisations
	Year 2 and 3 carols to parents
18 th December	Reward trip
19 th December	Christmas dinner
21 st December	Class parties
	Non-uniform day
	Last day, finish at 1:30pm (no after school club)

Part of the Passmores Cooperative Learning Community

Web: www.potterstreetacademy.com

Twitter: @PotterStAcademy

