

December 2023

NEWSLETTER

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 have 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 look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 8th January 2024.

Kath Holland
Associate Headteacher

Christmas Performances

Thank you to the EYFS and Y1 children and staff who impressed us with their lovely production which they confidently performed to the whole school.

Thank you to the Y2 & 3 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. It was lovely to see so many families coming together to support the children. Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring that photos taken during the performance are for private use only.

Christmas Dinner

A massive thank you to Mrs Gibson and Mrs Biro for providing the children and staff with Christmas dinner.



House Points

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



Dragon 1365



Griffin 1389



Lion 1371



Unicorn 1481

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



Attendance

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



School Values

Well done to Lion 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! The PTA raised just over £700.00.

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

Reward Trip

On Monday 18th December, the three children from each class with the highest house points enjoyed an afternoon at Wild 'n' Wacky. The children had a wonderful time and represented the school beautifully.

EYFS	Amelia, Aleena, Rayan
Y1	Elliot, Harley Shavonne
Y2	Oakley, Colby, Aleandra
Y3	Beau, Keira, Jacinth
Y4	Ollie, Saarra, Amber
Y5	Callie, Zara, David
Y6	Dorcas, Ryan, Savannah

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

Y4 – Epping Forest Museum

On December 7th, Year 4 visited Epping Forest Museum. It was a fantastic day of learning. They learned about the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons, which they will study in the summer term, and compared that with their current knowledge of the Romans. The children had a fantastic time creating Viking masks, becoming archaeologists, and exploring different artefacts, as well as visiting the various galleries. We are so proud of their behaviour, enthusiasm, and love of learning on such an exciting day. Well done!



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.

Y2 - Colchester Zoo

On Wednesday 29th November Year 2 visited Colchester Zoo. They learned about lots of animals and their habitats including lions, tigers, elephants, giraffes and hippos. The children then met Jingles the Elf, who needed to help Santa and his reindeer get back to the North Pole. The children helped Jingles by learning all about penguins and even met Santa!



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.

Pantomime 2023

Thank you to the PTA who paid for all the children to attend the performance of Cinderella. The children loved joining in the story telling and the songs.

Y6 – Imperial War Museum

Year 6 enjoyed a fantastic day at the Imperial War Museum London. They completed one of their life skills by travelling to and from the museum on the overground and underground train services.

The children enjoyed looking at all the exhibits and linking that to their learning of what life was like in Britain during World War Two.

Year 6 were impeccably behaved throughout and impressed all the adults that accompanied them!



Cheerleading Festival

“The cheerleaders had a fantastic afternoon at the Christmas cheerleading festival. Their performance was full of confidence and I am very proud of them.” Thank you, Mrs Bambridge!!



Class Dojo

Class Dojo 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, this includes child absence and any changes to the arrangements for collection of children.

Please be mindful teachers do not have the opportunity to check dojo during the day as they are teaching and are therefore unable to respond or read any messages. Additionally, please do not expect a reply to any messages sent after 5:00pm or at the weekend.

Staffing

I have pleasure in welcoming Miss Parete to Potter Street Academy, Miss Parete has joined our EYFS team.

Dates for the Diary

5 th January 2024	Inset Day
8 th January	Children return to school
10 th January	Primary open morning for Reception Intake 2024 – 09:30am
10 th January	Y6 SATs meeting for parents – 3:00pm
11 th January	Y4 MTC meeting for parents – 3:00pm
12 th January	Y3/4 New Age Kurling at Mark Hall
19 th January	Y5/6 Tag Rugby qualifiers at Mark Hall
26 th January	Inset Day
7 th February	Y5 class assembly 9:15am – 9:45am
15 th February	Y6 class assembly 9:15am – 9:45am

MIND – West Essex

Please see attached details regarding contact details for support services.

[Mind West Essex Support Services Useful Contacts \(Dec23\).pdf](#)

Road Safety

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

They learned 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.

Headlice

We have been made aware that there are a few instances of head lice in school. Please could you check your children and treat appropriately. Recommended methods of treatment can be found on the NHS website. Thank you.

[Head lice and nits - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

