

July 2024

NEWSLETTER

potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the last 33 years, I have written a number of letters home to parents but this is my last. I can say with complete honesty that our children make me extremely proud and it has been a privilege to be their headteacher.

I have so many things to be thankful for, I have an entire staff team that I love working with. They all work extremely hard to give the best they can to our pupils. I have been surrounded by a leadership team who saw my vision and worked with me to make it happen, I know at times it has been challenging, but even through the tough times we have managed to see the humour and keep a smile on our faces.

To the Potter Street parents thank you. You have engaged, voiced your opinions and shared your concerns and worries. I certainly can say I did not get everything right all the time but I can say the best interests of the community were always paramount. Thank you for the lovely gifts and cards you have given me. They are appreciated far more than you may realise.

Although I am sad to be leaving, I am excited about the future. It has been lovely working alongside Mr Gladwin and I know I am leaving the school in the very best of hands. I know Potter Street will go from strength to strength and I wish you all the best.

*Kath Holland
Associate Headteacher*

House Points

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



Dragon 3867



Griffin 3833



Lion 3825



Unicorn 3940

End of year assessments

Class teachers will have provided you with outcomes from your child's end of year assessments. Parents and carers of children in Year 1 will also be informed if your child passed their phonics screening and parents and carers of children in year 4 will be informed of the results of the multiplication check.

Raring 2 Go! Bishops Stortford

Please see attached summer magazine which has lots of ideas for the summer holidays – it covers events and activities throughout the summer holidays.

[CLICK HERE FOR MAGAZINE LINK](#)



Book Swap Box

A massive thank you to Tom who made and donated our Book Swap box.



Handmadeby Tom

4.2K friends

A qualified carpenter, Tom's craftsmanship will create high quality wooden items for your home

Y2 Theatre Trip - Wicked

On Wednesday 19th June Year 2 went to watch the Wicked. On the way they passed many London sights such as St Paul's Cathedral, The Tower of London and The Houses of Parliament, all of which they have been learning about in their Great Fire of London topic! Once we arrived, the children loved being transported to Oz and learnt all about friendship, standing up for others and not judging others by their appearance.

'Popular' and 'Defying Gravity' were the children's favourite songs in the show. The children behaved brilliantly and had a wonderful time experiencing the magic of theatre!



Harlow Schools Music Festival

On Thursday 20th June the school choir took part in the Harlow Schools Music Festival at the town park. During the afternoon they rehearsed all the songs together with 10 other schools, ready to share with their audience of parents, family, friends and school staff!

It was a lovely warm day, the children sang beautifully, had lots of fun and gave an amazing performance! Well done!



Attendance

Some parents have been asking how we authorise absence from school. For day 1 and day 2, we will authorise absences when a parent / carer calls the school to let us know their child is unwell. Sometimes children are unwell for a longer period and so from Day 3 our attendance policy has always asked parents to provide medical evidence which can be prescription, medication bottle / box, appointment card from doctors, photo (for chicken pox etc), email communication etc. We hope this information is helpful.

Sports Day

Celebrating an Outstanding Sports Day

It was a day filled with cheers, laughter, and incredible displays of resilience and determination. The children showcased their athletic abilities and

sportsmanship. As we reflect on the events of the day, we felt immense pride in our students and gratitude towards the parents who supported and cheered them on.

Resilience and Determination on Display

From the youngest participants to the older students, each child showed incredible resilience and determination throughout the day. Whether it was pushing themselves to run a little faster, jump a little higher, or try a new sport for the first time, every child gave it their all.

Fun and Laughter All Around

But it wasn't just about the competition – there was plenty of fun and laughter to be had as well. The joy and camaraderie were a true testament to the spirit of sportsmanship and teamwork that is instilled in the children at our school.

A Big Thank You to Parents

Your presence at sports day, your cheers and words of encouragement, meant the world to the children and to us. Thank you for being there for your children, for supporting them in their endeavours, and for being a vital part of the Potter Street community.

Y5 Sleepover

On Thursday 27th June, Year Five spent the evening camped out in the school hall. They had an action-packed evening together, eating pizza, dancing, playing on the field, singing around the campfire and making s'mores – these were a real hit! We even tried a bit of stargazing after watching a movie. What a great evening!



Y1 Leeds Castle

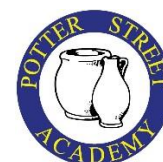
As part of their topic, Y1 visited Leeds Castle. During their visit, they learned about the kings and queens who once lived there. They discovered fascinating stories about their lives and the history of the castle itself. The visit helped them connect classroom learning with real historical sites and figures. They also experienced dressing up as kings and queens and act out their life stories.



Part of the Passmore's Cooperative Learning Community

Web: www.potterstreetacademy.com

Twitter: @PotterStAcademy



Stars of the Term

A big well done to our Stars of the Term: -



Rec Noah, Oliver, Mae
Year 1 Hudson, Menhaz, Orela
Year 2 Paula, Reef, Esme
Year 3 Jacinth, Anjeza, Keira
Year 4 Nuray, Aaron, Dollie-Mai
Year 5 Lola, Iyaaz, Skylar

Congratulations to these children who received the highest number of house points in their class this term. The children had a fun afternoon at Kidzz Kingdom.

Winning Houses

Well done to Unicorn House who are the overall winning house. They celebrated their win with a water fight!!

Winning houses for: -

Sports Day	KS1	Unicorn
	KS2	Lion

Attendance	Unicorn
Values	Dragon

100% Attendance Academic Year 2023/24

Well done to those children that achieved 100% attendance for the academic year. All the children were entered into a prize draw for a £30.00 Amazon voucher – well done Freya for winning!!!

Jackie Jackson Award

At the end of each academic year, one year 6 pupil is awarded the Jackie Jackson Award. The person chosen by the Year 6 team will have met high standards for behaviour, attendance and progress since their time at Potter Street Academy. It is with great pleasure to announce Savanah has received this award. Well done, Savanah!

Ancient Egyptian Day

Year 3 had a fantastic day at Purford Green celebrating their Ancient Egyptian History topic. The children experienced a variety of activities such as making Ancient Egyptian bread, hieroglyphics, drama and the day ended with a traditional Ancient Egyptian festival.



Father's Day Celebration

We were delighted to have so many significant men attend our Father's Day celebration this term. A fun afternoon was had playing different board games, games and making paper airplanes. Thank you to all those that attended and made it a fantastic afternoon for the children. A special thank you to the members of PCLC staff for their support during the afternoon.





- Children's PE top needs to be the house colour of the house they are in
- Children must have a change of footwear for PE
- Jewellery is not allowed in school, earrings should only be studs and children must be able to take them out themselves
- All our uniform can be purchased from Create Identitee

PTA

Thank you to our PTA who purchased our leaver's hoodies for our Year 6 children. Also, a huge thank you for organising a brilliant summer fayre. We would love to recruit additional members for September, if you are interested in joining, please let the school office know or email pta@potterstreetacademy.com

Can You Apply for Free School Meals?

If your child is in Year R – Year 2 from September, they will continue to be entitled to universal free school meals meaning the Government pays for your child to have a school dinner every day. Children in Year 3 – Year 6 must apply for free school's meals. We are aware that many people's circumstances have changed over the last few months. If you think you may now be entitled to claim free school meals (because you are receiving universal credit) the office is able to conduct a quick online check for you before you apply. Please call Mrs Gant who will help to see if you are entitled. Even if you do not want your child to have a school dinner, the school receives additional funding for every eligible child.

Uniform

As we begin to prepare for the summer, just a few reminders about school uniform:

- All children should be in school uniform with **black shoes**

Time to say Goodbye

We were very pleased that we were able to say goodbye to children in Year 6 with a fantastic leaver's assembly. We wish them every success and happiness for the future.

This year we are saying goodbye to Miss Salisbury and Miss Littlechild. I would like to say a huge thank you to them all for their hard work and dedication. I know it has been appreciated by staff, children and parents. We wish them every success in their new roles.

Mrs Holland

Since I have known Mrs Holland (for 15+ years) she has always been someone who could be called upon by any colleague for help, support and advice. Her passion for high quality learning and commitment to supporting all families in Harlow has always been second to none and set the example for other leaders in the town to follow.

Since her arrival at Potter Street in 2018 Mrs Holland has shared her knowledge and experience with staff, children and parents, contributing to the

wonderful school we know Potter Street to be today.

Mrs Holland will be missed by the whole school community and whilst saying goodbye to staff is never easy, after 33 years of commitment to children and their families, this is a very much deserved early retirement.

I know you will all join me in wishing Mrs Holland every happiness for her retirement and the plans she has for the future.

Miss Bloomfield



Dates for the Diary

2 nd September	Inset Day
3 rd September	Inset Day
4 th September	Children Return to School

