

November 2024

NEWSLETTER

potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy November!

As the days get shorter and the air gets cooler, we're settling into a wonderful rhythm here at school. This time of year is perfect for reflecting on how far we've come and all we have to look forward to as a school community.

Dress for the Weather:

Please make sure your child has warm clothes for outdoor play—coats, hats, and gloves are a must as the temperatures drop.

Stay Healthy:

As cold and flu season ramps up, we encourage you to remind your kids to wash their hands often and keep us informed if they're feeling unwell.

School Drop-Off:

Thank you for helping us keep drop-off and pick-up running smoothly with the new timings.

Feeling Thankful

Your support, encouragement, and involvement make a huge difference in the lives of our students—and in the life of our school.

If you ever have questions, ideas, or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out. Let's keep making this year a great one together!

Mr Gladwin

Head of School

Ofsted Visit

We are incredibly grateful for the support, encouragement, and positive feedback we received during our recent Ofsted visit. Your kind words and trust in our school mean the world to us, and we are proud of the wonderful community we share.

To our amazing children, thank you for being the heart of our school. Your hard work, enthusiasm, and kindness were evident to our visitor, and we couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you.

To our parents and carers, thank you for your unwavering support and commitment. Your belief in what we do inspires us daily to provide the very best for your children. We are honoured to work

together with such a caring and dedicated community.

Thank you once again for helping make our school a place where everyone feels valued and inspired. We look forward to building on this together and continuing to support every child's journey.

Winter Disco

Thank you to our wonderful PTA who organised the Winter Disco on 21st November. The children loved dancing and singing along to all the songs!! Thank you also to our parents who supported the disco and helped the school raise much needed funds.

Part of the Passmores Cooperative Learning Community





Web: www.potterstreetacademy.com

Twitter: @PotterStAcademy



House Points

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

	Dragon	575
	Griffin	612
	Lion	648
	Unicorn	464

Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is essential for children's progress. Every school day counts, and when children attend school consistently, they gain better academic skills, build stronger relationships, and experience greater overall growth.

Reporting Absences:

- Contact the school on the first day of absence before 9.20 am, when our register closes
- The school has an answer phone available to leave a message if nobody is available to take your call, or you may call into school personally and speak to the office staff. Please be aware that, if you leave a voicemail to report your child's absence, you may receive a call from the school so that we may discuss the absence before making a decision as to whether the absence is to be recorded as authorised
- Contact the school on every further day of absence, again before 9.20 am
- Ensure that your child returns to school as soon as possible and you provide any medical evidence, if requested, to support the absence. Medical evidence will be requested for day 3 onwards and/or where your child is having multiple periods of absence which are reported

as being due to medical reasons. When determining whether a child is too ill to attend school, both parents and school staff can consider the advice contained within the NHS and Essex County Council Guidance on School Absence and Childhood Illness (Annex F).

Tips for Good Attendance:

- **Morning Routine:** Help your child establish a morning routine that gets them to school on time
- **Plan Appointments Carefully:** Whenever possible, schedule doctor's appointments outside of school hours
- **Talk About School:** Encourage your child to share what they enjoy about school and address any concerns they may have

Resources and Support:

If you are facing challenges with your child's attendance, please reach out to our school Learning Mentor or Attendance Officer, who are here to help with resources that can support your family and keep your child on track.

Let's work together to make every school day count!

School Photos

The children had their individual and sibling photographs taken on 13th November. The photography company no longer supply proofs and now use Photo Tickets. Photo Tickets have been handed to the parent / child by the class teacher, you can scan the QR code from these to view and order the photos. If you have not received your proof, please inform the school office.

Two Johns E Safety

On Tuesday, 12th November, we had the pleasure of welcoming the two Johns for eSafety sessions with our children. Their presentations were highly informative and engaging, delivering essential guidance on staying safe online. The sessions

undoubtedly made a lasting impact on our children's understanding of digital safety. We hope many parents were able to join for the evening session, as it offered valuable insights into protecting children in the digital world. A big thank you to the two Johns for their time and expertise!

School Gate – KS2 side

To ensure children safety, please **do not prop the gate open** at the beginning or end of the school day. Keeping the gate closed helps maintain secure access to the school site and ensures that only authorised individuals enter the school grounds. Your cooperation is appreciated!

Children in Need



Children in Need Run Pudsey Challenge was a huge success! The children were excited to be part of such a meaningful event, especially with Pudsey himself making an appearance!

Well done to everyone and to all the parents and sponsors who supported the children, a massive £2,880.20 was raised by you all!!!



Y1 – Walton-on-the-Naze

As part of our Geography topic, Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Walton-on-the-Naze, where we explored and compared our local area to a coastal environment. The children observed and discussed both physical and human features of the coastal landscape, deepening their understanding of these differences.

The day was filled with hands-on activities, including building sandcastles, skimming stones, and paddling in the sea. To end our memorable visit, everyone enjoyed a well-deserved ice cream, making it a truly special experience for all.



Dates for the Diary

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the Diary:

27 Nov	Open mornings tours, reception 2025, 9:30am
29 Nov	Inset day
2 Dec	Children return to school
3 Dec	Y3 and 4 at The Royal Opera House - Cinderella
4 Dec	Rock Steady performance to parents
6 Dec	Non-uniform day – tombola donations
6 Dec	Y5 PE day Cheerleading – PM
10 Dec	Flu immunisations PM – whole school to Passmores for Panto, Beauty and the Beast
11 Dec	2:00pm - EYFS / Y1 performance
12 Dec	9:30am – EYFS / Y1 performance
12 Dec	Y2 / 3 carols to parents – 4pm Y5 African Drumming at Passmores – 6pm
13Dec	Christmas jumper day Christmas bazaar, 3:00pm – 5:00pm
16 Dec	Reward trip
17 Dec	Christmas lunch
20 Dec	Class Christmas parties Non uniform day Finish at 1:30pm – no after school club
7 Jan	Children return to school

