

July 2025

NEWSLETTER

potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a truly wonderful academic year at Potter Street, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you—our parents and carers—for your incredible support. Your warm welcome and ongoing encouragement have made my first year as Head of School not only enjoyable but genuinely special. Both Miss Witter and I have felt the strength of this community from day one, and we are so grateful.

This year has been packed with memorable moments, from the fantastic trips organised across the school to the unforgettable Sports Day—capped off with the now legendary water fight, in which I seemed to be the only target! The laughter and joy from the children that day perfectly summed up the spirit of Potter Street: vibrant, caring, and full of fun.

A special goodbye to our amazing Year 6 pupils—you've been role models and leaders, and we're so proud of everything you've achieved. We wish you all the very best as you take the exciting next steps in your journey. Secondary school awaits, and we know you'll continue to shine.

We also say farewell and good luck to Miss Danacica in Year 2 and Mrs Cowell from The Hub, who are moving on to new adventures. You will be truly missed. And of course, we send our very best wishes to Miss Green as she prepares for the arrival of her baby—an exciting new chapter!

To our incredible staff team: thank you. Your dedication, flexibility, and enthusiasm have helped make this year such a success. I'm especially grateful for the way you've embraced the changes we've introduced—and I'm excited for the positive developments already being planned for the next academic year. Everything we do is with the children at the heart, and together we are building something truly special.

Finally, I hope everyone—children, families, and staff—has a relaxing, joyful, and well-deserved summer break. Thank you once again for being such an important part of our school community. We can't wait to welcome you all back in September.

Warmest wishes,
Neil Gladwin

House Points

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



Dragon 2468



Griffin 1789



Lion 2614



Unicorn 2056

End of year assessments

You should have received an email for 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.

100% Attendance Academic Year 2024/25

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 Nuray for winning!!!



Y1 Leeds Castle

Year 1 had a wonderful time on our recent trip to Leeds Castle! The children were full of excitement as we took a scenic train ride from the entrance to the main castle. Once there, we stepped back in time by dressing up and learning about the different kings and queens who once lived in the castle. The tour of the castle was fascinating, and the beautiful surroundings made the day even more special. Hareem described the experience as “amazing,” while Jack was captivated by the wildlife, pointing to the moat and exclaiming, “There’s a tsunami of swans!”



Stars of the Term



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

Rec Amanda, Nala, Phoenix, Ryleigh
 Year 1 Cieran, Kara, Cataleya, Brax
 Year 2 Abigail, Mya-Mae, Harlan, Hudson
 Year 3 Leo, Reef, Nola-Blue, Paula
 Year 4 Rayan, Georgi, Jacinth, Paige
 Year 5 Charlotte, Amber, Sahas, Tommy P

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

Winning Houses

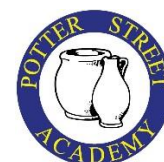
Well done to Lion House who are the overall winning house. They celebrated their win with a water fight!!

Winning houses for: -

Sports Day	KS1	Lion
	KS2	Lion
Attendance		Lion
Values		Dragon

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 Callie has received this award. Well done, Callie!



Y1 Essex Outdoors

On Wednesday 9th July, Year Five attended Essex Outdoors for an action-packed morning of climbing and raft-building.

The children worked in teams to build a raft from scratch, before trying it out on the open water – our change of clothing came in very handy after many children took a refreshing dip!

Year Five also faced their fears and conquered the climbing wall. Everyone had a chance to climb as high as they felt comfortable, before leaning back and trusting in their classmates to guide them down safely.

After a picnic in the park, we completed an orienteering activity too. Pupils worked in pairs to find hidden letters and shapes around the school field, racing against time to find them all and achieve their prize.

It was great to see the children showing resilience, courage and kindness throughout the day. Well done Year Five!



School Fete

Thank you to everyone who came along to our school fete – it was a wonderful afternoon filled with fun and community spirit. A special thank you to Mrs. Beesley and the PTA for their fantastic organisation, and to all the staff who helped run the stalls. Your support made the day a great success!



PTA

Thank you to our PTA who purchased our leaver's hoodies for our Year 6 children. 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

Please remember the announcement we made back in April to inform you of the change in the footwear policy. As of September, children can wear trainers, but they must be entirely black – no colour, logos, laces or studs. If in doubt, please contact us before you purchase them.

- 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 footwear should be worn at all times, shoes with high heels are not deemed suitable.
- Royal blue fleece or waterproof jacket
- Hairstyles should be appropriate for school. Long hair must be tied back, no unnatural hair colours are allowed
- No make-up/tattoos or nail polish is to be worn



Time to say Goodbye

We would like to take this opportunity to say a fond farewell to Mrs Danacica and Ms Cowell, who will be leaving us at the end of this term. We would like to thank you for all you have done — your contribution has been hugely valued, and you will be greatly missed. We wish you all the very best for the future. We also send our warmest wishes to Miss Green, who begins her maternity leave. We look forward to hearing your exciting news and welcoming you back in due course.



Notice of Meal Price Increase – Effective September 2025

We would like to remind you that from September 2025, the cost per meal will increase to **£2.60** per day.

This price change is not a decision we have taken lightly. It reflects the rising cost of food and is necessary to continue providing high-quality, nutritious two-course lunches for the children.

Please be assured that we remain committed to keeping our prices as low as possible while ensuring every child continues to receive a healthy and balanced meal.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Breakfast Club – Price Increase September 2025

Just to remind you that the daily fee for our Breakfast Club will increase from £2.00 to £3.00.

Tax-Free Childcare Vouchers

We are pleased to inform you that from September 2025, parents will be able to use Tax-Free Childcare vouchers to pay for our Breakfast Club and After School Clubs.

Please note, this applies only to these clubs and does not include extra-curricular clubs.

If you currently use or plan to use Tax-Free Childcare vouchers, this will help make your payments easier and more convenient.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact us.

Dates for the Diary

1 st September	Inset Day
2 nd September	Children Return to School
4 th September	Y4 cricket trip
10 th September	Ms Christie, Principal of Passmores Academy to talk to children and parents of Year 6 re transition to Passmores Academy

