

April 2025

# NEWSLETTER

## potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move through a busy and exciting term, we're especially looking forward to our VE Day celebrations — a wonderful opportunity to reflect, remember, and come together as a school community and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

A quick reminder to our Year 6 families: with SATs fast approaching, it's vital that pupils remain focused and are giving their best effort both in school and at home. Your support in keeping them motivated makes a real difference.

We were absolutely delighted with the Year 2 assembly — the children performed brilliantly, and it was a joy to see so many proud faces in the audience.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to everyone in our community for your ongoing support. It's what makes our school such a special place to learn and grow.

Neil Gladwin  
Head of School

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### House Points

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



**Dragon** 1844



**Griffin** 1744



**Lion** 1989



**Unicorn** 1719

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### SATs

In the week commencing Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May all Y6 children must take their SATs. As you know, these are a series of National Curriculum tests designed to assess whether your child is working below, above or at the national age-related expectations.

During the week of SATs please ensure your child:

- Attends breakfast club, 08:15am start (Mon-Thurs)
- Has a good night's sleep
- Has a calm start to their day



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## Y2 – Colchester Zoo

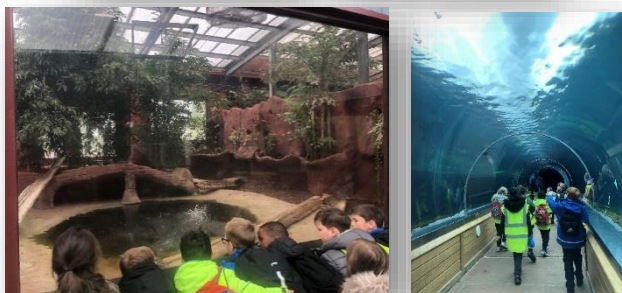
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What an amazing day Year Two had at Colchester Zoo on Wednesday the 23rd of April!

We saw lots of different species of animals from around the world, including taking the train to the lemur's kingdom, where we were able to get very close to these cheeky, fascinating little creatures. The children really enjoyed seeing their favourite animals up close.

We attended an educational session held by the experienced zookeeper and the children were excited to find out interesting facts about wild animals and their habitats.

The rain stopped just as we arrived and we were lucky it held off all day!



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## Outdoor Learning Group Update

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Our Outdoor Learning Group has been thriving, with children embracing every adventure that nature has to offer. From exploring the woodland trails to creating clay faces on tree trunks, the group has loved getting hands-on with the natural world.

Some of our favourite moments include lighting campfires and roasting marshmallows, jumping joyfully in puddles during the rain, and relaxing in

hammocks after a busy day of outdoor fun. The children have also shown their creativity through a variety of crafts, including pebble decorating, making nature collages, and weaving friendship bracelets.

Physical activity and teamwork have also played a big part in our sessions, with sports, tree climbing, and plenty of active play keeping everyone smiling. We are especially excited to welcome a new group of children who have joined our original Outdoor Learning Group this term. They've settled in brilliantly, and it's been heartwarming to see the original members welcome them with open arms. New friendships have already started to blossom, making our community even stronger and more connected.

We look forward to many more muddy boots, shared stories, and wild adventures to come!



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## Attendance

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Why is regular attendance at school important?

- Attending school every day makes learning easier for your child
- Children are more able to build and maintain friendships with other children
- If children miss basic skills in the early years of school, they may have problems later on
- Regular attendance at school will help your child succeed in later life. A child should only be absent from school if they are very unwell, have an infectious illness (e.g. chicken pox, mumps or measles) have an injury such as a break, attending a religious ceremony or leave authorised by the Headteacher.
- Being 5 minutes late each day in a school year is the same as missing 3 whole school days!
- Being 15 minutes late each day in a school year is the equivalent to missing nearly 10 whole school days!

**Every School Day Counts 90%**  
**Attendance may sound good and if we were to get 90% in a test we would be quite happy, however 90% is the same as missing 4 school weeks in one year!**

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## Potter Street Park

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We've had several complaints about disruptive behaviour in the park — shouting, littering, and a general lack of respect for others using the space.

We kindly ask parents and guardians to have a word with their children about how to behave considerately in shared public areas. The park should be a welcoming place for everyone, but that only works if all users treat it — and each other — with respect.

Thank you for helping keep our park a pleasant space for all.



## Dates for the Diary

5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – school closed
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Y5 trip to Harry Potter World
8 <sup>th</sup> May	80 <sup>th</sup> anniversary – VE Day celebration
9 <sup>th</sup> May	School disco
12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs week
16 <sup>th</sup> May	Y2 cricket
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Y3 class assembly
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Non-uniform day
26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	EYFS trip to Whitewebbs Museum
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Y3 trip to Fitzwilliam Museum
	Y6 rounders
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 class assembly
13 <sup>th</sup> June	Girl's cricket (Y5/6)
19 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS class assembly
20 <sup>th</sup> June	PS sports day
26 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS parent meeting – Sept 25 intake at 1:30pm
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer fete
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1/2 gymnastics
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 residential trip to Danbury
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Y5 at Passmores
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Y2 mini-Olympics
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Stepping up to secondary school – Y6
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 leavers assembly
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 to Southend
16 <sup>th</sup> July	New classes starts
	Y6 at Passmores
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Non uniform day
	Last Day, finish at 1:30pm (No after school club)

