

February 2025

NEWSLETTER

potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable half-term break, taking the opportunity to recharge and spend quality time with family and friends.

We are already off to a fantastic start, with many successful events taking place, including **World Book Day** and **Everybody Writes Week**. It has been wonderful to see our students embracing creativity, literacy, and a love for learning in such engaging ways. You can read more about these exciting events below.

As we move forward into the rest of the term, there are plenty of opportunities for students to continue thriving, whether in the classroom, through extracurricular activities, or in upcoming events. Let's all make the most of the weeks ahead!

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I look forward to celebrating more achievements together.

House Points

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



Dragon 1432



Griffin 1359



Lion 1639



Unicorn 1408

World Book Day

World Book Day was a fantastic celebration across the school, with students and staff fully embracing the joy of reading. It was wonderful to see everyone

A particular highlight for **Key Stage 2** was their special trip to **Passmores**, where they enjoyed a screening of *Pinocchio*. This experience sparked thoughtful discussions about storytelling, character development, and the timeless magic of classic tales. Across the school, students took part in book-themed activities, shared their favorite stories, and celebrated the power of reading together.

It was truly inspiring to see our school community come together to celebrate literacy, imagination, and the joy of books. **Take a look at some of the photos below to see the day in action!**

Thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special!





School Dinners

Please can parents ensure they are checking the school menu before bringing children to school. We wish to avoid children arriving to school and requesting a packed lunch be brought to them.

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome Mr Smith-Hughes, who has joined Year 4 as their new Teaching Assistant. We look forward to the support and enthusiasm he will bring to the team and wish him every success in his new role!

Crucial Crew

On 18th March, Year 6 will be attending Crucial Crew. Crucial Crew is an interactive safety initiative based around key life skills for 10 -11-year-olds. This is an annual event organised by Harlow Council and designed to put local school children's safety skills to the test.

Young Voices at the O2

On Wednesday, 22nd January, the school choir had the incredible opportunity to perform at the O2 Arena as part of **Young Voices**, one of the largest school choir concerts in the world. After months of rehearsals, their dedication and hard work shone through as they joined thousands of other children from schools across the country for this spectacular event. In total, an astonishing **8,279 children** took to the stage that night, filling the arena with an unforgettable energy and excitement.

The choir performed a fantastic selection of songs, including well-loved hits from *Hairspray the Musical* and a lively **pop medley** that had the whole arena singing along. In addition to learning the lyrics, the children spent time perfecting their choreography, ensuring that their performance was both engaging and dynamic. Throughout the evening, their enthusiasm was contagious, and it was wonderful to see them moving in sync and singing their hearts out. The effort they had put into rehearsing truly paid off, making the performance a joy to watch.

Parents, teachers, and family members in the audience were treated to an evening of incredible music and entertainment. Seeing the children perform with such passion and confidence was a proud moment for everyone involved. The atmosphere in the arena was electric, and the cheers and applause from the audience made the experience even more special. Many parents commented on how fantastic the event was and how much they enjoyed seeing their children perform on such a grand stage.

For the children, the experience was nothing short of magical. From the excitement of arriving at the O2 to the final song of the night, they embraced every moment with enthusiasm. Many of them described it as the highlight of their year, and some even said it was the best experience of their school life so far. It was clear from their smiles and laughter that they were making memories that would last a lifetime.

I am **incredibly proud** of all the children who took part. Their dedication, hard work, and team spirit were truly inspiring. **Young Voices** is one of my favourite school events, and it was heartwarming to see how much joy it brought to the children. The energy, excitement, and sense of achievement they felt after the performance made all the rehearsals and preparation worthwhile.

Nicola Beesley



Attendance

Well done to Year 6 who are top of our attendance tree this month with 98.9% attendance.

Everybody Writes Week

What an incredible **Everybody Writes Week** we've had! It was amazing to see the school buzzing with excitement, creativity, and a true love of writing. From the moment the mysterious crates were delivered, curiosity filled the air, and the adventure began!

Students were thrown into a whirlwind of storytelling as they discovered **mysterious**

footprints, trashed classrooms, and even the theft of our beloved mascots! With so many unexpected twists and turns, imaginations ran wild as students became detectives, journalists, and authors, piecing together the clues to uncover the truth.

To add to the drama, we even had **Zoom calls with the police**, making the experience even more immersive and unforgettable. It was wonderful to see every student so engaged, crafting incredible pieces of writing inspired by the week's events.

A huge well done to everyone for embracing the challenge and showcasing their creativity. The enthusiasm and passion for writing were truly inspiring!

Cross-Trust Reading Competition – We Won!

A huge **congratulations** to our school for winning the **Cross-Trust Reading Competition**, beating all the other schools in the Trust! This is a fantastic achievement, and we are incredibly proud of every student who contributed to our success.

A special **well done to Year 5**, who were the **leading readers**, not just in our school but across the entire Trust! Your dedication to reading has truly paid off, and we are so proud of your commitment.

Reading is such an important skill—it opens doors to learning, imagination, and opportunities in every aspect of life. We want to continue building on this success, and we **expect all children to read at home at least three times per week** and have their **reading diaries signed by an adult**. Let's keep the momentum going and continue fostering a love for reading!

Well done, everyone—keep turning those pages!

Dates for the Diary



14 th Mar	Inset day
18 th Mar	Y6 crucial crew
20 th Mar	Y5 sleepover
21 st Mar	Y4/5 girls tag rugby
25 th Mar	Y6 to Duxford
27 th Mar	Y4 Top sports at Passmores
28 th Mar	Y5 Tchoukball
2 nd Apr	9.15 – Rock Steady concert for parents Reward trip – stars of the term
4 th Apr	Non Uniform day Y3/4 Quad kids
	Last day, finish at 1:30pm for the Easter Holidays (no after school club)
22 nd Apr	Children return to school



Welcome to the latest PTA Newsletter

Mothers Day Pop-up Shop

Tuesday 25th March - 1-3pm

Every child will have the opportunity to purchase a gift for their adult(s) ahead of Mother's Day. Cost will be between 50p-£3. Gender neutral gifts will be available. The teachers will bring the students to the shop class by class throughout the afternoon. Free gift bags will be available.



We're aware that Year 6 will be on a school trip and they will have the opportunity to purchase the following day. Also, any students who are away on the 25th will have the opportunity to purchase before the end of that week.

Spring Time Disco

Thursday 3rd April

EYFS & KS1: 3:30- 4:45pm KS2: 5 - 6:30pm

£5 per child. Snacks and refreshments will be available. Prizes to be won!



Fathers Day Pop-up Shop

Tuesday 10th June - 1-3pm

Please see Mother's day event for details.



Summer Fete FREE ENTRY!

Friday 27th June - 2:30 - 4:30pm

Children can be collected from their classroom at 2:30 if their adult is able to do so. No children will be allowed to the Fete without adult supervision.

Anyone who is interested in having a stall, please email pta@potterstreetacademy.com £15 a pitch.

Please also email if any local business would like to donate to the raffle.



Volunteers

If you are interested in volunteering at any of our events, please drop us an email. No commitment to the PTA required. We are always happy to welcome new faces and ideas.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Disco, Christmas Fete and participated in the Asda CashPot for schools scheme. From these **we raised over £1000 for the school**, which helped fund the pantomime trip and the Year 6 hoodies at the end of the school year.

Part of the Passmores Cooperative Learning Community

Web: www.potterstreetacademy.com

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