

Potter Street Academy News

Dear Parents/Carers,

As January comes to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on the wonderful start we've had to the new year. The energy and enthusiasm of our students, staff, and families have set a positive tone for rest of our academic year, and I couldn't be more proud of all that we've already accomplished.

Looking ahead, February is shaping up to be just as vibrant, with the launch of our annual Spelling Bee and World Book Day on 6th March where all children and adults are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character! A letter will be going out shortly to KS2 parents to inform you of the exciting performance they will be attending at Passmores! I encourage you to mark your calendars and join us in celebrating these moments together.

I'd also like to thank you for your continued support of our school's mission and vision. Your partnership plays a vital role in creating a nurturing and inspiring environment for our students to grow. Whether through volunteering, attending events, or simply cheering your children on, your involvement strengthens the fabric of our school community.

As we move into the heart of 2025, let's continue to inspire one another and aim high. I look forward to all we will accomplish together in the coming months!

Neil Gladwin

Head of School

Class Assemblies

All class assemblies start at 09:15am and will last approximately 20 minutes.

We do hope you will be able to join us to share in the children's celebration of their work.

EYFS	19 th June 2025
Y1	12 th June 2025
Y2	1 st May 2025
Y3	22 nd May 2025
Y4	5 th February 2025
Y5	5 th March 2025
Y6	13 th February 2025

Updated Information

Please ensure that the school office has updated contact information and details such as telephone numbers and email addresses so that all letters and school information is able to reach you.



We need 3 contact details for every pupil to meet our safeguarding requirements.

Staff Training Days

Dates for 2024/25 are on our website. Please ask at the office if you would like a paper copy.

House Points

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



Dragon 1,031



Griffin 1,094



Lion 1,185



Unicorn 924

General Health & Safety Reminders

- Please remember to be aware of other parents and carers as you walk along the paths inside the school grounds. Please make room for people to pass whilst remaining on the path and not having to resort to walking on the mud and wet grass.
- 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
- For safety reasons, children should not play on the playground equipment after school hours.
- Please remind your children not to ride their bikes or scooters across the playground at the end of the school day. This helps prevent accidents and ensures a safe environment for all.
- Just a reminder that the school gates open at 08:30am and supervision of your children begins at this time. We have noticed that some children are arriving much earlier than this and are therefore unsupervised until the gates open, which may pose a safety concern. We would kindly ask for your co-operation in one of the following ways:
 1. Adjust drop-off times – please plan to drop off your child closer to 8.30am when supervision is available
 2. If an earlier drop-off is unavoidable and you cannot find alternative care for your child during this time, please remember we do offer a breakfast club which starts at 07:45am daily.

Coats in School

As the weather has turned colder, please ensure all children have coats in school. We also recommend that they also bring in hats and gloves.

Exciting Sports News from KS2!

Our pupils had a fantastic time at the Tri-Golf Festival, where they showcased their impressive skills. A special shout-out goes to Jamie, who achieved an incredible ranking as one of the top five scorers. Well done, Jamie!

In addition on Friday, Years 3 and 4 also participated in the Sports Hall Athletics event, where they took part in various thrilling track and field events. Students enjoyed the following: sprint races, relays, hurdles, speed bounce, javelin throw, long jump, and vertical jump. As a school we are immensely proud of the determination and resilience demonstrated by all our pupils during this event. Their spirit and teamwork truly shone through!

Year 6 recently participated in the first PCLC tournament, involving all four primary schools. Their focus was on tag rugby, our team displayed great understanding of the game. It was wonderful to see their teamwork and sportsmanship in action. Lastly, a reminder that Sports Cool are currently running a Football Club and UV Dodgeball Club at Potter Street as an extracurricular activity. If your child is interested in joining, please do encourage them to sign up. It's a wonderful opportunity to stay active and have fun!

Thank you for your continued support in all our sports activities.

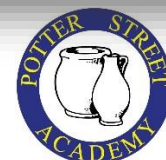
Mrs Jones



Part of the Passmores Cooperative Learning Community

Web: www.potterstreetacademy.com

Twitter: @PotterStAcademy



Attendance Matters

Well done to Year 1 who are top of our attendance tree this month with 96.8% attendance.

Why Attendance Matters

- Regular attendance is crucial for children to achieve their potential.
- Poor attendance can lead to additional challenges for children.

How Parents and Carers Can Help

1. **Engage Positively:**
 - Show interest in your child's schoolwork, including homework.
 - Communicate the importance of school to your child.
2. **Prepare in Advance:**
 - Organise school essentials the night before.
 - Set alarms for timely waking up.
3. **Schedule Smartly:**
 - Arrange appointments outside school hours or during holidays.
 - Take holidays during school breaks, avoiding term time.
4. **Be Mindful of Attendance:**
 - Allow absences only for genuine illness.
 - If slightly unwell, send them to school as they may feel better as the day progresses.
 - Notify the school if medications are needed; they can administer medicines with parental permission.

This proactive approach fosters a routine that supports children's learning and development while maintaining strong communication with the school.

GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time

Dates for the Diary



4 th Feb	Y4 to Colchester Castle Height and weight check for EYFS and Y6
5 th Feb	Y4 class assembly
7 th Feb	Indoor athletics, Y5 Wear a scarf to school day
11 th Feb	Parents afternoon
12 th Feb	Parents evening
13 th Feb	Y6 class assembly
14 th Feb	Indoor athletics, Y1/2 Non uniform day Last day of half term – normal finishing hours
17 th – 21 st Feb	Half term
24 th Feb	Children return to school
28 th Feb	Cross country, Y3/4 AM Cross country, Y5 PM
5 th Mar	Y5 class assembly
7 th Mar	Y5 tag rugby
14 th Mar	Inset day
17 th Mar	Y6 crucial crew
21 st Mar	Y4/5 girls tag rugby
27 th Mar	Y4 Top sports at Passmores
28 th Mar	Y5 Tchoukball
2 nd Apr	9.15 – Rock Steady concert for parents Reward afternoon – 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

