

October 2025

# NEWSLETTER

## potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers

As we reach the end of our first half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for a positive and productive start to the school year. It has been a real pleasure to see the majority of children settling so well into their new year groups and embracing the challenges and opportunities that come with them.

This half term has already been a busy one, with a number of exciting trips and experiences taking place to enhance the children's learning. It was also wonderful to see so many parents and carers attending our recent Parents' Consultation meetings. We hope these provided valuable insights into how your children are progressing and how we can continue to work together to support their development.

I would like to thank our staff, children, and families for their continued hard work and support. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term ahead.

Mr Gladwin  
Head of School

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### Reminders

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Please ensure that your children's book bags, lunch boxes, water bottles and ALL clothing, including shoes and coats are labelled.

Please ensure that your child is dropped off and picked up promptly, school doors open from 8:40am and learning tasks begin at this time, all children should be in class by 8:50am. If you are using our breakfast club, children MUST be accompanied into the main office for registration. Payments for dinners, breakfast club and after school club must be paid for in advance via the online payment system.

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### School Photos

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A photographer has been booked to come to the school on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November to take individual and sibling photos.

Please could you ensure your child(ren) are in full school uniform.

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### Secondary School Places for Sept 2026

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If your child is in year 6, you can apply for a secondary school (year 7) place between 12th September and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

You must submit an application by the national closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> October. Late applications may reduce your chance of being offered a place at your preferred school.

Applications can be made online via [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions)

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### Parents Consultation Meetings

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It was wonderful to see so many parents and carers at our recent Parents' Consultation. We hope the meetings gave you a valuable insight into how your child is progressing at school. These meetings are held to give you the opportunity to discuss your child's achievement so far this year and to inform you of where your child is currently working and to discuss how you can support your child in helping them reach their targets. If you have not made an appointment yet, please contact your child's class teacher.



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## Primary School Places for Sept 2026

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You can apply for Reception school place at an Essex primary school between 10th November 2025 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

You must submit an application by the national closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Applications received after this date are considered late and will reduce your chance of being offered a place at your preferred schools.

It is the parents / carers responsibility to apply for a school place at the correct times. Essex County Council no longer send letters to inform you to apply for your child's school place.

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## Reception 2026 Tours

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We are offering tours of the school for families of children that will start in Reception in September 2026.

If you would like to book onto one of the tours, please contact the school office on 01279 866504.

The dates are:

- Tuesday 4th November - 9:30am
- Wednesday 26th November - 9:30am
- Thursday 15th January - 1:30pm

Please note that spaces are limited.

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## PE Kit Needed in School

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Please ensure all children have their full PE kit in school.

All lessons will take place outside even if it is cold. Only heavy rain will prevent classes going out so please make sure your child has a black or grey tracksuit as part of their PE kit.

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## School Attendance

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At Potter Street Academy, we know that every school day counts!

Regular attendance helps children build strong learning habits, stay connected with their friends, and make steady progress in all subjects.

We're proud of our pupils who arrive on time and ready to learn each morning — your effort truly makes a difference!

A few helpful reminders:

- School starts promptly at 08:50am (classroom doors open at 08:40am) — arriving a few minutes early helps children settle in calmly.
- If your child is unwell, please contact the school office before 09:00am
- Try to book appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.

Together, we can make sure every child has the best chance to learn, grow, and shine!

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## House Points

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



**Dragon 618**



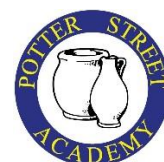
**Griffin 568**



**Lion 475**



**Unicorn 491**



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## Harlow Outdoors – Y5

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Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic morning at Essex outdoors where they built rafts to test on the river and took part in some indoor climbing! The children showed a great amount of resilience with these activities and Miss Stammers was very proud of them.



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## Harvest Festival

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Thank you for the excellent response to our request for donations of food for the harvest festival. All food has been donated to Harlow Foodbank.



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## Children Arriving Late to School

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Please support us by ensuring your child arrives at school on time.

If your child is in KS2 and is late to school, they will be required to make the time of lost learning up in their lunchbreak.

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## School Gate – KS2 side

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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.

# Dates for the Diary

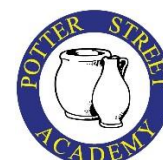


23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	Half Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Children return to school
4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Open morning tours – reception 2026
12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Individual school photos
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y6 class assembly
14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Children in Need
17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	EYFS, height, weight and sight checks
26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Open morning tours – reception 2026
27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Y6 trip to Harlow Museum
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Inset Day

Part of the Passmore's Cooperative Learning Community

Web: [www.potterstreetacademy.com](http://www.potterstreetacademy.com)

Twitter: @PotterStAcademy





## **A Fantastic Half Term of Sport!**

It's been a fantastic half term of sport! We began with our Sports Festival, where children had the opportunity to take part in a range of different sports. Everyone got involved, tried their best, and most importantly had lots of fun!

We then moved on to football, where both our girls' and boys' teams played brilliantly. They showed great determination, teamwork, and competitive spirit throughout their matches. It's especially lovely to see girls' football being taken more seriously in the present day the enthusiasm and talent on display were inspiring!

Finally, we finished the half term with Dodgeball. A huge well done to all the children who took part in the Dodgeball Qualifiers! Every player demonstrated exceptional determination, resilience, and skill throughout the games. It was fantastic to see such teamwork and effort on display.

We are especially proud of how the children conducted themselves; they were commended by staff for their honesty, fairness, and outstanding sportsmanship. It's wonderful to see our school values shining through in every match.

Congratulations to Team 1, who successfully qualified for the finals! We can't wait to see you in action again good luck, and keep up the amazing teamwork!