

potter street academy news

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our first half term back, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. It has been wonderful to see how well the children have settled back into school and, on the whole, how incredibly hard they have been working. It has been a real pleasure to watch them grow in confidence and maturity throughout the year so far.

We are now already halfway through the academic year, and time seems to be passing very quickly. Every moment of learning truly counts, and we encourage all pupils to make the most of each and every lesson. By working hard, staying focused, and maintaining positive attitudes, our children give themselves the best possible chance to succeed.

Thank you once again for your ongoing partnership and support. Together, we can continue to ensure that every child at Potter Street Academy thrives and reaches their full potential.

Wishing you and your families a lovely half term.

Neil Gladwin

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.

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|------|-------------------|
| EYFS | 21st May 2026 |
| Y1 | 30th April 2026 |
| Y2 | 4th March 2026 |
| Y3 | 26th March 2026 |
| Y4 | 28th January 2026 |
| Y5 | 12th March 2026 |

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.

House Points

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



Dragon 280



Griffin 321



Lion 277



Unicorn 310

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, outdoor classroom or outdoor learning provision (woodland) 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.

Winter Wellness and Safety

As we move through the colder winter months, we would like to share a few reminders to help keep our children healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

- Please ensure children come to school with a **warm coat**, and where possible **hats, scarves, and gloves**.
- All items should be **clearly labelled** with your child's name.
- Even on cold days, children will usually go outside for play, so suitable clothing is important.
- A good **night's sleep** is especially important during the darker winter mornings.
- A healthy breakfast helps children stay focused and energised throughout the school day.
- Please remind children to **drink water regularly**, even when it's cold.



Sporting Highlights

This half term, our Year 3/4 children took part in a Tri-Golf tournament, where they enjoyed a range of golf-based activities and developed key skills such as putting, chipping, accuracy, power control, and hand-eye coordination. Despite the event being historically rainy, the sun shone and it was wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and engagement throughout the day.

In PE this term, children across the whole school will be working on the topic of Target Sports. They will take part in a variety of activities including bowling, archery, curling, boccia, and dodgeball. Each year group will focus on developing new skills such as varying the use of power, improving accuracy, applying game tactics, and making effective decisions. Children will also explore how these skills are transferable across different target sports, helping them to become more confident and well-rounded performers.

Please look out for our upcoming flyer about two new football clubs delivered by Harlow's Football Fun Factory. In response to requests from children and parents, a KS1 football club will run on Thursdays and a KS2 football club will run on Tuesdays. We hope lots of children sign up so we can continue to offer these clubs.

Attendance Matters

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



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| 30 th Jan | Inset Day |
| 2 nd Feb | PCLC sports tournament, tag rugby |
| 3 rd Feb | Music concert at Passmores Academy |
| 6 th Feb | Tchoukball festival at Passmores Academy |
| 10 th Feb | Parents consultation – 3.30pm |
| 11 th Feb | Parents consultation – 1.30pm |
| 13 th Feb | Quad kids festival at Passmores Academy |
| | Non uniform day |
| | Last day of half term – normal finishing hours |
| 16 th Feb – 20 th Feb | Half term |
| 23 rd Feb | Children return to school |
| 4 th Mar | Y2 class assembly |
| 5 th Mar | World book day |
| 6 th Mar | Under 5 dental check |
| 12 th Mar | Y5 class assembly |
| 24 th Mar | Class photos |
| 26 th Mar | Reward afternoon – star of the term |
| 27 th Mar | Non uniform day |
| | Last day, finish at 1:30pm for the Easter Holidays (no after school club) |
| 13 th Apr | Children return to school |

