

May 2025

NEWSLETTER

potter street academy news

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of Summer 1, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly memorable and successful half term.

First and foremost, I must say how incredibly proud I am of our Year 6 children for the determination, focus, and resilience they showed during SATs week. Their positive attitude and effort were exceptional, and they should all feel very proud of what they've achieved.

Across the school, the children have continued to impress us with their enthusiasm and love for learning. We had a fantastic **STEM Week**, full of hands-on investigations, challenges, and problem-solving — the creativity and teamwork on display were truly inspiring.

We also enjoyed some **brilliant VE Day celebrations**, where the children learned about the significance of this important historical event through music and storytelling. It was wonderful to see the whole school community come together to honour the occasion in such a thoughtful and respectful way.

As we look ahead to Summer 2, we're hoping the sunshine stays with us as we enjoy outdoor learning opportunities and gear up for the excitement of **Sports Day** — always a highlight of the school year!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Wishing you and your families a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Warm regards,
Neil Gladwin
Head of School

House Points

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



Dragon 2044



Griffin 1939



Lion 2118



Unicorn 1882

SATs

A huge well done to all children in Year 6 who have recently completed their SATs. We were incredibly impressed by their positive attitudes, determination, and motivation to succeed.

Thank you to all staff members for their continued commitment and for prioritising the wellbeing of our pupils throughout this important period. We are also very grateful to our parents and carers for their ongoing support.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the rest of the school community for showing such respect and understanding while SATs were taking place. Your consideration helped create a calm and supportive environment for everyone involved.



Y5 – Harry Potter

On Tuesday 6th May 2025, Year Five visited Warner Bros Studios to experience 'The Making of Harry Potter'.

The children were able to visit sets from various films and explore how the magic was made. It was interesting to see how JK Rowling's words were 'brought to life' and the impact they've had.

Our class really enjoyed seeing the special effects used to create the dragon in Gringotts Bank and some chose to face their fears in the Forbidden Forest. What a great day had by all!



Attendance

We have recently received a number of requests for term-time holidays.

As a reminder, we strongly encourage families to plan holidays outside of term time to ensure that children do not miss valuable learning. Absence during the school term can have a significant impact on a child's progress and overall achievement.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in supporting your child's education.

VE Day Celebrations

Emotional celebration brings history to life for children and families alike

Potter Street Academy was alive with music, memory, and heartfelt pride as pupils, staff, parents, and carers came together to commemorate VE Day in a moving whole-school celebration.

The day began with a festive street party at lunchtime, transforming the school into a scene reminiscent of the joyous celebrations that swept the nation at the end of the Second World War in 1945. Tables were lined with Union Jack bunting, and laughter and chatter filled the playground as children and families shared food and stories.

In the afternoon, the school field became a stage for a beautiful musical tribute to the wartime generation. The event opened with the whole school singing the classic "We'll Meet Again", a poignant reminder of the hope and unity that defined the era. The musical journey continued with:

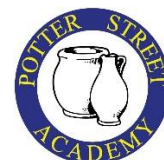
- **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** singing "You Are My Sunshine"
- **Years 3 and 4** performing "It's a Long Way to Tipperary"
- **Years 5 and 6** delivering a heartfelt rendition of "The White Cliffs of Dover"



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The celebration concluded with the entire school and their guests standing together to sing "God Save the King", in a stirring moment of shared remembrance and national pride.

A special highlight of the day for Head of School, Mr Neil Gladwin, was meeting **Ivy O'Connor**, the 100-year-old great-grandmother of pupil Finley .

"Meeting Ms O'Connor and hearing her wartime stories was truly inspiring. Her memories of air raid shelters and the joy of peace remind us how much that generation gave up so we could enjoy the lives we have today."

As the sun shone down and voices rang out in harmony, the day served not only as a tribute to the past, but also as a meaningful learning experience for the next generation. Potter Street Academy is proud to honour the courage, sacrifice, and resilience of those who lived through the war—and to do so as one united school community.



Tommy & Charlotte, Y5 - represented the school for the VE Day celebrations at Harlow Playhouse



Sports News

Potter Street Academy's Year 5 team celebrates thrilling triumph in spirited local contest

The atmosphere was electric as Potter Street Academy's Year 5 netball team emerged victorious at the Bee Netball Tournament this week, showcasing incredible teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout an action-packed afternoon of competition.

The young athletes got off to a steady start, drawing 0-0 in a tightly contested opener against Purford Green. They quickly found their rhythm in the next match, putting on a commanding performance to defeat Pear Tree Mead 2-0. The final showdown against The Downs proved to be a nail-biter, with both teams trading goals in a thrilling encounter that saw Potter Street triumph 4-3.

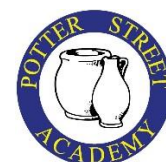
Every player contributed to the team's success, demonstrating not only skill on the court but also the school's core values of **respect, resilience, responsibility, and relationships**. The unity and sportsmanship on display were just as impressive as the goals.

Coach Mrs Jones, beaming with pride after the final whistle, said:

"I couldn't be prouder of the children. We showed all of our school values—respect, resilience, responsibility, and relationships—to come together and win our first tournament of the year. Winning isn't everything, but it's amazing to see the elation on the children's faces as we were announced as the winners."

The victory is a fantastic mark in the sporting calendar for Potter Street Academy and is a shining example of what can be achieved through teamwork and a shared commitment to excellence.

Congratulations to our Year 5 stars—you've made your school proud!





Dates for the Diary

26 th – 30 th May	Half term
3 rd June	EYFS trip to Whitewebbs Museum
6 th June	Y3 trip to Fitzwilliam Museum Y6 rounders
12 th June	Y1 class assembly
13 th June	Girl's cricket (Y5/6)
19 th June	EYFS class assembly
20 th June	PS sports day
26 th June	Y6 at new schools for day EYFS parent meeting – Sept 25 intake at 1:30pm
27 th June	Summer fete
27 th June	Y1/2 gymnastics
30 th June	Y6 residential trip to Danbury
1 st July	Y5 at Passmores
4 th July	Y2 mini-Olympics
9 th July	Stepping up to secondary school – Y6
9 th July	Y5 trip to Essex Outdoors
9 th July	Rock Steady concert to parents – 9:15am
10 th July	Y6 leavers assembly
11 th July	Y1 trip to Leeds Castle
14 th July	Y6 to Southend
16 th July	New classes starts Y6 at Passmores
21 st July	Winning house reward afternoon
23 rd July	Non uniform day Last Day, finish at 1:30pm (No after school club)