



Headteacher Message:

What a Positive Start to the Term!

As we finish our first full week back at school, I'm delighted to share what a calm and settled start it has been. After returning for two days last week, the children have now had a full five days to get into the rhythm of the new term—and they've done brilliantly.

This week, our focus has been on establishing clear expectations and routines across the school. The children have responded incredibly well, showing great maturity, respect, and enthusiasm as they've adapted to their new classes and daily structures. These foundations are so important for creating a positive learning environment, and we're proud of how well everyone has embraced them. We're looking forward to a term full of exciting learning, creativity, and growth.



Values Stars

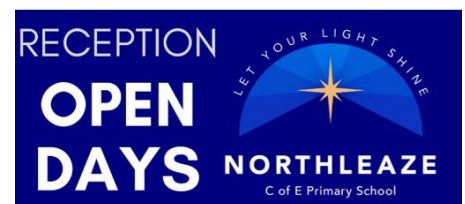
As part of our ongoing commitment to living out our school vision, "**Let your Light Shine,**" we've made a small but meaningful change to how we celebrate values in school. In agreement with staff, we have replaced our Values Leaves with Values Stars. This new approach helps us more clearly reflect our vision, encouraging children to shine brightly through their actions and choices. The **Values Stars** will continue to recognise and celebrate the positive values (linked to our termly theme) that our children show every day, while also reinforcing the message that every child has a light worth sharing.

Celebration Worship

We had our first celebration worship of the term today, and it was lovely to have parents of our certificate winners join us in person. If you would like to join us virtually for our celebration worships, you will find an invite in your child's Teams calendar from next week as we have done previously. Our Reception children will be joining us in assemblies after half term.

Open Days - Help Us Spread the Word!

We're excited to share that our school open days are now live on the website! These events are a brilliant chance for prospective families to visit, meet our staff, and experience the warm and welcoming atmosphere of our school. We're also hosting a special **Sunday Stay and Play** session—perfect for younger children to explore, play, and get a feel for our early years environment. Please help us spread the word by encouraging friends, neighbours, and anyone interested to book a tour or come along to Stay and Play. We'd love to welcome them! [Click here to view the dates on our website.](#)



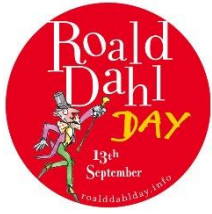
Picture News

This term, we are excited to be using *Picture News* in our classrooms to help children explore current events and big questions in an age-appropriate way. Each week, pupils will engage with a topical issue through discussion, debate, and reflection, helping to develop their understanding of the wider world and encouraging thoughtful conversations both at school and at home. **For more information, please see the letter included with the newsletter.**

School Clubs Update

We have sent an email today with details of a few after school clubs which will start next week. Both **Art club** (Years 2 – 6) and **KS2 Choir** will begin on Wednesday 17th September so please look out for those details and book spaces if you'd like your child to attend. Unfortunately FunScience were unable to offer a club on Tuesdays this term – we are hopeful that we will be able to run this again after Christmas and will keep you updated. Bristol Sport still have spaces on Mondays and Fridays and we have sent the details again for those also.





Roald Dahl Day

Although *Roald Dahl Day* falls on Saturday 13th September, we marked the occasion in school on Wednesday with a special assembly. Children enjoyed celebrating the birthday of the much-loved author by listening to excerpts from his famous stories and reflecting on the creativity and imagination that make his books so enduring. It was a joyful way to share our love of reading across the school.

Jeans for Genes Day – Friday 19th September

We're inviting all children to **wear jeans to school** on **Friday 19 September** in support of *Jeans for Genes Day*. This national fundraising event helps raise awareness and funds for children and families affected by genetic conditions. In return for wearing jeans, we kindly ask that parents make a donation to the Jeans for Genes donation page ([click here](#)).



School uniform should still be worn with jeans (e.g. school jumper and polo shirt). If children do not have any jeans, they may wear an appropriate alternative. Those with PE on that day can bring PE shorts to change into. You can find out more about the charity and the impact of your support by visiting: <https://www.jeansforgenes.org>

Thank you for helping us support this important cause!

Parent Voice: Behaviour and Relationships

As part of our upcoming review of our Behaviour and Relationships Policy, we're keen to hear parents' perspectives on behaviour at Northleaze. As a new Senior Leadership Team, working alongside the wider staff team, we value your insights and experiences to help shape our approach and priorities.



To support this, we'd be grateful if you could take a few moments to complete a **short questionnaire** via the Microsoft Forms link below. The questions focus on behaviour and how it is experienced across the school. Your feedback will help inform our school development planning and ensure we remain open to opportunities for growth and improvement.

[Parent Voice Questionnaire](#)



Christian Value of the Term: Responsibility

This term, we're focusing on the Christian value of **Responsibility**—encouraging children to take ownership of their actions, choices, and contributions to our school community. We're exploring this through our **collective worships, class discussions**, and everyday opportunities to practise being responsible—whether it's completing homework, caring for belongings, or helping others. You can find more about how we're supporting this value [here](#).

Car Park Safety

For the safety of all pupils, parents, and staff, we kindly ask that children do not ride bikes or scooters in the car park area. This is a busy space during drop-off and pick-up times, and we want to ensure everyone can move around safely. We do, however, encourage children to walk, cycle, or scoot to school as a great way to stay active and support healthy travel habits. Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us keep our school community safe.

LSP Home-School Partnership

As you are aware, Northleaze CofE Primary School is member of the Lighthouse Schools Partnership (LSP). As a Trust we believe that children and young people flourish in their education when schools and families work together with mutual respect, open communication, and a shared commitment to nurturing every child's potential. We value positive, professional relationships with our families and have formalised our processes, and expectations, in our home-school partnership.

As we start this new academic year, I wanted to bring this our partnership document to your attention. The LSP home-school partnership outlines the commitments we make as a trust of schools to you as parents/carers as well as the support and engagement we need from yourselves to ensure our shared purpose of happy and successful children can happen. [Click here](#)

Privacy Notice – Start of Year Reminder

At the start of the school year, it's important to remind families about our **Privacy Notice**, which outlines how we process personal data and why we use it. You can find this document on the [Policies page of our school website](#). The Privacy Notice also includes information on how to request access to your personal data, should you wish to do so.

Sir Northbot now on show!

Did you see any of the Wallace and Gromit sculptures over the summer around Bristol? Some of you might have seen all 53 of them in the wonderful summer trail.

Hopefully you remember that Northleaze has its very own Norbot sculpture which everyone here at Northleaze contributed a fingerprint to at the end of last term. Well, *Sir Northbot* was tidied up and varnished by Mrs Barnard over the holidays and is now proudly on show at the 'Greatest Dog Show on Earth' exhibition at The Mall, Cribbs which begins this weekend for three weeks.

Here you will see all the large trail sculptures as well as around 90 mini Norbots, all painted by schools across the Bristol area. And Sir Northbot is standing proud with them all, waiting to greet visitors.



If you'd like to attend the exhibition, you can get tickets on the [Grand Appeal website](#). If you can't make the exhibition but would still like to donate to this fabulous cause, you can still donate via [Sir Northbot's JustGiving page](#). We can't wait to welcome him back to Northleaze at the end of September.

A huge thank you again for the PSA for helping make this possible for the school.

Key Dates

19/09/25 - Jeans for Genes Day
(children wear jeans to school)

Term Dates 2025-2026

Term 1: Tue 2 Sep – Fri 24 Oct
Term 2: Mon 3 Nov – Fri 19 Dec
Term 3: Mon 5 Jan – Fri 13 Feb 26
Term 4: Mon 23 Feb – Thu 2 Apr 26
Term 5: Mon 20 Apr – Fri 22 May 26
Term 6: Mon 1 Jun – Wed 22 Jul 26

INSET Days 2025-2026

Monday 3 November
Friday 16 January
Friday 13 February
Monday 1 June

Dear Parents and Carers,



We are getting ready for the (HAF) programme, which provides free holiday activities (including a meal) for children who are eligible.

To make sure your child doesn't miss out, we want to remind you about free school meals and how they link to HAF:

- **Universal Infant Free School Meals** – All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically receive free school meals. However, this does not mean they are eligible for HAF.
- **Benefits-Related Free School Meals** – If you receive certain benefits, your child may qualify for free school meals. This is the scheme that gives access to HAF activities.

👉 If you think you may be eligible, please apply for benefits-related free school meals as soon as possible. You can find more information and apply here: [Free school meals | North Somerset Council](#)

Children who are entitled to benefits-related free school meals can take part in HAF activities during **Easter, Summer, and Christmas (Winter) holidays**. Please note **there are no HAF activities running during October and February half term**.

Bookings for Christmas HAF activities will open on **Friday 7 November 2025**. You'll be able to book here: [Eequ · After school. In place of school. Beyond school.](#)

Thank you for taking the time to apply — it really helps us make sure that as many children as possible can benefit from these fantastic opportunities.

If you have any questions, please contact the HAF team at HAF@n-somerset.gov.uk and they will be happy to help.