

## Headteacher Message:



### ***Celebrating Our Values with Pride***

As part of our commitment to nurturing the whole child and living out our school vision of "Let Your Light Shine," we are introducing a new way to celebrate those who demonstrate our Christian Value of the term.

Children who are awarded a *Values Star* during our Celebration Service will now also receive a special '**Values Star**' pin badge, which we encourage them to wear proudly on their school jumper. This visible symbol of achievement honours their efforts to live out our school's values through their attitude, behaviour, and effort — not just academic success.



Importantly, children who have already received a Values Star since the start of the school year in September will also be given their pin badge, ensuring that no one misses out on this recognition. We believe this new tradition will help further embed our Christian Values into the life of our school and encourage all children to let their light shine in all they do.

## Picture News Worship

*Can sport bring people closer together?* This week's Picture News story explores this question through *parkrun primary*, a new initiative from the running charity parkrun that brings junior running events closer to primary schools. The project encourages children to get active, build friendships, and connect with their local communities through sport. Families are invited to join the conversation and share their thoughts at [www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss).

## Wear Yellow for World Mental Health Day



Next week, we will be supporting *World Mental Health Day* by taking part in the Young Minds #HelloYellow campaign. Children are invited to come into school on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October** wearing something yellow, which can be paired with their school uniform or their own home clothes, to show support for young people's mental health. If you'd like to make a donation to Young Minds, please visit their website for details. Together, we can help raise awareness and show every young person they're not alone with their mental health.

## Celebrating Pupil Leadership

At Northleaze we place great value on **pupil leadership** as a way to empower children, build confidence, and foster a strong sense of responsibility. When pupils are given opportunities to lead, they learn to advocate for others, share their ideas, and help shape the life of the school. Leadership roles such as School Councillors, House Captains, Vice Captains, and Worship Leaders give children a meaningful voice and allow them to live out our school values in action—especially this term's focus on **Responsibility**.



During our recent celebration service, we proudly awarded leadership badges to our newly elected **School Councillors, House Captains and Vice Captains**, and **Worship Leaders**. We are excited to see how these pupils will grow in their roles and contribute positively to our school community throughout the year.

## **Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease**

We wanted to make you aware that there have been a couple of cases of foot and mouth disease in school. This is a common childhood illness that typically causes a mild fever, sore throat, and a rash on the hands, feet, and around the mouth. While it usually clears up on its own within a week, it is contagious and spreads easily in settings like schools and nurseries.

If your child shows symptoms, please keep them at home while they are unwell. You can find more information and guidance from the NHS here: [Hand, foot and mouth disease - NHS](#)

## **New Guitar teacher**

We're pleased to welcome Sam Powell to Northleaze as our new guitar teacher. Sam is a highly trained musician who also leads several guitar groups across Bristol, including at the Bristol Beacon. Alongside teaching, Sam is a talented songwriter and will be using these skills in his lessons as well.

KS2 who had been having lessons with James Burgess last year have already been contacted directly and started lessons with Sam this week. Sam has more spaces available for both group and individual guitar lessons for pupils in Year 3 upwards and will visit Northleaze on Mondays. If you would like more information, please contact him directly at [sam@songtreats.com](mailto:sam@songtreats.com). In the new year, Sam is hoping to offer ukulele lessons. If this is something your KS2 child would be interested in, please complete this short form and we'll work with Sam during next term to firm up plans.

## **Diwali Theatre performance – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

Hopefully you saw the letter emailed today - we are delighted that on Monday 13th October 2025, we will be welcoming *Same, Same But Different Theatre company* into school for a special performance to celebrate Diwali. The children in years 1-6 will enjoy an exciting retelling of the Ramayana, the traditional story that underpins the festival of Diwali. The performance shares important values such as friendship, bravery, kindness, and the triumph of good over evil, all wrapped up in a colourful and engaging production.

This will be a fun and memorable experience for the children, bringing learning to life in a way that is both entertaining and meaningful. We kindly ask for a voluntary contribution of £2.50 per child to help cover the cost of the performance and this has been added to ParentPay today.

## **Admin Team Vacancy**

As we look ahead to the end of this term, we want to let you know that Mrs Claire Barnard will be leaving her role in the school office at Northleaze. Claire has been a much-loved member of our team for over six years, and part of the Northleaze community since 2012, when her children first joined the school.

Her friendly presence, calm manner, and genuine care have made her a valued part of daily life at Northleaze. We'll miss her greatly and are truly thankful for all she's given over the years. Claire will remain with us until the end of term, so there will be time to say goodbye properly and celebrate her time here. We know many of you will want to join us in wishing her all the very best for the future.

We are currently recruiting for her replacement and the vacancy is listed on our website. We are also recruiting a Learning Support Assistant in KS2 which is also on the website.



### Headteacher's Awards

EYFS/KS1: Sara C, Year 2

KS2: Daisy, Year 6



### Class Certificates Awarded to:

Year 1: Mya & Bodhi

Year 2: Hugo & Otis

Year 3: Bonnie

Year 4: Maggie

Year 5: Savana & Jack

Year 6: Ariyana & Charlie



### Birthdays this week:

Jude (Y1), Sophie & Isla S (Y4),  
Austin & Elodie (Y6)

### Responsibility Stars Awarded to:



Year 1: Nico

Year 2: Bluebell & Esme

Year 3: Ezra

Year 4: Stanley

Year 5: Molly

Year 6: Ayda

### House Point Winners this week:

Ashton/Theynes/Brook/Yarnley

## This week in class.....

**Year 1** took their Maths learning outside to practise number lines. Using chalk on the playground, the children worked together to write and explore number sequences. The activity was not only a great way to reinforce their understanding of number order, but also lots of fun – the children enjoyed being active, creative, and working with their friends while learning.



### Key Dates

19/10/25 – Stay and Play (10-12pm)

Reception starters September 2026

8/10/2025 – Wear Yellow for World Mental Health Day

14/10/25 – Individual School Photos

22/10/25 – Harvest Festival at Church

24/10/25 – last day of term 1

11/11/25 & 13/11/25 – Parents' Evenings

### 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