

Headteacher Message:



What a Wonderful Start to the New School Year!

As we come to the end of our first full week back, I am delighted to share what a positive and successful start it has been to the new academic year. After settling back into school life last week, the children have quickly embraced their new classes, new routines and the many opportunities that a new school year brings.

This September has brought some exciting changes across the school. We are delighted to welcome several new members of staff to the Northleaze team, as well as colleagues who have taken on new roles and year groups. The children have adapted brilliantly, building new relationships and approaching these changes with confidence, enthusiasm and kindness.

Throughout the week, our focus has been on establishing clear expectations, strong routines and positive learning behaviours. The children have shown great maturity, demonstrating our school values through their respect, responsibility and readiness to learn. These early weeks are so important in setting the tone for the year ahead, and we have been incredibly proud of the calm, purposeful atmosphere around the school.

We are looking forward to an exciting term ahead, filled with rich learning experiences, memorable opportunities and many chances for every child to let their light shine. Thank you, as always, for your continued support as we begin another wonderful year together.

Open Classrooms

You are warmly invited to return to school after pick-up on **Friday 18th September** to visit your child's classroom. This is an informal opportunity for your child(ren) to show you around their learning environment, share where they sit, and perhaps show you some of the work they have already started in their books. We look forward to welcoming you.



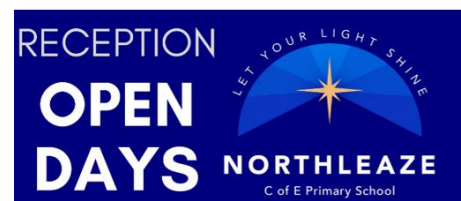
SIAMs Inspection Report

Many families will be aware that we had our Church School inspection at the end of last term. We are delighted to now be able to share the full report. Please see my separate letter about this, along with a copy of the SIAMs report.

Open Days - Help Us Spread the Word!

We're delighted to share that our school tour dates for families interested in joining Northleaze in September 2027 are now available on our website. These tours are a wonderful opportunity for prospective parents and carers to visit the school, meet our staff, see our learning environment in action and discover what makes Northleaze such a special place to learn and grow. If you have friends, neighbours or family members who may be considering schools for next year, we would be very grateful if you could help spread the word and encourage them to book a visit. We look forward to welcoming new families to our school community.

[Click here to view the tour dates and book a place via our website.](#)



Key Dates

To help families plan ahead, we wanted to share a number of key dates for the academic year. Please take a moment to note the dates at the bottom of the newsletter. Further details will be shared closer to each event, but we hope this early information is helpful for planning family commitments.

Key Dates
(see additional dates at the bottom of the newsletter)

Jeans for Genes Day
(Wear Jeans)
18/09/2026

Open Classrooms after school
(18/09/26)

Picture News

This week in Picture News, children discussed cycling and considered the question: Should we keep trying when something is difficult? Through stories and discussions, pupils explored the importance of perseverance, resilience and celebrating what we can achieve when we keep going.

This Term's PE Days are as follows:

- **Polaris (EYFS):** Monday and Wednesday
- **Lyra (Year 1):** Tuesday and Friday
- **Sirius (Year 2):** Monday and Tuesday
- **Orion (Year 3):** Wednesday and Thursday
- **Vega (Year 4):** Tuesday and Wednesday
- **Cygnus (Year 5):** Tuesday and Thursday
- **Phoenix (Year 6):** Monday and Thursday

School Clubs Update

We are currently reviewing and finalising our club offering for the coming term(s). While plans are still being confirmed, we do hope to provide a selection of extracurricular activities for pupils to enjoy. We'll share further details once everything is in place.



Jeans for Genes Day – Friday 18th September

We are inviting all children to wear jeans to school on Friday 18th 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](https://www.jeansforgenes.org)).



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!

Christian Value of the Term: Responsibility

This term, our focus is on the Christian value of **Responsibility**. We will be encouraging children to recognise the important role they play in our school community and to take responsibility for their actions, decisions, and learning. Through collective worship, class discussions, and everyday experiences, pupils will explore what it means to be responsible, whether that is looking after their belongings, completing tasks to the best of their ability, showing care for others, or contributing positively to school life. You can find out more about how we nurture and develop this value across the school [here](#).

Car Park Safety and Considerate Parking

To help keep everyone safe at the beginning and end of the school day, we kindly ask that children do not ride bikes or scooters within the school car park. This area can be particularly busy during drop-off and collection times, and we want to ensure that all pupils, families, staff, and visitors can move around safely. We are, however, strong advocates for active travel and encourage children to walk, cycle, or scoot to school wherever possible as part of a healthy and environmentally friendly journey to school.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers to park considerately when dropping off or collecting children. We have received reports from a local resident that driveways near the school have been blocked. Please be mindful of our neighbours and avoid parking in a way that restricts access to their properties. Your cooperation helps us maintain positive relationships within our local community and ensures everyone can travel safely and respectfully. Thank you for your continued support in helping to keep our school community safe and considerate of others.

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.

Prayer for Responsibility

Dear God,

Thank you for the gifts and opportunities you give us each day. Help us to be responsible in the choices we make, the words we speak, and the way we care for others and the world around us.

Give us the courage to do the right thing, even when it is difficult, and help us to take pride in our actions. May we use our talents wisely and always seek to be trustworthy, helpful, and kind.

As we learn and grow together, help us to remember that our actions can make a positive difference to those around us.

Amen.

Key Dates for 2026-2027

Term 2 Parents Evenings	Tuesday 17 th and Thursday 19 th November
Term 4 Parents Evenings	Tuesday 23 rd and Thursday 25 th March
EYFS Nativity	Friday 11 th December 9:30am
KS2 Evening Carol Service	Tuesday 15 th December 6:30pm
KS1 Nativity	Thursday 17 th December 9:30am
Year 6 SATs Week	Monday 10 th May – Thursday 13 th May
Sports Day (and family picnic)	Friday 18 th June
Reserve Sports Day	Friday 25 th June

Term Dates 2026-2027

Term 1: 3 September 2026 – 23 October 2026
Term 2: 2 November 2026 – 18 December 2026
Term 3: 4 January 2027 – 12 February 2027
Term 4: 22 February 2027 – 25 March 2027
Term 5: 12 April 2027 – 28 May 2027
Term 6: 7 June 2027 – 23 July 2027

INSET Days 2026-2027

Thursday 3rd September 2026
Friday 4th September 2026
Friday 20th November 2026
Friday 15th January 2027
Monday 22nd February 2027
Monday 7th June 2027