Newsletter 1.7
23 October 2026

Northleaze C of E Primary School

'Let your light shine' (Matthew 5:16)





Headteacher Message:
As we reach the end of our first autumn term, I would like to thank our children, staff and families for all their hard work and support. It has been a wonderful start to the year, filled with memorable experiences and many reasons to celebrate.

This newsletter captures just some of the highlights from the last week, including our Harvest Festival at All Saints Church, our first EYFS event as the English Hub Showcase School, our celebration of Black History Month and Year 6's fantastic World War II experience at the STEAM Museum.

I am incredibly proud of the way our children continue to embrace opportunities, represent our school so positively and let their light shine each day. I wish you all a happy, restful half term and look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting and successful term.

Key Dates

First Day of Term 2
02/11/26

School Photographs
(Individual)
05/11/26

Parents Evening booking open
03/11/26 6pm

Parents' Evening
17/11/26
19/11/26

INSET Day
20/11/26

Sirius (2) Trip Bristol Zoo Project
23/11/26

Vega (4) Trip Wessex Water
26/11/26

Harvest Festival
Despite the very wet weather on Tuesday morning, our Harvest Service at All Saints Church was a wonderful occasion. The walk to and from church certainly provided an adventure, with umbrellas up, coats zipped and a slightly unexpected delay while we waited for the cows to make their way out into the field before we could enter the church! We may have spent a little time standing in the rain, but it was a lovely reminder of how fortunate we are to enjoy such a beautiful rural setting. Inspired by our Harvest theme, the children reflected on and celebrated the gifts of God's creation.

The children performed beautifully throughout the service, sharing poems, drama presentations, artwork, songs and choral speaking with confidence and enthusiasm. We were incredibly proud of the way they represented our school. A particular thank you must go to our Year 6 pupils, who played such an important role in holding the service together and leading by example. We are also grateful to the staff, families and volunteers who supported us on the walk and joined us for the service. It was a memorable Harvest celebration.





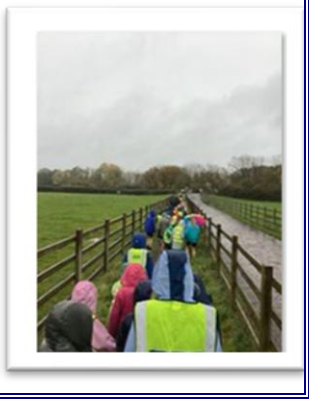












Celebrating our first EYFS Showcase Event

This week, we were very proud to welcome teachers and leaders from schools across the region to Northleaze as part of our role as the English Hub EYFS Showcase School. Visitors spent time in our Early Years setting, seeing first-hand the high-quality provision, learning environment and teaching that our children benefit from every day. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the expertise of our staff and share the improvements and developments that have taken place over recent months. We are incredibly proud of the outstanding practice on display and grateful to the team for showcasing Northleaze so brilliantly.









Marking Black History Month at Northleaze

On Thursday, we came together as a whole school for a special celebration assembly at the end of the day to mark the end of Black History Month (see the photos below!). Every class shared the fantastic work they have been exploring, showcasing their learning through artwork, writing, presentations and discussion. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the richness of our curriculum and reflect on the contributions, achievements and experiences of Black people throughout history and today. We are incredibly proud of the thoughtful work produced by our pupils and the confidence with which they shared their learning.













Year 6 World War II Experience
Year 6 enjoyed a fantastic trip to the STEAM Museum in Swindon as part of their history learning about World War II. Dressed in period costumes, the children (and staff) stepped back in time and took part in an immersive wartime experience, learning about evacuation, rationing and what daily life was like for children during the war. The visit brought their classroom learning to life and gave pupils a valuable insight into this important period in history.

This visit forms part of our commitment to increasing the number of exciting trips, visits and memorable experiences that children enjoy throughout their time at Northleaze, helping to enrich the curriculum and create lasting memories.

We were incredibly proud of the children's enthusiasm, curiosity and excellent behaviour throughout the day. In fact, one of the museum staff commented that this was one of the best-behaved groups they had ever welcomed. What a wonderful testament to our fabulous Year 6 children and the way they live out our school values wherever they go.

Parents Evenings – Save the Date

Our next Parents' Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 17th November and Thursday 19th November**. Booking will open on **Tuesday 3rd November at 6pm.** These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for parents and carers to meet with class teachers to discuss their child's progress, celebrate successes, and talk about next steps in learning. They are an important part of the partnership between home and school and help ensure that every child is supported to achieve their best. We strongly encourage all families to book an appointment and look forward to meeting with you.

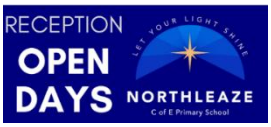
Parent Forum

At the beginning of the week, we held our Parent Forum with representatives from most classes across the school. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity for parents and school leaders to share feedback, discuss ideas and work together to support the ongoing development of Northleaze. A separate letter is attached outlining some of the topics discussed at this meeting. We are always keen to hear a wide range of views and would love to have at least one parent representative from each year group attending future forums. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to take part.



School Tours

Our school tours have been going really well, and it has been a real pleasure to welcome prospective families and show them what makes Northleaze such a special place to learn and grow. We have a couple of scheduled tour dates still to come, but we are also very happy to arrange additional visits where needed. Please do spread the word to any friends, family or neighbours looking for a Reception place for September 2027.



Upcoming Tour Dates:

- Wednesday 4 November - 6:00pm – 7:00pm
- Wednesday 25 November - 9:15am – 10:15am

Prayer for Responsibility

Help us to be responsible in all that we do. Guide us to make wise choices, to learn from our mistakes and to always do our best. Teach us to care for one another, our school and the world around us. May our actions show kindness, honesty and respect, and may we let our light shine every day.

Amen.

Headteacher's Awards



KS1: Thomas B (Yr2)

KS2: Jack (Yr4)



Stars Awarded to:

Year 1: Sophie

Year 2: Mya

Year 3: William

Year 4: Bonnie

Year 5: Juliette

Year 6: Zara



Class Certificates Awarded to:

Year 1: Elisa & Margot

Year 2: Florence & Freddie

Year 3: Alice & Bluebell

Year 4: Rhys & Marcie

Year 5: William & Scarlett

Year 6: Monty & Harrison

House Cup awarded to...

Brook



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

Friday 20th November 2026
Friday 15th January 2027
Monday 22nd February 2027
Monday 7th June 2027