Newsletter 2.3
20 November 2026

Northleaze C of E Primary School

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



Headteacher Message:
It was lovely to welcome so many parents into school this week for our Parents' Evenings on Tuesday and Thursday. These meetings provide a valuable opportunity to celebrate children's achievements, discuss their progress and next steps, and strengthen the partnership between home and school. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended and to our staff for their time and commitment.

Key Dates

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

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

PSA Wreath Making
26/11/26

PSA Christmas Fair
28/11/26

Polaris (EYFS) Trip to Bristol Old Vic
04/12/26

Aladdin Panto (£5) (In school)
09/12/26

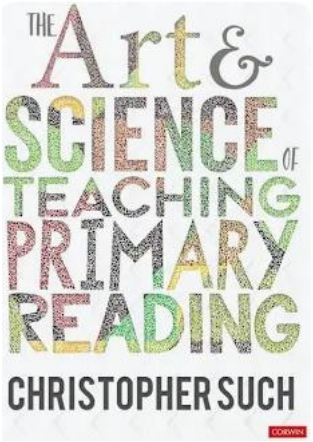
Christmas Lunch
wear Christmas jumpers
10/12/26

Staff News
Many of you will already be aware that Mr Jones has made the difficult decision to leave Northleaze at the end of this term after more than 20 years of service to the school.

During his time with us, he has taught and supported many children and families and has made a significant contribution to school life. We know that this news will be met with sadness by many members of our school community. We would like to thank Mr Jones for his dedication, commitment and contribution to Northleaze over the years and wish him every success and happiness for the future.

Ensuring continuity for our pupils remains our highest priority. We are working closely with Mr Jones and Mrs Simmons to ensure a smooth handover and are finalising staffing arrangements for January. We will share further information with families as soon as these arrangements have been confirmed.

INSET – Friday 20th November
Since school is closed to pupils for the INSET day, it's a lovely opportunity to give parents a glimpse into the professional learning that sits behind great teaching and learning…



Investing in Reading Excellence
While pupils enjoy a day away from school on Friday, our teaching staff will be taking part in a full day of professional development focused on reading.

Alongside colleagues from schools across the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, staff will be learning from nationally recognised experts in reading education. The day will begin with a session led by **Chris Such**, author and reading specialist, exploring *The Science of Reading and Fluency* and the latest research into how children become confident, successful readers.

In the afternoon, teachers will take part in specialist training tailored to their age phase. Staff working with younger children will focus on developing early reading and blending skills, while teachers from Years 2-6 will explore practical strategies to strengthen reading fluency, comprehension and reading confidence.

Reading remains at the heart of everything we do at Northleaze, and opportunities such as this allow our staff to continue refining their practice, sharing expertise with colleagues from other schools and ensuring that our pupils benefit from the very best teaching.

We look forward to welcoming children back to school on Monday and putting our learning into action.

Forms and Expressions of Interest

A reminder that several Microsoft Forms are currently available for parents and carers. If you are interested, please complete the relevant form using the links below:

- **Guinea Pig Parental Permission Form** – for families wishing their child to take part in our guinea pig care programme. Northleaze School Guinea Pigs – Parental Consent – Fill in form
- **Northleaze Holiday Club Expression of Interest Form** – to help us gauge demand for future holiday club provision. Expression of interest - Holiday Club – Fill in form
- **LAMDA Club Expression of Interest Form** – for children interested in taking part in LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) sessions. Lamba At Northleaze - Expression of Interest – Fill in form

Aladdin Comes to Northleaze

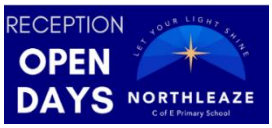


A reminder that the children will be enjoying a special performance of *Aladdin* in school this December! All children from Nursery to Year 6 will have the opportunity to experience the excitement of a traditional pantomime, bringing a little extra magic to our festive celebrations. If you haven't already done so, please make a voluntary contribution of **£5 per child via ParentPay** to help cover the cost of the performance. Thank you, as always, for your support in helping us provide these special experiences for our children.

Additional Parent Tours for Prospective Families

We have been delighted by the level of interest in Northleaze this year and, due to popular demand, have arranged two additional tours for prospective parents and carers.

Tours will take place on:



- **Wednesday 25th November at 9:15am**
- **Friday 27th November at 9:15am**
- **Wednesday 2nd December at 9:15am**

If you know any families who are considering schools for their child, we would be very grateful if you could share these dates with them. Visiting during the school day is a wonderful opportunity to see Northleaze in action, meet our staff and pupils, and get a real feel for our school community. To book a place, prospective families should contact the school office.

Help Us Spread the Word!

Are you following the Northleaze Primary School Facebook page?

Our Facebook page is a great way to keep up to date with school news, celebrate our pupils' achievements and see some of the wonderful learning experiences taking place across the school.

If you already follow us, we'd be really grateful if you could **like and share our posts** and encourage friends, family and neighbours to follow the page too. Every share helps us showcase our fantastic school community and raises the profile of our lovely school with prospective families. ✨ 💙 💛

Prayer for Creativity

Dear God,

Thank you for the creativity you have placed within each of us. Help us to wonder, explore and think in new ways. Give us the courage to try, the resilience to learn from mistakes and the confidence to share our ideas with others.

May we use our creativity to solve problems, bring joy, show kindness and make the world around us a better place. Help us to let our light shine through the unique gifts and talents you have given us.

Amen.

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