Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School

Weekly Newsletter — **Term 2 Newsletter 1: 2nd November 2026**

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

4th & 5th – School Photographer
11th Remembrance
20th – Children In Need
16th – 20th – Anti-Bullying Week
16th – Odd Socks Day
17th & 19th – Open Day for new 2027 parents (9.00am)
24th – Y2M Class Assembly – 2.40pm
26th & 27th – Reception Christmas Community Event - 9.15-10.15
30th – 4th – Explore Advent

DECEMBER

1st – Y4DW Class Assembly – 2.40pm
1ST – Open Classrooms – 3.30pm
3rd – Christmas Music Concert – 5pm
10th – Christmas Jumper Day
11th – Christingle Day
14th – Santa's Grotto (PTA Event)

A reminder that all diary dates for the school year can be found in the 3-fold calendar we provided you at the end of last academic year. It can also be found on the 'Term Dates' page of our website.

Across the Federation...

Welcome back to Autumn Term 2. I hope that all of our families enjoyed a restful and enjoyable half-term break and that our children have returned refreshed, ready for the exciting weeks ahead. As we begin this new half term, our schools are already busy with learning, creativity and ambition. The weeks leading up to Christmas are always full of memorable experiences, and alongside our rich curriculum, children will be looking forward to special events, performances and opportunities to celebrate their achievements.

This week, our focus is on helping every child settle quickly back into routines, re-establishing the high expectations that support excellent learning, and making a strong start to the half term. We encourage all pupils to continue demonstrating our shared values through positive attitudes, kindness towards others and pride in their work.

As the weather becomes colder, please ensure children come to school with a suitable coat and any additional outdoor clothing they may need.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Working together, we can ensure that every child enjoys a successful, rewarding and happy half term.

With love ♥

Mrs Broadbent
Executive Headteacher

Message from the Head of School

Building foundations for a love of life, a love of learning and a love of one another

We hope you all had a lovely half term and are ready for another busy and exciting term ahead. Our last week of term 1 was another busy and joyful week in school and was testament to how fortunate we are to be part of such a caring and supportive community.

It was lovely to welcome so many parents into school for Parents' Evenings. Thank you for taking the time to meet with teachers and celebrate your children's successes, as well as discuss their next steps. These conversations are so valuable and are a wonderful reminder of the strong partnership we share in helping every child to 'love learning'.

There was also plenty to celebrate beyond the classroom. Our House Cross Country event was a real highlight, with children showing determination, resilience and tremendous encouragement for one another. Whether they were racing at the front or persevering to the finish line, every child should feel proud of their efforts.

Our Y6 girls also represented the school brilliantly at a recent rugby event. They demonstrated fantastic teamwork, courage and enthusiasm, and were wonderful ambassadors for our school throughout the morning. They also managed to survive the very wet and chilly weather with huge smiles on their faces. Well done girls.

One of the most special moments of the week was our Welcome Worship for Reception children and their families. It was a joy to officially welcome our youngest pupils into our school family and to give thanks for the unique gifts and talents they bring. Seeing families gathered together in worship was a lovely reminder of what makes our Church school community so special.

Meanwhile, Year 5 enjoyed a memorable visit to Gloucester Cathedral. The children were full of curiosity and excitement as they explored this incredible place of worship and learning. Experiences like these help bring learning to life and create lasting memories.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, encouragement and kindness.

Warm wishes,

Kathy Donaldson
Head of School



Our value this term is

GENEROSITY

Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School

British Values and School Core Values

Individual Liberty Love – our love of life, the freedom to be ourselves, to be special, to be unique, to make our own choices, to enjoy the world.
Rule of Law and Democracy Truthfulness – we tell the truth, we know right from wrong, we follow the rules and we play fairly. We make informed decisions and we vote on things that matter to us.
Mutual Respect & Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs Respect – our love of another, we recognise diversity and individuality. We treat each other in the way that we would like to be treated.
Perseverance – We must do all that is necessary to uphold our School Values and British Values.

Menu

This week is Week 3

COLLECTION

School Contact List & Collection Policy
Please ensure that you contact list is up to date with the school

Operation Christmas Child

Before half term, your child bought home a leaflet for Operation Christmas Child. Sharing a shoebox has a huge impact on the lives of many children, less privileged than ourselves.
Please note that National Collection week is 9th-16th November.
We ask that you read the leaflet and follow the steps thoroughly as we have had boxes in the past that haven't been registered (which you need to do online before you drop your box off with us).
https://occ.samaritans-purse.org.uk/?gad_source=1&gclid=EAIaIQobChMIoL_0yer7iAMVWqVQBh1_aQ51EAAYASAAEgIWF_D_BwE
Please ensure your box is at school by the end of day on 16th November.
Thank you for your co-operation!

School Photographer



The school photographers will be in school this Wednesday and Thursday for individual and sibling photos. **Children need to be in full school uniform for both days, there will be no PE.**

Advanced notice of Kitchen Closure

Please be aware that due to an event taking place in the school hall for Reception and Y1, the school kitchen will be closed on MONDAY 9TH NOVEMBER. Packed lunches can be provided to infants and those on free school meals. There is no need to pre-book, orders can be placed on the day and the choice of sandwich will be ham or cheese.
For all others, please ensure your child brings in a packed lunch from home on that day.





Remberance Day Service

Please enter arrangments for Remembrance in here.

Remembrance Day Poppies Available from the School Office

As we approach Remembrance Day, we have a selection of poppies and other Poppy Appeal merchandise available to purchase from the school office. Items are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and **cash payments only** can be accepted. Thank you for your support in helping to raise funds for the Royal British Legion and the important work they do supporting the Armed Forces community.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Open Days 2026 - 17th and 19th November

open day

We are delighted to invite prospective families to our upcoming **Open Days** and would be grateful for your help in spreading the word to friends, family, and neighbours who may be looking for a school place.

office – we suggest that your 3 contacts are people who you authorise to collect your child from school. Our policy is that we only dismiss to people on your child's contact list. If somebody else is collecting, please make a note in your child's Reading Record and sign it to give permission.



Mobile Phone Disclaimer

A reminder that generally, we do not encourage children to bring mobile phones into school. We do however, understand that some older children do, as they use them to communicate with parents/carers when travelling to and from school. Should your child bring a mobile phone into school, these **MUST** be handed into the School Office.

The mobile phone remains your responsibility and we will not take responsibility for any loss or damage to devices.



No Dogs on Site

A kind reminder that no dogs are permitted on site except for therapy or assistance dogs.



School Policies

Our Governing Body determine which policies are school-based and which are Federation-based. A reminder that a copy of our most up to date policies can be found on the policy page of our

Reception Christmas Community Event

We are delighted to be inviting grandparents into school for our annual Reception Christmas Community Event. This special event gives Reception grandparents the opportunity to enjoy festive activities and create Christmas memories with their grandchildren.

Sessions will take place on:

Thursday 26th November | 9:15am - 10:15am

Friday 27th November | 9:15am - 10:15am

Reception families will be able to book one session (please book via epraise to you class teacher) If grandparents are unable to attend, another special family member, such as an aunt or uncle, is welcome to join us instead.

We look forward to a wonderful morning of festive fun



school website or Federation website – https://www.upton-st-leonards.co.uk/Policies/ or https://heartwoodfederation.co.uk/Key-Information/Policies/

Communication Policy



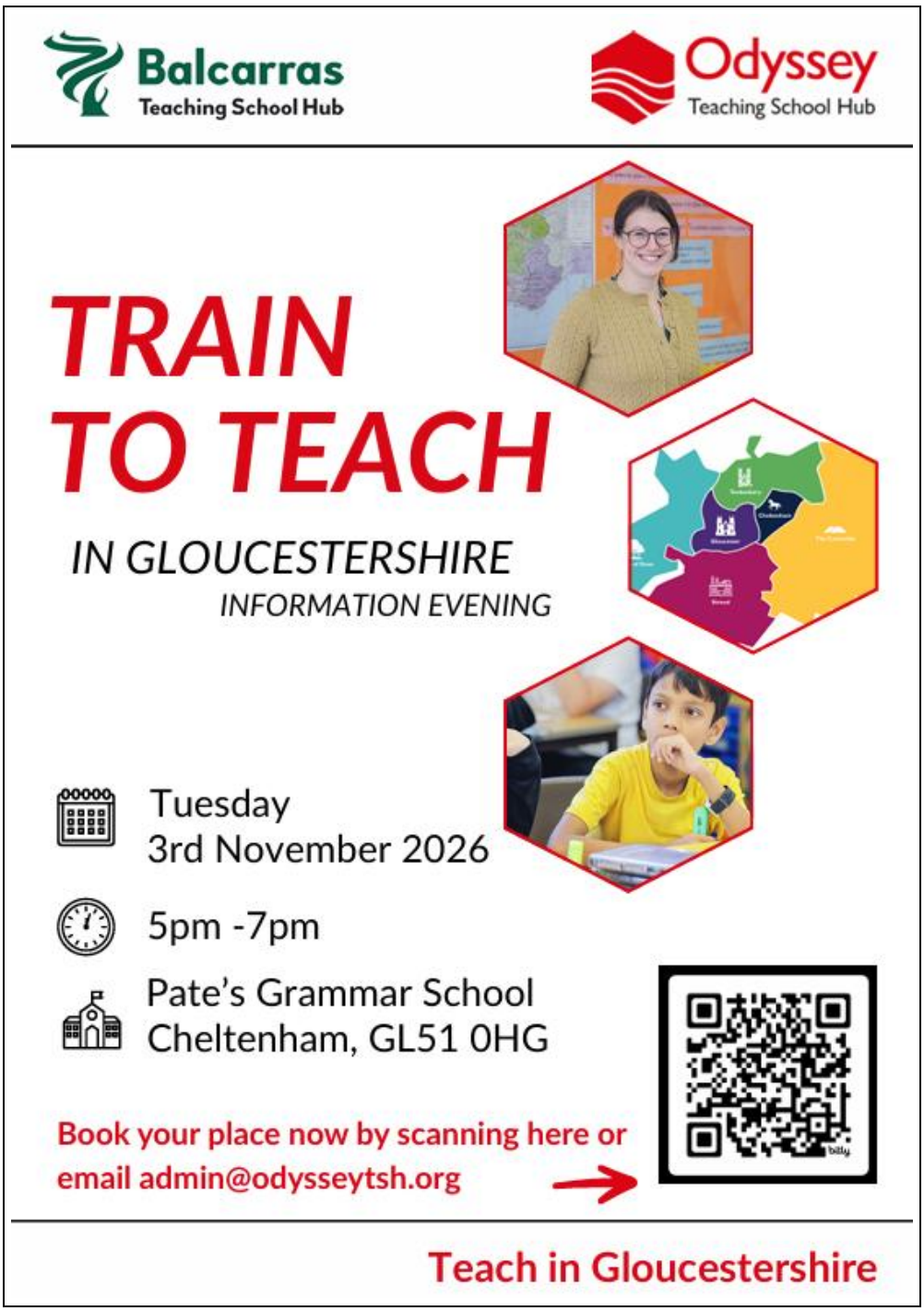
The strongest outcomes for children come when pupils, parents/carers and school staff work together. This partnership is at the heart of everything we do and helps ensure that every child is happy, supported and successful in school.

We want to work closely with families and encourage parents and carers to contact us if they have any questions, concerns or information that may help us support their child. We can only help with issues that we know about, and early communication often means that concerns can be resolved quickly and positively.

As a reminder, our Communication Policy asks that any concerns are raised through the following steps:

1. Speak with your child's Class Teacher in the first instance.
2. If the matter remains unresolved, speak with a Phase Lead (Mrs Baish, Mrs Day-Webb or Mr Turner).
3. If the matter remains unresolved, speak with the Head of School, Assitant Headteacher or Executive Deputy Headteacher.
4. If further discussion is needed, contact the Executive Headteacher.

By following these steps and maintaining open, respectful



communication, we can continue to work together in the best interests of every child. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership.



Free School Meals

If you think you qualify for your child/ren to receive free school meals then please take a look at the following link to apply.
https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/



Reporting Absences

Please ensure all absences reported through the dedicated phone line (open 24/7) by 9am. **Do not report via EPraise or email** as they may not be picked up in time for the morning registers. Thank you.