Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School

Weekly Newsletter — **Term 2 Newsletter 2: 9th November 2026**

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

11th Remembrance Day
13th – Children In Need 2026 (NOT 20TH AS PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED)
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.



Our value this term is

Across the Federation...

As we come together across the Federation this week, we have two significant events that provide opportunities for reflection, compassion and community spirit.
On Wednesday, each of our schools will hold a special Remembrance Worship, culminating in a two-minute silence at 11.00am. Remembrance gives us the opportunity to honour and remember those who have served, sacrificed and suffered in conflicts past and present. It is a time to reflect on the courage, selflessness and dedication shown by so many, and to consider the importance of peace, understanding and hope in our world today.
Later in the week, we look forward to supporting Children in Need. While each school will be celebrating and fundraising in its own unique way, the purpose remains the same: to help make a positive difference to the lives of children and young people who need additional support. Through our participation, we show that even small acts of kindness can have a lasting impact.
Both of these occasions connect strongly to our Federation values of **Love, Respect and Perseverance**. Through Remembrance, we demonstrate **Respect** for those who have served and sacrificed, and **Perseverance** in learning from the past to build a better future. Through Children in Need, we put **Love** into action by showing care, empathy and generosity towards others.
Together, these events also bring to life our Federation vision: **'Together, we place children at the heart, nurturing love, respect and life-long learning.'** They provide meaningful opportunities for our children to learn about the wider world, develop empathy for others, and understand how they can contribute positively to their communities.
Thank you for your continued support as we help our children grow into thoughtful, compassionate and responsible citizens.
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

As we reflect on another busy and rewarding week, I am once again struck by the many ways our children bring our school vision and values to life each day.
During my visits to classrooms, I have seen children demonstrating our core value of perseverance through their science learning, creating impressive double-page spreads and taking great pride in their work. I have also been delighted to welcome back our cross-country runners. Returning with huge smiles on their faces and, for some, medals around their necks, they truly embodied our vision of a love of life.
In Reception, I enjoyed seeing children confidently using their subitising skills to recognise that five and five make ten, while across the school I have been impressed by the excellent writing on display, showcasing a real love of learning.
We have another exciting week ahead. Our EYFS and Year 1 children are looking forward to a visit from Little City, children will be taking part in a tabletop cricket event in our school hall, and Year 4 will continue to enjoy their clarinet lessons. We will also come together for Remembrance Day, taking time to give thanks and remember those who have served and sacrificed. Finally, we look forward to supporting Children in Need on Friday and thank you in advance for your generosity.
As always, I am incredibly proud of our children and all they achieve. Thank you for your continued support.
Warm wishes,
Kathy Donaldson
Head of School

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 1
SPECIAL MENU ON FRIDAY FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

COLLECTION

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



Remberance Day Service
On Wednesday, the whole school will come together for a special worship at 11am to mark Remembrance Day. Poppies are available from the office for a small donation. Children who attend clubs such as brownies, scouts, rainbows, cubs etc are welcome to wear the uniform of that club tomorrow rather than their usual school uniform. Hopefully, lots of the children went to a service or watched the remembrance service on TV yesterday as it so important that we remember those who have served in wars and conflicts.

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

Children In Need 2026
On Friday, we will be raising awareness and supporting Children in Need on their quest to provide life-changing support for children and young people struggling with challenges caused by mental health, poverty, social inequality and family-related issues. We would love **children to wear non-uniform on Friday 13th November** and during the week we will be supporting all children to **Challenge Yourself to 26!** For this they will need to complete 26 acts of kindness at home, school and in the community. We are asking for donations to be made to support our Schools international charity 'Tearfund' in support of Children in Need.
The link to donate to Tearfund is :-Donate now - Tearfund



tearfund



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

Cake Sale for Children in Need.

After school on Friday, one of our children will be holding a cake sale outside the front of school to raise funds for Children In Need. Please come along and support them. Cash only please.





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.

Anti-Bullying Week - Odd Socks Day

ABA are official organisers of Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Anti-Bullying Week 2026 will take place from Monday 16th to Friday 20th November with the theme: Break the Silence. The week will kick off with **Odd Socks Day on Monday 16th**, with adults and children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.



Open Days 2026 - 17th and 19th November



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.

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!



Welcome to the Team!

We're delighted to welcome Mrs Griffiths to our school office team, starting today!

Mrs Childs has reduced her working week to four days, working Tuesday to Friday, so Mrs Griffiths is joining us every Monday to provide office cover.

Please give Mrs Griffiths a warm welcome. If you see her around school, do take a moment to introduce yourself and your children so she can get to know our wonderful school community.

We're sure you'll make her feel very welcome! 😊



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.

Celebration Assembly

On Friday, the following children were recognised for their excellent attitude, behaviour or work.

Headteacher Award for showing a love of one another – Honey (2M)
Headteacher Award for showing a love of learning – Max (3HB)

Lunchtime Legend – Charlie (3HB)
Writers of the week – 1GM

Stars of the Week

RE – Josh
RW - Noah
1B – Ezra
1GM – Evie
2L – Sebby
2M – Vienna
3L – Barkley
3HB – Evie
4DW – Arthur
4T – Emilia
5K – Jesse
5P – Ruby
6F – Joseph
6T – Maisie



Piano and Violin tuition with Mrs Hatton

I have availability for Children in Year 2 to start lessons in January.
I can offer 20-minute individual lessons on Tuesdays or Wednesdays.
There are currently two slots available.
please contact : @gloucestershiremusic.paritor.com (school direct tuition) if your child is interested, before 1st December. The sooner the better! :)



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

Year 3 Community Event.

On Monday 30th November, we would like to invite Year 3 grandparents into school at 9.15am till 10am to paint Christmas decorations with children in the hall. 3HB and 3L will have made their salt dough decorations beforehand ready to paint on the day.

Dangerous Driving – Reported Hit and Run

Can we please take the opportunity to remind everyone about driving with due care and attention around the Village and particularly around school.

We have had numerous reports of people driving far too fast past school, driving whilst on mobile phones and also reports of children with no seat belts or car seats.

Sadly, on Thursday last week, we had a parent have their car hit whilst parked by a white Tesla which was going too fast and then failed to stop to report it. Thankfully, no one was injured and it was witnessed by someone who took the number plate and then waited to report it to the car owner whose car was hit. Thank you to this kind person.



Gloucester Foodbank
Together with Trussell

This certificate is presented to

Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School

To say thank you for your recent generous Harvest donation of

278.4 **KG of living essentials**

This donation will help us continue to provide emergency food parcels to our local community