Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School

Weekly Newsletter — **Term 1 Newsletter 1: 5th October 2026**

Diary Dates

OCTOBER

6th – Y6T – Class Assembly – 2.40pm
9th – World Mental Health Day (#HellowYellow)
9th – Cheltenham Literature Festival (Y3/Y5)
12th – Cheltenham Literature Festival (Y1/Y2/Y4)
13th – Cheltenham Literature Festival (Y6)
14th – Harvest Festival (KS1-9am/KS2 – 2.30pm)
20th – PTA AGM – 7.30pm
19th & 21st – Parents Evening
23rd – New Reception Welcome Worship – 2.40pm
26th – HALF TERM

NOVEMBER

4th & 5th – School Photographer
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
30th – 4th – Explore Advent

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.



Message from the Executive Headteacher

I hope you have all enjoyed a lovely weekend and are ready for another exciting week at Upton St Leonards Primary School.

As we continue our journey through the autumn term, it has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm, determination and positive attitudes that our children are bringing to their learning each day. Whether in the classroom, on the playground or through wider enrichment opportunities, our pupils continue to make us proud through their kindness, resilience and commitment to doing their best.

This week, we look forward to welcoming families to our Year 6T Class Assembly on Tuesday at 2.40pm. Class assemblies provide a wonderful opportunity for children to share their learning and achievements, and we are excited to see what the class has prepared. Thank you in advance for your support and attendance.

On Friday, we will mark World Mental Health Day by taking part in the #HelloYellow campaign. Supporting children's emotional wellbeing is a vital part of school life, and the day will provide opportunities for pupils to reflect on the importance of positive mental health, kindness and looking after both themselves and others. We look forward to seeing a splash of yellow around the school as we come together to raise awareness of this important cause.

Also on Friday, children in Year 3 and Year 5 will be attending the Cheltenham Literature Festival. This is always a fantastic opportunity to inspire a love of reading and writing, introducing children to authors, ideas and experiences that help bring literature to life. We hope the children enjoy what promises to be an engaging and memorable visit.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. Working together, we can ensure that every child has the opportunity to flourish both academically and personally.

I wish everyone a happy and successful week ahead.

With love ♥

Mrs Broadbent

6T Class Worship

We are welcoming parents/carers to come to the Year 6T Worship tomorrow, 6th October at 2:40pm. The class will be showing what they have learned so far this term.





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

Cheltenham Literature Festival

We are excited to be taking part in the **Cheltenham Literature Festival** this October! This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to meet authors, discover new books, and develop their love of reading.
The visit dates are:

- Year 3 – 9th October
- Year 5 – 9th October
- Year 1 – 12th October
- Year 2 – 12th October
- Year 4 – 12th October
- Year 6 – 13th October

CHELTENHAM Literature Festival

We hope this will be an enjoyable and inspiring experience for all of the children, giving them the chance to immerse themselves in reading for pleasure and celebrate the joy of books and storytelling. 📚✨

Hello Yellow – World Mental Health Day

YOUNGMINDS Hello Yellow

On **Friday**, we are encouraging all pupils to wear something yellow alongside their school uniform to take part in YoungMinds' Hello Yellow, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. YoungMinds is a UK charity supporting children and young people's mental health, so that no young person feels alone when things get tough. Pupils will also take part in an assembly this week about the day, focusing on why it's important to talk about how we feel. A yellow bobble, socks or ribbon is plenty, so there's no need to buy anything new. Voluntary donations are welcome and will go directly to YoungMinds. Thank you for helping us show our pupils that their mental health matters.

You can donate at this link: Donate | Hello Yellow | YoungMinds

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

Harvest Festival
Our Harvest Festival will take place on Wednesday 14th October in the school hall.

9:00am – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
2:30pm – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend.

As part of our Harvest celebrations, we will be collecting donations for the Gloucester Foodbank. They are currently in particular need of the following items:

- Adult toothpaste
- Biscuits
- Coffee
- Deodorant
- Instant mashed potato
- Long-life juice
- Shampoo
- Shaving foam/gel
- Shower gel
- Tea bags
- Tinned custard
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned potatoes
- Tinned rice pudding
- Tinned spaghetti
- Tinned vegetables
- Washing-up liquid



Donations can be brought into school from Friday 9th October to Tuesday 13th October. Children can hand their donations to their class teacher, who will ensure they are taken to our collection point in the main hall.

We also have a Foodbank Donation Shed at the front of the school, where donations can be left at any time.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support. Your donations will help make a real difference to local families in need.

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

Parent's Evenings



Appointments will take place on:
Monday 19th October and
Wednesday 21st October
3.30pm - 6.00pm
Each appointment is 10 minutes long.
To book your appointment:

1. Log in to Epraise
2. Click on the three dots (...) on the home screen
3. Select Parents' Evening
4. Choose your preferred date and time

To ensure that all appointments run smoothly and fairly, please arrive promptly for your allocated time slot. Unfortunately, due to the tight schedule, late arrivals will be turned away and may need to arrange an alternative appointment at a later date.
We look forward to meeting with you and discussing your child's progress.

PLEASE NOTE:- We are still aware of the issues we have been having getting our new parents onto epraise. We will be in touch as soon as this is up and running. Thank you for your patience.

Celebration Assembly

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

Headteacher Award for showing a love of our school values – Oswin and Isabella (3L)

Writer of the week – Ella (6F)
Mathematician of the week – Zac (4DW)

Stars of the Week
1B – Tomek
1GM – Allie
2L – Max
2M – Atanas
3L – Matilda
3HB – Reggie
4DW – Isla
4T – Cece
5K – Saphyire
5P – Olivia
6F – Rory
6T – Charlie



Well done!

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.



A Personal Message from the PTA Chair

It is with a mixture of sadness and gratitude that I share that I will be standing down as Chair of the PTA at our AGM on Tuesday 20th October at 7.30pm in the school hall.

This has not been an easy decision. Over the years, being part of the PTA, and particularly serving as Chair, has been an incredibly rewarding experience. I have loved helping to organise events, raise funds for the school, and most importantly, being part of such a wonderful community. Seeing the enjoyment on the children's faces and knowing that our efforts have helped enhance their school experience has made every minute worthwhile.

As my children are getting older and their commitments and needs are growing, I find myself with less time available to dedicate to the role. I feel it is only right that someone who can give the position the energy and attention it deserves takes it forward.

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who may be interested in becoming the next PTA Chair. The role is not as time-consuming as many people imagine, but it does need someone with enthusiasm, a passion for supporting the school, good organisational skills and plenty of creative ideas.

Most importantly, you would be joining a truly fabulous PTA committee. We have a dedicated, supportive and friendly team who work brilliantly together, and I have been incredibly fortunate to work alongside such amazing people.

If you are even remotely interested, please do come and have a chat with me. I'd be more than happy to answer any questions honestly and share what the role involves. Alternatively, come along to the AGM and express your interest.

Thank you to everyone who has supported me during my time as Chair. While I am sad to be stepping away from a role that has meant so much to me, I know the PTA has a bright future ahead and I look forward to supporting it in a different way.

Sarah Milburn

Parent Governor



We are inviting parents to self-nominate for the position of Parent Governor at the Heartwood Federation. Ideally, we are looking for a parent from the Nailsworth community.

If we get more than one nominee then we have to have a vote.

The vacancy has arisen because Emily Walsh, who has held the position for over 4 years, is stepping down. The Governors would publicly like to thank Emily for all her work during a time of great change.

If you are interested and need further information, please contact Neil Eley chair@heartwoodfederation.co.uk and he can give you further details.

URGENT SAFETY REMINDER

Please Do Not Stop on the Zig-Zags

We have recently noticed a number of vehicles using the zig-zag markings outside school to drop off children. This is not permitted and creates a significant safety risk for our pupils, families and staff.

Last week, a vehicle was observed stopping on the zig-zag area to drop off a child before carrying out a U-turn in the road. With large numbers of children arriving at school, this type of manoeuvre is extremely dangerous and could easily result in an accident.

Please do not, under any circumstances, stop, park, or drop off on the zig-zag markings outside the school. These markings are in place to keep the area clear and ensure children can arrive safely.

For those who need an alternative drop-off location, the Bowden Hall Hotel car park is available to use and is only a short walk from the school.

We ask all parents and carers to allow extra time for a safe drop-off and to park considerately, helping to keep our children, families and local community safe.

Thank you for your cooperation and support. Safety at the start and end of the school day is everyone's responsibility, and we appreciate your help in ensuring our pupils can arrive and leave school safely.





Reading Volunteers needed

We really need more volunteers to hear our children read. If you've heard readers before and you could spare some of your time again, are new to hearing readers or know of someone who would like to do this, we would love to hear from you.

Please either epraise Miss Baish or email the school office on usladmin@heartwoodfederation.co.uk.





Arriving Late for School



We are noticing an increase in the number of children arriving late to school. All children should be dropped off at their classrooms doors between 8.40am – 8.50am or for KS2 on the playground for when the whistle is blown at 8.45am. School then begins promptly at 8.50am when the registers are taken. Any child arriving through the school office or into class after the whisle is blown and the are gates closed is considered late and will be marked as such on the school register. Please ensure you accompany your child to the school office to sign them in explaining the reason why they are late. **Registers close at 9.00am** - any child arrriving after this time, will be deemed an 'unauthorised lateness' and it will affect their attendance rate on their school record.

Nut free school



Please be reminded that our school is a nut free environment. We ask that you do not send your children in with any products that contain nuts, this includes things such as Nutella chocolate spread. We would be grateful if you could check ingredients in cereal bars, biscuits, sauces etc.
Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction just from being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts.
Thank you.

Art Competition – Christmas Window

Christmas Window Art Competition December 2026

We are looking for a budding young artist to design a Christmas Window for the Upton St Leonards village advent windows trail.

Our school is taking part and have been allocated window number 11, which means our window needs to be in place and lit up from 11th December 2026 until the 1st of January 2027.

The winning design will be put up in one of the windows at the front of school by the winning child with the help of Mrs Townsend.

Entries of all artwork must be original and on paper then handed in to Mrs Townsend or Mrs Knight by the 6th of November 2026. Please feel free to see Mrs Townsend if you want to ask any more questions.





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UPTON ST LEONARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
FIREWORK DISPLAY
Sunday 8th November
Gates open 4:30pm - Display 6:00pm
USL School Field (opposite school)
please consider walking due to limited on street parking
Small Rides
tickets
£5
Food Stalls
www.ticketsource.com/upton-st-leonards-primary-school-pta
LOW NOISE - no whistles no bangs
Organised by the PTA - Presented by Chase Lane Fireworks