# Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School

**Weekly Newsletter** | **Term 1 Newsletter 6: 19th October 2026**

## Diary Dates

**OCTOBER**

**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**

**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...

As we reach Week 8 of what has certainly felt like a very long half term, it is hard to believe how quickly we have moved from the warmth of summer into the colours and cooler days of autumn. Across Heartwood Federation, the start of the academic year has been incredibly busy and productive, with so much already achieved by our pupils, staff and wider school communities.

It has been a pleasure to welcome new staff and new pupils to our federation schools. They have quickly become valued members of our communities and have embraced life at Upton St Leonards, Bisley Blue Coat and Nailsworth Primary Schools with enthusiasm and positivity.

Alongside the daily learning taking place in our classrooms, we have held a number of important events this half term. Thank you to all families who attended our Reception information sessions, Reading workshops and Behaviour information evenings. We hope these opportunities have helped strengthen the partnership between home and school, ensuring that together we can provide the very best support for every child.

This term has also seen many SEND reviews, giving us valuable opportunities to celebrate progress, reflect on individual needs and plan next steps. More recently, our Harvest celebrations have brought our communities together to reflect on gratitude and kindness, and this week's Parents' Evenings will provide an important opportunity to discuss children's successes and development since September.

As always, I would like to thank our staff teams across the federation for their continued dedication and hard work, and to thank parents and carers for your ongoing support. The strength of our schools lies in the partnership between home and school, and we greatly value the role you play in your child's education.

I hope that everyone is able to enjoy a well-deserved and restful half term break. Whether you are spending time with family, getting outdoors, or simply taking the opportunity to slow down, I wish you a happy and refreshing week. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for the second half of the autumn term.

With love ♥

**Mrs Broadbent**
**Executive Headteacher**




**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 2**

**COLLECTION**

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

Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School

# Message from the Head of School

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

What a wonderful week it has been at school!
Our Harvest Festivals were truly special occasions, and I would like to thank all of the children for the way they presented themselves. They sang beautifully, shared their readings and poems with confidence, and demonstrated the excellent behaviour that makes us so proud of them. It was a joy to see them come together in celebration and gratitude. We are particularly proud of our Reception children, for whom this was their very first time joining us at an occasion like this. They were excellent and made us all smile. Thank you all for supporting us, the children loved seeing you.
I would also like to say a huge thank you to all of our families for your generosity in supporting the Gloucester Foodbank. The donations received were incredible and will make a real difference to people within our local community. Together, we have truly lived out our school vision of showing a love of one another and also demonstrated our school value of generosity.
This week, many of our children also enjoyed visits to the Cheltenham Literature Festival. The children were inspired by the authors and events they attended, and they returned to school full of enthusiasm and excitement about books and reading. Throughout the trips, their behaviour was impeccable. They were excellent ambassadors for our school, demonstrating our core value of respect and our school vision of developing a love of learning.
I am always proud of our pupils, but it has been especially heartening this week to hear visitors commenting on how well our children behave and the positive attitudes they show towards their learning. Whether in lessons, around the school or on educational visits, they continue to represent our school family wonderfully.
These comments are a credit to our pupils, our dedicated staff, and the support you provide at home. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are very fortunate to have such caring families working alongside us, helping our children to flourish and shine.
Warm wishes,
**Kathy Donaldson**
**Head of School**

## PTA AGM

The PTA Annual General Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 20th October at 7.30pm in the school hall**.
All parents and carers are warmly invited to attend. The AGM is a great opportunity to hear about the PTA's activities and achievements over the past year, learn about upcoming events, and find out how you can get involved in supporting the school community.

PTA Parents Teachers Association AGM Annual General Meeting

At this year's AGM, the position of **PTA Chair** will become available. We are looking for someone who is enthusiastic, organised and keen to work alongside our friendly and supportive PTA committee. The role offers a fantastic opportunity to help shape future events, support fundraising initiatives and make a positive difference to the school experience of our children.
If you are interested in finding out more about the Chair position, or would simply like to learn more about how the PTA operates, please come along to the AGM. We'd love to welcome some new faces and ideas as we plan for the future.
We look forward to seeing you there. 😊

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

**Parent's Evenings**




Appointments will take place on:

Today, 19th October and

Wednesday 21st October

3.30pm - 6.00pm

Each appointment is 10 minutes long.

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.

**A Special Welcome for Our New Reception Children**

On Friday this week, we will be holding a very special collective worship to formally welcome our new Reception children into our school community. We hope this will be a lovely and memorable occasion, as we come together to celebrate the start of their school journey.Parents and Carers of Reception children are warmly invited to join us for this special event at 2:40pm in school. We look forward to sharing this moment with you as we welcome the newest members of our school family.




**Cheltenham Literature Festival**

Year 1 to 6 have all enjoyed our visits to the Cheltenham Literature Festival. All the children had a wonderful time and their behaviour was exemplary. We loved listening to the authors share their stories and experiences whilst participating in our own drawing or writing workshops. Here is a flavour of a couple of year groups experience.

Year 1 had a very exciting workshop with author Tracey Corderory and illustrator Steve Lenton. Tracey read us two of her exciting stories about Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam. Steve helped us to all draw Slippery Sam and we all produced some fantastic artwork! Finally, we all played a huge game of snakes and ladders, where sadly our side of the room lost! We had a wonderful time and represented our school brilliantly.

Year 5 went to a workshop with author Sharna Jackson all about writing murder mystery stories! Together with Sharna, we planned our own mystery story including characters, motives, alibis and evidence pointing to the suspects. We had a fantastic time and learnt loads about her writing process and how to write a good mystery!

If you are at a loose end this weekend, feel free to give the festival a visit as there is plenty to see and do. We are already looking forward to next year's visit!

**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.

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

**A MASSIVE WELL DONE TO OUR NETBALL TEAM!**

A huge well done to all the children who represented our school in our **first netball match of the season!** Very unlucky just losing out 4-3.

We were so proud to see everyone working brilliantly together as a team, showing great teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the game. You represented our school with such pride and were fantastic role models for our school!

Well done, everyone! We can't wait to see what the rest of the netball season brings!




**Celebration Assembly**

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

Headteacher Award for showing a love of our school values – Charlie (5K) and Max (5P)

Writer of the week – Alex (4T)

Mathematician of the week – Skyler (3L)

Lunchtime Legend – Jummy (4DW)

**Stars of the Week**

RE –Hayley
RW - Lando
1B – Bella
1GM – Georgia
2L – Daisie
2M – Teddy
3L – Ivy-Rose
3HB – Charlie and Zac
4DW – Roan
4T – Erika
5K – Esmae
5P – Archie
6F – Daisie
6T – Dayzie




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.

⚽ **FREE FOOTBALL FOR FAMILIES!** ⚽

**Come and support Gloucester City Women!** 🐯

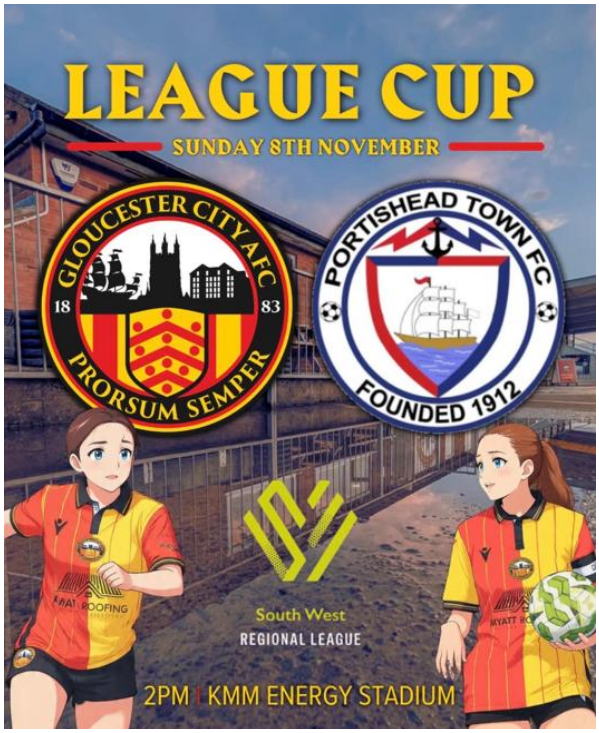
Gloucester City are delighted to invite all our children and their families to enjoy an exciting afternoon of football **FREE OF CHARGE!** 🎉

Come along and cheer on Gloucester City Women as they take on Portishead Town in the League Cup! It's a fantastic opportunity to enjoy live football and experience the excitement of women's football together.

📅 **Sunday 8th November**
⏰ **Kick-off: 2:00pm**
📍 **KMM Energy Stadium**
🎟️ **FREE ENTRY for children and families!**

**Tickets will be sent home by the end of the week.**

**We hope to see lots of our school families there!**
#GloucesterCityWomen
#GrassrootsFootball
#FamilyFootball
#CommunitySpirit
#FreeFootball




**Enchanted Garden by Night – Win a Free Family Ticket!** 🌟

Painswick Rococo Garden are delighted to offer **one of our school families a free family ticket** to the magical **Enchanted Garden by Night** winter lights events. This special event is a wonderful opportunity for children and families to explore the garden after dark, enjoy the beautiful winter lights and experience a little seasonal magic together. ✨🎶

To enter, we are inviting children to get creative and **draw or paint a picture of their own Enchanted Night Garden**. 🌿⭐🦋

Simply create your picture and bring it into school. All entries will be put into a draw and one lucky child will be chosen to receive a **free family ticket** to the event!

We can't wait to see your magical night gardens – let your imaginations shine! 🎨✨

**Closing date:** This Friday, 23rd October

**Please return entries to:** Mrs Bailey




Operation
CHRISTMAS CHILD
Samaritan's Purse
OPERATION
Christmas Child
at Christchurch Abbeydale
Shoebox Packing Day!
Friday 30th October
10 till 1
Christchurch Abbeydale
£5
TO PACK
A BOX
Pack a shoebox with gifts to bring joy and hope to children around the world.
ALL ITEMS INCLUDED!
TOYS
(e.g. small cars, dolls, soft toys, yo-yos, bouncy balls)
SCHOOL SUPPLIES
(e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, colouring books, crayons)
TOILETRIES
(e.g. toothbrush, flannel, hairbrush, deodorant, hair accessories)
CLOTHES
(e.g. t-shirts, socks, hat, gloves)
OTHER ITEMS
(e.g. small games, puzzles, stickers, hair accessories)

## 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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Katkinz Happy Pawz Rescue
Registered Charity : 1209700
KATKINZ CHRISTMAS
Afternoon Tea
Sunday 29th November
11am-3pm
Bowden Hall
Bondend Lane
Upton St Leonard's
GL4 8ED
New Goods
Raffle
Glitter Tattoos
Bottle Tombola
Kids Tombola
Hand Made Crafts
£15
PER PERSON
To Book Your Space Please Contact
Jane On
07886654046


... if your child wants to join in the fun
please contact Jane on 07886654046
Katkinz Happy Pawz Rescue
Registered Charity : 1209700
Pawz In Motion
Alex and friends are walking for the cats who have been forgotten, abandoned and let down – to help give them the love, care and safe future they deserve.
Every paw deserves a warm bed.
Every animal deserves to feel safe.
Every rescue deserves a second chance.
Together for kitties!
Stronger together!
COME WALK WITH US & HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE
BBQ AFTER THE WALK
FUNDRAISING STALLS
FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY
Date: Saturday 24th October 2026
Time: 11am
Location:
19 Bondend Road
Upton St Leonard's GL4 8AH
Every paw. Every step. Every donation.
All food has been sponsored by
Bowden Hall
& THIS WILL ALL BE UNDER A HEATED MARQUEE

# PAINSWICK CHRISTMAS FAIR

## PAINSWICK GOLF CLUB, GL6 6TL

Friday 6th November 2pm - 7pm

Saturday 7th November 10am - 4pm

**Come and meet**

**SANTA & HIS REINDEER**

**FRIDAY 3.30PM - 5PM**

Exquisite gifts for family, friends, pets & home.

Painswick Golf Club Bar and Kitchen
open for cakes, light snacks
and beverages.

FREE ADMISSION

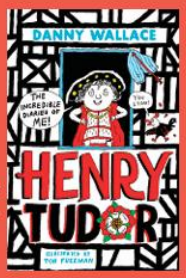
Raising funds for
Motor Neurone
Disease Association



# Corinium Museum

## Children's Half Term Workshops 2026

**New Family Gallery Trail: Henry Tudor: The Incredible Diaries of Me Based on the new novel by Danny Wallace and illustrations by Tor Freeman.**




Sat October 23, 2026 - Fri February 12, 2027

Meet Henry Tudor (the future Henry VIII) when he was just eight and a half years old and convinced that he is the best at absolutely everything!

**Gruesome Gargoyles**



Thu 29 October, 10.30am -12pm

Join us for a gruesome, glorious, gargoyle gala. We will meet at the Parish Church to investigate the gargoyles and grotesques that grace the building. Once we have our inspiration, we will head back to the museum to create our own gruesome gargoyles!



**Creepy Corinium Cupcakes**

Wed 28 October 10.30am -12pm

Back by popular demand, our Creepy Corinium Cupcakes workshop allows you to make art that you can eat! Create a monster cupcake and hear about some of the monters in our collections.



**Make Your Own Curse Tablet**

Fri 30 October, 10.30am -12pm

Did you know that the Romans wrote secret curses on lead tablets and threw them in springs to hex their enemies? From stolen cloaks to chariot race rivals, no grudge was too small! Come & learn how to inscribe your own spooky curse tablet just in time for Halloween.

CORINIUM MUSEUM

**For full details and to book visit: https://coriniummuseum.org or scan the QR code**

Corinium Museum, Park Street
Cirencester GL7 2BX
**01285 655611**
**coriniummuseum.org**

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Sign onto our mailing list this Autumn for a chance to win a micro:bit worth £15!

**AUTUMN 2 TERM**

**2ND NOV - 18TH DEC**

# Invent It!

**BIOMIMICRY**





**MONDAY & TUESDAY**

**15:45PM UNTIL 17:00PM**

**ART-K, CHARLTON KINGS**



In this hands-on STEM challenge, we'll take a closer look at the amazing world of the woodlouse.

Using biomimicry, we'll take inspiration from the woodlouse to design and build our very own fully functioning robotic insect.

**Ever wondered how the humble woodllouse moves and senses its environment?**

## OUR PROGRAMME

- Creative & hands-on activities
- STEM Learning
- Microbit coding
- Engineering challenges
- Teamwork
- Small groups
- Safe, supervised environment



**REGISTER TODAY!**

**EMAIL: BRAINS@INVENT-IT.CO.UK**

**WWW.INVENT-IT.COM/INVENT-IT-ACADEMY**