The Leighterton Leaf

Rooted in optimism, ambition and kindness, we grow together.

Term 1, Newsletter 7 (2026-2027)
Thursday15 October 2026

Value in focus: Gratitude
Gratitude is more than saying "thank you." When it becomes an attitude — a consistent way of orienting your attention toward what's good— it reshapes how you move through your day, your relationships, and the harder moments in life. The Positivity Team

Dear Parents, Carers, Friends and Governors

This week's news

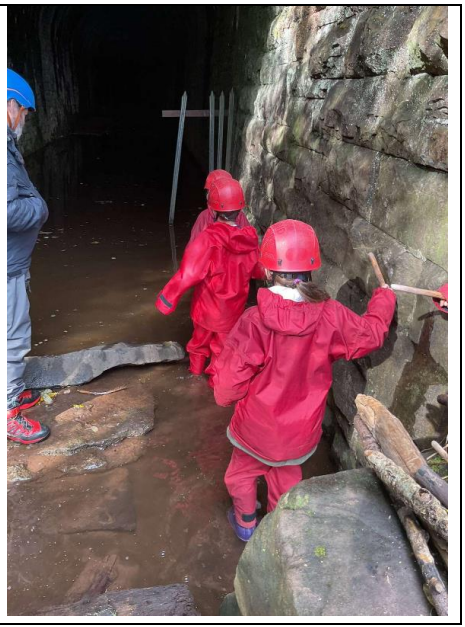
The Year 5 and 6 children had a wonderful residential trip to Govilon Learning and Activity centre in the Brecon Beacons. They went walked in rivers and waterfalls, braved dark tunnels and night hikes, and enjoyed looking around the Big Pit museum. A lot of fun was had, and the children showed resilience and courage as they tackled their challenges. Thank you to Mrs Hall, Mrs Holian and Mrs Ward for taking the children on their adventures.

The Year 6s have continued with their active life skills this week with their bikeability sessions. The instructors were very complimentary about how well they listened to advice and engaged in their learning. Well done to them all.

To the rest of the school, thank you for your support with our #helloyellow for World Mental Health Day. Last Friday we had a bright, sunshiny school which cheered us all up and was good for our wellbeing!







PTFA Halloween Disco, Friday 16 October
It's nearly that time of year again when the hall is filled with witches, ghosts and ghouls… See the PTFA information for further details about this popular event.

Year 4 Maths Challenge @ Avening Primary School, Monday 19 October
The Year 4 children are taking part in a Maths Challenge at Avening Primary School next week. We were hoping to be able to use the SWR minibus to transport the children, but unfortunately we are unable to do so on this occasion, so thank you to the parents who have offered to transport the children. We really appreciate your support with this!

Parent Consultations
We are holding our parent consultations after half term.

- Monday 2 November, 3.15 – 5.30 (all classes)
- Wednesday 4 November, 1-4pm (Saddlewood); 3.15 – 5.30 (Apsemore, Barnhill, Boxwell, Ozleworth)
- Thursday 5 November, 3.15 – 5.30 (Ridge)

Please note that if your child has a My Plan Plus, meetings have taken place outside of these dates, so there is no need to book. If your child has a My Plan, these will be shared with you during your parent consultation.

You may be aware that the booking system is currently frozen until Monday, and Mrs Embling is currently sorting this problem out with our providers. If you have already booked, Mrs Embling has manually corrected any errors for you. Mrs Embling will let you know next week when booking can resume. Apologies for any inconvenience this causes.

Headlice
We are getting regular reports of headlice across the school. The best advice to get rid of the nits and lice is to wet comb with conditioner, but you have to be persistent over a number of days. Please see the advice from the NHS here: Head lice and nits - NHS

Open Morning
We are holding our open morning on **Thursday 15 October**. This is a drop-in session between 9am and 11.30am – no need to book. The older children will be giving guided tours and there will be coffee and biscuits available in the hall afterwards. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Dry Stone Wall Repairs
We have some repairs taking place to the dry-stone wall in the car park starting on the morning of Friday 16 October. We apologise in advance for the inconvenience whilst this takes place. Part of the car park will be cordoned off whilst the work is taking place.

Caterlink Workshops, Tuesday 20 October
To get us ready to think about Harvest, Caterlink, our school caterers, are running workshops for children across the school. Barnhill and Boxwell classes are going to be learning about a balanced diet. In years 3 and 4, the children are considering food waste. In years 5 and 6, the focus is on sustainable eating.

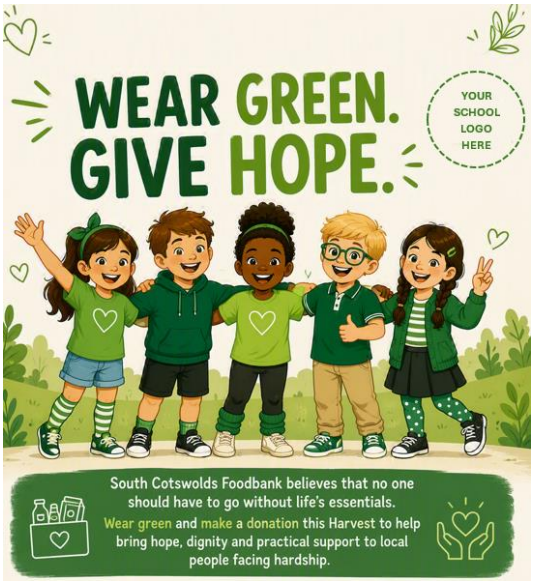
Train to Teach!
Teaching is, in our opinion, the best job in the world and if you are interested in joining the profession and training to be a teacher, Balcarras Teaching School is running a Train to Teach in Gloucestershire Information Evening on Tuesday 3 November.

The event is suitable for anyone interested in training to teach both primary and secondary-aged pupils. More information and registration can be found here: Train to Teach in Gloucestershire Information Evening – Eventbrite. There is also a poster attached to this newsletter with further information.

Harvest Festival, 2.15pm Thursday 22 October

We are currently getting ready for our Harvest Festival and we are once again planning to support our local Foodbank. We hope you are able to join us for our special assembly that afternoon. Children are invited to wear something green to school on Thursday 22 October, along with their school uniform – a hair ribbon, a jumper, socks, trousers - in exchange for a financial donation for the Foodbank. Financial donations can be made via the Foodbank's Just Giving page.

On Monday, we were joined by Anton from the foodbank who told the children all about the excellent work that the foodbank does for people in our local community. We hope you are able to support us in our Harvest offering this year.



Gloucestershire Annual SEND Surveys 2026

The local authority special educational needs and disabilities surveys opened on 5 October 2026 and will close on Friday, 4 December 2026. Feedback is used to help shape support and services across education, health, care and early help.

Parents/carers in SEND families can have their say now by completing the Gloucestershire Parent Carer SEND Survey

Young people (aged 16-25) with SEND can have their say now by completing the Gloucestershire Young Person with SEND Survey

Actions are reported on regularly in the SEND Families in Partnership newsletters and summarised annually in the Local Offer reports.

Last year, 679 parents/carers responded. Most respondents were from White British communities and had school-aged children aged 5 to 16. This year, we particularly want to hear from:

- Parent Carers and young people with SEND from ALL communities across Gloucestershire.
- Families with children in Early Years.
- Young people aged 16 to 25 and their families.

School lunches next week

WEEK ONE 19/10

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A	Tomato pasta	Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges & Tomato Ketchup	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Spaghetti Bolognese	Fish Fingers with Chips & Tomato Ketchup
B	Cheese & Pepper Whirl with Herby Rice	Soya Mince Pasta Bake	Vegan Sausage, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Coconut Curry with Rice	Cheesy Broccoli Frittata with Chips & Tomato Ketchup
C	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Fillings
	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Seasonal Vegetables	Baked Beans & Peas
	Oaty Cookie	Orange Drizzle Cake	Ice Cream with Fresh Fruit	Carrot Cake with Custard	Strawberry Jelly with Peaches

There is a new lunch menu after half term – see the poster at the end of this newsletter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Jane Rushton
Executive Headteacher

Attendance Information	Thinking Corner
97.3% **This is above the national average** 😊  	***If you could travel back in time, to which era would you travel? Who would you like to meet? What would you ask them?***

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Please note that there sometimes may be changes/additions at short notice)

Friday 16 October	PTFA Halloween Disco
Monday 19 October	Y4 Maths Challenge @ Avening Primary School
Tuesday 20 October	Caterlink workshops
Thursday 22 October	2.15pm Harvest Festival
Friday 23 October	End of term (normal finish time)

Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October – school closed for half-term

🎃👻 **PTFA NEWSLETTER** 👻🎃

🕷️ **Halloween Fun is Coming!** 🕷️

🎃 **Halloween Disco – TOMORROW!** 🎃

Get your costumes ready… the **Halloween Disco is tomorrow!** 🧛‍♀️🧟‍♀️🧜‍♀️

We can't wait to see everyone who has booked their place, dressed up and ready for an evening of **spooky fun, games and dancing!** 💃🕺🎶

👻 **Please remember: NO props or masks are allowed.**

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the wonderful volunteers who have offered to help make the evening a frightfully fantastic one! 🖤

If you have volunteered to help during the disco, please arrive **10 minutes before the disco starts** for a quick briefing.

🎃🕸️ **Pumpkin & Halloween Decoration Competition** 🕸️🎃

Calling all little witches, wizards, ghosts and ghouls… **tomorrow morning is competition day!** 🧙‍♀️👻

Bring your amazing pumpkin or Halloween decoration entries into school **first thing tomorrow morning**. We'll be waiting on the gate to collect them. 🎃

And remember… **this competition isn't just for the children!** 👀🎃

We want to see what our **grown-ups can create too**, so adults are very welcome to enter. Let's see who can come up with the most creative, creepy and **spook-tacular** creation! 🕷️🧙‍♀️👻

We will then choose our winners, with **certificates being awarded in assembly tomorrow afternoon!** 🏆

Good luck, everyone 🎃🖤👻





We are O.A.K.

Optimism – We are optimistic.

We persevere to improve.

Ambition – We are ambitious.

We aim high and do our best.

Kindness – We are kind.

We use kind words and kind actions. We respect ourselves, others and our world.

Rooted in optimism, ambition and kindness, we grow together.

AUTUMN WINTER 2026/2027

Planet Friendly

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE 02/11/26 23/11/26 14/12/26 18/01/27 08/02/27 08/03/27	Option One	Rainbow Vegetable Pasta Bake (V)	Nature Ranger Sausage with Potato Wedges and Tomato Ketchup (VE)	British Roasted Quorn, Roast Potatoes, & Gravy (VE)	Macaroni Cheese (V)	Flaky Cheese Whirl with Chips & Tomato Ketchup (V)
	Option Two	Classic Cheese and Tomato Pizza with New Potatoes (V)	Beef Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice	Roast Gammon, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken and Sweetcorn Pie with New Potatoes	Fish Fingers with Chips & Tomato Ketchup
	Option Three	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling including Salmon Mayonnaise
	Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Chocolate Shortbread(VE)	Pineapple Upside Down Cake with Custard (V)	Fresh Fruit(VE)	Syrup Sponge(V)	Ice Cream and Peaches (V)
WEEK TWO 09/11/26 30/11/26 04/01/27 25/01/27 22/02/27 15/03/27	Option One	Lentil & Sweet Potato Curry with Rice (VE)	Mild Mexican Campfire Chilli with Rice (VE)	Lentil Wellington, Roast Potatoes & Gravy (VE)	Roasted Vegetable Pizza with New Potatoes (V)	Red Pepper Frittata with Chips & Tomato Ketchup (V)
	Option Two	Planet Friendly Balls in Tomato Sauce with Spaghetti (VE)	Sausage and Mash with Gravy	Roasted Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Beef Lasagne	Fish Fingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option Three	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling
	Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Gingerbread Cookie(VE)	Chocolate Brownie(V)	Fruit & Yoghurt with Crumble Topping (V)	Strawberry Jelly with Peaches (VE)	Vanilla Shortbread (VE)
WEEK THREE 16/11/26 07/12/26 11/01/27 01/02/27 01/03/27 22/03/27	Option One	Saucy Tomato Pasta (VE)	Creamy Coconut Curry with Rice (VE)	Nature Ranger Sausage, Roast Potatoes & Gravy (VE)	Hearty Bolognaise with Pasta (VE)	Mexican Bean Roll with Chips & Tomato Ketchup (VE)
	Option Two	Golden Cheese & Bean Pasty with New Potatoes (V)	Beef Burger with Cheese, Potato Wedges & Tomato Ketchup	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chef Special Chicken Korma with Rice	Battered Fish with Chips & Tomato Ketchup
	Option Three	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Filling
	Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Oaty Cookie (VE)	Jam and Coconut Sponge(V)	Fresh Fruit (VE)	Eves Pudding with Custard(V)	Melting Moments Biscuit (V)

MENU KEY:

- Whole grain
- Plant based
- Added plant protein

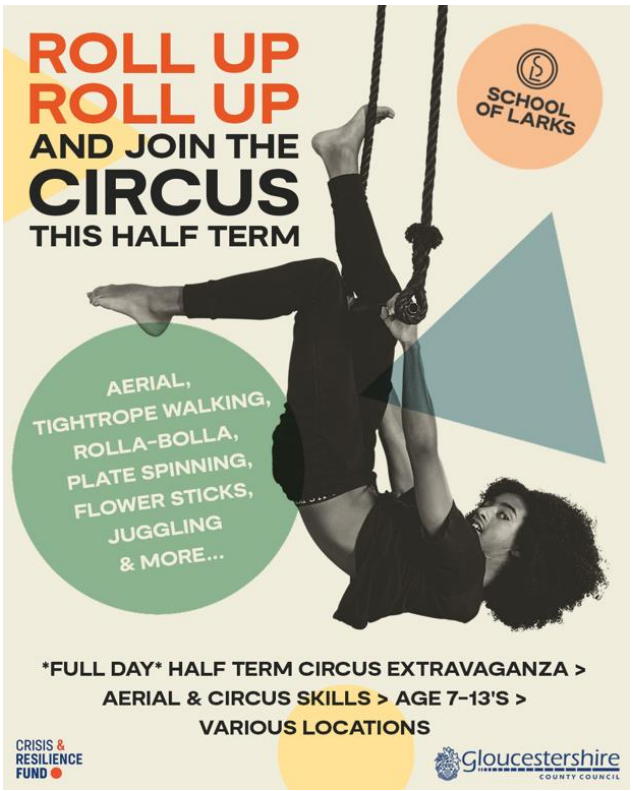
AVAILABLE DAILY: Jacket Potatoes with a choice of fillings (V/VE), Salad Bar (V/VE), Freshly Baked Bread (VE), Fresh Fruit (VE), Yoghurt (V)

(V) Vegetarian (VE) Vegan

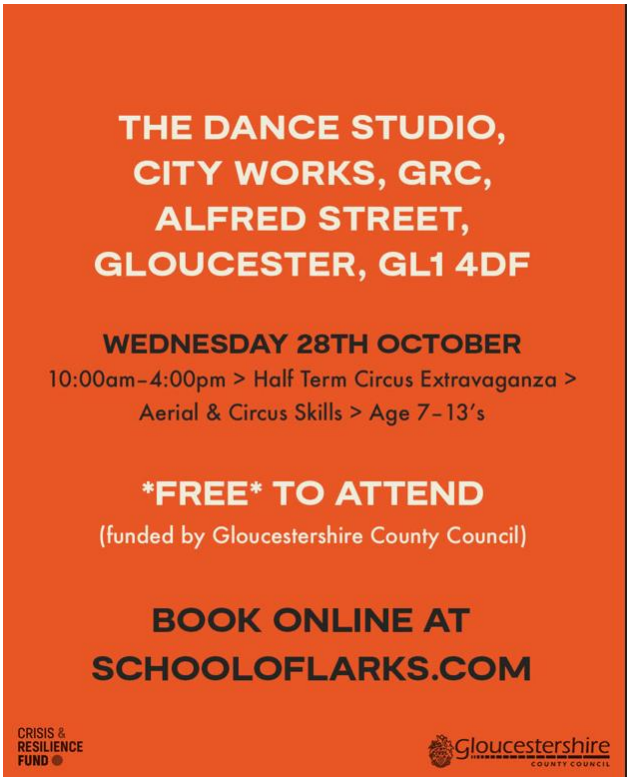
If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods, please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of allergen cross contact.

Community News

(Please note that the school does not endorse external providers and families should enure they are satisfied will all necessary safegurding checks before engaging with any advertised services below.)









Kids Stuff Stroud

OCTOBER HALF-TERM

CRAFT TABLES

Daily Monday - Saturday

Monday 26th - Saturday 31st October

10am - 12pm



Craft · Create · Play

A different craft each day, hosted by Kids Stuff

SCAN ME

Offered: Drop-in, join-in, Pay-as-you-can!
All ages welcome

Activities subject to change. Children must be accompanied by an adult

Find us: Kids Stuff Stroud, Brimscombe Mills, Brimscombe, Stroud, GL5 2QN

www.strouddistrictkidsstuff.org.uk @Stroudkidsstuff Stroud District Kids' Stuff

Kids Stuff Craft Tables are part of the School Holiday Programme at BRIMSCOMBE MILL check out the full programme at www.brimscombe-mill.org.uk/school-holidays

Kids Stuff Stroud

OCTOBER HALF-TERM

Kids Stuff Fancy Dress Corner All Week! 9.30am-5pm

Kids Stuff will be hosting a fancy dress up corner all week leading up to Halloween. Come down and pick up a Halloween outfit, from Moana to Spiderman what will you find at Kids Stuff?
*While stocks last

CRAFT TABLES 10am - 12pm

Monday 26th October
Autumn Wreath

Tuesday 27th October
Pumpkin Carving
Kids Stuff craft table hosts the annual family Pumpkin Carving.

Wednesday 28th October
Spooky Snake

Thursday 29th October
Pinecone Bats

Friday 30th October
Spider Crown

Saturday 31st October
Toilet Roll Mummies

No booking required, just drop-in and join-in.
Offered Pay-as-you-can. Aimed at 3-11 years.

Please check full schedule at www.Brimscombe-mill.org.uk/school-holidays and www.strouddistrictkidsstuff.org.uk/activities *Activities subject to change. *Children must be supervised.
All School holiday events here: www.brimscombe-mill.org.uk/school-holidays
Find us at: Brimscombe Mills, Brimscombe, Stroud, GL5 2QN



OCTOBER HALF TERM PROGRAMME AT BRIMSCOMBE MILL

DAY	DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
All day	All week	All day	Spooky scavenger hunt around the site
All day	All week	09:30-16:00	Fancy dress dressing up corner
Mon	26	10:00-12:00	Kids Stuff craft table | Drop in
Tue	27	10:00-12:00	Kids Stuff craft table | Drop in
Tue	27	10:30-12:00	Long Table Kids Kitchen cookery drop in | Drop in
Wed	28	10:00-12:00	Kids Stuff craft table | Drop in
Wed	28	10:00-12:00	Hands on meet the reptiles workshop | Book online
Thur	29	10:00-12:00	Kids Stuff craft table | Drop in
Thur	29	10:30-12:00	Long Table Kids Kitchen cookery drop in | Drop in
Thur	29	13:00 & 14:30	Crochet making workshop | Book online
Thur	29	17:00-19:00	Family fancy dress disco | Drop in
Fri	30	10:00-12:00	Kids Stuff craft table | Drop in
Fri	30	10:00-12:00	Lets Create in Sanctuary | Drop in

FOR MORE INFO AND TO BOOK SCAN HERE