

Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

NOVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and feel ready to help us make the Summer term one to remember. Term 5 will be one of hard work and determination as we prepare for the Year 2 and 6 SATs and ensure all Nova pupils fulfil their potential. I must take this opportunity to remind you not to take holidays in term time and to aim for excellent punctuality and attendance each day. Hopefully, the longer days and brighter weather will make the school run a bit more pleasurable!

As I mentioned in a previous 'Nova News', we are passionate about creating the very best learning environment for the children. During the Easter break there were many improvements to the building and grounds, including the refurbishment of the Reading Recovery room, to create two well-equipped rooms to support children's literacy. The new motivational quotes

Dates for your diary

We know how important it is to be able to plan in advance. We will endeavour to keep you as up to date as possible with school events.

Bristol Term Dates for 2017 – 2018

Term 5

Mon 9th April to Fri 25th May 2018

Term 6

Mon 4th June to Tues 24th July
2018*

*School will be open for children on
Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th July

around the school were chosen by the Curriculum and School Councils and have transformed blank wall spaces. A big thank you to Mrs Ferns, Mr Pepper and our team of cleaners who have overseen all of the work over the Easter holidays.

One other change this term is the morning routine in Early Years and Key Stage 1. Children will now come in and settle themselves most days, but teachers will still be there to take messages for a short time (appointments can always be made for longer discussions). On Fridays, for this term, there will be a variety of fun activities for families until 9.00am. We will review this arrangement towards the end of term 5. We have already had some positive feedback from families, as well as some helpful suggestions about how it could work in the future. Thank you to parents and carers who have been in touch to share ideas - we will give them all serious consideration as the term progresses. The main aim is to create a calmer, more focused start to the day for children, whilst improving the quality of time parents and carers spend in the classroom.

We love to see families in the school - the performance and Enterprise Sale were joyous events for all the family and I hope you enjoy the accounts of these in this edition.

**PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL WILL BE
CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING
INSET DAYS**

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Inset Day 5

Friday 25 May 2018

**Bristol Term Dates for 2018 –
2019**

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Term 1

Mon 3rd Sept to Fri 26th Oct 2018

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Term 2

Mon 5th Nov to Fri 21st Dec 2018

-

Term 3

Mon 7th Jan to Fri 15th Feb 2019

-

Term 4

Mon 25th Feb to Fri 5th April 2019

-

Term 5

Tues 23rd April to Fri 24th May 2019

-

Term 6

Mon 3rd June to Tues 23rd July
2019

**PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL WILL BE
CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING**

Please note the dates for SATS are included in the dates section in this issue.

With kindest regards,

Anna Morris
Headteacher



INSET DAYS 18/19

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Inset Day 1 & 2

Mon 3rd & Tues 4th Sept 2018

Please note that there are 3 other dates to be set

Other Useful Dates:

KS2 SATS

Week beginning 14th May

-

KS1 SATS

Week beginning 21st May

-

Parent Forum

10th May @ 2.00pm

-

Year 6 Theatre Trip

20th June

-

PTFA Summer Fayre

23rd June

-

PTFA Summer Disco

13th July

-

Year 5 & 6 Performance

19th July 2.00pm & 6.00pm

-

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

23th July @ 10.00am

-

CURRICULUM AT NOVA

Term 5 is to be filled full of interesting learning, focusing on children learning valuable scientific and geographical enquiry skills through their topics, including comparing, sorting, classifying, describing and researching. Children's learning will centre around the topic of plants and animals, investigating questions such as 'Which are stronger – plants or animals?', 'Could you survive in a rainforest?' and 'Could you live a bug's life?'

There are also some exciting experiences planned for the children including trips to Noah's Ark and Bristol Zoo, as well as having some special guest speakers visiting the school!

Classes aim to tweet photos and information about what has been happening so keep your eyes peeled to find out what's happening in class.

Here are some examples of how classes have launched their topics:

Year R Wallace and Gromit welcomed some very special visitors this week! 10 eggs were delivered and 9 have already hatched into baby chicks. We've loved watching them and can't wait to see how they grow. We've already learnt a lot about how to care for chicks and what we need to do to keep them safe.



Year 2 children were curious about what they'd find on their mini beast hunt and they were not disappointed!



Year 3 discussed animals and plants, sharing their knowledge and ideas for what they'd like to find out. Then, Mr Kilcoyne produced some animals to look at - grasshoppers, brown crickets and mealworms. What fun!



Of course, we always welcome parent/carer helpers - you may have a skill or interest that could really enhance the children's learning and we would love to see you.

MEET THE TEAM



Name: Camilla Broster

Role: Year 2 Teacher

The best part of the role:

Working with children is fun. They are full of surprises and have a great enthusiasm for learning and discovering new things.

Hobbies:

Reading, playing the piano and spending time with my family.

Favourite book:

Any mystery stories!

Favourite quote:

“Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.” Roald Dahl

Experience:

I have been a teacher for 23 years. Prior to joining Nova, I have worked in 4 different schools, mainly in years 1, 2 and 3 in Southampton, Sheffield and Bristol.



A Message from Shine - Our After School Club Provider

Shine would like to introduce Hibba, your new Shine After School Club Manager.

Hibba comes with lots of experience of running of working with children and you will see her around the school, please do say hello.

The Shine number remains the same 07932 873476 if you have any queries. Keep smiling!

Shine clubs run every day so have a look at the full list of clubs running after school at **www.shineafterschoolclub.com**.



OTHER NEWS

Enterprise Sale

Our classes were quite mysterious in the build up to our third Enterprise sale, playing their cards close to their chests.

As always the hall was a joy to behold once the stalls were set up. The presentation of products was inventive and clever. We are pleased to announce that the total profit was a staggering £1080.45! This substantial amount will be combined with the collection money from the Year 3 and 4 play and the proceeds of the lunchtime sporting activities and donated to Sport Relief. Well done to all the classes who worked so hard.

Prizes are awarded to the following:

Best Business Portfolio: Early Years (Gromit and Wallace)
Best advert: Year 6 (Banksy and Morph)
Largest profit: Concorde Class with an incredible £164.56

Many thanks to the PTFA members who gave up their time to support classes during the sale and as always, thank you all for your incredible support!





Hansel and Gretel

A massive well done to our Year 3 and 4s for their brilliant performance of this much loved fairy tale. The younger children sang beautifully and the older pupils acted with confidence and enjoyment. Thank you to the staff who always go more than the extra mile to make these performances so memorable for us all and for Mrs Thorpe for taking the photographs, some of which can be seen below.



Cheerleading

On Thursday, families were invited to see their children perform in a spectacular Cheerleading display. The lunchtime club has been running for two terms with outside providers 'Predator Athletics'. Their routine was daring, tightly choreographed and performed with real energy.

Once again, thank you to our families who were a fabulous audience!



Parent Forum & Behaviour Policy Review

The term 4 Parent and Career Forum was extremely useful. Nova has a well-established behaviour policy, but the Leadership team are deeply committed to ensuring behaviour is an outstanding aspect of the life of our school and believe that we could be more forward-thinking and brave in our approach.

The Parent and Carer forum members spent a long time discussing what currently

works well and what could be changed or introduced. Mr Bacon and Mrs Morris carried out a similar activity with their school councils and we have been amazed and excited by the responses. We won't make any final changes to the existing policy until September, so if you would like to offer your own views or suggestions, we would very much encourage you to email your thoughts and ideas. You might like to consider the benefits and drawbacks of the following:

- Consistency of rewards and praise
- Traffic light system
- Whole school incentives
- Role of the adults
- Rights reflection
- Communication
- Dojos
- Use of exclusions

In the meantime, we will continue to plan for the next academic year, keeping you posted along the way.

Our next Parent Forum meeting is on Thursday 10th May at 2.00pm. Everyone is welcome and we have toys for younger siblings to play with.

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