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Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

NOVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first issue of Nova News for the new academic year. Firstly, please can I warmly welcome all of our many new families! As well as two new Reception classes, children have joined us from far and wide. This is wonderful as it brings a freshness to the school and new opportunities for friendships, play and learning. Nova children have been incredibly warm and it already feels like our new pupils are part of the Nova family.

Our new Reception children have had a wonderful, if fairly short induction period. Families had the opportunity for a home visit and the feedback from teachers has been just wonderful. They were made to feel so welcome, and I know that those initial meetings have helped this first few weeks run very smoothly.

I hope your children have shared the

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 2018 – 2019

Mon 3rd Sept to Fri 26th Oct 2018

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

exciting developments in our curriculum. Classes have been involved in exciting new Lines of Enquiry, all of which have started with a fantastic launch event. The topics will last until Christmas which will give children the chance to learn in depth and really develop their subject knowledge and skills. We can already see some budding historians out there. Take a look at the pictures below for some of the brilliant learning that has already taken place. KS1 families, don't forget our Family Fridays. You can join in the first activity of the day with your child and be part of the fun!

You may recall in my welcoming letter, that Nova has adopted a new Behaviour Policy. Part of this is to promote appreciation and recognition above all else. This may be verbal, a postcard, a tweet or a phone call home. It would be great to hear about any of these things happening and how they have encouraged your child to be the best they can be. One parent, who received a lovely phone call from her child's teacher, was thrilled and talked about how much better and more personal it was than a prize or a Dojo. You can let us know via email, in person or even with a Tweet- let's spread the positivity!

With kindest regards,

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
INSET DAYS 18/19**

-

Inset Day 1 & 2

Mon 3rd & Tues 4th Sept 2018

-

Inset Day 3

Monday 7th January 2019

-

Inset Day 4

Friday 5th April 2019

-

Inset Day 5

Friday 24th May 2019

Other Useful Dates:

Parent Consultations

6th & 7th November

-

Snow White Pantomime

(for children)

Anna Morris
Headteacher

13th December



CURRICULUM AT NOVA

Curriculum Update

September has seen us launch our new Nova 'LEARN' Curriculum with new exciting line of enquiries to explore throughout the year. 'Lessons from the past' is the theme for terms 1 and 2 so that each year group can develop their historical knowledge and skills. Staff have worked hard to plan meaningful and memorable learning opportunities for the children.

Learning Journey - through line of enquiries children venture on a learning journey, including an exciting launch to hook the children and purposeful landing events such as exhibitions, events and performances so that children can share what they have learnt.

For example, Year 2s have launched their topic 'What made the greatest difference?' by making models and learning about Concorde and Rolls Royce. Concorde class invited an expert, who has flown on the Concorde, into school to talk to the children. Children were excited to share their learning in a class performance to parents.



Engaging - topics are planned with children's interests at the heart. We plan a range of experiences and visits to engage pupils further in their learning. We also involve children in designing their learning environment to make it a welcoming, inclusive and engaging place to learn.

For example, Year 3 are in the process of making giant time machines for their classrooms to launch their topics 'Would you like to be a time traveller?' They'll be learning about the Stone Age and Egyptians on their journey!



The wonderful EY team have worked tirelessly to ensure classrooms are looking fabulous for our new children, complete with fairy lights and art gallery.



As you can see from this fantastic display, Year 5 are ready for their journey as Vikings!



Authentic - we believe learning should be relevant to children's lives and so we plan activities that give a real purpose to learning. This includes involving experts and members of our community to help us learn. If you have expertise to share with us please let us know!

For example, Year 1, who are investigating, 'Who are the real heroes?' have been visited by a police officer this week to find out more about how they help people. They've used their enquiry skills to look for clues to solve the crime!



Rigorous - we are committed to ensuring that all children receive their entitlement to the National Curriculum. Class teachers and subject leaders are rigorous in ensuring that lines of enquiries are planned carefully to ensure that children learn the knowledge and develop the skills appropriate to their age.

Nova Curriculum - our curriculum represents our school values of Trust, Friendship, Discovery and Success. We believe in teaching children 'learning behaviours', through ELLI animals, which give children a toolkit of strategies to help them access the curriculum such as perseverance and adaptability.

You can find more information about our Nova curriculum on our school website at <http://novaprimaryschool.co.uk/learning/curriculum/>

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: Lauren Munday

Role: Year 6 teacher and PE Lead

The best part of the role:

Working with a team of creative and inspirational children and teachers.

Hobbies:

Netball, baking and spending time with family and friends.

Favourite book:

After You- Jojo Moyes

Favourite quote:

"No one ever made a difference by being like everyone else" (P.T Barnum from the Greatest Showman).

Experience:

I am currently in my third year at Nova and I've taught year 4, year 5 and now year 6.

Attendance

Attendance is a key School Improvement priority for Nova this year. We are determined to raise the percentage of children who attend consistently, but it is a team effort. We have had a good start with overall school attendance of 96.7%. Children's learning, social development and self-esteem will all benefit as a result.

At our first parent consultations, which will be on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th November, you will receive information about your child's attendance. By keeping you informed, it will make it easier for you to keep track.

We sometimes hear that Reception parents feel attendance isn't an issue, because children do not legally need to be in school until they are five. At Nova, it is an expectation that ALL children attend, unless there is good reason. Good punctuality and attendance are important life skills. The earlier they are developed, the easier it is.

What is a valid reason for missing school?

Children should only miss school for valid medical reasons or if there are agreed exceptional circumstances beyond the parents control. They should not be absent due to parental illness, birthdays, siblings' absence and all non-emergency medical appointments should be made outside of school hours (dentist/optician etc.).

What should I do if my child is absent from school?

- Contact the School Office (on 0117 9030446) before 9.00 am on the first morning of absence to notify us of the reason for absence; please leave a message if the phones are unattended. We will phone and send a text message to any parent who hasn't contacted school. If we do not hear from parents, the child's absence will be marked as unauthorised and school will carry out home visits.
- Provide medical evidence, when requested, for all absence due to illness in excess of 2 consecutive school days (4 sessions) i.e. prescribed medication. Medical documentation

may also be requested for any absence from parents of children who are frequently absent from school because of minor illnesses or absence immediately adjacent to a school holiday. They may also be offered a meeting with the School Nurse.

- Provide medical documentation (e.g. letters/appointment cards) in advance of any medical appointments (e.g. hospital/dentist). Routine dental check-ups or non-emergency doctor appointments should, where possible, be made outside of school hours or, if this is not possible, at the very beginning or end of the school day.



Contact details for Shine are:

01174 033033

info@myshine.co.uk



CLUBS RUNNING AT YOUR SCHOOL

5 SEP, 2018 - 26 OCT, 2018

MON

Dance Club / Reception - Year 6

My Time / Reception - Year 6

TUE

Archery & Kurling / Reception - Year 6

Cookery Club / Reception - Year 6

WED

Gymnastics Club / Reception - Year 6

My Time / Reception - Year 6

THU

Lacrosse Club / Year 2 - Year 6

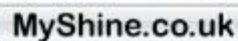
My Time / Reception - Year 6

FRI

Olympic Multi Sports / Reception - Year 6

SNACK & CHILL RUN EVERY DAY EXCEPT FRIDAY

BOOK ONLINE OR
CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION 01174 033 033



Shine Multi-Sports Club is a great way for children to end their busy week. Taking part in a variety of outdoor sports to ensure some end the week with fresh air and fun. Depending on the children's' choices and the weather, we might play dodgeball, netball, cricket, tennis, handball, hockey and Olympic disciplines such as running, jumping and throwing. This club runs after school from 3.15-4.45pm and is only £2.00 per session on a Friday. Please book this club, and any others at <https://www.myshine.co.uk/school/nova-primary-school>.

Shine JFC

Shine JFC are currently recruiting players to join our younger squads. All of our squads from Under 8 upwards are full, but we have space available in our Under 6's, for children in Year 1 and Under 7's, for children in Year 2. We run from now until next April, so if you would love to play football for a local team with professionally qualified sports coaches, please do get in touch. More information is online at <https://www.myshine.co.uk/my-team>

Be part of something fun, well organised and inclusive.

Shine JFC



Football Development Squad



Recruiting New Players to Start
Saturday,
8th September

- ★ Under 6,7,8,9,10,11's
- ★ Weekday indoor training
- ★ Weekend Matches
- ★ Shine football shirt
- ★ Includes matches, training and tournaments
- ★ Led by professional FA qualified coaches

Home Ground: Blaise Primary School, Bristol BS10 7EJ



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