

Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

NOVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for all the positive feedback about the new style newsletter. We will continue to work hard to make it as informative and interesting as we can! Parents and carers often have the best ideas and this is certainly true of those of you that attend the Parent/Carer Forum who make a brilliant contribution to the work of the school.

The term seems to have flown by and I think we are all looking forward to the days getting longer and the temperature rising. We have had a great deal of sickness that has hit our attendance figures hard, but we did reach our first target of 95% for the year, earlier in the term. To reward the children, Saikat the Storyteller came to school yesterday. Saikat is a great favourite with the children; his creative style brings fantastical stories to life in a very unique

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 3

Tues 2nd Jan to Fri 9th Feb 2018

Term 4

Mon 19th Feb to Fri 23rd March
2018

Term 5

Mon 9th April to Fri 25th May 2018

Term 6

way. The next step for Nova is to reach 96% and I promise I will think of something even more special when we achieve this (and if we work together, I know we can). You will receive an update on your child's attendance the first week back after half term, along with a leaflet to support you, designed by Rob, our Learning Mentor.

Mrs Thorpe our new Deputy Head has already achieved a great deal at Nova and has been spending lots of time in and out of classrooms, thinking of ways to make learning environments more exciting. With the help of Mrs Coode, we have some wonderful new displays in the hall and staff will be putting their artistic and imaginative skills to good use on our INSET day. We are aiming to invite parents into school more often, so hopefully you will get to see more of what is happening inside the school- watch this space!

Thank you for all your kind words and warmth this term. Taking on the Headship of a school can be a whirlwind; time is precious and the responsibility enormous, but your encouragement has helped more than you can know. I wish you a restful and enjoyable half term and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 20th February.

With kindest regards,

Mon 4th June to Tues 24th July
2018*

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

-
Inset Day 4

Monday 19th February 2018

-
Inset Day 5

Friday 25 May 2018

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

Other Useful Dates:

Parent/Carer Consultations

21st - 22nd February

-
Book Fair

20th - 22nd February

-
International Women's Day

Learning Event

8th March

-
Year 3 and 4 Performance

13th March 10.30am and 6.00pm

-

Anna Morris
Headteacher



Enterprise Week

19th - 23rd March

-

Parent/Carer Forum

22nd March

-

Year 6 Theatre Trip

20th June

-

PTFA Circus Event

6th July

-

PTFA Summer Disco

13th July

-

Year 5 & 6 Performance

19th July 2.00pm & 6.00pm

-

Year 6 Leavers Assembly

23th July @ 10.00am

-

Nova's Got Talent

23rd July

CURRICULUM AT NOVA

What a fantastic term this has been, full of valuable science learning through our scientific lines of enquiry. Mr Walker, our science leader, said *"I have been amazed at how much enquiry based learning the children have been doing: from learning about electricity, to learning about the solar system and beyond! However, the highlight for me has been hearing about the meaningful learning that has been happening outside of the classroom. Year 2 visited the park to help them*

decide which materials to use when building their own park and Year 3 went to Clearwell Caves to learn about mining different rocks and how to classify them! It's been a really productive term for science. I'm looking forward to building on it after half term!"

Classes aim to tweet photos and information about what has been happening, but here are a few examples of what the children have been up to:

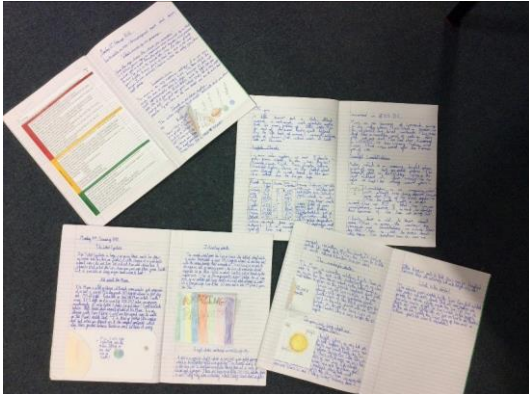
Reception have turned into superheroes this term. They have been solving mysteries and using their super powers to learn new things. We are looking forward to next term when we are looking at real life superheroes and other people who help us.



Year 3 had a very successful trip to Clearwell Caves. Each class had a tour of the caves, where we learnt about the rocks and how they were formed. Who would have guessed that parts of the caves are formed from sea creatures that used to live there many millions of years ago? We also learnt about the mining that took place there. It was amazing to hear about the iron ore and how they got it out. We were a bit sad to know that young children used to work for many hours in the mine.



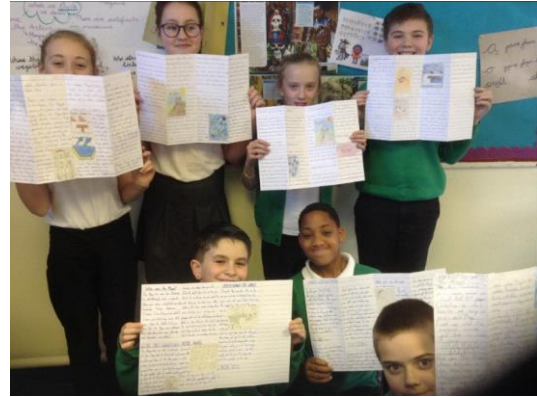
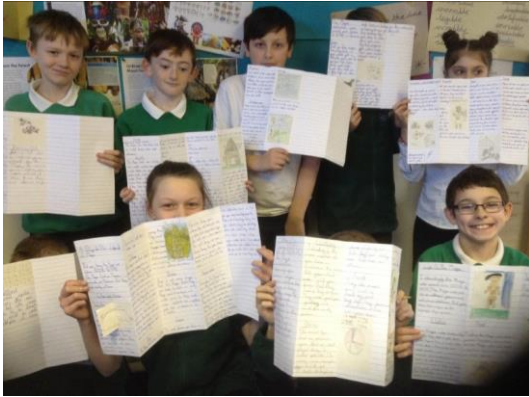
Year 5 have been studying planets, stars, The Lunar Cycle and many other exciting elements of Space. We have worked phenomenally hard on writing some amazing non-chronological reports about Space.



Year 6 have been learning about percentages. Their learning moving forward will focus on how to apply this knowledge to the real world, finding percentages of amounts and who can find the best bargain!

Year 6 are taking part in the 500 words challenge. Look out for their incredibly creative, imaginative and potentially bonker stories!

Year 6 have also been researching the ancient Maya. They wrote 'codex' books to show their independent research and report writing skills. In English lessons, we are getting ready to enter the BBC 500 Word short story competition - some very exciting ideas so far!



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 Catchpole

Role: Year 6 Teacher & Writing Lead

The best part of the role:

Working with such fun, enthusiastic children who never fail to make me smile!.

Hobbies:

Drama, walking and family

Favourite book:

Wonder

Favourite quote:

“Why blend in when you were born to stand out?” (from Wonder by R.J.Palacio)

Experience:

Prior to joining Nova, I was a class teacher for Year 2 and mixed Year 3/4. I am in my fourth year here at Nova and have taught Year 4 and 6.



Shine - Our New After School Club Provider

We were delighted this week to send you details of our new after school care provision provided by Shine with effect from Tuesday 20th February. You can now book after school club sessions with Shine directly on their website:

<https://www.shineafterschoolclub.com/node/3919>

The provision provided by Shine is in addition to the extra-curricular clubs provided by our Teachers and

All of the Shine team members are trained in all aspects of the clubs they are running. One of the members of staff will also be running some targeted lunchtime provision and CPD for our teachers three days per week so the children will become familiar with them very

TAs.

Shine will be providing 2 sessions of after school care:

- Session one will run from 3.15pm to 4.45pm each day - there will be a choice of a sporting or creative activity (Monday to Thursday) and multi-sports on a Friday.
- Session two will run from 4.45pm to 6.00pm (Monday to Thursday) this is a 'snack and chill' session including a snack and drink.

Currently Shine are unable to provide the second session on a Friday. When we review numbers attending they may change this moving forward.

Each session costs £5 (except multi-sports on a Friday which is £2) and each session can be booked individually which gives you greater flexibility for the provision you need.

quickly.

We will be reviewing the provision alongside Shine on an ongoing basis and the activities provided will vary term by term.

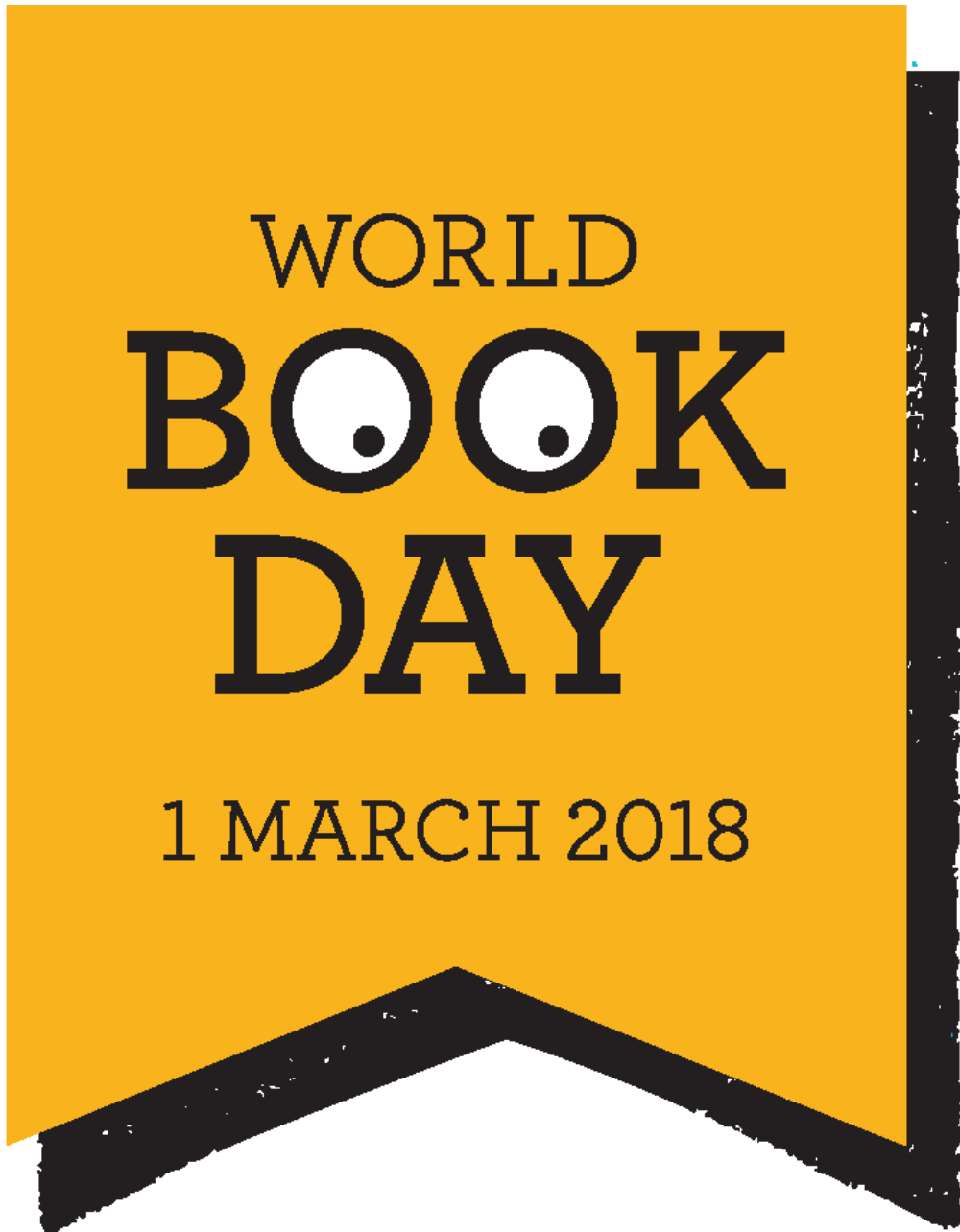
Shine will provide us with a list of children who are attending session by 2.00pm every day so you have up until that time to book your child on. Also if your child is unable to attend the session you have booked, you are able to cancel up to 2.00pm the same day, in order for you to receive a credit towards another session.

Shine are Ofsted registered and so you are able to pay using childcare vouchers.

We would like to thank you for your patience over the past few weeks whilst we have worked with Shine to give you the best choice of after school care. We hope that in response to the parent consultation, that we have found an ideal solution for parents who need wraparound care.

OTHER NEWS

World Book Day Event
Thursday 1st March 2018



World Book Day is on Thursday 1st March. To celebrate our love of reading at Nova, each child will make a 'Book in a Box' which they will bring home at the end of the day. This is a great opportunity for us to share our favourite book, or scene from a book, in art form. It could be related to a picture book, a non-fiction book or a treasured novel.

We need your help! Each child will need an empty box - shoe boxes are ideal. Please help us by bringing in as many boxes as you can - ask your neighbours, grans and grandads or ask at shoe shops -they will often give you one or two for free! There will be prizes for creativity in each class.

A huge thank you to parents and carers for supporting your children with their home learning. We have been blown away at some of the recent creations, from erupting volcanoes to moving parks and descriptive poetry. We really appreciate your support. Due to the sheer volume of wonderful homelearning that is being shared in assembly each week though it has become unmanageable. Therefore instead of sharing in assembly, children will be given the opportunity before assembly on a Friday to share their homelearning with Mrs Morris or Mrs Thorpe in the hall. Home learning will also be celebrated in class and we will be setting up display bookcases in the foyer to share some of the wonderful creations. Look out for the 'Happy homelearners' tweet each week!

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