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Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

NOVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been a strange one with the absence of our two Year 6 classes. Their residential visit this year is to Morfa Bay in South Wales and judging by the many photos on Twitter & Facebook, they've had the time of their lives. There is a lot of mud, but most importantly, lots of smiling and laughter. Morph and Banksy Classes are two of the most wonderful groups of children I have had the good fortune to work with, and I cannot wait to hear about their experiences. May I take this chance to thank the six members of staff who have so generously given their time and energy to accompany the children- you really have gone 'Above and Beyond'!

Talking of those who go the extra mile, may I thank those parents who completed our questionnaire. The results are below this letter and give us some clear

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

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

development points. We also had a very productive Parent/Carer Forum meeting a couple of weeks ago and the minutes can be found on the school website. Feedback on homework was particularly useful and this is enabling us to update our policy, ready for a fresh launch after Christmas. If you would like to join us for the next meeting, just come along. See the dates section for the next event.

With Christmas approaching, I would advise you to check the dates carefully on this newsletter. There is a lot going on, and I know how easy it is to lose track of events. For this reason, I will send out a Christmas calendar next week to help you. It may help children who like to know what is coming as well. We have tried to keep events nearer to the end of term so children don't peak too soon! I will also be in touch if your children need any differing arrangements over this period.

With kindest regards,

Anna Morris
Headteacher

-
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 3

Monday 7th January 2019

-
Inset Day 4

Friday 5th April 2019

-
Inset Day 5

Friday 24th May 2019

Other Useful Dates:

PTFA Disco

7th December

KS1 @ 4.00pm

KS2 @ 5.30pm

-
Reception Nativity Dress

Rehersal - Grandparents

Welcome

10th December @ 10.00am

-
Reception Nativity



10th December @ 2.00pm

-

Y1 & Y2 Nativity Dress Rehearsal

11th December @ 2.00pm

-

Y1 & Y2 Nativity

12th December @ 10.00am

-

Snow White Pantomime

(for children)

13th December

-

Class Parties

18th December

-

Christmas Dinner

19th December

-

Carols Around the Tree

19th December @ 3.30pm

-

Parent/Carer Forum

17th January 2019 @ 9.15am

CURRICULUM AT NOVA

We are into Term 2 of our new Nova 'LEARN' Curriculum and children are continuing their History based line of enquiries, learning lessons from the past. Staff have worked hard to plan meaningful and memorable learning opportunities for the children as you can see from some of the learning highlights below. You can find

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

Year 2 celebrated the end of their fantastic line of enquiry with a 'Fire' experience day, all related to the Great Fire of London.

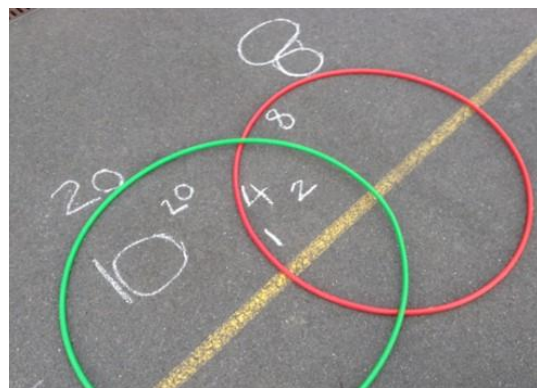
Children were able to come to school in fancy dress and we saw a variety of different costumes, including firefighters, King Charles II, people with the plague, Thomas Farriner (the baker) and people dressed as fire!

We then recreated the fire itself by burning down the houses we made earlier in the term. Freshwater Theatre came in to take us back in time to see what life was like for citizens of London in 1666. In the afternoon, Avonmouth Fire and Rescue came in to show us what fire safety is like today... and children even got to use the fire hoses! It was a fantastic day with so much fun and learning taking place! Well done Year 2 team.





Year 5 have been wonderful scientists carrying out lots of investigations. They have tested how waterproof materials are, to find out which would be best to line the inside of a longship and they have also tested the strength of different materials. They have measured in newton metres to find each material's breaking point. They have also been identifying the common factors of numbers.



Year 6 Year 6 have explored mark-making, using a variety of lines (straight, wavy and zig-zags), making shades of colours using watercolours and smudging pastels. Here are just a few poppy inspired pieces of art that demonstrate these skills.



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 hear from you.

MEET THE TEAM



Name: Nicola Pinnell

Role: Teacher

The best part of the role:

That light bulb moment when a child learns something new or realises they CAN do it! I love seeing children grow in confidence every day.

Hobbies:

Spending time with friends and family and my two year old son.

Favourite quote:

"Promise me you'll always remember: you're braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think".

Experience:

I have been teaching for seven years and joined Nova Primary in 2014. I qualified as

a teacher in York where I taught for three years before moving back to my hometown of Bristol.

OTHER NEWS

Parent/Carer Questionnaire Results

Number of parents/carers who responded: 189

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know/ haven't experienced
1 My child is happy at Nova	90%	6%	4%
2 My child feels safe at Nova	90%	4%	6%
3 My child has made good progress at over the last year	85%	5%	10%
4 My child is well looked after	86%	4%	11%
5 My child is taught well	90%	2%	8%
6 My child receives appropriate homework for their age	76%	12%	12%
7 Children behave well	66%	13%	21%
8 Nova is well-led and managed	88%	4%	8%
9 Nova deals effectively with bullying	48%	15%	37%
10 Nova keeps me informed about my child's progress	74%	18%	8
11 I would feel comfortable in approaching staff if I had a concern	93%	4%	3%
12 The office team maintain high standards of communication	83%	8%	9%

Music News

Last Wednesday Grace from Banksy Class went to Bristol Plays Music to play her violin in an orchestra which had about 80 children playing in it. They played music from West Side Story, Mission Impossible and more. Grace had a fantastic time and said, "I had an amazing time and enjoyed every minute of it." Grace has been taking violin lessons at Nova Primary for a few years and also enjoys playing the recorder.

If you would like your child to play a musical instrument then please let Mrs Young know. We currently have violin, guitar and drum lessons. However, if there were a few children who wanted to start next year we could also provide flute, clarinet or trumpet lessons.

Library Volunteers Needed

If you could spare one or two hours a week to help keep our Library sorted, please contact Mrs Young. We need someone to help replace books in the correct place. You would need to have a DBS check to be able to work in the Library.



Contact details for Shine are:

07932 873476

info@myshine.co.uk

Street Dance

Great News! Shine has appointed an AMAZING dance coach called Alice. She will be at Nova from Monday 26th November and can't wait to meet all keen dancers from Year 1- Year 6. Make sure you book your place at <https://myshine.co.uk/activity/street-dance-club>



You can book and find out everything we have on offer @ [MyShine.co.uk](https://myshine.co.uk)

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