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# Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

**NOVA**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of term can often make children and staff feel tired, and this can sometimes lead us to dwelling on things we have done that are less successful. There is no doubt that it has been a tough term, but I think it is vital that we try and focus on all the things we have achieved and be optimistic about what lies ahead.

So many of our children have excelled themselves. The number of postcards and awards has been enormous and the culture of appreciation and recognition is thriving. My favourite part of the week is our celebration assembly where children beam with pride, and all of us have the opportunity to tell others what they have done to make us feel happy and safe. It reminds us why we all turn up in the morning and continue to manage those tougher times. In a recent visit from the Local Authority, children were praised for

## 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 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**

their curriculum work. Their books showed exciting and interesting learning and a general improvement in presentation; our children are proud of their work and deserve our praise.

Last week, Years 3 and 4 wowed us with their fantastic play 'Porridge'- what incredible talent we have in our school! The solo singers were beautiful and there was some superb acting from many of the children. This week, there have been lots of events involving families too including a tour of Shirehampton Village and a fully functioning games arcade! Thank you for showing your support- in these times of uncertainty and all the strains on families they bring, it is wonderful to see us pull together and celebrate the hard work of our children.

So how can we build on these successes? The key to this is to recognise the many challenges in our community. At Nova, we are committed to improving our offer to families- giving more timely and useful guidance and being more proactive in developing a partnership with parents. We also intend to provide a better range of quality social, emotional and mental health support for our children. As fantastic as appreciation and recognition is, some of our children need a more bespoke approach to help them thrive. Our new Lead Learning Mentor, Janet Green, will be starting after the holidays and she has

## **INSET DAYS 18/19**

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### **Inset Day 5**

Friday 24th May 2019

## **Other Useful Dates:**

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### **KS2 SATs Week**

Monday 13th May 2019

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### **KS1 Sports Day**

25th June 2019

-

### **KS2 Sports Day**

28th June 2019

-

### **KS1 Sports Day Reserve**

2nd July 2019

-

### **KS2 Sports Day Reserve**

5th July 2019

big plans for what is to come! Do make yourselves known to her as she is itching to get to know you all.

Our curriculum is fantastic, but we need to keep our expectations high! That means all children aiming for their personal best, in all lessons! Mrs Thorpe has been relentless in promoting this message and I believe we can achieve the incredible.

Ultimately, to keep improving, we need to stick together. We all want the best for the pupils of Nova- to be safe and happy throughout their schooling and beyond. When you think of it like that, the possibilities are endless.

Next term, we welcome two other members of staff. Miss Hannah Shelton will be teaching Cabot Class, taking over from Mr Mark Lawrence, who has been covering for several months, and also Miss Jordan Burns, who will be a teaching assistant in Reception. Our new SENCo will be joining us in term 6 which will be a great opportunity for Nova to review its SEN provision and again, ensure it offers the very best support.

It only remains for me to wish you a very Happy Easter. Enjoy the chocolate, recognise how lucky we are to have time together and appreciate all of our achievements.

With kindest regards,

Anna Morris  
Headteacher



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## CURRICULUM AT NOVA

'Making a difference' is the overarching theme for this term's Line of Enquiry so that each year group can develop their scientific, design and performance skills, making products and outcomes that make a real difference.

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

**Year R** - what a term we have had! The children have worked really hard and have become really independent in their learning and play. We have been really busy learning new skills and developing our critical thinking and creativity by using our deconstructed role plays and workshop areas.

A big thank you to our lovely families who came in to stay and play with us this week, we had a brilliant time! Watch this space for another stay and play date!





**Year 1's Line of Enquiry is 'How can we make traditional tales come to life?'**

We have been busy this term continuing to look at our topic traditional tales. We read and unpicked Jack and the Beanstalk and made our very own Beans in a Bag to grow at home. Also, we had an RE day last week where we found out all about the Easter story and made our own Easter cards and Easter nests.





**Year 2's Line of Enquiry is 'What makes Bristol brilliant?'**

Children have been developing many geographical skills this term whilst learning about Shirehampton. They did a tour of our local area.



**Year 3 's Line of Enquiry is 'How can science educate and entertain us?'**

Children have been busy designing and making their own games whilst developing their DT skills! Parents and carers were invited to play children's creations at the Nova Games Arcade yesterday.



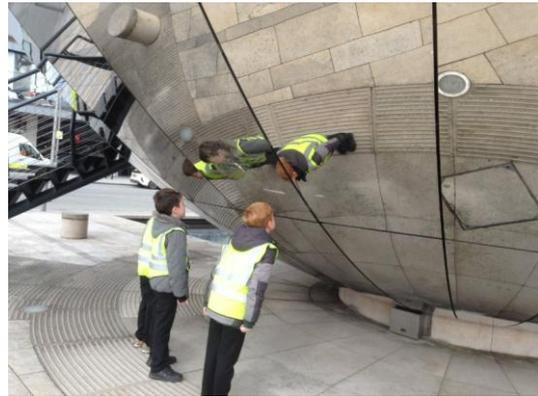
**Year 4's Line of Enquiry is 'Could you put on a stage show?'**

Children were absolute stars learning lines, making props and rehearsing for their production called 'Porridge!' We hope you enjoyed the performance!



**Year 5's Line of Enquiry is 'How have the Ancient Greeks influenced us?'**

Year 5 put on a Great Greek assembly on Tuesday to showcase what they learnt. They also visited Bristol City Council to explore how the Ancient Greeks inspired our democracy, meeting Marvin Reece our Mayor and cooking Ancient Greek pitta bread.



**Year 6's Line of Enquiry is 'What was it like to grow up during WW2?'**

Last week we focused on 'Make do and Mend'. We are currently making useful household items out of old fabric. We've been making mops, patching torn clothes and making rag rugs just like the 1940s.



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.

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## MEET THE TEAM



Name: Kelly Clarke

Role: Teacher

### The best part of the role:

Being a teacher is a very rewarding role. I love to inspire and facilitate the learning of young people so they can actively participate in the world around them

and examine it with creative and critical minds. By establishing these learning habits, young people are empowered to live a successful life of their own choosing and to help shape a better future for our world and all the people who live in it.

#### **Hobbies:**

My hobbies include travelling, camping, scuba diving, fishing and hiking. I love learning about traditional cultures, history and geography.

#### **Favourite quote:**

"Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom" George Washington Carver.

#### **Experience:**

Before teaching The Matthew class, I worked as a Supply Teacher in Years 1 - 6 at Nova Primary School for approximately 1 year. Previously, among various other teaching roles, I worked as a Year 1 Class Teacher and a Health & Physical Education Specialist Teacher (Year 1 - 6) in Queensland, Australia. I also taught a Year 2 - 4 composite class in Western Australia, Australia.

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## **OTHER NEWS**

### **Home Learning at Nova**

A big congratulation to all the children who achieved a 'Home-Learning Stars' certificate last term to recognise them for completing all of their home-learning missions! Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Morris are always delighted to see the children's

creations on a Friday!

Please do support your child with their daily and weekly home learning tasks (spelling, times tables and maths/english practice) as it really helps them consolidate what they're learning at school.

### **Times Table Rockstars! (TTRS)**

We are pleased and excited to inform you that children from Year 2 to Year 6 will be able to access Time Tables Rock Stars from this term. This is a carefully designed on line system for practising times tables facts at speed whilst making learning engaging and fun. It will be a fantastic tool to support all children's recall of times tables.

Recently it was mentioned in the press by Damian Hinds MP, Secretary of State for Education. He said that his three children use TTRS and he described TTRS as "engaging, competitive" and said "it improved their arithmetic".

TTRS can be used on a PC or tablet. Simply go to <https://trockstars.com> and click on the login tab for students. You will be asked to input School name and then your child's username and password.

Have fun and please feedback with any comments. We would love to hear what you and the children think!

### **Heroes Day - Dress Up & Cake Sale**

'Making a difference' is the overarching theme of our curriculum this term.

On **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** we hosted 'Heroes Day' to raise money for Guide Dogs.

Heroes Day was a fantastic success and the children (and staff!) loved it! In total we raised a massive £615.63 for Guide Dogs.

On Monday we were visited by Maureen and her guide dog AJ. Maureen spoke to the children about what life is like being visually impaired and what a difference AJ makes to her life. The money that we raised will make a massive difference for the lives of those people who depend upon guide dogs. At the end of April, Mrs Thorpe's husband is running the London Marathon to raise awareness of the Guide Dogs UK charity too. Thank you all for your continued support.



### Netball League

A huge well done to our Year 6 netball team for coming 7<sup>th</sup> (out of 12) in this year's netball league. Your dedication and teamwork really paid off.

## Netball

	Games Played	Points	Goal Difference
<u>Elmlea</u>	9	27	+42
<u>St Bons</u>	9	24	+34
<u>St Teresas</u>	9	16	+19
<u>St Ursulas</u>	9	15	+17
Horfield	9	19	+23
WOT	9	14	+17
Little Mead	9	10	-12
NOVA	9	7	-31
Westbury Park	9	9	-26
Bishop Road	9	8	-5
<u>Henbury Court</u>	9	8	-23
<u>Shirehampton</u>	9	0	-58



Contact details for Shine are:

07932 873476

[info@myshine.co.uk](mailto:info@myshine.co.uk)

Shine clubs running in Term 5 are below. You can book online at [MyShine.co.uk](http://MyShine.co.uk)



## CLUBS RUNNING AT YOUR SCHOOL

24 APR, 2019 - 23 MAY, 2019

<b>MON</b>	Cricket Club	Year 1 - Year 6
	My Time	Reception - Year 6
<b>TUE</b>	Dodgeball Club	Reception - Year 6
	Shine Cookery Club	Reception - Year 6
<b>WED</b>	Gymnastics Club	Reception - Year 6
	My Time	Reception - Year 6
<b>THU</b>	Pottery Club	Reception - Year 2
	My Time	Reception - Year 6
<b>FRI</b>	Multi Sports Club	Reception - Year 6

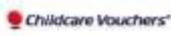
**£2** per session

SNACK & CHILL RUNS EVERY DAY AT 16:45 - 17:55  
EXCEPT FRIDAY

BOOK ONLINE OR  
CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION 01174 033 033

**BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE BEFORE 12.00 ON THE DAY**



BRISTOL ACTIVE CITY  [MyShine.co.uk](http://MyShine.co.uk)  





# SHINE POTTERY CLUB

## EVERY THURSDAY 15:15 - 16:45



- ★ RECEPTION - YEAR 2
- ★ QUALIFIED CERAMICIST TO LEAD CHILDREN IN THIS ENGAGING AND CREATIVE CLUB
- ★ THE CHILDREN WILL LEARN A VARIETY OF TECHNIQUES TO CREATE ARTWORKS TO BRING HOME
- ★ THE CHILDREN WILL PRACTICE THEIR SKILLS TO MAKE ARTWORKS ACCORDING TO DEVELOPING THEMES THROUGHOUT THE TERM

**BOOK ONE OR MORE SESSIONS ONLINE AT MYSHINE.CO.UK**  
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