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**Dear Nova Families,**

It has been a brilliant start to term 3 and the school is buzzing with new learning and the sense that anything is possible. I have to say that I have been very impressed with children's pride in their learning and their confidence in sharing it with the school community.

Thank you for the effort you are making with attendance and punctuality. Though we have a long way to go, we are starting to see small improvements and this is very encouraging. We have excellent systems in place, thanks to Janet and Mrs Crawford, for following up absences and ensuring communication is clear. When you receive notification of your child's attendance, rest assured that this is designed to inform and support you. Children need to be in school as much as

possible, but as I always say, it is a team effort. As long as you are doing everything you can to get your children in, you have nothing to worry about. We are determined to increase attendance at Nova. It is too low and no matter how hard we work in school, if the children are not here enough, we cannot improve results or many other aspects of school improvement. Attendance as of this week stands at 93.2%, though the expectation is that we should be above 95%. Let's give it a real push so we can see lasting improvements to attendance at Nova.

Many of you will have been quite traumatised by the horrific forest fires sweeping Australia at present. The images presented of mass devastation and injured animals are enough to break the hardest of hearts and many Nova pupils have expressed their worries about what is happening. On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January, we will be having a non-uniform day. We are asking for voluntary contributions towards a collection to send to the Wildfires Emergency Appeal. Even a few pennies would be welcome and it would mean a great deal to our children that we have the opportunity to show how much we care.

In addition, I would like to invite children to write their thoughts, prayers or wishes about the situation. We will post a selection on Twitter/Facebook and would

welcome accompanying artwork showing the beauty of Australian wildlife. It isn't just money that shows we care- words and pictures are a great comfort and we would love to share these via social media. Please ask children to give any money or writing and artwork to their class teachers.

I have added something else rather moving to this week's newsletter. Thank you to Harry from Morph Class for bringing in his writing and photographs about the brave members of his family who fought for our country in World War 2. Harry, this is very moving and thank you to you and your family for sharing this with us. Year 6 are thoroughly engrossed in their new Line of Enquiry about World War 2 and have loved hearing you read about your relatives. In May, we will be commemorating VE day (Victory England) with a series of events and activities to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the war and I am sure our oldest children will be able to educate us all about this poignant and important period of history. Please keep your eyes peeled for further information and dates relating to this!

With kindest regards,

Anna Morris  
Headteacher



### Dates for your diary

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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 2019 – 2020

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**Term 3**

Mon 6th Jan 2020 to Fri  
14th Feb 2020

-  
**Term 4**

Mon 24th Feb 2020 to Fri  
3rd April 2020

-  
**Term 5**

Mon 20th April 2020 to Fri  
22nd May 2020

-  
**Term 6**

Mon 1st June 2020 to Mon  
20th July 2020

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

**DAYS 19/20**

-

**Inset Day 3**

Monday 6th January 2020

-

**Inset Day 4**

Friday 3rd April 2020

-

**Inset Day 5**

Monday 20th July 2020

**Other Useful Dates:**

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**Year 4 Trip to St. Bede's**

23rd January

-

**Year 5/6 Netball League**

4th February

-

**Year 2 trip to Clifton**

**Suspension Bridge**

6th February

-

**Whole School**

**Curriculum Day 'Mind,**

**Body & Soul'**

7th February

-

**Year 5/6 Football League**

**Book Fayre**

10th February

-

**Parent Consultations**

**Book Fayre**

11th February

-

**Parent Consultations**

**Book Fayre**

12th February

-

**Year 4 trip to Aerospace**

13th February

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**Year 6 WW trip**

14th February

-

**Year 1 Family Friday**

**Traditional Tales**

**Breakfast**

Dress up as your favourite  
traditional tales character

14th February

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**MEET THE TEAM**



**Name:** Alison Goodwin

**Role:** Year 3 Teacher

**The best part of the role:**

Sharing a part of the learning journey of the children I work with and getting to know them. Never having a boring day, only new adventures and different challenges.

**Hobbies:**

I love spending time with my family and pet cat, going to the theatre and listening to live music.

**Favourite quote:**

"Resistance is futile" (Star Trek!)

**Experience:**

Almost 26 years as a teacher, most of them in Year 6, many of them as a Senior Leader and governor too. Have held most curriculum roles at one time or another.

## OTHER NEWS

An extract from Harry's amazing writing about his wartime hero family members.

Petty Officer Lambourn, or as I would call him Great-great Grandad, was born and raised in Lawrence Weston. His love of sea and boats took him often to Avonmouth docks, where he would eventually work until his retirement once he left his first love, the Navy. Joining fresh out of school and loving every minute of it, he rose up through the ranks to become Chief Petty Officer of a ship.

Travelling the world and absolutely loving it, he once sat down with my mum and told her some stories about being out to sea with his comrades and the things he would get up to, but she tells me, "I'll tell you when I'm older!"

I'll tell you the one she did tell me- he and his shipmates had to guard gold! Lots and lots of gold, somewhere abroad- she can't remember the name of the country (maybe for security reasons ha ha!).

Obviously, being caught up in the Navy, he was inevitably going to get caught up in the war! I say caught up but I honestly think that many of the men and women who signed up did so willingly to protect their country. How brave- he like many others did his bit and on 6<sup>th</sup> June, that many of us know as D-day, his ship along with others in the waves into Normandy, charged to take control and win the war and like the true heroes they were, they were successful. Sadly, like many other battalions, they lost men, but luckily for my family, Cecil came home. He passed away peacefully at home on Christmas 2003, this happened to be six months after my eldest brother Jamal was born.



## Football League - Current Standings

### Championship

School	Games Played	Won	Draw	Loss	GF	GA	Diff	Points
Brentry	8	8	0	0	45	0	+45	24
Horfield	8	5	1	2	12	5	+7	16
Westbury On Trym	8	5	1	2	11	10	+1	16
Blaise	8	4	2	2	10	6	+4	14
St Johns	8	4	1	3	11	10	+1	13
Nova	8	4	1	3	8	13	-5	13
Little Mead	8	3	1	4	8	11	-3	10
Henbury Court	8	2	3	3	5	6	-1	9
Long Cross	8	2	2	4	7	12	-5	8
Westbury Park	8	0	4	4	2	11	-9	4
Our Lady	8	1	1	6	5	22	-17	4
Cotham Gardens	8	1	1	6	4	22	-18	4

## School Meals Supervisory Assistant Vacancy

We require a School Meals Supervisory Assistant to work with our children across our lunchtime from either 12.00pm to 1.00pm or 12.30pm to 1.30pm. You will carry out a range of duties both in the dining hall and outside on either the KS1 or KS2 playgrounds. You will be able to build good relationships with both children and class teachers. You will work as part of a team to deliver high quality play activities and care during the lunch hour.

The role is for 5 hours per week paid at the Bristol Grade 2 rate of £17,364 FTE which equates to £9.00 per hour.

We are committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS (formerly CRB) check is required for the successful applicant.

The ability to converse at ease with members of the public and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post

For an application form please email the school ([nova.p@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:nova.p@bristol-schools.uk)) or contact the school office.

We would also be interested in hearing from people who don't want to commit to a permanent role but would be interested in working on a casual basis.



Contact details for Shine are:

07932 873476

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

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

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Nova Primary School  
Nova Primary School  
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