

Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

NOVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Nova Families,

It has been a peculiar few weeks as we manage some of the worry and uncertainty surrounding the coronavirus. Even though we know the virus itself is relatively mild, we find ourselves unnerved by the daily developments and the harm it may cause to those who are vulnerable.

Children certainly pick up on adult worries and no matter how hard we try to mask them or explain them age appropriately, they often see and hear all sorts of rumours and versions of events from peers, neighbours, television and of course, social media. That is why it is important to have honest, but sensitive conversations with young people so that they receive information that is reliable and avoids unnecessary panic.

My biggest fear for our pupils is their use of the internet; even some of our youngest children are putting themselves at risk on a regular basis and it is getting harder and harder for all of us to keep them safe. Somehow, children feel braver and more protected online- they say things they

wouldn't normally say and speak to people they don't know. It is all of our responsibility to educate children to stay safe when using their many devices. I would strongly urge you to sign up for our Internet Safety session at 3.30pm on Thursday 26th March with Alan Earl. Alan is a trained consultant with a huge knowledge of how to keep young people safe. He will be working with Year 5 and 6 in the afternoon and running this special meeting for us after school. We are providing a crèche for primary school aged children and all you need to do is sign up on our parent consultation booking app:

<https://nova.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

Mrs Risley has kindly offered to take notes at the meeting and will be forwarding them to all families, so please look out for these if you cannot come.

If you do have any concerns about how your child might be feeling about the coronavirus or any other issue in the news, I highly recommend the BBC Newsround website. There are many, up to date reports that explain things simply and interestingly.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>

Have a great weekend and we will see you on Monday.

With kindest regards,

Anna Morris
Headteacher



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 2019 – 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 4

Friday 3rd April 2020

-

Inset Day 5

Monday 20th July 2020

Other Useful Dates:

-

Wednesday 18th March

Year 2 Walk to
Shirehampton

-

Wednesday 26th March

CAN Coffee Morning @
10.00am

-

30th March - 2nd April

Autism Awareness Week

-

Monday 30th March

Spectrun Dress Up Day
(more details to follow)

-

Tuesday 31st March

Reception Trip to Wild
Place Project

-

23rd & 24th April

Year 5 Warburton
Workshops

MEET THE TEAM



Name: Emma Cuthbert

Role: Year 5 Teacher

The best part of the role:

I love when children have a "light bulb" moment! When they have been struggling with a problem, persevere through trial and error, and then click! They've got it! I also love when children have been so excited by a lesson, that they go home and do some extra work or research about it. Recently, two girls wrote a diary entry at home based on our class novel. It was inspiring!

Hobbies:

Reading, exercising (so I can eat chocolate), travelling! Is listening to cheesy music a hobby?

Favourite quote:

May the luck of the Irish be upon you!

Experience:

I have always enjoyed working with children! When I was completing my undergraduate degree in psychology, I spent two months in Sri Lanka working in SEN and mental health facilities. After my degree, I worked as a teaching assistant in a SEN school before volunteering in a primary school in Ghana for three months. I have now taught Year 5 for three years... and I love it! My next task is to complete my Masters.

OTHER NEWS

Year 5 Visit to City Hall

Term 4 got off to a brilliant start when Year 5 children at Nova Primary were invited to Bristol City Hall to meet Mayor, Marvin Rees. After studying how the ancient Greeks

have influenced us, we were keen to know what democracy looks like in Bristol.

We were welcomed by local councillor, Jo Sergeant and given a tour of the building, including the Council Chambers rooms where local issues are debated. The Chamber is based on the House of Commons and has a spectacular painted ceiling which shows Bristol throughout its history. We even got to sit in the Lord Mayor's Chair and bang the gavel!

Children asked some thought provoking questions around climate change, flood defences and schools. Some children were keen to ask for top tips for anyone thinking of a career in politics and others asked how Bristol is tackling the problem of homelessness.

Marvin Rees was a pupil at Nova Primary during the years he lived in Lawrence Weston with his mother – he remembers us fondly, 'I grew up in poverty but I had good teachers who supported me and got something out of me.'





CAN Corner

Next week is Neurodiversity week. We are not officially celebrating this as a school but I wanted to take a bit of time to highlight Neurodiversity.

"Neurodiversity refers to the enormous differences in human minds. This is due to many factors, such as environment, culture, family, and personal history. Human minds interact with all of these factors to produce the unique individuality of each human being. Brains differ from each other just like fingerprints. This diversity gives us all individual styles, strengths and weaknesses, gifts and peculiarities. This is what we mean by neurodiversity." [Nick Walker, 2013]

Neurodiversity refers to conditions such as Dyslexia, ADHD or ASC, amongst many others. As a school, we strive to provide the most appropriate provision for each individual child, so that they are able to thrive. We also aim to continue to support and educate our entire school community on developing a greater understanding for neurodiversity. Here is a list of the top 10 generic tips for supporting a child who is Neurodiverse:

- 1) Speak slowly and use clear, simple language
- 2) Don't overload with information or instructions
- 3) Allow 'thinking time' for processing information
- 4) Understand challenging behaviour
- 5) Ask the child or young person what works for them - they know themselves best!
- 6) Listen
- 7) Tap into interests and strengths
- 8) Genuinely respect neurodiversity

- 9) Reassure the child or young person that they are capable, they just learn differently from others sometimes
- 10) Use positive role models, such as celebrities with SpLD, to boost confidence and self-esteem



Contact details for Shine are:

07932 873476

info@myshine.co.uk

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



CLUBS RUNNING AT YOUR SCHOOL

THIS TERM

15:15 - 17:00

MON

Outdoor Adventure / Reception - Year 6
My Time / Reception - Year 6

TUE

Cookery Club / Reception - Year 6
Football Club / Reception - Year 6

WED

Gymnastics Club / Reception - Year 6
My Time / Reception - Year 6

THU

Athletics & Running Club / Reception - Year 6
My Time / Reception - Year 6

FRI



Multi Sports Club / Reception - Year 6

PLEASE CALL 01174 033 033 OR
EMAIL INFO@MYSHINE.CO.UK FOR MORE INFORMATION

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