

Dear Nova Families,

I think that the whole school community is more than ready for a well-earned break after what has been a term like no other! I can only thank you from the bottom of my heart for the support, reassurance and patience you have shown over the last few weeks as we adapt to the new ways of working. Personally, though I know the queuing and waiting are a pain overall, it has been wonderful to see more of you and to be able to see each child as they enter school each day. So many smiles can only be a good start to each day!

Nova pupils have shone since September. They have surpassed our expectations and I am incredibly proud, as I know all the staff are. I can honestly say I have not had one complaint from a child about the restrictions and their attitudes to learning are better than ever. I do hope you enjoy all the lovely comments and curriculum news from teachers in the section below.

As you know, due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are unable to hold assemblies at present. Mrs Thorpe and I have been filming some assemblies that classes can watch on their touchscreen whiteboards. This has been an opportunity for us to read some wonderful books which hopefully inspire the children to think about a range of things. Last week, I shared a video about the incredible life of Olympic athlete Jesse Owens using a beautiful book about his achievements. Jesse faced prejudice and intolerance throughout his life because of the colour of his skin, yet he always exceeded expectations. He is best known for winning four gold medals at the

1936 Olympics, infuriating Adolf Hitler who watched from the stands and challenging the world to stand up to racism. Even after he continued to face prejudice on his return to the United States, he was not deterred:

“Find the good,” he said. ‘It’s all around you. Find it, showcase it and you’ll start believing in it.’



At times like these, it helps to remember that so many people and communities throughout history have overcome unimaginable situations with integrity and strength. I have certainly taken Jesse’s advice this term and found the good all around our school community.

Thank you parents, children, staff and governors for never giving-up. Enjoy the half term break - there may not be much going on but we are blessed with incredible outdoor spaces this side of Bristol and I hope to bump into some of

you when I am out enjoying the fresh air with my dog, Billy.

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 2020-21

-
Term 2
Mon 2nd Nov 2020 to Fri 18th Dec 2020

-
Term 3
Mon 4th Jan 2021 - Fri 12th Feb 2021

-
Term 4
Mon 22nd Feb 2021 - Thurs 1st April 2021

-
Term 5
Mon 19th April 2021 - Fri 28th May 2021

-
Term 6
Mon 7th June 2021 - Weds 21st July 2021

PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING INSET

DAYS 20/21

-

Inset Day 4

Monday 4th January 2021

-

Inset Day 5

Monday 19th April 2021

-

Inset Day 6

Friday 2nd July 2021

-

Inset Day 7

Wednesday 21st July
2021

Other Useful Dates:

-

Monday 9th November

Early Years - Visitors
arriving in eggs!

-

**Wednesday 11th
November**

Year 2 Victorian Dress Up
Day

-

Tuesday 15th December

KS1 Christmas Lunch

-

Thursday 17th December

KS2 Christmas Lunch

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Thank you so much to all of you that attended our virtual parent/carer consultations last week. We know this is less than ideal and technology can be a real distraction but we are so pleased that we managed to speak to many of you about your children's progress.

During our first consultation of the year, we usually ask you to complete a questionnaire for us. This year, we are sending you an online survey based on the parent OFSTED view questions to help us with our planning for school improvement. Follow the link below to complete the survey and thank you in advance for engaging with this; your perspective on the progress of the school is vital to us.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=xDKCdq-3p0WqkaWWCfovFQdpCbCMeOIDuhpr8WMe1hVUQ01RTFJRRkZQWVpYUVdLWjlaSDZPWDc4UC4u>

The survey will be available over half term and be closed on Monday 2nd November.

MEET THE TEAM



Name: Naomi Lewis

Role: Teacher

The best part of the role:

The best part of my role as a teacher is being able to help the children reach and exceed milestones in their development, as well as watching them learn with a smile!

Hobbies:

I love to be outdoors and particularly enjoy walking and running. Equally, I love a movie night and a large bar of chocolate!!

Favourite quote:

A child's life is like a piece of paper on which every person leaves a mark.

Experience:

This is my first year of teaching at Nova Primary. I am really enjoying all the new experiences that this school brings and looking forward to acquiring more skills to support my role. I have a degree in Early Years and have also had placement experiences in KS2 from Years 3-6.

CURRICULUM NEWS

Early Years

This term we have been focusing on our gross motor skills, building up our strength ready for writing. We start each day with a session of Dough Disco which not only wakes us up and gets us ready to learn, but it also helps to strengthen the muscles in our hands. During our daily phonics sessions, we are wiggling and squiggling – we make huge movements to music with pom-poms, ribbons, or scarves, then recreate these movements on paper using pens, chalk and pencils. Our play is filled with opportunities to rehearse these skills too – we have brooms and brushes for painting with outside, opportunities to dig, climb, balance, and move in a variety of ways. It has been LOTS of fun getting stronger and building up a foundation of skills which

will help us in all areas of learning.

Lots of the children love all things spooky, so to celebrate the end of our very first term we decided to have a Spooky Week. We have been building skills, motor control and communication through lots of play including pumpkin bowling, monster slime, play dough, exploring pumpkins, retelling 'Room on the Broom' and making shrinking apple heads!

Next term we will have some special visitors arriving in eggs... can you guess what they might be?





Year 1

Year 1 have had a great start to the term! Being a Year 1 is a huge step up from Reception and I am so proud of all of the superstars for handling the transition like true champions. We have had lots of giggles, learnt a lot about each other, bonded as one big team and most importantly, learnt a range of new skills! Year 1 ROCKS!!



Year 2

We have been blown away by the quality of writing in **Rolls Royce** class. This half term we have been learning about life in Victorian times and children have been using adjectives to describe, writing diary entries in role as a servant as well as learning how to edit and improve their writing. We have seen some fantastic pieces of writing and are so impressed with how hard the class have been working. Well done Rolls Royce class, you are all superstars. Keep up the brilliant writing in term 2!

I am proud of the positive mind-set displayed by all Year 2 children in **Concorde** class during the past term. During Mental Health Week, the children wholeheartedly explored the meaning of kindness and identified ways to incorporate it in to our daily school practices. They generated ideas including listening to others with respect as well as reminding ourselves of our own individual strengths. The Year 2 children in Concorde class particularly love to share their appreciations for each other and are more confidently recognising their own kind behaviours. The sincere enactments of kindness by the Year 2 has greatly supported their transition back to school as well as their engagement in learning. What a spectacular environment for learning!

LO: To write a diary entry

Dear diary,

Today I am really busy doing the school and cleaning. I am feeling really happy because I love doing work. I was the queen. I was in the cells and I had to sweep away all the spiders that the spiders make. Then I had to get a path ready. I got the queen. First I got a path of water. Next I got water from a lake. Then I heated it up by the fire. After that I poured it over the path. Then I had to do it over and over and over and over and over and over again. Finally it was ready. The queen was so happy. She said it was the best bath I had ever done. She gave me a badge that said 'You did the best bath ever'. And I had a picnic and a bath with a queen in! She said 'You were



Year 3

Goram have settled into year 3 really well. We have been working really hard in all of our learning this term and have used our previous knowledge to build and develop new skills. In Line of Enquiry, we have learnt all about the Stone Age, making bone necklaces, cave men and cave paintings. We now know what life was like in the Stone Age and how it has changed. In maths we have worked really hard on our place value and 3-digit numbers. Our writing this term has allowed us to build up a bank of knowledge to create a recount of the story 'Stone Age Boy'. We cannot wait to see what we learn next term!

Vincent class have really enjoyed learning about the Stone Age and in particular have carried out the art lessons with enthusiasm. They have learnt which colours were used and how to mix them and found out why art was so important to the Stone Age people.



Year 4

Cabot class have been full of enthusiasm for their Roman line of enquiry and have shown an impressive knowledge of Britain in pre-Roman times. (Well done Mr Walker - your teaching of the Stone age was very thorough!)

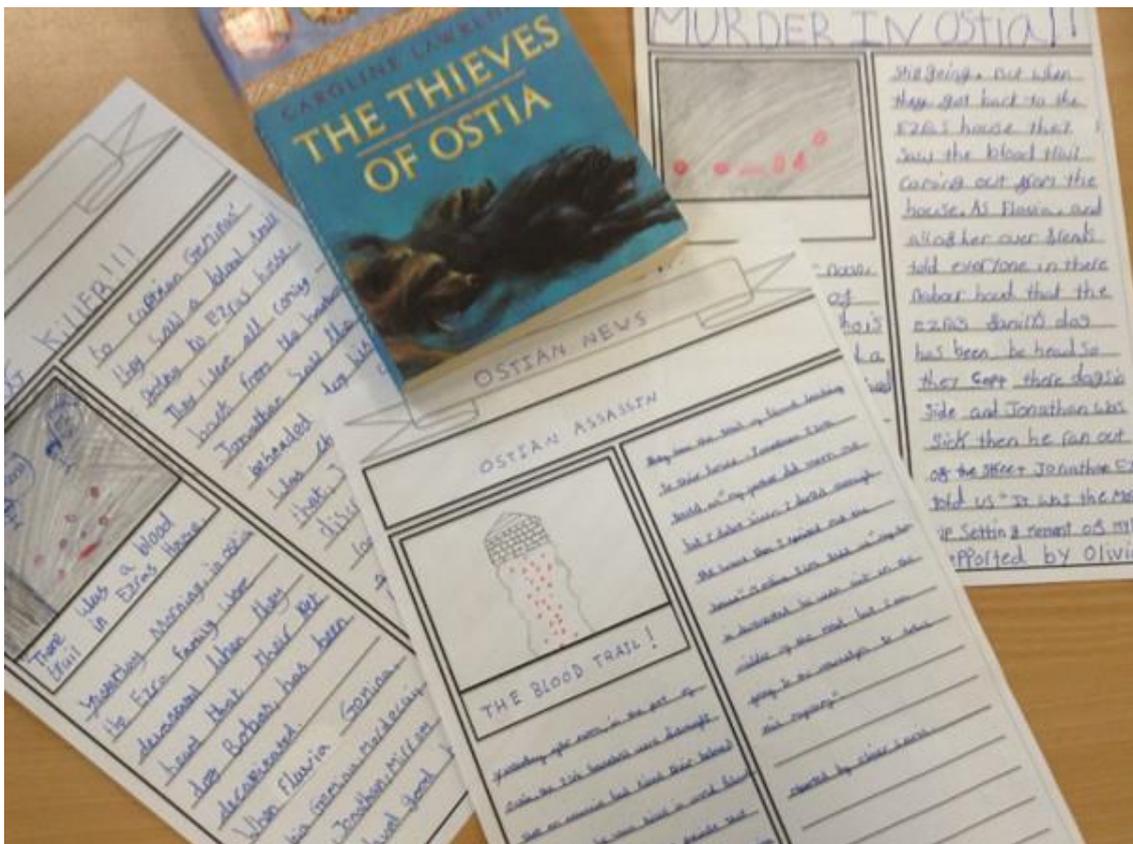
They have loved listening to the book 'The Thieves of Ostia' by Caroline Lawrence and creative writing linked to this has been very well presented. We are showing pride in all of our work!

Cabot class have made an amazing start to year 4 by being so engaged in their learning. A love of reading and listening to stories is already shining through and we are developing our confidence in sharing our opinions and explaining ourselves clearly. Communication and confidence are the key words for us this term!

I have been trying to think of a word to describe the way **Brunel** class have returned to school, but one of the most suitable ones for me would simply be: Proud. I have been delighted to see the way in which the children have thrown themselves at every

new challenge, it is a real testament to their resilience and determination.

We ended this term writing first person recounts, and the improvements in their writing as a whole over the past 8 weeks have completely stunned me! Not only that, but the enthusiasm they have shown towards our Line of Enquiry has been a joy to watch. The questions they have asked and the eagerness they have shown to answer them has made term 1 really enjoyable. I can't wait to keep the journey going in term 2. Have a great break everyone – well done!



Year 5

Blasie Castle have been experimenting with paint and different widths of brush to create seascapes for our paintings depicting scenes from Viking sagas. We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Coode for her marvellous whole school display for our Term 1 picture book, 'Here We Are'.

Wow, what a year it has been so far in **Kingsweston class**. We've been learning all about Anglo-Saxon Britain and what happened to our country under their rule! In

science and DT, we made some catapults for the king of Kent to help defend his borders, and in History we've been looking at how the country changed from being under Roman rule to splitting into the 7 Anglo-Saxon kingdoms!

Alongside this topic, we've been learning how to work as a team in P.E lessons, building up to an orienteering project at the end of term!

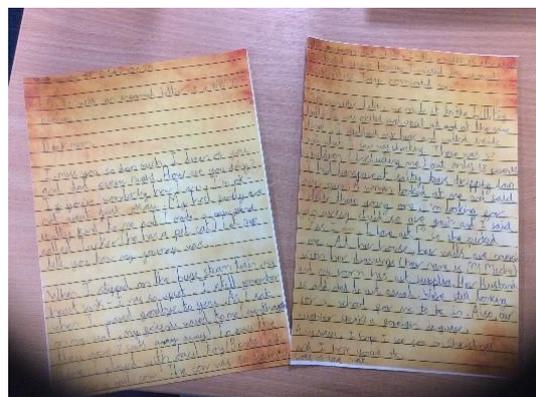




Year 6

We've had some great experience days (particularly our Evacuee day), phenomenal pieces of writing, packed with figurative language; and have made connections between subjects with the help of the brilliant book 'Carrie's War'. I have been blown away by the quality of questioning and ability to explain some rather challenging vocabulary. What a great start to Year 6, **Banksy Class**. Keep trying your best Year 6 and remember to think positively.

Morph class have made an excellent start to the year! We have all thoroughly enjoyed our Line of Enquiry, 'Bristol in the 20th Century: What changes have been seen?' This term has been full of hard work, interesting conversations and lots of smiles! A highlight has to be our evacuee day, which was inspired by our class novel: Carrie's War. Additionally, I have been impressed with our teamwork and navigation skills in our Orienteering P.E. lessons and science investigation! It's been a great term and I look forward to the rest of the year!





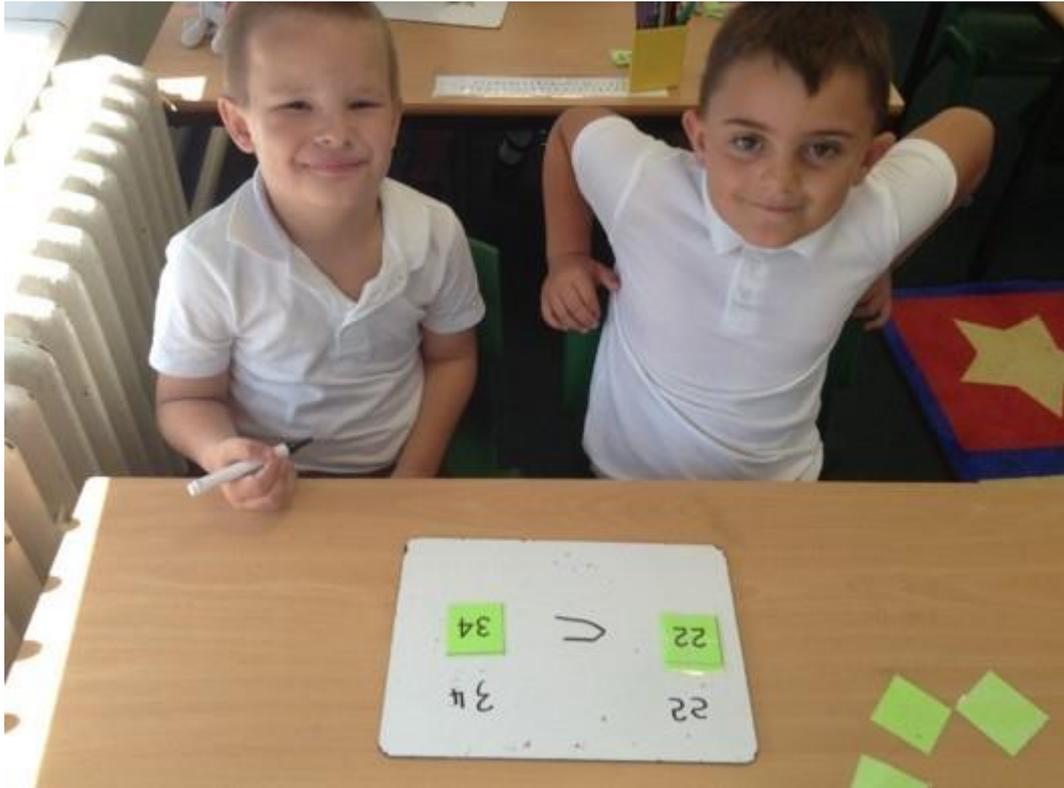
Spanish - Miss Normand

Hola! I have been very impressed by how so many of the children have embraced Spanish this term. We've learnt to say hello and how are you, to ask someone's name and reply, we've learnt some colours and we can count to at least 10 and for some, 20. Muy bien y gracias a todos!



Maths - Miss Cuthbert

Across Nova Primary School, there has been fantastic maths learning taking place! We started the term re-visiting key number and fluency targets, using concrete manipulatives and pictorial representations. I have had the pleasure of looking at maths learning from all year groups - presentation and fluency skills have been excellent! Remember to practise times tables on TT Rockstars to support maths learning - class teachers will be able to provide you with logins if these have been lost.



NOVA AWARD WINNERS

Here are the Super Nova Star winners for the past four weeks.

★★★★★★	Friday 25 th Sept	Friday 2 nd Oct	Friday 9 th Oct	Friday 16 th Oct
Gromit			Ivy	Jaxon
Wallace			Jax	Freddie
SSGB	Henry	Kendrick	Teagan	Lena
Matthew	Ali	Mati	Phoebe	Rosie
Concorde	Kamuran	Evie	Leon	Leon
Rolls Royce	Lily	Domas	Ollie	Evie
Goram	Millie	Lewis	Oakley	Chyanne
Vincent	Mati	Maria	Amari	Katie
Brunel	Tyrease	Emma	Emily	Aceson
Cabot	Lexi Bell	Eric Rodgers	Evie	Josh
Blaise	Bethany	Diya	Nikodem	Paddy
Kings Weston	Daniel	Konstantina	Liam D	Jack T
Banksy	Ellis	Ashton	Max S	Faith
Morph	Kray	Finley P	Izzabella	Amy

Here are the 'Above and Beyond' winners for term 1. They each have a goody bag to take home and enjoy (please be reassured it has not been handled for several days and will be handed out from a box to keep within COVID-19 restrictions). These children always go the extra mile and deserve recognition for consistently working hard and doing the right thing - true Nova Stars.

 Term 1	
Wallace	Shaela
Gromit	Paige
Matthew	Oscar
SSGB	Phoebe
Concorde	Sienna
Rolls Royce	Arina
Vincent	Marleigh
Goram	Eleanor
Brunel	Crystal
Cabot	Olivia
Kings Weston	Alyssa
Blaise Castle	Kaci-Jane
Morph	Grace
Banksy	Amie

A great big well done to all of these wonderful children, helping to make Nova a truly special place to learn and play!

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

As you will be aware from the last newsletter and various emails Shine will no longer be running our after school club from term 2. However, we are delighted to be able to confirm the details for our After School Club which will start on Monday 2nd November. The club will run Monday to Friday from 3.15pm – 5.00pm. Whilst we still have staggered finish times provision will be in place for the year groups that finish before 3.15pm.

Our club will be run by one of our Teaching Assistants Mrs Becky Harris who will be joined by another one of our Teaching Assistants Miss Rosie Tudge and Miss Jen Giltrow. Jen has previously run some sports club for us so the children will know her. The team have some great ideas for activities during the after school club time so keep a look out over the next few weeks. We will publicise the activities the club will run on our website, newsletter and on social media.

The cost of the club will be £6.50 per session and term 2 is now available for you to book online. Please note that only children who have booked into after school club can attend. Please see details below on how to book and pay for places at the club. Please also make yourself aware of our cancellation policy. In order to maintain Covid-19 guidelines we will have to limit the number of children who can attend per each Key Stage at this time but hope to be able to increase this once the restrictions are lifted.

We are very much looking forward to running the club from Term 2 and providing the wrap around care for your children.

Booking Procedure

To enrol for Nova's After School Club, please complete and return the attached registration form, paying special attention to the terms and conditions listed.

Bookings can be made using the same link as we use for parent's evenings and breakfast club:

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

Alternatively, if you require a space at short notice, please call the office and we will be able to book you in, subject to availability.

As spaces are limited, you must book in advance and we ask that you notify us by 3pm if your child is not able to attend that day, although refunds will only be given if we receive 2 working days' notice of cancellation.

Payment MUST be made in advance using school gateway which is the same link as for dinner money and trip payments:

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/register>

We also do accept childcare vouchers - please contact the school office to ensure that we have your provider registered with us.

Here is our plan of activities in after school club for term 2. Please note that they are subject to change depending on children's interests, weather and resource availability.

Term 2 Themes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 Getting to know you	Puzzle pieces to create art display (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Wacky hair portraits (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Team work games	Pom pom mats Ongoing activity all term. Accessed when children desire.	Friendship bracelets (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)
Week 2 Bug Week	Go on a bug hunt in forest school Make dens and drink hot chocolate!	Clay bugs (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Peg dragonflies/butterflies (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Spiders web game. Scavenger hunt	Bugs life movie. Light up butterflies
Week 3 Camping	Put up tent (weather dependent) Hotdogs and hot chocolate. Story circle	Make kites and nature weaving (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Starlit night cups. (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Obstacle course challenge.	Water pistol painting. Take down tent if still up
Week 4 Winter Week	Pipe cleaner snowflakes (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Salt painting (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Snow ball fight. Hot chocolate. Marshmallow snowman competition	Winter shape cookies.	Frozen 2 movie Arctic sun catchers

Term 2 Themes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 5 Ocean Week	Cereal box aquarium (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Sea themed games.	Salt dough animals	Ocean themed scavenger hunt.	Octopus pizzas
Week 6 Flying Week	Lollipop planes (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Balloon Rocket races	Paper plane tutorial. Target game	Space themed games	Egg drop challenge
Week 7 Christmas	Salt dough decorations (Available until weds for those who only attend certain days)	Paper plate wreaths (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	No sow sock snowman (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Pop up Christmas cards (Available all week for those who only attend certain days)	Paint salt dough decorations (Available when dry, for those attended earlier in the week)

FAMILIES IN NEED

At Nova we recognise how difficult things are for many families at the moment. The Safeguarding Team are here to support you as much as they can (the term safeguarding encompasses any aspect of caring for our wonderful families). Though we cannot give financial support, remember that Janet or Mrs Morris are happy to issue food vouchers for the North West Foodbank. The foodbank is an amazing organisation and is always happy to help without judgment.

If you are in significant difficulty, please do not be afraid to let us know. There are other organisations that we may be able to signpost you towards or it may just mean that if needed, we can give a little extra 'TLC' to those children who really need it during difficult times.

Contact the office if you wish to receive a foodbank voucher or make a telephone appointment with any member of the Safeguarding Team and we will do our very best to help you.





SUPPORTIVE PARENTS

The SENDIAS service for children, young people and their parents

Supportive Parents are offering individual on-line meetings to parents of children with SEND next term.

They will support you to:

- Feel more confident and understand the SEND process
- Get your views heard and raise your concerns
- Feel well prepared when dealing with paperwork and attending meetings

If you would like us to arrange an appointment for you please contact your SENCO Rachel Risley R.Risley@novaprimaryschool.co.uk

NUTS REMINDER

Please remember that we are strictly a no nut school! We take nut allergies extremely seriously and would like to remind you that not only should your children not bring any products with nuts in at all to school, that it is not safe for them to eat them just outside either. Traces of nuts can remain on skin and clothing and it can take just the tiniest trace to trigger a serious reaction in someone with an allergy. Thank you!

PLEASE



NO PEANUTS OR NUT PRODUCTS

PTFA HALLOWEN HUNT

Happy Halloween to all at Nova Primary! This half term The PTFA is hosting a Spooky Halloween Treasure Hunt. Follow the clues around Shirehampton Village to solve the puzzle – you will need your best thinking cap on to discover the mystery location! Once there, take a picture of yourself with the Nova PTFA Halloween poster & post it to the parents Facebook page!

Don't forget a pad & pen to unscramble the clues!

Prizes to be won!! Winners to be announced on Friday 6th November 2020.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SOCIAL DISTANCE & WEAR MASKS IF APPROPRIATE
but most of all HAVE FUN!



OTHER NEWS

At the end of this term we sadly say goodbye to our HLTA Mrs Heather Pickup who we wish good luck to in her new role. We welcome Mrs Rachael Bishop, an experienced teacher from Bristol, to our teaching team. Mrs Bishop will be covering NQT and leadership time for teachers on a Thursday and Friday next term. She will be teaching Vincent, Brunel and Morph class for ½ day each week and I'm sure the children and our school community will welcome her warmly.

