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Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

NOVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Nova Families,

We started term 2 with positivity and energy at Nova. Of course, since then, we have found ourselves back in lockdown and I know that this must be taking its toll.

The staff at Nova have been simply amazing. As with you all, they have their own worries and difficult circumstances, yet they never fail to put the children first. May I also praise the children whose exercise books are looking really impressive at the moment - they are certainly taking advantage of every lesson and this is also reflected in continuing improvements in behaviour and attitudes to learning - the classrooms are lovely places to be!

Last week the children participated in anti-bullying week with a range of assemblies,

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

stories and activities around this year's theme 'United Against Bullying'. This is particularly timely as we are currently reviewing our anti-bullying policy. Our recent parent/carer survey showed that 85% of you are happy with the way the school deals with bullying and incidents are very low in number. However, we are continuing to strive for improvements and looking into a range of strategies and initiatives to ensure that no child feels that they are unsupported when things go wrong. I look forward to sharing this policy with you when it is complete! The other parent survey results can be found further down the newsletter, and many thanks to those of you that took the time to complete it.

Another area that the school is always seeking to develop is diversity within the curriculum. The curriculum team, led by Mrs Thorpe, have worked hard to ensure that it is crafted so that it prepares children for life in modern Britain, so that they are caring, respectful and knowledgeable about different cultures, beliefs and lifestyles. We have recently purchased a range of books to support the curriculum in this way; books are like wonderful windows into the world and therefore, should reflect the community, wider society and world we live in. We always welcome suggestions for resources or activities to support our work in this area so please get in touch if you would like to contribute.

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:

-

Tuesday 15th December

KS1 Christmas Lunch

-

Thursday 17th December

KS2 Christmas Lunch

As always, take good care of yourselves over the next few weeks. Fingers crossed that we can relax a little over Christmas if we all stick to the guidelines and be as safe as we can.

With kindest regards,

Anna Morris

Headteacher



PARENT/CARER SURVEY

Here are the results of our recent parent/carer survey. We will send the same survey later in the year to help us monitor the impact of our school improvement plan. Please note that sometimes percentages do not add up to 100 due to rounding up and the slight variations in numbers of participants for each questions.

Question	Strongly Agree/Agree	Don't know/haven't experienced	Disagree/Strongly Disagree
1. My child is happy at this school.	93%	2%	6%
2. My child feels safe at this school.	92%	2%	5%
3. The school makes sure its pupils are well-behaved.	71%	18%	15%
4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	74%	11%	14%
5. School makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	82%	7%	11%
6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.	49%	38%	13%
7. My child has send and the school gives them all the support they need to succeed.	100%	0%	0%
8. The school has high expectations for my child.	73%	13%	3%
9. My child does well at this school.	87%	5%	7%
10. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	80%	9%	11%
11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	83%	15%	2%
12. My child (under normal circumstances and not current Covid precautions) can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	87%	9%	4%
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	71%	22%	5%
14. I would recommend this school to another parent.	89%	Unavailable response	11%

MEET THE TEAM



Name: Sophie Wiltshire

Role: Teacher

The best part of the role:

My favourite part of the role is being able to share my knowledge and experience to make learning as fun and creative as possible. I love being able to teach transferrable skills that the children can use during and beyond their education, seeing value in what they learn.

Hobbies:

Baking, walking, fitness, singing and spending time with my 2 dogs.

Favourite quote:

'You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any **direction** you choose.' - Dr Seuss.

Experience:

I am so lucky to join the Nova team as an NQT. I obtained a BEd in Primary

Education at the University of Winchester. As part of my training I worked in a variety of primary and infant schools. I also worked as a Youth Theatre Teaching Assistant where I worked with children aged 3-16 who had a love for musical theatre.

CURRICULUM NEWS

Early Years

We have had some wonderful visitors recently. We had the pleasure of watching chicks hatch from their eggs in an incubator. It was a truly magical thing to witness! We were blown away by the strength and determination of these tiny little creatures.

We've been learning all about the life cycle of a chicken and how to care for chicks. Some of us created videos all about the life cycle and others drew the life cycle too. Lots of children have been inspired to draw and write about the chicks too – they've received lots of fan mail!

We were very lucky and had lots of opportunities to hold the chicks carefully (making sure they don't get too cold). There's been paintings of chicks and playdough chicks too! We observed the chicks very closely and they changed so much. Many had already started to grow larger feathers on their wings and they were barely one week old! It has been a fantastic experience looking after the chicks, we were sad to see them go. Just before they left, we wrote some letters for them to take to the farm in their next stage of life.

Thank you so much to Mrs Ferns for organising the experience!



PIC•COLLAGE



Year 1

Year 1 have enjoyed learning about why we celebrate Remembrance Day. They took part in a 2-minute silence to think about all the soldiers who risked and lost their lives. Year 1 love being creative and particularly enjoyed designing their own 'Thank You' cards for the war veterans and creating their painted Poppy pictures.



Year 2

Last week, Year 2 children had a spectacular time immersed in rich Victorian experiences. Firstly, they were visited, virtually, by the Muller House Museum and learnt about the life experiences of disadvantaged Victorian children.

Then, the following day, the Year 2 children dressed up as either a disadvantaged or privileged child from the Victorian era. They acted out the iconic scene from *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens. Check out the school twitter page to find out what happens when you ask for more porridge in a Victorian orphanage.

Finally, the Year 2 children had great fun playing with Victorian toys and making a Victorian cup and ball games. They wrote their own set of instructions so that you can make one too.



Year 3

This term in Year 3, we are learning all about Ancient Egypt. We have started the topic looking into tombs and mummification. We explored Tutankhamun's tomb and discovered what possessions were found in his tomb. Much like an archaeologist, we took this information and discovered why Tutankhamun held these possessions and what he might have been like as a person. We cannot wait to learn more about Ancient Egypt!



NOVA AWARD WINNERS

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

★ Nova Star Award winners ★			
Class	Friday 6 th Nov	Friday 13 th Nov	Friday 20 th Nov
Gromit	Henry	Jacob	Alisha
Wallace	Ashton	Ralphie	Edward
SSGB	Logan	Florrie	Alice
Matthew	Ibrahim	Emily	Max
Concorde	Alby	Simo	Amelia
Rolls Royce	Tyler	Audrey	Darcie
Goram	James	Eiden	Alfie
Vincent	Bethany	Enikö	Oliver
Brunel	Cara	Nicole	Mikolaj
Cabot	Olivia	Oliver	Reggie
Blaise	Lily	Roksana	Mysha
Kings Weston	Jasmina	Bella	James H
Banksy	Lola	Alba	Sonney
Morph	Jay	Eva	Besa

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

We would like to thank everyone for their help and support over the last term, especially the PTFA .

We have all had enormous fun planning and taking part in all the activities, especially our snowball fight on Wednesday. The children threw themselves into it, creating forts, planning strategies and working together as teams.

We can't wait for next term and hope to see many more of you joining us in After School Club.

Mrs Harris, Miss Tudge and Miss Giltrow.

Booking Procedure

To enrol for Nova's After School Club, please complete and return the 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 3. Please note that they are subject to change depending on children's interests, weather and resource availability.

Term 3 Themes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1 Games week	Shoe box football games	Ping pong game board	Outside games	Board games	Crazy golf
Week 2 Chinese new year	Chinese lanterns	Chinese new year drum	Paper plate dragon	Dragon puppet	Fortune cookies
Week 3 Circus	Paper plate spinning wheels	Circus skills	Paper plate ring toss game	Clown	Circus games
Week 4 Roald Dahl	The Enormous Crocodile Egg carton crocodiles	Georges Marvellous Medicine Smoothie making	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Chocolate creations	The BFG Making dream catchers	Esio Trot Tortoise crafts
Week 5 Twilight Zone (Nocturnal animals)	Magic torch picture	Animal hunt	Animal masks	Owl biscuits	Out of sight till tonight
Week 6 Harry Potter Week	Create your own mythical creatures	Quidditch	Harry Potter escape room	Magical potion smoothies	Wand making

EXCITING NEWS

Computing is an area of the curriculum that we are very keen to develop at Nova. As you can imagine, it costs a huge amount of money to ensure that we have all of the necessary equipment. However, we are pleased to tell you that we have purchased 30 new laptops for the children to use! Our old ones were quite out of date which was very frustrating for teachers and children but now they will be able to access the computing curriculum with much more efficiency.

One of the benefits will be that children can upskill themselves with the use of

Microsoft teams in school. This will be so helpful for them when completing their home learning, and as it looks like we will continue to use such online platforms more and more in the future, we think this is more important than ever.

Thank you to Mrs Ferns for organising these brilliant new resources and to Mrs Thorpe and Mr Deeney (our computing leader) for helping her to get them set up.

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, 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

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