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**Nova News**  
Keeping you up to date all year round

**NOVA**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Dear Nova Families,**

We are all looking forward to the Easter break, particularly now we can meet up with a few more of our friends and family. In many ways, those of us working in schools have been the lucky ones over the pandemic as being in school gives us the opportunity to catch up with colleagues, chat to the children and retain that little bit of social normality. I know it hasn't been like that for all of you; it has been a hard job parenting without the release of a talk with a friend or a much needed hug from a family member. I have said it many times but I really do salute you for keeping things together so well over what can only be described as the most difficult year that many of us have ever experienced.

Easter is a wonderful time of year. Of course, for Christians, it is a time to

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

-  
**Term 5**  
Mon 19th April 2021 - Fri

celebrate the resurrection of Christ and the way this symbolises the hope of something new and better. For many people, it is a time to think about new life and the beauty of nature, its lifecycle and beauty. For me, and I hope you will share this sentiment, it is a time to look forward to sunnier, more carefree days and to be grateful for everything that has helped me reach this optimistic point in the calendar year. There is no doubt that I count you all in this. Your resilience and support have meant the world to us all at Nova and I very much hope that you take some time to treat yourselves this Easter weekend.

A couple of weeks ago, we took part in Red Nose Day. We sold Red Noses in record time and dressed up as our heroes on the Friday. This was so much fun and I think that for a while, it felt just like old times! We had some fabulous costumes and there was so much laughter, but also some poignant moments too with children honouring their 'Covid' heroes such as Sir Captain Tom Moore, NHS doctors and nurses, their teachers and parents. We raised an incredible £514.14 and I would like to thank you all for donating and supporting this amazing charity!

Unfortunately, I do have some sad news for you. We are saying goodbye today to Mr Walker, our Kingsweston class teacher after almost five years. Mr Walker has been a fantastic member of the teaching team at

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 5**

Monday 19th April 2021

-

**Inset Day 6**

Friday 2nd July 2021

-

**Inset Day 7**

Wednesday 21st July  
2021

**PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL  
WILL BE CLOSED ON  
THE FOLLOWING INSET  
DAYS in 21/22**

-

**Inset Day 1**

Wednesday 1st  
September 2021

-

**Inset Day 2**

Nova and we are so sad to be saying goodbye. He is off to take on a new challenge away from teaching though we hope he will reconsider and join the profession again one day. In addition, we will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Gordon at the end of April. Mrs Gordon has been at Nova for nearly eight years and has taught and led Early Years and taught in Rolls Royce class. She has also been a school governor for many years which shows her commitment to our school. Mrs Gordon will have welcomed many of your Reception children to the school in the past and I know the whole community will miss her greatly. The good news is that she will only be moving up the road to begin her new role as a leader at Snapdragons nursery- they are very lucky indeed!

On the plus side, we are welcoming Mr Beech to the Year 5 team. He has been teaching in Wales for the past year and cannot wait to get to know Kingsweston class. Also, with Mrs Bacon returning to Wallace class after Easter, Miss Parslow, who has done a sterling job in Reception since Christmas, will join the Year 2 team in Rolls Royce class with Miss Pinnell.

Next term we will be back to business. We have completed many assessments with the children since we fully reopened to all pupils and this has given us a strong understanding of where the children are with their learning and what needs to

Monday 11th October  
2021

-

**Inset Day 3**

Tuesday 4th January 2022

-

**Inset Day 4**

Friday 8th April 2022

-

**Inset Day 5**

Friday 8th July 2022

**Other Important Dates**

-

**Poetry Week**

19th - 23rd April 2021

-

**Parent Consultations**

20th & 21st April 2021

-

**Polling Day**

7th May 2021

-

**Class Photos**

12th May 2021

-

**Health & Wellbeing Day**

25th May 2021

happen next to make up for any lost time and enable them all to fulfil their greatest potential. It is still too soon for us to plan the whole school events that we look forward to every summer but rest assured that we will build in every opportunity we can to ensure the children have a wonderful time. They have been simply brilliant this term and they have certainly been my heroes over the last year.

With warmest regards

Anna Morris  
Headteacher



## CURRICULUM

### EYFS

EYFS have had a fantastic first term back together– we have been busy playing and learning as a team! With so much Easter excitement this week, we have been learning about the reason it is celebrated, looking at signs of new life, making Easter cards, Easter nests and of course we will be going on an Easter hunt!

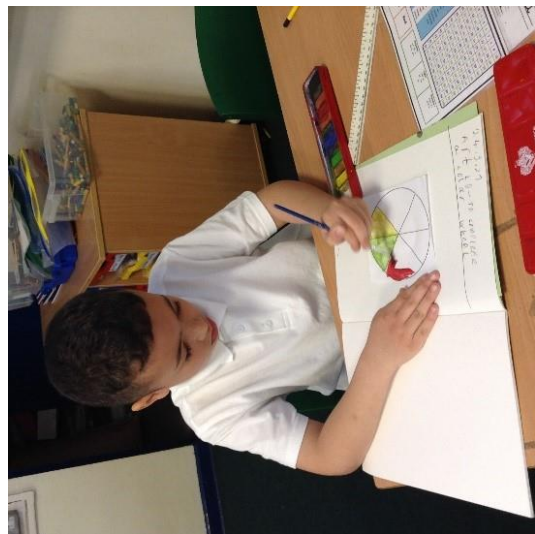






## Year 2

Year 2 have been exploring watercolours in art this week and have used different tools to create art work. They have been creating their own colour wheels and have learnt how to mix different colours together.





### Year 3

Year 3 have had a great time experimenting with natural dyes. They have used red cabbage, beetroot, turmeric and lemon juice to create a variety of colours for their tie dye art project. It was fascinating to find out which patterns could be created by the different ways of folding the fabric and winding the elastic bands.



### Year 5

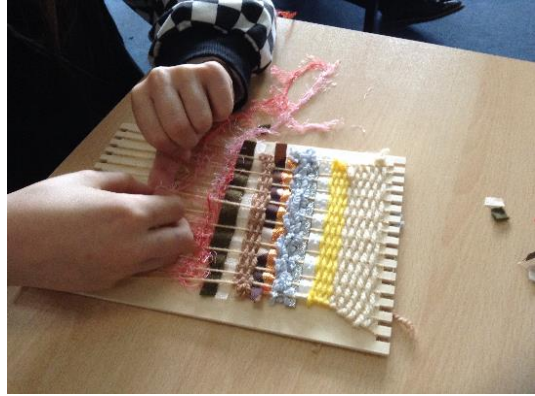
Year 5 celebrated coming back as a whole class with a fantastic sequence of lessons on printmaking. We've been experimenting with collagraphy, Lino cutting and even printing using the natural pigments in Spring flowers. In PE, basketball outdoors in the sunshine, has definitely provided a well-deserved boost to our well-being. Bring on the Summer term, when we'll be investigating all things cosmic!



## Year 6

Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed our art/textile day where we learnt how to make felt (yes, from scratch-impressive) and how to weave. Throughout the day, our resilience was really tested but we persevered and didn't give up. The Year 6 team were very proud.





**MEET THE TEAM**



**Name:** Matt Coiley

**Role:** Learning Support  
Assistant

**The best part of the role:**

Helping children to develop their potential

**Hobbies:**

I enjoy films, travelling and hanging out with friends

**Favourite quote:**

"Those who ignore history are deemed to repeat it."

**Experience:**

5 years teaching (2.5 in Spain teaching English)

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**ATTENDANCE**

Attendance has been statutory since the full reopening of the school four weeks ago. The school is applying its standard attendance policy and will be following up unauthorised absence and lateness rigorously.

If you do receive a call or email from the attendance team, please respond respectfully. We must follow procedures as it is our responsibility to ensure all children are accounted for and that once in school that all measures are taken to keep everyone safe, according to our COVID risk assessment; continual lateness makes this extremely difficult.

It is essential that you inform the school of your child's absence at your earliest convenience. In addition, if your child has had a friendship issue or difficult day, please resist the temptation to keep them off school. We have a large and skilled team who are willing and able to solve any problems that children face, but we need them in school to do this and a day at home can often increase the child's anxiety. Bring them in, inform us of the issue and we will do everything we can to support them.

With children and families still needing to self-isolate at times, it makes it hard to maintain a healthy attendance percentage. We have already seen a dip since full reopening as you can see below:

Week beginning	Percentage of children in attendance	Local authority absence-primary age range
8.3.21	95.3%	97%
15.3.21	94.3%	96.1%
22.3.21	93.6%	95.5%

As a school community, we need to make a huge effort to achieve the very best attendance figures - we can make a difference if we all do our bit!

**TT ROCKSTARS**

# TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS

A huge well done to pupils competing so far in our weekly year group battles! Here are the results so far...

<b>ROLLS ROYCE</b>	<b>CONCORDE</b>
<b>VINCENT</b>	<b>GORAM</b>
<b>CABOT</b>	<b>BRUNEL</b>
<b>BLAISE</b>	<b>KINGSWESTON</b>
<b>MORPH</b>	<b>BANKSY</b>

Classes need to have a group effort to win each battle! As you can see, it is close already! There is still plenty of time to overtake your opponents. Each battle ends every Monday and a new one will then commence... Which class will have the highest tally at the end of next term?

Remember Times Table Rockstars is a great way to improve times table knowledge. Guidance recommends children should practise times tables for 15 minutes every day. Please see your class teacher if you need log-in details.





at Nova Primary School for healthy wellbeing

Spring is in the air! With the days getting longer and more and more restrictions lifting, things are looking up! Change (even if it's positive!) can be hard for many people however, and so it's still really important to take care of wellbeing – this includes our own, as well as the children's. Here are 5 great, free apps which can help boost our mental health through mindfulness, quality sleep, music, games and talking.

#### Smiling Mind

A free app for practicing mindfulness, with over 300 meditations suitable for a range of ages. You can even track the impact on yours or your child's wellbeing through graphs. Available on Apple and Android.

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/smiling-mind/id560442518>

#### Cove

Express how you feel through music with this free app. You can create a mood journal, except instead of using words, you use music!

<http://www.cove-app.com/>

#### Sleep Meditations for Kids

Free with in-app purchases and available on Apple and android. This app is great if you have a child who struggles to get to sleep, and is suitable for all ages.

<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/sleep-meditations-for-kids/id549414156>

#### Stress & Anxiety Companion

Designed more for adults, this free app offers breathing exercises, games and

relaxing music to help calm the mind.

<https://www.nhs.uk/apps-library/stress-anxiety-companion/>

### For Me

This free app from Childline is more suitable for teenagers, and has everything from advice to message boards. It also offers the chance to speak to a counsellor 1-2-1 at any time.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/for-me/>

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

We have had a very exciting and fun time in after school club this term. The children have enjoyed creating clay animals, chocolate cornflake cakes and animations amongst other things. We hope you have had the opportunity to have a look at our animations via our social media pages, they are amazing!

When we asked the children what their favourite thing about after school club was, they said...

Ammony – “my favourite thing about afterschool club is everything, I especially liked making the animation”

Hayden – “my favourite thing is playing with the Lego”

Oscar – “I love all the different stuff we make and getting to play with my friends”

Will – “I like being able to do fun things and play outside”

We are looking forward to seeing all the children and hopefully some new faces next term. We have a fun filled term ahead!

Term 5 Themes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Big art week</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Inset Day	The big paint splat! (please bring old clothes to wear)	Big jigsaw	Masking tape art  Big pasta Tuesday	CD scratch
<b>Explosive Space week</b> 26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> April	Paper plate Hovercrafts  Papier-mâché planet's part 1	Explosive Wednesday bottle rockets and rocket fuel explosion (coke and mentos)  Papier-mâché planet's part 2	Space games Balloon ball race Astronaut assault course Meteor cup smash race	Summer skies marshmallow constellations  Lava lamps and Bouncy ball making/space slime	Papier-mâché planets painting  Colour moons
<b>Book week</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Where's Wally?	Charlie and the chocolate factory  Chocolate creations	Guinness world record  We will be attempting a selection of world records	No after school club	Toy story  Fork is and slinky dog making  Toy story film
<b>Fruit and veg week</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Strawberry seed planting  Chocolate strawberries	Smoothie making  Fruit A – Z challenge	Clay fruit	Elastic band melon explosion challenge	Fruit/veg printing and painting
<b>Around the world week</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Chinese lanterns And passports	Australia boomerangs and rain makers	Mexico, cactuses, chips and dip, Mexican dress up party	Egypt, pyramids and mummies	Italie pizza making and garlic bread
<b>Sports week</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Shoe box football table	Create your own ping pong paddle  Tournament out on the ping pong tables	Sailing boat races	Create your own Assault courses	White board air hockey

The cost of the club is £6.50 per session and term 5 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 Key Stage at this time but hope to be able to increase this once the restrictions are lifted.

### Booking Procedure

To enrol for Nova's After School Club, please complete and return a registration form which can be obtained from the School Office.

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:

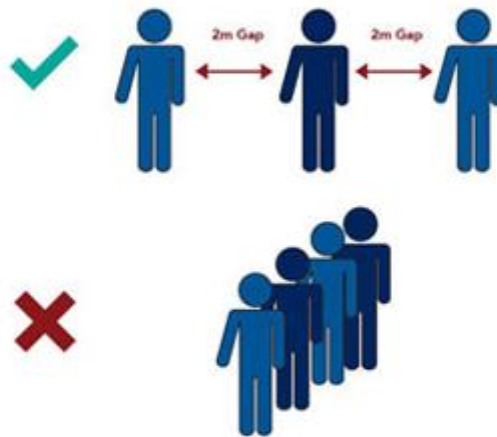
### **COVID GUIDELINES**

Please can only one adult collect and drop off children to help limit numbers. We appreciate the pavements outside of school are narrow so please stand in lines rather than small crowds to allow others to pass safely. Thank you for your support with this.



# Limit numbers

## Queues



When queuing, leave a safe distance between yourself and the person in front of you. It is recommended you leave a two metre gap.

Please can only **one member** from each household collect children.  
Only queue and collect your own child.

When dropping off and collecting children, we ask that all adults wear a mask to help us limit the spread of the virus. We appreciate your support with this. [#WearAMask](#)



# Wear a mask



Please wear a face covering to stop the spread of the virus.

## 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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Nova Primary School  
Barracks Lane  
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