

Dear Nova Families,

Firstly, an enormous Nova welcome to all of our new pupils, families, staff and governors! Starting somewhere new is always nerve-wracking but I know that our school community is welcoming and empathetic; hopefully you all feel like you belong, already.

It has been an exceptionally positive start to the academic year at Nova. Over the course of the pandemic, staff and governors always remembered that we are a place of education and continued to develop school improvement priorities to the best of their abilities. Therefore, we have hit the ground running and the evidence of this can be seen in every part of the school. The children, our Nova stars, are just incredible. They are eager to learn, respectful and calm, and the school is an amazing place to be. The new morning routines are working like a dream and I have never experienced such a relaxed start to the day, in any school I have worked in- thank you, families, for playing your part in this.

Many of the things we lost temporarily are restored. We had our first 'hot chocolate Friday' last week and it was so enjoyable to have this time to chat to children who have really excelled themselves at school. I have heard beautiful singing in whole school and key stage music assemblies thanks to Mrs Thorpe, who is leading music this year. We are learning the song 'Cover me in Sunshine' by Pink, and it is going down a storm with everyone! Teachers are submitting many proposals for trips and experiences, and we can finally allow our Year 6s to experience some of the special parts of being in their final year such as prefect responsibilities (we had a record number of applicants!) and of course,

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 2021/22

-
Term 1
Thurs 2nd September
2021 - Friday 22nd
October 2021

-
Term 2
Monday 1st November
2021 - Friday 17th
December 2021

-
Term 3
Tuesday 4th January 2022
- Friday 18th February
2022

-
Term 4
Monday 28th February
2022 - Friday 8th April
2022

-
Term 5

sitting on the benches in assemblies. I don't think we realised how much we missed some of these things and we will never take them for granted again.

One of the biggest changes has been allowing you all to come onto the site to collect children and to attend various meetings. In November, we will have our first 'live' parent consultation for two years; it is going to be really special. I know that the teachers will be full of good news about your child's attitude to learning if the first two weeks are anything to go by!

I read a beautiful book in my first assembly of the term called 'Mixed'. It tells the tale of red, blue and yellow and how they learn to appreciate each other's beauty and strength, enabling to make so many more colours. Our community is diverse and unique and I am so excited to experience all that we achieve, together. I will leave you with a lyric from our new song, mentioned above- perhaps the children could perform it to you over the weekend...

*Cover me in sunshine
Shower me with good times
Tell me that the world's been spinning since the beginning
And everything will be alright*



With
Anna
Headteacher

warmest regards,
Morris

Monday 25th April 2022 -
Friday 27th May 2022

Term 6

Monday 6th June 2022 -
Thursday 21st July 2022

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

Inset Day 1

Thursday 2nd September
2021

Inset Day 2

Friday 3rd September
2021

Inset Day 3

Friday 8th October 2021

Inset Day 4

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Inset Day 5

Friday 8th April 2022

Inset Day 6

Friday 8th July 2022



Inset Day 7

Thursday 21st July 2022

Other Important Dates

-

Tuesday 28th September

Harvest Assembly

-

Tuesday 28th September

@ 3.30pm

Parent/carer phonics and
reading information
evening

-

Thursday 30th

September

Y6 Bristol Walking Tour
Trip

-

Thursday 30th September

@ 3.30pm

Parent/carer maths
information evening

-

Friday 1st October

Whole School Race for
Life event

-

Monday 4th October

Y2 Trip to Muller
Orphanage

-

Tuesday 5th October

KS2 Surprise Singing
Event

-

Thursday 14th October

Y1 Victorian Dress Up Day

-

Friday 15th October

Y1 Visit from Fire Brigade

-

Friday 24th October

Y6 Visit from Michael
Gorley (Bristol Historian)

-

2nd & 3rd November

Parent Consultations

-

Tuesday 23rd November

Y3 Bristol Museum Trip

YEAR GROUP NEWS

YEAR 1

Our superstars have had a super first few weeks in Year 1. They have enjoyed exploring their new classroom, getting to know their new teachers and settling into their routines. This term our topic is 'Who are the real heroes?' and we have enjoyed role playing police officers and learning about people who can help us in the community and at school. We have spent lots of time in engaging in circle time activities, where we have established turn taking and respecting the views of others.

During our first week, we particularly enjoyed our picture book 'What we'll build', which helped us to learn about team work, resilience and the tools that we may need

to be successful learners. We all drew a picture of ourselves climbing a mountain, which have been displayed on our class charter board, accompanied by collaborative classroom rules that will help us to succeed in year 1. We have had a great start to the term and are looking forward to immersing ourselves into our Line of Enquiry topic and meeting some real heroes!!





YEAR 2

Year 2 have enjoyed immersing themselves in their Line of Enquiry question 'What was it like to live in Victorian times?' They have started to read Oliver Twist and explored artefacts from Victorian childhood.





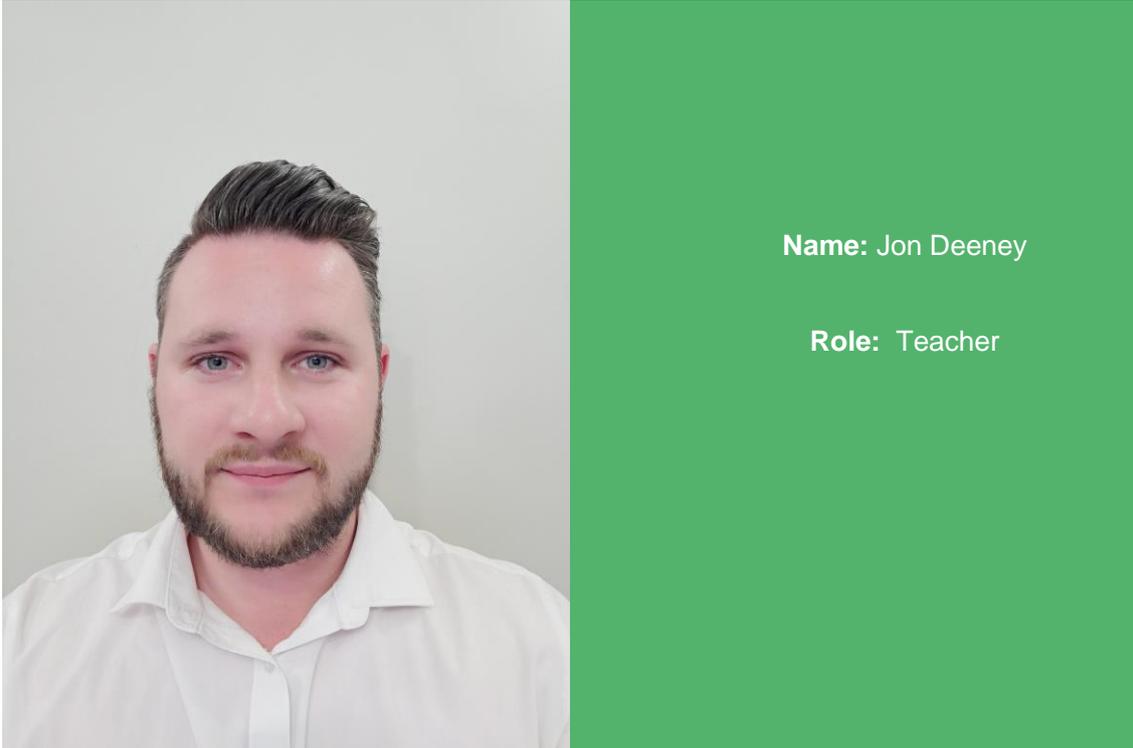
Year 3

Year 3 children have transitioned into Key Stage 2 with enthusiasm and confidence. They read 'What We'll Build' by Oliver Jeffers and became motivated 'designers' when creating an interactive class charter in the shape of a house. Within this, they set themselves learning goals, established tools for a positive learning environment and identified effective learning characteristics.

They also kick-started their Line of Enquiry by being 'readers' and 'artists'. Inspired by Stone Age Boy (Satoshi Kitamura), the children made their own stencilled hand paintings on sandpaper (cave painting). They are now enthusiastically deconstructing the text's features and working towards creating their own innovated version. What an amazing start to the academic year!



MEET THE TEAM



Name: Jon Deeney

Role: Teacher

The best part of the role:

Having the opportunity to work with so many different learners and creating a love of learning through our amazing lines of enquiry! My favourites are 'Who were the Romans?' and 'How has STEM changed the world?'

Hobbies:

My two children (aged 6 and 4) keep me very busy most of the time! But outside of crazy family life, my favourite hobbies are American football, playing guitar and reading.

Favourite quote:

"Happiness can be found in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light"

Experience:

I was an LSA for 3 years at a primary school, working with whole classes and 1:1. Following this, I spent one year at Fair Furlong Primary School where I trained before coming to Nova. This will be my third year here!

LIBRARY SCAVENGER HUNT



We are really pleased to let you know that we are able to open up the school library fully this term. This means that your child will have a timetabled session in the library once a week. They will be able to borrow books and take them back to class to read. If you would like your child to bring a library book home, then please sign the agreement that is sent home with your child. This term we are having a Library Scavenger Hunt. Each child will have the opportunity to earn points for their class by reading certain books. Here are some examples that they might choose to read: A

book that is about an animal in the fiction section or that is in the poetry section or that is about hobbies. There are many more for them to choose from!



Can you help look after our new Library at Nova Primary School?

If you are a parent or carer of a child at Nova Primary School and would be able to come in to either help return books to their correct shelves or sit with a child to read with them a lunchtime and help them find books, then please contact the office letting them know when and how often you could help. Volunteers would need to complete the relevant DBS check before volunteering in school

STATES OF BEING



What have you been today?

Have you been an Author today? How were you an Author? What did you learn?

If you ask your child, “What did you do today?”, some children will say “Nothing!” or some will tell you about what they ate for lunch or who they played with. This is because the questions encourage children to think about isolated events that they ‘did’. The core concept of ‘States of Being’, is about shifting questioning from what they **did** to what they **have experienced**. States of Being place ownership of learning onto children. If children are encouraged to be Scientists for example, it encourages them to apply learning and experiences, not that they were present whilst a teacher taught them science.

We encourage you to ask your child ‘What have you been today?’ on the walk home, when having a bath or over dinner. As a family, you will hopefully see and hear the States of Being used across the school.

WELLBEING ZONES OF REGULATION

At Nova Primary School, we recognise the importance of promoting positive mental health and emotional wellbeing to our students and their families. We aim to create an open culture around the discussion of mental health and wellbeing and to empower our children to be able to regulate their emotions.

By implementing the Zones of Regulation curriculum – a curriculum based around the use of four colours to help children self-identify how they’re feeling – we aim to

teach our pupils to identify emotions in themselves and others and provide them with a bank of strategies to help regulate their emotions and improve their wellbeing.

ZONES OF REGULATION!

Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
			
Sick Sad Tired Bored Moving Slowly	Happy Calm Good to Go Focused Ready to Learn	Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Anxious Excited	Mad/Angry Mean Talking/Hitting Out of Control Need Time and Space

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Talk through the Zones of Regulation with your child. Ask them how they would feel in each zone?

Discuss what emotion they feel in each zone.

e.g. in the yellow zone I may feel worried.

How they physically feel in each zone.

e.g. in the yellow zone I may have butterflies in my tummy.

Discuss what their actions might be in each zone.

e.g. in the yellow zone would they be pacing around, fidgeting?

Then discuss how to help them move into the Green zone.

e.g. if I was in the yellow zone and feeling worried I might find doing some breathing exercises help me get back into the green zone.

Create a list of strategies that work for your child. Remind your child that we are all unique and the strategies that work for one person might not help them so they need to think about what would help them.

Remember, we all experience all zones, and there are no good or bad zones.

However, our success in regulating our emotions depends on us recognizing our emotion, understanding it, and putting a strategy in place.

ATTENDANCE

We had a strong start with attendance last week reaching 95 %. This was fantastic, but we can do better.

We are focusing heavily on tackling persistent absence and punctuality. Children who arrive after 9:30AM are recorded as 'unauthorised absence' for that session. Not only is this affecting our attendance numbers hugely, it means that children are

missing out on the mindful, enjoyable start of the day and of course, their learning. All children should be arriving between 8.35am and 8.45am for this reason. If you are having difficulties with this, please contact the school and ask to speak to a member of the attendance team.

Remember, we will only be authorising time off in exceptional circumstances this year or for the usual things such as illnesses and unavoidable medical appointments and would ask you to support us whole-heartedly with this.

PARENT/CARER GOVERNOR ROLE

Please note the closing date for Parent/Carer governor election is Monday 20th September at 4:00 pm. Nominations should be handed into the school office. Being a governor is interesting and rewarding and it isn't too late to express an interest!

PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2022

A guide for **parents and carers** on applying for a **primary school** place for the school year **2022–2023**

If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 you will need to apply for a school place by 15 January 2022



TRADING WITH SCHOOLS
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LEARNING CITY
www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions



What do I need to do to apply for a school place?

- Check the guidance on applying for schools – available at www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions, or by contacting School Admissions. The guidance contains details on how & when to apply, information on each school along with their admissions policy and oversubscription criteria. With the mix of different types of school from Church schools, Foundation schools, Academies, Free Schools and Community schools the admissions policy could be different for each school you put as a preference so it's important to ensure you check this carefully.
- Some schools require supplementary forms to be completed as well as the common application form. Make sure you check if this applies to the school(s) you are interested in.
- Visit the schools. All schools hold open days. Contact the school directly for further details on open days.
- Look at the school's prospectus and its website which are useful sources of information.
- You can name up to three school preferences. We advise you to name more than one school.
- Make sure you apply on-time. The deadline is 15 January 2022.

School Admissions (CH)
Bristol City Council
PO Box 3399, Bristol, BS1 9NE
www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions
e school.admissions@bristol.gov.uk
t 0117 903 7694



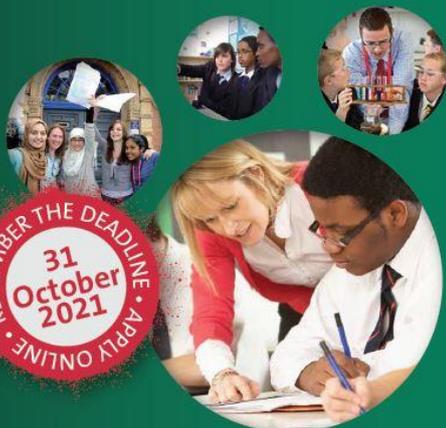
Why apply online?

- The system helps you by checking for errors.
- There is no risk that your application will be lost in the post.
- It is quick and easy to do.
- You will get an immediate email confirming that your application has been received.
- You will receive an email notification of the outcome of your application on the same day as the offer letters are posted.
- The system is available 24 hours a day until the final submission time of midnight on 15 January 2022

Apply online www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions

apply for a **secondary school** place for the school year **2022–2023**

If your child was born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011 you will need to apply for a school place by 31 October 2021.



TRADING WITH SCHOOLS
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www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions



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- Visit the schools. All schools hold open days. School websites provide details of open evenings and other events.
- Look at the school's prospectus and its website which are useful sources of information.
- You can name up to three school preferences. We advise you to name more than one school.
- Make sure you apply on-time. The deadline is 31 October 2021.

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Bristol City Council
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- You will receive an email notification of the outcome of your application on the same day as the offer letters are posted.
- The system is available 24 hours a day until the final submission time of midnight on 31 October 2021.

Apply online www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The cost of the club is £6.50 per session and term 1 is 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.

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:

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

Themes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
6th- 10th September Nature week	Nature bingo	Animal masks	Sun catchers	Potato print animals	Leaf printing
13th-17th September Under the sea week	Build your own boat	Ocean scene	Foil fish	Sandcastle sand art	Sea animals
20th- 24th September Book week	Pip and Posy	George's Marvellous Medicine	Harry Potter	The Gruffalo	Paddington
27th-1st October Around the world week	Australia Boomerang dot paintings	China Chinese lanterns	Capture the flag	Mexico Ojo De Dios	Italy Cook Pizza
4th- 8th October Craft week	Jewellery/ Keyring	Clay decorations	Weaving	Painting/ Origami	Inset Day
11th-15th October Space week	Make your own planet	Rocket launch	Pastel aurora	Build your own space craft	Sun paintings
18th- 22nd October Halloween week	Pumpkin painting	Egg carton bats	Ghost bowling	Make witches slime	Cook tasty treats

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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