

Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

NOVA
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dear Nova Families,

It has been an extremely busy start of the academic year and I cannot believe how much has been crammed into the first three weeks of term. The curriculum really drives this with trips being planned and many challenging activities happening in class. It has been great to see more of parents and carers; thank you to those of you who made the sessions last week in which some beautiful records of family lives and values were made. In addition, having parents and carers invited to see their child receive the Nova Star Award in celebration assembly has been fantastic, especially for the children. I hope you have enjoyed these events as well!

Of course, a new term with a new teacher can be a struggle for some. However, I see our Learning Support Team doing so much to support these children through fun, purposeful interventions and plenty of ad hoc support. They really do make such

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 2022/23

-
Term 1
Thursday 1st September 2022 -
Friday 21st October 2022
-
Term 2
Monday 31st October 2022 - Friday
16th December 2022
-
Term 3
Tuesday 3rd January 2023 - Friday
10th February 2023
-
Term 4

a difference and this is because they whole-heartedly believe that the children can overcome any hurdles and succeed! If you have any concerns about your child's mental health or wellbeing, please let Janet or Mark know - they are willing and extremely able to help.

As part of the newsletter, we always add in any 'dates for your diary'. We often find that families struggle to know when things are happening despite this. We also add these dates to the calendar on the website and regularly post on our social media platforms. Please take note of two particularly important events on Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd November. These are our first parent consultations of the year and an opportunity for you to be updated on your children's progress. We will also have our caterers, Chartwells, here to share some delicious tasters from their menus with you, and there will be laptops available for you to complete a parent/carer questionnaire about the school.

In staffing news, we said a temporary (we hope!) goodbye to Miss Catchpole this week! She is off to have her second child and we wish her all the very best. Miss Catchpole has transformed the science curriculum at Nova and leaves it in the capable hands of Mrs Harris.

Before I go, I would like to request that you give some thought to becoming a parent

Monday 20th February 2023 - Friday
31st March 2023

-
Term 5

Monday 17th April 2023 - Friday
26th May 2023

-
Term 6

Monday 5th June 2023 - Friday 21st
July 2023

**PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL WILL BE
CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING
INSET DAYS in 22/23**

-
Inset Day 3

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

-
Inset Day 4

Friday 28th April 2023

-
Inset Day 5

Monday 3rd July 2023

Other Important Dates

-
Monday 26th September
Whole School Photograph Portfolio
Day

-
Wednesday 28th September

governor at Nova. We sent out the information at the start of term but unfortunately no one was interested. This is a shame as it is such a rewarding and important role that can benefit you as much as the school. You get to learn about how a school functions and be a part of its improvement journey which is really satisfying. I would be happy to chat to any of you on an individual basis about this if you think you might be interested.

With kindest regards

Anna
Headteacher

Morris



Prospective Parents 2023 Tour @
10.00am

-

Thursday 29th September
EYFS Phonics Workshop for
Reception Parents @ 9.00am

-

Monday 3rd October
Closing Date for School
Improvement Ambassadors
Applications

-

Friday 7th October
School Improvement Ambassadors
Election

-

Tuesday 11th October
Y6 WW2 Walk around Bristol

-

Wednesday 12th October
Y2 Trip to Muller Road Orphanage
Museum

-

Wednesday 19th October
Prospective Parents 2023 Tour @
10.00am

-

Thursday 20th October
Individual School Photos

-

Tuesday 1st November
Parent/Carer Consultations

-

Wednesday 2nd November
Prospective Parents 2023 Tour @

10.00am

-

Wednesday 2nd November

Parent/Carer Consultations

-

Friday 11th November

Y3 Trip to Bristol Museum

-

Friday 18th November

Dress Up Day for Children In Need

-

Thursday 24th November

Y2 Trip to Blaise Castle House
Museum

YEAR GROUP NEWS

Year 1

Year One have had a fantastic few weeks settling into Key Stage One! We have been enjoying playing and learning inside and out alongside our friends. We have been learning more about each other in circle times for PSHE and about keeping a pulse and creating rhythms in music with Miss Harris.



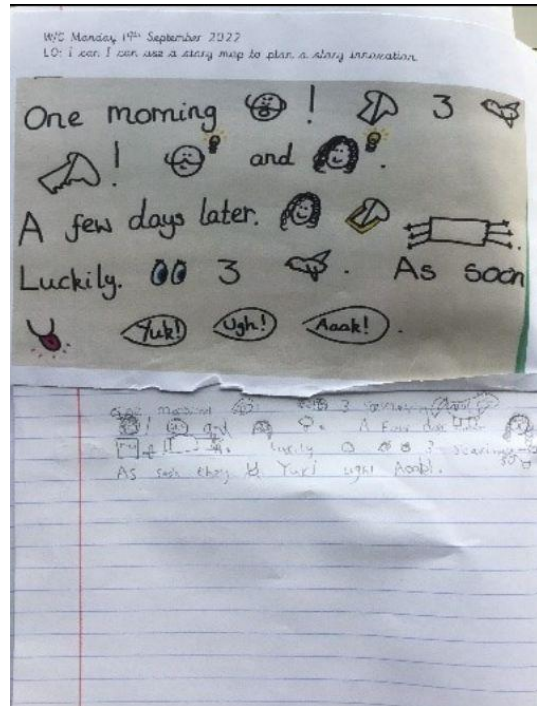
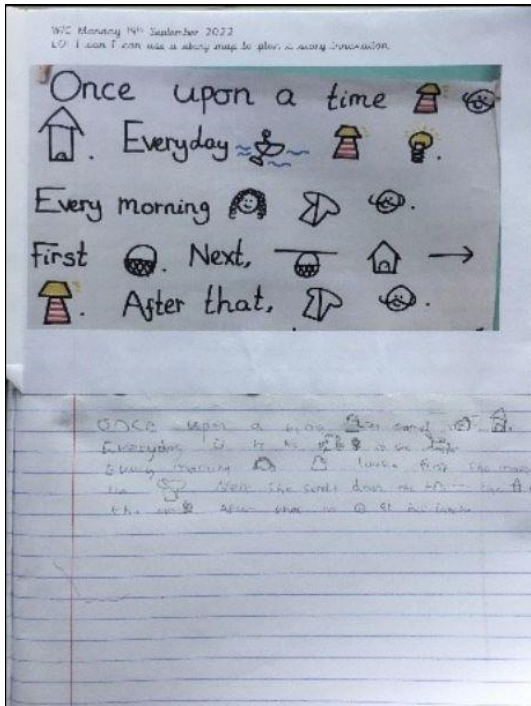


Year 2

Year 2 have been immersed in the Lighthouse Keepers Lunch story.

We have become authors and have begun planning our story innovation. First, we designed our own Mr Grinling characters, choosing his new job role and used adjectives to describe his appearance and personality. Next, we created our own story map to retell the story of who stole Mr Grinling's lunch!

We are excited to see the brilliant stories Year 2 will write from their story maps.



Year 3

Year 3 have had an awesome start to term 1. As well as settling into their new routines, the children have made an incredible effort to impress us, with their enthusiasm for our new Line of Enquiry 'Would you rather live in stone age Britain or Ancient Egypt?'

As mathematicians, the children have explored place value within 1,000 where they have learnt to flexibly partition numbers as well as to represent numbers on a place value chart using Dienes and place value counters.

As authors, we have been learning the story, with actions, to this term's journey text 'Amisi and the Fig' where we have focused on learning new vocabulary, and how to use inverted commas to show direct speech. In addition, we have enjoyed reading our class text 'Stig of the Dump' each day.





Year 4

Year 4 have been working hard as Historians exploring their first Line of Enquiry
'Who were the Romans and what was their legacy on Britain?'

We have been intrigued by what life may have been like in Roman times and really enjoyed exploring a variety of sources to gather evidence about Roman lives. What an amazing range of questions asked by so many curious children!



Year 5

Year 5 have enjoyed a wide range of creative, interactive and challenging activities over the first few weeks of term: spreading kindness with our recycled plant pot violas, building paper towers, creating human timelines and reading and responding to 'The Invisible'.

We are now well in to our first Talk For Writing unit – an action-filled tale based on Nyangara the Fire Python. We can't wait to get innovating our own stories next week!

Also this week as athletes we continued learning how to play volley ball, and developed our skills using the "dig" shot. Keep up the amazing work everyone!



Year 6

The children in Year 6 have settled into Term 1 maturely and with great enthusiasm. We have appointed a number of prefects who proudly exhibited their oracy skills when delivering considerate speeches. We are confident that they will be brilliant role-models for our school community!

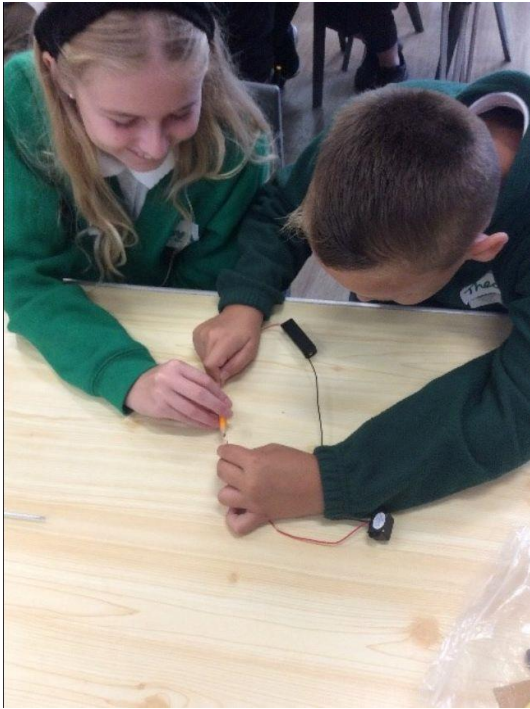
In English, the children were intrigued by a WW2 evacuee suitcase and devised many interesting questions to infer who the mystery owner might be. They collaborated well to establish a writer's toolkit and are now working to innovate a fictional portal story.

In Maths, children are recapping their place value knowledge while displaying increasing confidence in calculating numbers up to 10,000,000!

The children were fortunate enough to receive a visit from STEMworks and participate in a workshop all about electricity which is our science unit for the term. They tested materials to discover which are electrical conductors or insulators and then put their technological skills to the test by building a buzzwire game with a functioning electrical circuit.

It has been a fantastic start to the year and we look forward to the challenges ahead!





MEET THE TEAM



Name: Mark Collins

Role: Learning Mentor

The best part of the role:

As Learning Mentor and Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) I have the rewarding and privileged opportunity to work together with pupils to improve emotional intelligence, mental health and well-being. In return I see pupils taking on the knowledge and skills to actively support themselves in being able to manage their own mental health, well-being and positivity at school, home and community.

Hobbies:

I have a keen interest in arts and crafts, sensory and messy play. I enjoy kayaking, mountain biking, walking and travelling in my camper van round UK and Europe. To relax I often take timeout gardening, cooking, listening to music and watching old familiar films.

Favourite quote:

My Favourite line from the poem The elephant in the room is 'Oh, please, let's talk about the elephant in the room'

Experience:

I have 25 years' experience working with young people of all ages in varying educational and social care settings. I have for the last 8 years worked primarily in education settings. These have included SEN needs, Pupil Referral Units and mainstream settings from primary to higher education. More recently I have been trained and practising ELSA for 3 years, while adding several other therapeutic interventions to my tool box, to better support the young people I work with.

WHAT IS AN ELSA?

Emootional
Literacy
Support
Assistant



Janet and Mark have both been trained by Educational Psychologists to become ELSAs.

ELSAs help children and young people to understand their emotions and respect the feelings of those around them. They aim to establish a warm, respectful relationship with a child, providing a consistent private space, time and opportunity for children to think about their personal circumstances. They are not there to fix a child's problems but to support them in using strategies to better enable them to self-manage their feelings.

The majority of ELSA work is delivered on an individual basis, but sometimes small group work is more appropriate, especially in the areas of social and friendship skills.

In ELSA we aim to provide support for a wide range of emotional needs:

Recognising emotions
Self-esteem
Social skills
Friendship skills
Anger management
Loss and Bereavement

Children are usually referred for ELSA support by their class teacher, Senior Leaders or by parent's request. Referrals are discussed and prioritised accordingly with support sessions planned to facilitate the pupil in developing new skills and coping strategies that allow them to manage social and emotional demands more effectively.

It needs to be appreciated that change cannot necessarily be achieved rapidly and is

dependent upon the context and complexity of the presenting issues. Children with complex or long-term needs will not resolve all their difficulties through ELSA sessions, however support will be designed to target specific aspects of a child's need.

If you would like a referral to be made for your child please email elsa@novaprimaryschool.co.uk which is a confidential way to communicate with Janet and Mark.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AMBASSADORS

Would you like an opportunity to help improve our wonderful school?
Do you like to work as part of a team to make a difference?
Do you believe that pupil voice is important?
Then why not apply to become a...

School Improvement Ambassador



We are looking for 10 Ambassadors in total - hopefully that will be one from each class from year 1-6.

All you need to do is: prepare a **speech** for how you would be a brilliant School Improvement Ambassador, working with Mrs Morris and the Nova Team as a voice of the Nova pupils. You need to do this by this **Monday 3rd October**. You could video your speech and send it to the school or write it on paper to give to your teacher, ready to read on election day. The voting will take place on **Friday 7th October**, in each class. Being an ambassador is a great opportunity and we would like to give different children the chance to do it this year! However, if no new potential ambassadors come forward for a class, last years ambassadors will be welcome to apply again.

So, think about your skills and how you could represent our Nova Stars and make our school even more incredible!

SMSA VACANCY

We currently have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor to support our lovely children at Nova experience positive, happy and safe play. If any of you, your friends or relatives are interested then please contact the office for an application form by Wednesday 5th October.

PTFA



**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE
AND
JOIN OUR
PTFA**

Nova Primary PTFA will be holding our official AGM meeting on Wednesday 19th October at 7.30pm, at The Lamplighters pub. In addition, our standard monthly and much more 'laid-back' meeting will take place on Wednesday 2nd November at 7.30pm, also at The Lamplighters pub. All are welcome and invited! If you would like to meet the group, offer to volunteer at events, join the PTFA or even help by giving suggestions for fundraising, please join us at the meeting or email the school office
FAO the 'PTFA' and they will pass it on to us.

Since Covid, our numbers have dropped and are low so we are eager to grow as a team and have a longer list of generous volunteers. The more help we have, the bigger and better the events we can put on, in the hope of increasing the amount we can raise to benefit our Nova children and to provide them with low-cost fun activities; any profit raised gets spent on enriching the children's time at the school, in various ways.

Thank you and we look forward to getting to know more of you soon!

Nova PTFA

RACE FOR LIFE

Today, the whole school are participating in the Race for Life, to raise money for Cancer Research in memory of loved ones lost. However, it was great to hear how one of our own Nova Stars has already been doing his bit to raise money for this important cause, selling lollipops. We always love to hear what children do out of school so get in touch if you want to share anything with us!



AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The cost of the club is £7.50 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.

To book, just go to the payments area of Weduc and click on 'bookings available', Nova ASC Term 1 and then select the dates required and add to your basket and then checkout.

You will have been sent your login details for Weduc in a separate email and you will need to have added funds to your 'purse' before being able to book ASC.

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.

Academic Year 2022	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
29 th Aug - 2 nd Sept 2022	School Closed	School Closed	School Closed	Inset Day (School Closed)	Inset Day (School Closed)
Back to School! 5 th Sept - 9 th Sept	Back to School Flags!	4 Corners Game	Marble Drop	The Spider's Web Icebreaker Game	Back to School Wordsearch
Let's Play! 12 th Sept - 16 th Sept	Ball in a Bucket!	Circle Games (inside or outside)	Parachute Games	School Themed Relay Race!	Play Tag (outside)
Let's Make! 19 th Sept - 23 rd Sept	Create your own Clay Creation!	Co-operative Art!	Stone Painting	Card Shape Craft	Create your own Masterpiece!
September Madness! 26 th Sept - 30 th Sept	Mini Beast Hunt	Wallpaper Art Drawing	Cornflour Gloop!	Board Games & Lego	Dream Catchers
Autumnal Weather! 3 rd Oct - 7 th Oct	Autumn Leaves Walk	Autumnal Quiz	Natural sculpture	Bingo!	Rice Krispie Cakes
October Fun! 10 th Oct - 14 th Oct	Friendship Bracelet Making	Cotton Bud Painting	Outdoor Circle Games	Junk Modelling	Fruit Kebabs
Superheroes Week! 17 th Oct - 21 st Oct	Design A Hero!	Superhero Bookmarks!	Design a Comic Book Strip!	Superheroes Quiz!	Superheroes Wordsearch!

CAR BOOT SALE



Saturday 19th November
PBA, Nibley Road, Shirehampton

9am – 1pm

8am start for sellers. To reserve a place email:

shirechristmasilluminations@outlook.com

or call / text 07803700233

Cost - £5 per car / £7 per van

(Free entry to customers)



All profit raised will go to the *SHIRE CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS*

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 (including coconut) 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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[Click Here](#)



WORKING WITH THE
STARS OF TOMORROW



WELCOME

[WWW.NOVAPRIMARYSCHOOL.CO.UK](http://www.novaprimaryschool.co.uk) 0117 903 0446
NOVA PRIMARY SCHOOL BARRACKS LANE, SHIREHAMPTON, BRISTOL, BS11 9NG

@novaprimary
Nova Primary School