

# Nova News

Keeping you up to date all year round

**NOVA**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Dear Nova Families,

I hope that you are all well and not feeling too stressed about the demands of the festive season which is looming before us! At Nova, we are trying to think of ways to spread seasonal cheer so that the children have a lovely last week of term and there are some dates you may want to take note of in this newsletter. In celebration assembly on Friday, the School Improvement Ambassadors launched their own 'Secret Santa' with classes drawing names of other classes with the challenge of making a gift for them. We will be sure to share the results of this with you before we break up.

Remember: if you are struggling at this time of year, we can help with food bank vouchers and potentially, food parcels for those most in need. Similarly, if you are struggling to pay for trips or any other aspect of school life, please get in touch. Budget constraints are very real for all

### 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 2**  
Monday 31st October 2022 - Friday  
16th December 2022

-  
**Term 3**  
Tuesday 3rd January 2023 - Friday  
10th February 2023

-  
**Term 4**  
Monday 20th February 2023 - Friday  
31st March 2023

-  
**Term 5**

schools, but we try to help where we can.

Of course, Nova is a more diverse community than ever and not everyone celebrates Christmas. We have talked about lots of festivals and celebrations this autumn, some religious and some not, and I must praise the children for their knowledge and enthusiasm in these assemblies!

Recently, we have welcomed families with a wide variety of languages, some of whom have very little English. This enriches our school and it always astounds staff how quickly children learn English. Those of us who were born with English as a first language can find it hard to comprehend the challenge of learning a new language but it doesn't seem to hold them back!

We always welcome input from families about home languages, cultures and beliefs, especially via the pupils themselves. Please get in touch if you have something your family would like to share.

Last Tuesday, we had a visit from some of our governors. They visited classes, spoke to children and explored how well our curriculum is progressing. They were so impressed with the children and their engagement in lessons, especially the way our SEND children were displaying real independence. It is always great to hear external views about the school, especially

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**

-

**Thursday 24th November**

Y2 Trip to Blaise Castle House  
Museum

-

**Friday 2nd December @ 2.00pm**

Year 4 Pottery Workshop For  
Parents

-

**Tuesday 6th December**

when they are so positive.

A few weeks ago, we asked you all to complete a parent questionnaire. Here are the results, and thank you so much to those of you that took the time to respond. The leadership team will meet to analyse them further and slot in any relevant actions into our school improvement plan.

| Number of respondents: 119  |   |            |                            |
|---|---|------------|----------------------------|
| Question  | Strongly agree/agree                      | Don't know | Strongly/disagree/disagree |
| My child is happy at this school.   | 97%                                       | 1%         | 3%                         |
| My child feels safe at this school.   | 95%                                       | 3%         | 2%                         |
| The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.  | 86%                                       | 11%        | 4%                         |
| My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively. | 63% (of those who had)                    | 15%        | 22%                        |
| The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.                    | 87%                                       | 8%         | 6%                         |
| When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.           | 84% (of those who had)                    | 7%         | 9%                         |
| My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.            | 64% (of those who have a child with SEND) | 16%        | 20%                        |
| The school has high expectations for my child.  | 86%                                       | 13%        | 1%                         |
| My child does well at this school.  | 96%                                       | 1%         | 3%                         |
| The school lets me know how my child is doing.  | 92%                                       | 4%         | 3%                         |
| There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.                   | 92%                                       | 8%         | 0%                         |
| My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.                            | 89%                                       | 6%         | 5%                         |
| The school supports my child's wider personal development.                                | 86%                                       | 10%        | 4%                         |
| I would recommend this school to another parent.  | 92%- Yes<br>8%- No                        |            |                            |

There is work to be done in several areas, but also in ensuring that families get as much information as possible about all the amazing things we do at Nova to reduce those 'don't knows'.

With kindest regards,

Anna  
Headteacher

Morris

Flu Vaccinations

-

**Friday 9th December @ 10.00am**  
Reception Nativity

-

**Tuesday 13th December**  
KS1 Christmas Lunch

-

**Wednesday 14th December**  
KS2 Christmas Lunch

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**Wednesday 14th December @**  
**3.15pm**  
Songs by Candlelight



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## YEAR GROUP NEWS

### Reception

The Reception children have been learning about celebrations from around the world.

So far we have covered Halloween, Remembrance Day, Diwali and Bonfire night. The children have taken part in a range of activities from apple bobbing, fire work mark making, Rangoli patterns and making Divas.





### Year 1

We started off Term 2 with a bang by visiting Aerospace Bristol! We enjoyed a fantastic trip to support our Line of Enquiry 'How has travel changed over time?'

We got to explore the museum and learn more about how much impact Bristol has had on the way travel and transport has changed over time. We investigated the amazing Concorde by completing a scavenger hunt and walking through the aisle.

We then made our own fast planes and tested their speed.



## Year 2

This term Year 2 have been exploring the wonderful world of Victorian inventions.

We have been fascinated by how many things the Victorians invented! Did you know the Victorians invented the telephone? We have also been discovering how much fun we can have playing with Victorian toys by creating our own thaumatrope toys! We had so much fun designing and building our thaumatropes, creating our own special versions. We had even more fun testing them out and watching them spin!



## Year 3

The Year 3 historians have had a blast over the last few weeks, delving into Stone Age life.

We have been learning about specific jobs, settlements and daily life. Last week we enjoyed comparing life in the Stone age to the Bronze and Iron Ages where we interpreted that people from the Iron Age appeared more advanced, by extracting iron from minerals and rocks, and starting to preserve foods. In addition, we have looked at significant monuments, such as Stonehenge, and considered a variety of theories as to why it was built.

We are now looking forward to answering some of our historical questions about life in Ancient Egypt following our recent trip to Bristol Museum and learning about

mummification. We are excited to make our comparisons and decide whether we would like to live in Stone Age Britain or Ancient Egypt!



#### Year 4

At the end of Year 4's amazing art project, we present to you a fabulous Roman banquet in sculpture form!

We look forward to parents participating in a Roman style pottery workshop on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 2pm.





### Year 5

In Term 2, Year 5 D & T lessons will be all about designing and making moving toys that have a cam mechanism. Linking with our Line of Enquiry, our toys will be inspired by Cressida Cowell's 'How to be a Viking'. As always, the process starts with research.



## Year 6

This term, in English lessons, we have been writing meeting tales. More specifically, a tale where we meet someone who has been trapped/kidnapped. As part of this, poor Mrs Matthews was kidnapped and we had to break a code to save her. Luckily, we worked swiftly and saved the day!



MRS MATTHEWS  
HAS BEEN  
KIDNAPPED. YOU  
MUST CRACK THE  
CODE TO FIND  
HER. YOU HAVE  
UNTIL 10.15.

Kidnapped

Somebody ! .  
What if ?

Gradually, . Then  
 . Relieved, , trying

It had when . When  
 , . Then . It ;  
she .

That's how it happened.   
 , and . She was  
 !

So there we were, ,  
 . Soon . "So Ron,  
 ? " .  
Later, . Amazingly,  
 , . HERO.

MEET THE TEAM



**Name:** Rachel Harris

**Role:** PPA/Cover Teacher

**The best part of the role:**

The opportunity to work across the school with every year group.

**Hobbies:**

Quilting, reading and collecting crystals - too many crystals!

**Favourite quote:**

Be yourself. An original is so much better than a copy.

**Experience:**

I have been teaching for 26 years in Bristol and South Gloucestershire schools.

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**AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

The cost of the club is £7.50 per session and term 2 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 2 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.

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### **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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