



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It has been a busy few weeks at Nova as we settled into this Autumn term. Our mantra for this year is *High Standards, High Achievement* and I have been constantly impressed over the past few weeks as I walk the school and see students behaving exceptionally well in lessons and working really hard taking great pride in the work they are completing in their books. Across the school the students have got off to a really good start.

It was great to see so many families attend our Open Evening and Open Mornings over the last couple of weeks, the feedback from these events has been really positive and it was brilliant to have so many student leaders involved in running these events.

Over the course of the past week interviews have been held for our new Year 10 Wellbeing Ambassadors. A number of students put themselves forward to be interviewed for this role and we are really pleased to have appointed a great team who

can work with our prefects as part of our wider student leadership team.

Our SuperNova enrichment programme has launched and got off to a really good start this year with over 20 clubs on offer for students to choose from. The interhouse Fun Friday competitions have been a source of much enjoyment so far this year with Connect 4, paper aeroplane and musical chairs.

We are looking forward to hosting two important events next week. The **Global Cultural Gala** on Monday will be a fantastic opportunity to come and celebrate all of the many different cultures which make up our diverse school. **Futures Evening** for Years 9 – 11 on Tuesday is a really important chance for students and their families to come and hear from a wide range of employers and post – 16 providers who are really keen to recruit Nova students.

James Harding-Mbogo
Principal



Year 11 trip to Harry Potter Studios—see page 5

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2024

Monday 7th—Global Cultural Gala

Tuesday 8th—Futures Evening

Thursday 10th—Open Morning

Thursday 17th—Year 7 Parents Evening

Friday 18th— Last day of term

NOVEMBER 2024

Wednesday 6th—Young Musician of the Year

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL MERITS

W/E 20 SEPTEMBER

Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



Year 11



W/E 27 SEPTEMBER

Year 7



Year 8



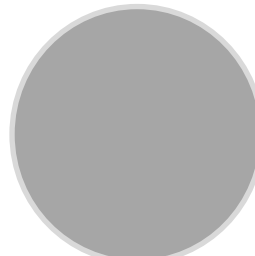
Year 9



Year 10



Year 11



HIGHEST ATTENDING TUTOR GROUP

CONGR*A*TULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING:

W/E 20 SEPTEMBER

7I

8A

9G

10D

11H

W/E 27 SEPTEMBER

7I

8G

9G

10F

11D

HIGH STANDARDS = HIGH ACHIEVEMENTS

It's been an exciting beginning of the academic year for our Catalyst scholars, who have been delving into some different areas of Engineering. Year 7s have been learning about the Engineering Design Cycle and applying that to new situations, including designing storage tidies for their lockers with limited materials and budget. They will be extending their knowledge by tackling the Toxic Popcorn challenge over the next few weeks!

Year 8 scholars have been getting stuck into technical drawing, practicing transforming their plans to reality by building a model village and they are now applying their skills to design and construct prototype emergency shelters that could be used during a variety of calamities!

Year 9 have been academically challenged during Engineering Materials lessons, where they have been learning how engineers choose certain materials for their designs based on how these materials behave.

Scholars have also shown spectacular commitment within the Catalyst Stream towards developing their research and practical skills, with the majority of KS3 Catalyst scholars opting to complete CREST awards after school. CREST is a nationally recognised scheme for student-led project work in the STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and maths). Ms Ochanda and I are excited to continue working after school with our Catalyst stream developing their passion for STEM.

*Dr Spreadbury
Catalyst STEM Stream Coordinator*



Dr Spreadbury and Mr Clarke also hosted the first of this year's Catalyst taster sessions for students in Year 5 and 6. It was a fun packed morning offering a taste of maths and computing that left the young participants eager for more. The next taster session is on Saturday 7th December.

[READ MORE](#)

NEWS FROM THE PE DEPARTMENT



Well done to the Year 8, Year 9 Year 10 and Under 16 netball teams who have played their first fixtures against Swindon Academy and Lydiard Park Academy.

Congratulations to the Year 7 rugby team who won their first rugby game against Lydiard Park Academy 15-5



TRIPS AND VISITS

66 Year 11 students went on a fascinating trip to Harry Potter studios this term.



[READ MORE](#)

The whole trip was truly amazing and lived up to my expectations in every single way, I hope other years will be lucky to go on this trip in the future as well. Thank you for the teachers who helped make it possible for us.

Aysha

The lesson was amazing we learnt about Hagrid character and how tall he was and the different types of staging and sets and costumes that were used.

Charlie

It was great! I loved learning about how they created all the set, costumes, designers, lighting colours and hues, all of it. I found it really interesting how all the plans were made, like all the different models for the houses, especially the burrow. *Jorja*

There are still spaces available on the following Year 11 trips, please contact your subject teachers for details.

- An Inspector Calls (English)
- Operation Mincemeat (Drama)



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YEAR 7?



I am delighted to introduce myself as the Head of Year 7 at Nova Hreod Academy. As we begin this exciting new chapter, I want to extend a warm welcome to both our students and their

families. Year 7 is an important time in a student's educational journey, as it sets the foundation for success in the years to come.

Starting secondary school is a big step, but with the right support, it's a rewarding one. At Nova, we are committed to helping your child settle in quickly and feel part of our vibrant community. We understand that the transition can be challenging, but we are here every step of the way to make sure that no one feels alone. Our Buddy Bench in the library at breaktimes and lunchtimes offers a wonderful opportunity

for Year 7 students to make new friends, and our SuperNova after-school clubs give them the chance to explore new hobbies and interests.

We also believe that school should be fun! Every Friday, we host House competitions such as musical chairs, bowling, limbo, and even penalty shootouts. These activities not only allow students to unwind, but they also help foster a sense of teamwork and belonging.

Both myself and Mrs Butler (Year 7 Manager) are on hand to provide support and guidance. We are all working towards the same goal—ensuring that your child has a successful and enjoyable start to their secondary school journey.

Mr Harbour
Head of Year 7 and Pegasus House

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YEAR 7 PARENTS' EVENING

**4.30PM
7.00PM**

**THURSDAY
17 October 2024**

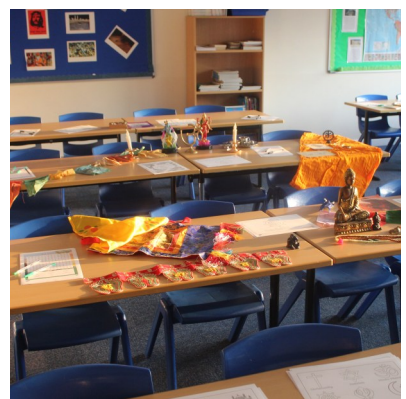
BOOK NOW
[HTTPS://NOVAHREOD.SCHOOLCLOUD.CO.UK/](https://novahreod.schoolcloud.co.uk/)

www.novahreodacademy.org.uk



OPEN EVENING

It was wonderful to meet so many Year 5 and 6 children and their families at our Open Evening . Thank you to all our students who proudly showed off their school, help to run activities and produce entertainment and tasty treats for our guests. If you missed Open Evening, the next chance to look around the school is on 10th October at Open Morning. Please use the link to register <https://ow.ly/aoU650TrUtN>



CHARITY AND FUNDRAISING

A huge thank you to all our students who converted their Epraise DISC rewards into charity donations at the end of last term. We are proud to have sent over £3,000 to the charities below.

CALM - £492.00



Swindon Night Shelter - £675.00



Swindon Food Collective - £118.00



Wiltshire Air Ambulance - £915.00



Swindon Women's Aid - £552.00



British Red Cross (Ukraine Crisis Appeal)
£478.00



NEWS FROM THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Year 9 have been exploring key theatre practitioners this term. They have been looking at Brecht and his alienation techniques. This was for a performance to the class where students used key costume elements to represent their characters.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

This term we have had brilliant leadership skills displayed by Prefects especially during Open Evening. Now that Y11s are gearing towards their PPE1 exams it is time for Y10s to step up as Wellbeing Ambassadors (Y10 WBA) and Y9s as House Reps.

There has been an excellent turnout for both Y10 WBA and Y9 House rep student leadership applications. Y9s still have a couple more weeks to apply as appointments will be made for Term 2!

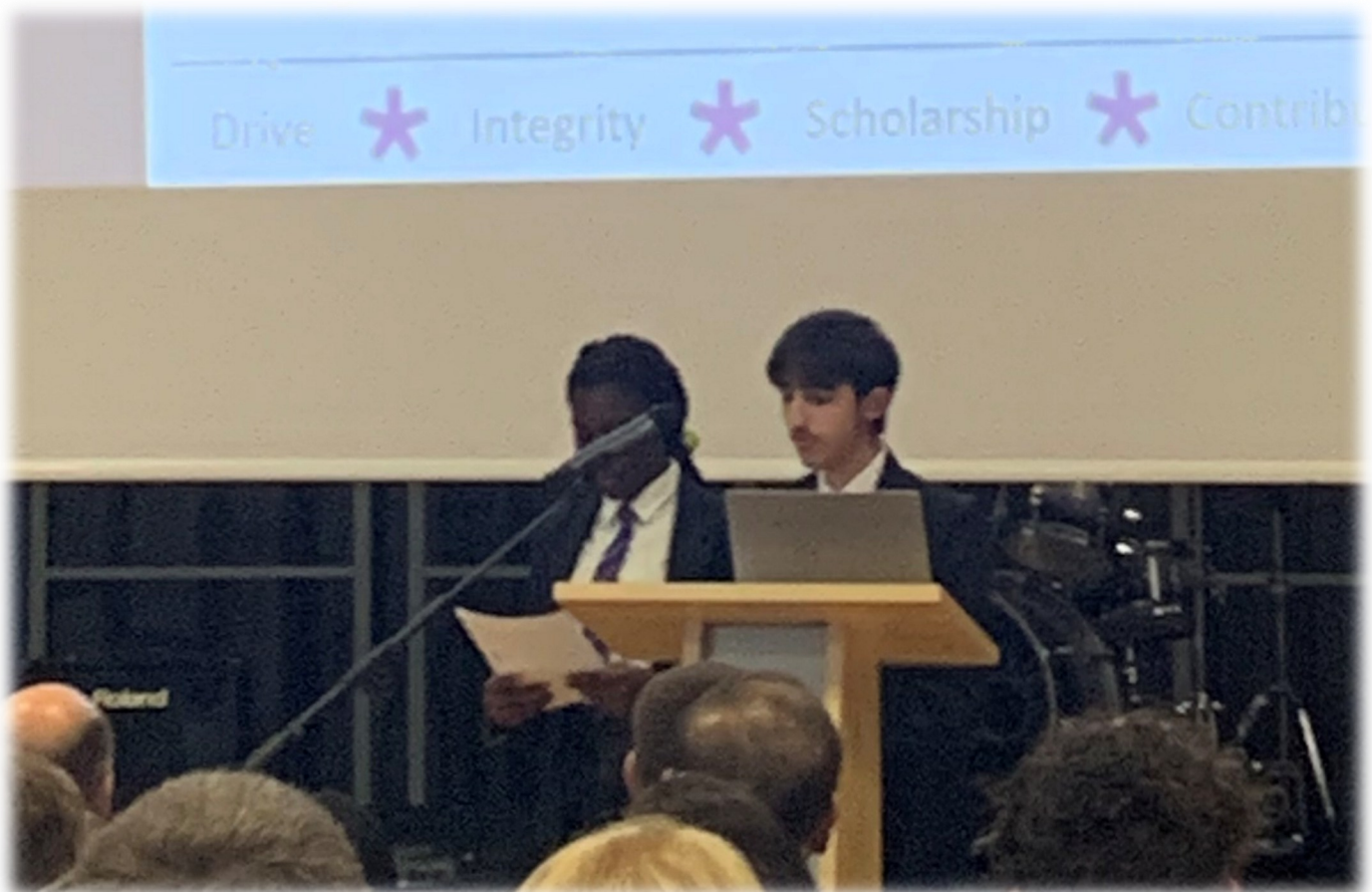
Y10s applying to become WBA are given a short interview by Mrs Malik and Mrs Shurley this year before appointments are made. It is a great way to deputise for Prefects and train to be a KS4 student leader. In the past 3 years there has been a 90%+ success rate of WBA becoming Prefects.

Remember Wellbeing encompasses so many avenues, from mental health, to fitness to balancing home study and friendships.

The WBA team will take over Buddy Bench duty and helping with school events such as Open Mornings over the next 6 months.

Stay tuned for our next issue when they will be revealed!

Mrs Malik



COLLEGE AND CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES



Futures Evening

8th October 2024

6pm - 8pm

Don't miss Futures Evening at Nova Hreod Academy - a chance for students in Years 9, 10 and 11 to talk to a variety of college and employers to find out about opportunities in various employment sectors. To register please visit <https://forms.office.com/e/ZN3bm7bW5S>

New College Open Day

(both campus sites)

Saturday 5th October 1000 – 1200

Tours, talks and more

<https://newcollege.ac.uk/events/october-open-day/>



Wiltshire College and University Centre



Lackham – Saturday 5th October 1000 – 1200 hours

Chippenham – Thursday 10th October 1700 – 1900 hours

[Go to their website to sign up](#)

Ridgeway Sixth Form College Open Evening

Thursday 10th October 18:00-20:00

Go their [website](#) to learn more and register to attend



Cirencester College Open Day

Saturday 19th October 09:30 - 15:30

Year 11 students can book up to 5 different sessions to join subjects they are interested in

Register to attend at <https://www.cirencester.ac.uk/events/open-day-october-2024/> and choose your sessions



THE FRIDAY CHALLENGE

Lots of scholars joined in with the classic game of musical chairs last Friday. Congratulations to Pegasus who took the last chair remaining and earned points for their house.



Attention - all parents

If your child is born between **1st September 2020 – 31st August 2021** they are due to start **Reception in September 2025**.

If your child is currently in **Year 6** – you need to apply for a **Secondary School place for September 2025**.

School Admissions Drop in sessions

"I'm going
to big
School"

Tuesday 1st October
Town Centre Library
10am-2pm

Wednesday 11th December
North Swindon Library
10:30am-1:30pm

Wednesday 8th January
Town Centre Library
10am-2pm

"I will
make lots of
friends at
school"



OPEN MORNING

Thursday 10th October
9am-11am

CATALYST STEM STREAM EVENTS

Tuesday 15th October
9am-10am

The Catalyst Stem Stream is Nova's specialist provision for ambitious scholars who have a strong interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.



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REGISTER HERE



Catalyst
STEM Stream



School Vaccinations

Message from our
Immunisation Team

While your child is in secondary school, they will be eligible to receive their routine vaccinations in Year 8 and Year 9.

The immunisation team is comprised of experienced nurses and support workers and will visit the school several times throughout the school year.

All year 8 students are eligible to receive the HPV vaccine. HPV is linked to several different cancers such as cervical cancer, some head, neck and throat cancers, genital cancer and anal cancers and is also responsible for genital warts.

All year 9 students are eligible for their Diptheria, Tetanus and Polio booster (Td/IPV) and at the same time, the Meningitis ACWY vaccinations (MenACWY)

A consent link sent from the school will be sent to all parents with children in these year groups so they can either accept or decline the vaccinations.

Don't worry if they miss their vaccinations in year 8 and 9, we can continue to catch these up until they leave school in year 11

Please take time to look at the added links to learn more about the different vaccinations.

[A guide to immunisation for teenagers and young people \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/674222/a-guide-to-immunisation-for-teenagers-and-young-people.pdf)

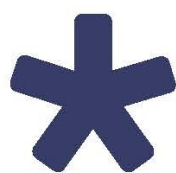
[School Age Immunisations - Wiltshire Children's Community Health Services \(wiltshirechildrensservices.co.uk\)](https://www.wiltshirechildrensservices.co.uk/school-age-immunisations)

We look forward to meeting your children.

The Immunisation Team 😊

Tel: 0300 247 0082

E: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net



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Futures Evening

8th October 2024

6pm - 8pm

Confirmed attendees

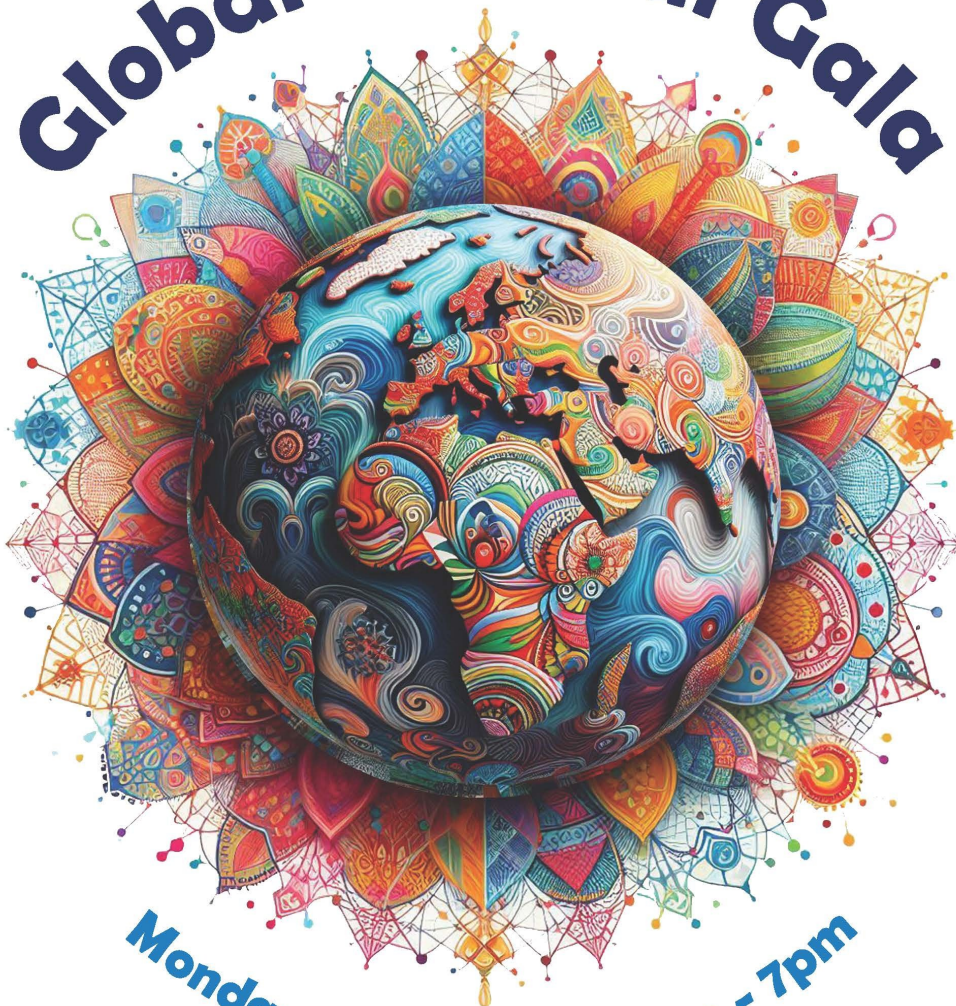


United College Sixth Form
Your bright future starts here
Part of Swindon Academy & United Learning
Teech Farmway, Swindon, SN2 1LR



For further information, please contact Mrs Gawthorn
careers@novahreodacademy.org.uk

Global Cultural Gala



Monday 7th October 5pm - 7pm

Hosted by Global Ambassadors and student leaders

**Please email if you would like a stall or to contribute to our first ever Gala:
studentleadership@novahreodacademy.org.uk**

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