



MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the eleventh edition of Nova News. It is hard to believe that we are already approaching the end of the fourth term already, although the brighter days and warmer weather are greatly appreciated.

During such turbulent times, with both the situation in the Ukraine and rising Covid levels leading to some year groups accessing remote learning, impacting on us all daily, I want state with pride that the awareness, generosity, and resilience of our scholars do not cease to amaze me.

During our Y5 and Y6 Open Morning on Tuesday 15th March, it was so easy to see how much our scholars demonstrate the 'Contribution' aspect of our DISC values; showing our prospective parents that the Head of House office was full to the brim with donations to the Ukraine Appeal. This, alongside our collective donations to both the Ukraine appeal and Red Nose Day, truly sum up the generosity and care of our community.

When you read through this edition, you will see clearly how much pride we take in our scholars who have represented us in sporting, and other extra-curricular activities such as our musicians visit to London. Please rest assured, however, that this sense of pride is equally felt with every lesson I see in which our scholars work with such drive as they go about their daily business.

Ryan Nash
Vice Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 2022

Thursday 31st—Year 11 Parents' Evening

APRIL 2022

Friday 8th April—Teacher Training Day

11th April— 22nd April Easter Holidays

For more information visit









www.novahreodacademy.org.uk

**RED
NOSE
DAY**

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£850!**

EPRAISE LEAGUE TABLE

| | Total points | Attendance |
|-----|---|---|
| 1st |  |  |
| 2nd |  |  |
| 3rd |  |  |
| 4th |  |  |

EPRAISE TOP STUDENTS MARCH



THE WORLD AROUND US

Each week in the World Around Us, tutor groups talk through a new topic based on what is happening in the world and around school. At the end of each discussion, scholars are invited to vote based on their own opinion. Each new week starts with a discussion of the previous week's results.

This week

Should more females be actively encouraged into STEM studies and jobs?

Drive ★ Integrity ★ Scholarship ★ Contribution

Nova
Votes

Why are we talking about this?

11th February was the International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Women and people of colour can sometimes feel unwelcome in certain fields

At Nova we are launching a STEM stream in September 2022

COVID pandemic has highlighted the importance of STEM

DISCUSSION:

What are the arguments for and against?

Pros/Arguments for:

The more diverse a workforce, the better for the companies and industries due to a wider talent pool.

Since the pandemic, more students have been choosing science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects at university. We've seen a lot more scientists on our screens, so maybe it's no surprise that 59% of young people are more tempted by careers in science than they were before COVID. But when it comes to those who study or work in STEM there is a huge gender gap.

Cons/Arguments Against:

David Grossman explores the 'gender-equality paradox' proposed in a new study which suggests that more gender-equal countries have fewer women pursuing careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

There should be a focus on gender equality in ALL fields such as construction, childcare, finance, etc.

CYGNUS HOUSE UPDATE

Since January Cygnus students have been working hard to be the best and we have had plenty to celebrate. At the beginning of February our Year



11s set an outstanding example to the rest of Cygnus House with a brilliant Welly Wanging display. They launched the wellies so far that Mrs Moore had to get in her car and drive to Malmesbury to pick them up. Seriously though, it was a tense competition, with scholars from all houses really thinking about their technique and achieving long distances. The Cygnus students were victorious and I am really proud of all them for volunteering to take part, contributing massively to the Cygnus House competition score.

Not to be outdone, our Year 7s produced a storming performance to align the dots in an exciting connect 4 competition. Jessica held her nerve and ignored some terrible advice from the other Houses to create a perfect blue diagonal set.

As a house we have seen our attendance improve and we are second place in the overall points standings. This is all down to the hard work and dedication of our scholars so well done to everyone who has won a competition, been awarded a praise point or contributed in any way.

University Challenge is next and I am excited to find out whether we can retain our trophy. Good luck to the Cygnus challengers and I look forward to updating you soon on our achievements over the next few weeks.

Mr Griffiths
Head of Cygnus



NOVA MUSICIANS HEAD TO LONDON

A group of Nova music scholars were privileged to take part in the Modulo Orchestra project at Cecil Sharp House, London. With so many restrictions around access to music-making in the last two-years, the Modulo Programme is a compelling addition to our enrichment offer, enabling scholars to enhance their musical skills, play an instrument as part of a large-scale ensemble and forge new friendships, while also developing their aptitude for teamwork, communication skills and resilience.

During the trip scholars connected with young people from other schools across the region to rehearse the music as a large-scale orchestra, worked on a creative cross-arts project, and met a whole host of artists and musicians from the arts world. In July, every Modulo school in the UK will gather at the Royal Academy of Music to create an incredible national ensemble of inspiring young musicians. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for every scholar involved and they all found it incredibly rewarding.





"I had SO MUCH FUN at the Orchestra and I felt astonished being with a lot of musicians. I made lots of new friends (from 1 school). I never knew it would be this big and magnificent and I would love to do more of this in the future."

Kyran, year 7

"It was really exciting to play as a part of such a big orchestra and I really enjoyed hearing the different sectionals practicing individually and then hearing everyone come together at the end of the day to perform. I also really enjoyed the aspect of learning that they included to help everyone understand the music we were playing more."

Madelin, year 10



VISITS TO SCHOOL



The Young Shakespeare Company is a touring group that brings the works of William Shakespeare to life for young people in schools and theatres across the country. Every year they work with 100,000 children in over 800 primary and secondary schools. The projects have been cited by the Arts Council as an example of excellence in arts education practice.



This month saw their long-awaited return to Nova and they performed their own version of Macbeth for Year 10 and Year 11 scholars. Their unique interpretation of the works really helps scholars understand the many different themes involved in the storyline.



Click on the photos to watch the videos.

Kate Holtom, former Head of Languages at Nova, returned to talk to Year 10 Business scholars. Ms Holtom left Nova during lockdown to set up her own business, and she gave a very interesting presentation about starting a business, the considerations to be taken into account, and how her new venture is progressing. We are grateful for her time and wish her every success.

FERN & IVY



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

We are proud of...

Year 10 scholar Oriol (Pegasus House) who was invited to take part in a pre-Olympic Judo training camp in Paris. The training took place at the venue for the 2024 Olympics and with the host nation coaching team. Oriol was one of just seven elite GB players to be invited, and the only 14 year old to attend the camp.

Oriol already competes at international level and he was selected for the Paris training by an international judo scout when he attended a training camp in Croatia at half term.

The following weekend, he went on to compete at the British Schools Judo Championships, with other Year 10 and 11 boys in the under 73kg category. He fought very hard and achieved his best ever result as a cadet.

We're all very impressed by Oriol's hard work and dedication and we're following his progress with pride.

"Students in France study judo in school, so they get funding for the sport which means there are some very good fighters in France – they're usually in the top 3 in the world. The training was very intensive, with three or four sessions each day over the three days, and visits to national centres for training. It was a great development opportunity for me and a fantastic experience."

Oriol, year 10



UKRAINE APPEAL

In class and through assemblies, students have been learning about the challenges faced by the Ukrainian people. After hearing the news, scholars approached their teachers asking how they could help with the situation in Ukraine.

We were incredibly proud of their kindness and organised a non-uniform day to help raise much needed funds. Due to the generosity of the scholars and their families, we raised over £1,300 for the DEC Ukraine Appeal, our highest ever non-uniform fundraiser.

They also put out an appeal for donations of warm clothing and food, and again, we received an incredible amount of donations which our students carefully sorted and loaded up for delivery.

THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the appeal, and special thanks to the students who suggested it and worked hard to organise the donations.





We are so proud of our school community for the support shown towards the appeal. Thank you.

YEAR 5/6 OPEN MORNING



We are proud of...

Our student ambassadors who were amazing at our recent Open Morning. Having over 150 people in the audience didn't phase them at all; they shared their experiences of starting secondary school, and answered questions confidently as they showed our visitors around the school.



After Easter we will be using Epraise for all communication to parents. Please remove the School Gateway app and check that you are able to log into Epraise.

Thank you

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS



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Open Mornings

Tuesday 14th June 2022
Thursday 23rd June 2022
9-11am

Catalyst STEM Stream

Open Morning

Thursday 23rd June 2022
11am-12pm

register online at www.novahreodacademy.org.uk

Pegasus Charity Challenge

The Easter Show Stopper Challenge = Thursday 7th April



- Are you ready to showcase your skills, raise some money for charity and have a bit of fun too!
- The Showstopper must be a cake the represents Easter!
- The competition is open to Scholars in all Houses! Including staff!
- Please Epraise Mrs Moore to let me know your taking part.
- All cakes made will be donated upon entry to be part of a charity bake sale...
- So even if you aren't entering, bring some money in for cake!
- All proceeds will go to our House Charities

Participants will be required to submit 3 photos to Mrs Moore of them during the making stage to ensure no cheating!

Designed and created especially for you by Reprographics Nova Hreod Academy



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