

## Message from the Headteacher

The American writer and philosopher, Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote, "When it is dark enough, you can see the stars." There are many people who fear the dark and what it might hold. I much prefer Emerson's optimistic view which suggests we might only truly appreciate the beauty in the world, not when things are easy, but when things get tough.

This last week will have been a tough one for our Year 11s who have just completed their first set of mock exams. Many of them will have begun to prove themselves stars in these tough times. They have worked hard for the past few weeks and will need to continue to do so, picking up the advice and support they need from their teachers, friends and parents on their journey through Year 11. We look forward to continue helping them in this process and appreciate all of the

additional support which they get from home.

I hope you enjoy reading about all of the other exciting ways in which our students have been proving themselves stars in the pages of this fortnight's newsletter, from the lunchtime concert in the atrium to our World Poetry Day event in the

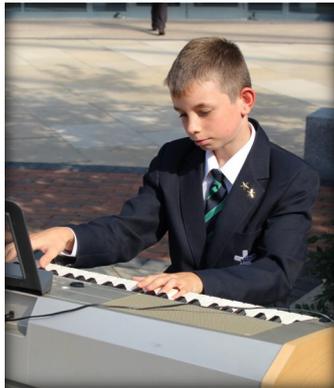
library, there is much which shows our students shine.



*Nick Wells  
Headteacher*

## Flash Mob hits Nova

Staff and students were treated to an impromptu concert last week as our Creative Arts students popped up in the atrium to perform some of their favourite songs. The flash mob was put together to promote the new range of music lessons that are available at the school, and showcase the talents of our students in music and drama.



## Student Librarians Appointed

New members of the Student Librarian team have been appointed, following a rigorous application and interview process. During a presentation from Mrs Fawcett, the Academy's careers advisor, the applicants were taught some important interview techniques including how employers will make an opinion of them within the first seven seconds. To make a good first impression students were encouraged to smile, make eye contact, shake hands, introduce themselves, look smart, sit down when invited to, and speak clearly.

The interview panel consisted of nine of our current student librarians who did a sterling job as interviewers by putting the candidates at their ease and asking questions in a professional manner. They then deliberated between themselves to choose students who will fill the ten new positions. Unfortunately we could not accommodate everyone at this time so a reserve list has been created for the unsuccessful candidates. A huge thank you to Mrs Evans, HR administrator and Ms Webb, SEN administrator who were involved in the event, giving it a professional feel and highlighting to students all of the different aspects of real life interview processes.

Congratulations to all our new student librarians.



## Roald Dahl Day

Lucky Year 7 students received 'Golden Tickets' to attend an exclusive Roald Dahl Day celebration in the LRC. Scrumdiddlyumptious popcorn and Frobscottle drinks were consumed whilst students watched a selection of their favourite Roald Dahl film clips, completed puzzles and took part in a phizz-whizzing Roald Dahl Quiz.



## Student achievements



We were excited to hear that Year 7 student **Euan** (Pegasus 1) appeared on the catwalk for ME Clothing in the House of iKon's Show, the biggest children's fashion show at London Fashion Week last month. Thanks to Euan's mum for sending us this great photo.

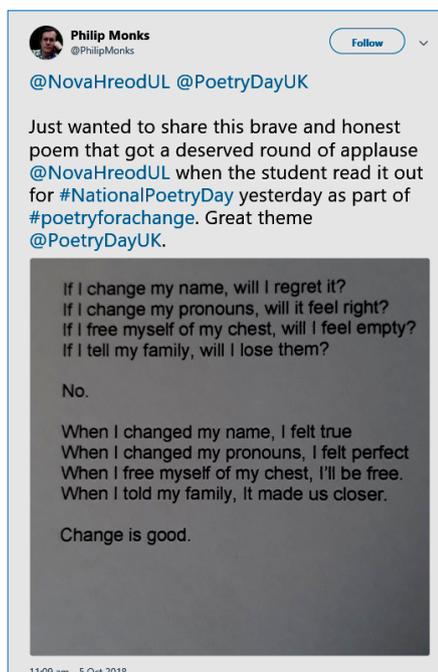
Congratulations to Year 9 **Emily** (Orion 4) who has been invited for trials for the U15 England football team.



We are extremely proud and we wish her all the success she deserves.



Bristol poet and prolific creative writer, Philip Monks, joined several of our students on Thursday, to create some beautiful, comical and thought-provoking poetry. Poetry workshops were held for year 7 / 8 and Year 10 students. Philip was hugely impressed by their understanding and responses which included... caesura; enjambment; stanzas; emotive language; pathetic fallacy; anaphora; rhyme schemes and rhythm! He then helped the students to craft poems about this year's National Poetry day theme of 'Change'.



*"Thanks for hosting so wonderfully and to all the students for their inspirational poems for National Poetry Day. Really enjoyable and energizing!"*

*Philip Monks*

*"The poetry session made me think about the deeper meaning behind words"*

*"The poetry session made me realise that you can make it about anything and that its your decision about what you want to make it about and it was fun."*

*"I thought it was fun as I learned different styles of poems and I would like to do it again."*

*Year 10 Students*



## New lease of life for garden project

Volunteers from car leasing firm Arval UK spent a day developing a disused piece of land behind the school into an outdoor classroom. The space has now been handed over to a group of students as part of the Academy's SuperNova programme, which is designed to help students try new interests and experiences.

The project will develop the students' teamwork and planning skills, teaching them how to sow, plant and harvest their crops, enterprise and cookery skills. Members of the group will be empowered to make decisions about what to plant and how to use their crops.

We are extremely grateful to Arval for their help with this new project and their ongoing support of the Academy. Students have already benefited from

Arval's support with a range of activities from interview skills workshops, CV writing, mock interview and work experience placements, to showcasing alternative energy vehicles.

The gardening students would appreciate any donations of equipment and/or materials to help with their learning; anyone able to help should contact the admin office at the school.



## Leaderboard



HOUSE  
POINTS

ATTENDANCE

1st



2nd



3rd



4th



## Dates for your diary

### October

Monday 15th Year 6 Open Morning (please register)

Wednesday 24th INSET Day

25th October — 5th November Half term

### November

Wednesday 14th Year 11 Subject Parents' Evening

Thursday 15th GCSE Presentation Evening

Thursday 22nd Battle of the Bands

Thursday 29th Christmas Craft Fair

A full calendar of events and more information can be found at [www.novahreodacademy.org.uk](http://www.novahreodacademy.org.uk)

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