

✱ Drive ✱ Integrity ✱ Scholarship ✱ Contribution





Key Information

All trips and other events have been postponed until further notice. We will continue to email parents and update the website with information as we receive it.

Information to support parents and students:

Learning from Home www.novahreodacademy.org.uk/learning-from-home

Student Wellbeing <https://tinyurl.com/sft5zp6>

COVID-19 updates www.novahreodacademy.org.uk/notice

Calendar of events www.novahreodacademy.org.uk/news-and-events/calendar

During the school closure, staff can be contacted by emailing
closure@novahreodacademy.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It's at times like those we're going through at the moment that we realise most clearly the people and things that are important to us. Many of us will be missing family, friends and colleagues during the time the school is closed and the country is facing such unprecedented circumstances.

I was interested to read this week in the news about the reflections of Terry Waite on our current situation. In 1987, Waite was taken captive in Beirut and held hostage for 1,763 days. He was chained to the wall. Apart from his last few weeks in captivity, aside from his captors who he barely saw, he was totally alone. In the interview I read, Waite said, "Mercifully, lockdown will be nothing like as severe. But there are some things that I learned then which may be of some help to those finding the current situation difficult." He shared that he had to keep hope alive, be determined, develop the mental capacity to write in his head with his imagination as he had no books, maintain his personal pride but also accept that he would have an awful lot of time to reflect on who he was - he has to accept the things he didn't like about himself and those he did. Values are important on these times.

We have been impressed to see the reaction of so many of our students to the situation we are currently in. They are the embodiment of our DISC values. They've realised the importance of working hard, the importance of kindness to each other, the value of continuing with their studies and the contribution they can make around the home to help their families.

We know these times will be difficult - not just academically but also emotionally. As a result, we have included in these pages and on our website some guidance designed to support our children in maintaining their mental health in this period.

We will continue to work with our parents and community during this time. Please do contact us using the closure@novahreodacademy.org.uk email account if you need further support or guidance.

Nick Wells
Headteacher



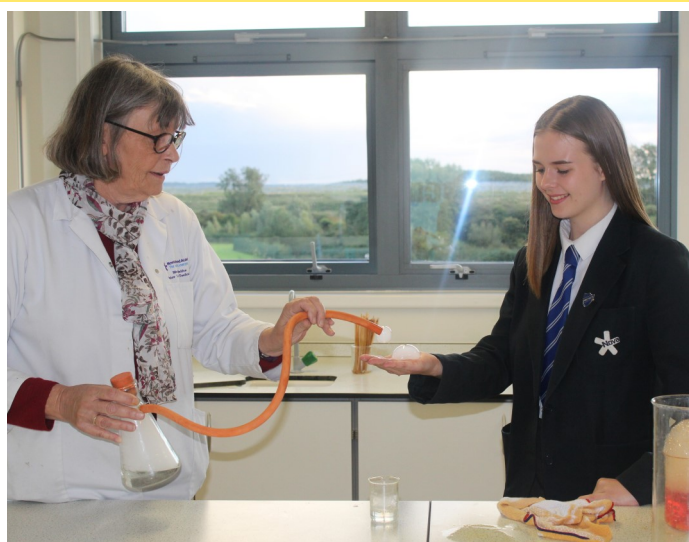
STAFF CELEBRATIONS

This academic year, two members of the Science Faculty – Mrs King and Mrs Bathe – are both marking 20 years of working at Nova Hreod Academy.

After joining Nova as a newly qualified teacher in 2000, Mrs King went on to hold several roles within the Science team and was Head of Science for a number of years before taking some time off to start her own family. She returned to Nova after having each of her children. Staff that have worked with Mrs King over the years have expressed what a good leader she is, and she is also a firm favourite with the students - always willing to go the extra mile to help them succeed. She has a real nurturing side to her nature but is also a firm believer in authority and hard work. Generations of students have respected and respect her still today for those qualities. She is a friendly face around the Science wing and supports all the other members of the team.

Mrs Bathe holds the role of Senior Science Technician and without her, practical science lessons would be impossible. She works incredibly hard behind the scenes to make sure our eight science teachers can run the practicals they need on a daily basis giving the students the best experience of science that they can have.

In a profession where people often move on to different schools this is something to be celebrated and we are incredibly grateful for the hard work and commitment that Mrs Bathe and Mrs King have shown to the school and its students over the last 20 years.



TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

A group of students visited BBC Bristol for a STEM careers workshop, where they were introduced to some people with some of the coolest roles in the BBC.



Year 10 students headed to Bath Forum for a selection of GCSE Science lectures from Professor Robert Winston and some of Britain's other top scientists, all working at the cutting edge of their specialisms. They also received guidance from an experienced science examiner to help improve their Science GCSE results with top tips on examination success.

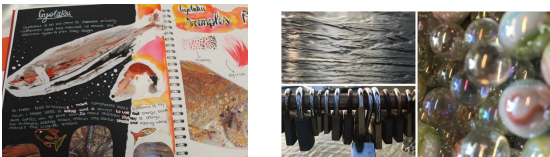


TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

A group of year 10 students visited an Old Operating Theatre in London to learn more about the developments in science and surgical techniques to help with their history module on "Health & the People."



Year 11 Art and Photography groups visited Bristol to gather images and inspiration for their current GCSE exam projects.



Year 9 and 10 RE students visited Worcester Cathedral for a GCSE conference. They all had an interesting day learning about the nature of God, salvation, life after death and sanctity of life.



SKI TRIP

Nova’s very first Ski trip to Les Orres in the French Alps was thoroughly enjoyed by staff and students alike. To see more pictures and videos please

[CLICK HERE](#)



FROM THE STELLAR DINER

Congratulations to our wonderful catering team who were shortlisted for "Team of the Year" at the annual Spirit of Sodexo Awards. Out of 4,000 Sodexo catering sites, the Nova team came first in the education sector across the UK and Ireland, which is a fantastic testament to them.

The whole team work hard to provide quality handmade meals for our students. This term, they have hosted an American themed lunch, celebrated Chinese New Year and even baked special cupcakes and cookies for Valentines Day.



E-PRAISE

THIS TERM'S HOUSE LEADERS (at 13th March)



FROM THE LRC

We are delighted to welcome our new librarian Mrs Shurley. Mrs Shurley has been a part of the Nova team since 2017 when she first joined us as a volunteer in the admin team. Her three children have all been Nova students and her youngest is currently in Year 8.



Congratulations to Emily (Aquila 3) the winner of the World Book Day Bookmark competition. A copy of her bookmark will be printed for everyone in Year 8.



On Valentine's Day, student librarians selected a variety of books to gift-wrap and produce a display in the LRC to prove that "you can't judge a book by its cover." The librarians presented books to some of their favourite teachers, and lots of other students joined in by selecting their own Book Blind Date from the display.



The World Book Day "Design an Alternative Book Cover" competition was very popular, with students creating their own interpretation of a cover for the books "Skylarks" by Karen Gregory and "Eclipse" by Stephanie Meyer. The winning design chosen by staff was from Isabel (Pegasus 2).



The LRC is a welcoming space for students to enjoy a good book or a board game at break and lunchtime. After school, it is open until 4pm (4.30pm on Tuesdays) as a quiet place for students to study or complete their homework.



SPORT AND PE

LEAGUE CHAMPIONS



Congratulations to the Year 9 netball team who won the league this term.



Well done, these girls were amazing in our first basketball fixtures against Ridgeway, with both Nova teams coming away with the win. POM Lucia & Bella.



U16 boys football team

We celebrated the ESFA Schools' Football Week with a series of games and competitions throughout the week. Students wore their favourite football shirts for PE lessons, and the sports captains organised penalty shootouts, crossbar challenges and other football related games.



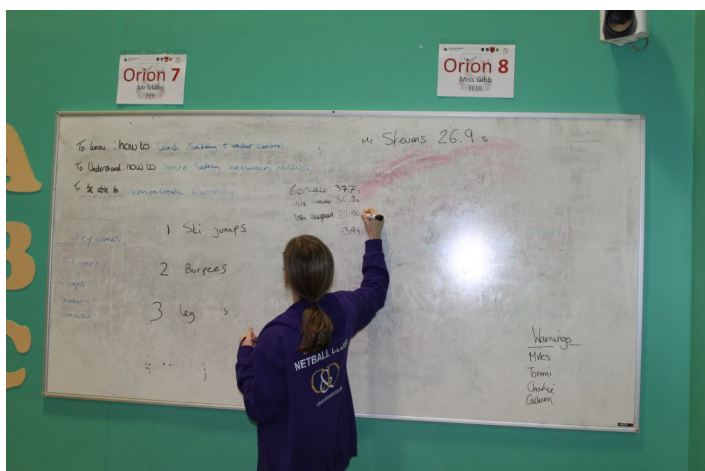
CHARITY AND FUNDRAISING



Sport Relief Day 13th March

A number of activities were organised to raise funds on Sport Relief Day. Students were timed on how quickly they could get round a parkour assault course in the gym. Staff and students from each house had the challenge of keeping someone from their house cycling in the atrium for the whole of the lunch time.

In the fitness suite there was a strongman competition with exercises testing students' and teachers' strength, including who could lift the heaviest weight and who could do the most reps. For the less sporty students, there was a selection of sports related word searches and quizzes in the LRC.



BACK OF THE NET

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE AT
Nova Hreod Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

WHO HELPED RAISE
£ A total of £682.76

FOR SPORT RELIEF 2020

The money you raised will help transform lives here in the UK and around the world.

SPORT RELIEF IT'S GAME ON

9-13 MARCH

COMPETITIONS

Six of our fantastic mathematicians represented Nova at the Swindon Maths League. This first round of the year was held at Kingsdown where students worked in teams on a range of puzzles and challenges to compete against other schools in Swindon. Our students were exemplary with their enthusiasm and engagement. They enjoyed the event so much they could not believe they had been there two hours! The next round is at Dorcan and in the meantime, we are preparing a team for the regional UKMT Team Challenge.



The house debating competition saw students testing their debating skills in tutor groups, selecting teams to go forward to the final on the subject of whether meat farming should be made illegal.

There were some very strong arguments from both sides and the team from Pegasus House were declared the winners.



The next house competition was a test of general knowledge and quick thinking as students entered the University Challenge competition.

Competing against each other in their tutor groups, there were six rounds of questions covering science and technology, sports and health, the natural world and geography, arts and couture, philosophy and religion, history and current affairs. The top teams from each house went forward to the house final which was a hard fought contest, and again, Pegasus House were victorious!

Well done to everyone that took part this term.



CLASS OF 2015-2020



CLASS OF 2015-2020



To see more photos and videos of Year 11's last day at Nova

[CLICK HERE](#)

WELLBEING



We know that, as the school is closed, you could be finding life more difficult. We've written a guide for students with some very helpful website links, which is on the school website at <https://tinyurl.com/sft5zp6>.

Here's some advice to help you with what you can do every day to keep yourself feeling as well as possible.

Follow a daily routine

A daily routine creates structure, instils good habits and helps focus.

Follow a healthy diet

Eating a variety of healthy foods doesn't just give your body a boost; it also benefits your brain cells. Skipping meals will leave you hungry and unable to concentrate, so eat regularly and sensibly.

Exercise

When you exercise, your body releases chemicals called 'endorphins' that help you feel happy and good about yourself.

Sleep

It is recommended that you have at least 9 hours sleep per night. A regular good night's sleep can reduce stress.

Social interaction

Keep social interaction going in a way by phoning or using apps to contact friends and family.

Support is available

Should you have any concerns about your wellbeing/mental health, the following websites and telephone numbers may be useful:

Kooth: <https://www.kooth.com/>

Young Minds - www.youngminds.co.uk

CAMHS Live - www.nhft.nhs.uk/camhslive

Childline – telephone free 08001111

National Self-harm Network - www.nshn.co.uk

Anna Freud Centre - www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/youth-wellbeing/

Charlie Waller Trust: <https://www.cwmt.org.uk/>



Learning from Home

During the school closure, we've really enjoyed seeing the photographs that students have been sending us of their home learning, including work set on Epraise, some of the school competitions and their extra curricular interests.



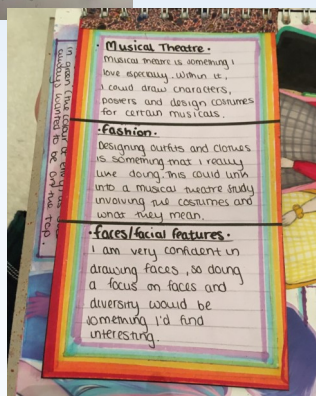
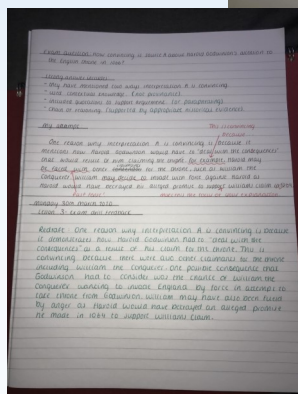
The New pandemic!

Covid-19,
Quarantine is killing me.
Will I make it to thirty-three?
What will be will be.
There's no guarantee!
So help me!
Put my mind at ease.
Please.

The new pandemic,
Jokes to be found.
There's silence in this town,
Yet the world goes round and round.
Coronavirus, thank you!
The world is healing.
Everyone's quarantine
Do you know what this means?

Less pollution!

The ozone layer recovering,
Our world is healing.
Rather than complaining,
Look at the bigger picture!
Covid-19 isn't the end of us,
It's a new beginning.



Writing in Times of Crisis: Nova's Creative Writing Competition (Spring 2020)

Throughout history, people have turned to writing to help them express and make sense of the world they live in. We are living through an unprecedented moment in history and have a unique opportunity to do the same.

What would you like to write?

Email your work to Miss Unsworth (this can be photos of work too) by the end of the Easter holidays - Sunday 19th April. There will be prizes when we return to school!

s.unsworth@novahreodacademy.org.uk

TASK: creatively express your views on the Coronavirus pandemic. You could write:

- A diary entry
- A letter to children in the future
- A poem, song, or rap
- A short story or comic strip
- A playscript, monologue, or speech
- A leaflet
- Something else?

You must use a variety of language and structural features.



Make / Draw / Photograph something to be displayed in school in locations such as Mr Wells' office and reception

Anyone can enter, and there will be prizes for the best entries from each house.



The theme is Community and "Nova-ness"

Make a piece of work that shows what it is to be a part of the Nova family

You could use your house as a starting point for inspiration if you are stuck!



Send your entries to

Miss Fegan s.fegan@novahreodacademy.org.uk or Ms Preece c.preece@novahreodacademy.org.uk

Easter Bake Off!



Get creative and join in by making your own Easter Show Stopper!

Submit photos to Mrs Moore via email e.moore@novahreodacademy.org.uk

Prizes for:
-KS3 category
-KS4 category
-Staff category



Designed and created especially for you by Reprographics Nova Hreod Academy



Find us at NovaHreodUL



Nova Hreod Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning



Akers Way, Swindon SN2 2NQ, Wiltshire
t 01793 528800
www.novahreodacademy.org.uk
admin@novahreodacademy.org.uk