

## **Nova News**

Issue 1

September 2021

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer and found time to relax with your families, friends and loved ones.

Nova was busy over the summer, hosting our Year 6-7 Summer School and then our site staff had their busiest period getting the building ready for the start of the new academic year.

I always look forward to the first week back at school, seeing our scholars come through the doors at Nova, that bit taller, more mature, refreshed from the break and ready to learn.

This week they continued to match our high expectations and settle into their new routines with drive, determination and enthusiasm, ready to contribute to another great year at school.

It has been a privilege to visit classrooms and see the amazing teaching and learning going on in the first few days of the year.

With all the challenges we faced last year, it's fantastic to return to a normal school day. The re-invigoration of our House system has been a particular highlight so far.

Happily, this term we are able to host in-person meetings and events. The first of these was our fantastic Open Evening on 16<sup>th</sup> September. Later in the month will be our first on-site Headteacher Forum. This will give us a chance for me to talk to you about some of the changes we have put in place recently and our plans for the rest of the academic year, building positive relationships as we support your child to do their very best.

Thank you to all parents who gave consent for their children to be COVID tested. We have become very efficient at running the testing across the school and will continue to do everything the government advises in order to keep our school community safe. Lateral flow tests are available for every family and I encourage you to continue testing at home twice a week on a Wednesday and Sunday.

Do enjoy the highlights from the first weeks back at school and I hope to see you in person soon.



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

## SEPTEMBER 2021

Saturday 25th —Year 6 Catalyst Taster

Session (register online at Nova Hreod Academy > Catalyst Stream

Wednesday 29th—Headteacher parental forum 6-7pm

## **OCTOBER 2021**

Tuesday 5th—Year 5/6 Open Morning
Tuesday 12th—Futures Evening
Thursday 14th—Year 5/6 Open Morning

For more information visit www.novahreodacademy.org.uk

Nick Wells Headteacher

## **EPRAISE LEAGUE TABLE**

1st

2nd

3rd

4th

Total points	Attendance
AQUILA	ORION
ORION	AQUILA
CYGNUS	PEGASUS
PEGASUS	CYGNUS

## **EPRAISE TOP STUDENTS**









## THE WORLD AROUND US

The World Around Us gives the vertical tutor groups a chance to discuss and debate an array of topics that link with Nova, Swindon, UK and the world during tutor time every Wednesday morning. All tutors submit the opinions and votes for their tutor group and each week some of the quotes are selected to feature on the 'Last Week' slide. Here are some advice quotes from our current and past students.

In tutor, we started the year and term off with icebreakers, advice and selecting tutor reps. There were plenty of eager volunteers for tutor rep positions and later this term we are inviting scholars to apply to be House representatives.



This week, there were some brilliant discussions being held about pronouncing names correctly, at Nova we embrace diversity and want to ensure everyone is called by their name correctly.

We also promote our school, houses and updates on our school social media. Follow us on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.



## **HEADTEACHER'S AWARD**



Year 11 scholar Rhys was awarded with a Headteacher's Award after taking part in voluntary work during the summer.

Rhys took part in an internship with Justin Tomlinson MP, where he helped with administrative work for the Minister. Mr Tomlinson was very impressed with his hard work and attitude.

Rhys has already shown that he is capable of great things as he has been selected as one of our Year 11 prefects for this year.

Well done Rhys.

I have had many students over the years and Rhys stood out as a hardworking, driven, young mind that will achieve great things in the future. It was truly a delight to have him work with us."

Justin Tomlinson, MP.

## **VOCABULARY MATTERS**

Two scholars from Nova Hreod Academy were among the winners of a national vocabulary learning challenge set by Bedrock Learning.

Scholars in Years 7–10 use the Bedrock online programme to improve their vocabulary skills by completing a series of challenges. Students who completed at least two online vocabulary lessons a week during the summer term were entered into a prize draw. Nova scholars Lucy in Year 7 and Evie in Year 8 both won gift vouchers from Bedrock.

### Well done!

"It was a nice surprise to win a prize for learning vocabulary on Bedrock" Lucy

"We use Bedrock for our homework and it was nice to receive an Amazon voucher for completing it daily!" Evie



## A reminder to all parents

If you drive your children to school, please be mindful of the safety and parking needs of our local neighbours.

The school gates open at 8am—please drive down the hill to drop children off at school safely.

## **SUPERNOVA**

The Supernova enrichment programme has returned to Nova and it was great to see so many scholars getting involved in the first week. Miss Weeks ran a popular Creative Writing Club, the choir returned to full swing and the KS3 book club is off to a flying start. Scholars also tried guitar club and the freequality club have already started work on some impressive displays celebrating black people who are successful in the subject areas we teach at school.

All scholars are encouraged to join a Supernova activity and can sign up using Epraise.





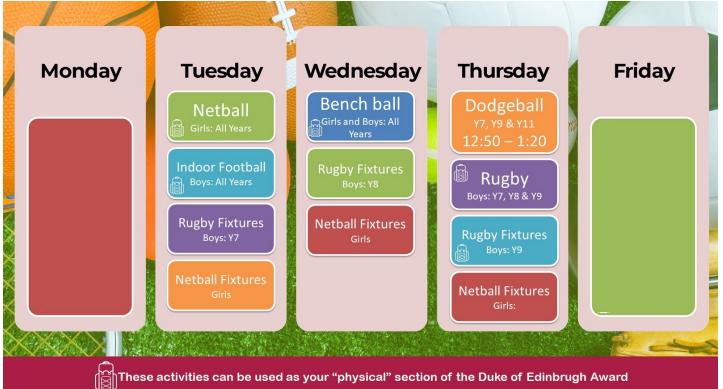














ports CLUBS TERM 1

## **NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY**

After many months of limited use and a Pop Up Library, the Nova Library has been able to re-open fully to students. Students can come to the library each day at break time, lunch time and after school to choose a book, catch up on home study or sit in a quiet place. We have recently purchased new books to add to our vast collection for students to read.

Student Librarians are also now back in the library full time helping. All our Student Librarians have been dedicated and hardworking throughout the difficult times over the past few months, and we have also welcomed some new Student Librarians to our team.



This term we have also appointed Year 11 student Josh as our new Head Student Librarian. Josh was elected into the role by his fellow student librarians; as Head Student Librarian he will help to make important decisions about library events and help the other student librarians with training and mentoring.

"I was happy to be voted in as Head Student Librarian and I am looking forward to working with Mrs Shurley to organise events in the library and support the younger student librarians."

Josh

# The House Teams 2021-22



Ms Dominy HEAD OF HOUSE/ YEAR 10





Ms Bellamy House Manager/ Year 8







Assistant Principal, Head of The **Hub and Safeguarding Lead** 

MR COWDELL House Manager/Year 7



House manager/Deputy Safeguarding Lead/ Year 10 **PENNY KING** 



HEAD OF HOUSE/ YEAR 7



Mrs STEPHEN



HEAD OF HOUSE/ YEAR 9





Ms LUDLOW House Manager/Year 9

## **OPEN EVENING**

We'd like to say a huge THANK YOU to all the scholars who volunteered to help out during our annual Open Evening for Years 5 and 6 last week. Our student ambassadors helped with greeting our visitors, giving tours of the building and helping to support with classroom activities.

Feedback from the evening was full of praise for the way in which our scholars represented themselves and their school, and they should all be very proud of themselves.















## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**



Year 5/6 Open Mornings
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2021 9-11am

register online at www.novahreodacademy.org.uk



Register online at www.novahreodacademy.org.uk/catalyst-stream

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