



A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL

It seems crazy to be writing this at the end of the first term already. It's been jam-packed with inducting our new Year 7s, exciting trips, and some very interesting new Friday challenges.

At the end of September, we had our Open Evening for prospective Year 5 and Year 6 parents and children. In my remit, this is without doubt, the most important night of the calendar year. It takes a lot of planning, trying to make sure that everything goes well and I spend a lot of time worrying about what might go wrong. Such worrying is needless, however, as our scholars always come good and do an amazing job; this year we had some 200 sign up to help and every one of them made a positive contribution. It's no surprise to me that the feedback from our guests, highlights them as the best part of a wonderful evening. I could not be more grateful or prouder of them.

Please do enjoy this edition of Nova News. It has certainly been a fun term as the photos and write-ups will show you. Have a restful break and see you in term 2!

Mr R Nash
Vice Principal - Student Experience



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER 2023

16-18th: Teacher Training Days

19th-27th: Half Term Holidays

Monday 30th: First day of term 2

NOVEMBER 2023

Wednesday 1st: Young Musician of the Year 6.30pm

Tuesday 7th: Ski trip parents' meeting 7pm

Friday 17th: Children in Need non uniform day

Thursday 23rd: [SEN Specific Tours for Year 5/6 parents](#)

Saturday 25th: Swindon Schools' Cross Country Championship

For more information visit:
www.novahreodacademy.org.uk

THIS WEEK'S TOP EPRAISE SCHOLARS



STEM SEMINAR

This term, we were joined by Philip Hubbard from UKRI, who talked to scholars about his career in biological science including the biological applications of 3D printing.



CYGNUS UPDATE



Hello and welcome to the Cygnus house update! This first term has been brilliant for Cygnus and I am really proud of how the whole house has performed. We have

succeeded across the school and our Cygnus scholars have been ambassadors for the whole by 'Being the best' at everything they do.

Just to outline some of our successes, we have smashed most of the Friday challenges by winning the Balloon tower and pin the star and a joint first on the after 8 challenge! Most recently our Year 9, 10 and 11 obliterated all of the competition by winning the bench ball competition, organised by our very own Cygnus 2 tutor Miss Parsons!


There are plenty of competitions and events coming up over the next term, in the first week back we have Young Musician of the Year that many of Cygnus scholars will be a part of. Then in the lead up to Christmas we will have the Christmas concert and many competitions! Thank you to every member of Cygnus House and to the parents and carers for all of their encouragement and support. I look forward to seeing all after half term, have a fantastic break!

*Mr Griffiths
Head of Cygnus House*



FROM THE MATHS DEPARTMENT

Every term, the Maths, Computing and Business teachers each nominate one scholar to receive the coveted 'Star of the Term' certificate.
Congratulations to all the recipients for their hard work.

Star of the Term		
 <p>Sophie - Year 11 Mr Clarke - Maths</p> <p><i>For exceptional drive and consistently high standards of scholarship.</i></p>	 <p>Daniel - Year 8 Dr Makanda - Maths</p> <p><i>Levelling up to Level 4 on Sparx due to continuous completion of XP Boost and Target on top of Compulsory.</i></p>	 <p>Sophie - Year 7 Ms Clare - Maths</p> <p><i>High standards of drive and contribution in class work and Home study. Excellently shaped answers.</i></p>
 <p>Luke - Year 11 Mr Hind - Maths</p> <p><i>Working at a high level during lessons, performing well on KPIs and completing all set homework.</i></p>	 <p>Nathan - Year 11 Mrs Malik - Maths</p> <p><i>Superb drive and effort in class, strong start to Y11. Keep it up!</i></p>	 <p>Holly - Year 8 Ms Forrest - Maths</p> <p><i>For her hard work and participation in class.</i></p>
 <p>Charlie - Year 8 Miss Kalikari - Maths</p> <p><i>Levelling up to Level 3 on Sparx due to excellent Homestudy and being top 3 in Y8!</i></p>	 <p>Alice - Year 11 Mr Watkins - Maths</p> <p><i>For working hard in every lesson, displaying high levels of drive and scholarship, and asking lots of valuable questions.</i></p>	 <p>Hamilton - Year 10 Mrs Evans - Business Studies</p> <p><i>For consistent and exceptional engagement and drive in a new subject (Business).</i></p>
 <p>Rhys - Year 11 Mrs Evans - iMedia</p> <p><i>For a wonderfully creative character and comic. Showing exceptional technical and design skills.</i></p>	 <p>Amelia-Jane - Year 7 Mrs Thomas - Maths</p> <p><i>Working hard in class and building up self esteem this term. Well done!</i></p>	 <p>Jayden - Year 7 Miss Liu - Maths</p> <p><i>Displaying high levels of drive and integrity in all his maths lessons, persevering even when the content is challenging.</i></p>

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP FRIDAY CHALLENGE

Every Friday lunchtime, scholars compete in a fun challenge to earn points for their house which go towards the house championship totals.

Scholars can sign up using Epraise Activities to take part in any of the challenges.

Years 7 and 9 enjoyed the After Eight Challenge, which involved moving an After Eight mint from their head into their mouths without using their hands. It was quite messy!



HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP FRIDAY CHALLENGE





Another new challenge for [#funfridaychallenge](#) called 'Pin the Star on Nova' whereby much like 'Pin the Tail on the Donkey', Year 8, 10 and 11 had to pin a Nova star onto, or as close to the Atrium as possible blindfolded.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW SLT

You may have noticed some new names around school this term in the senior leadership team. On this page, our new senior leaders explain their roles and what they've enjoyed in their first few weeks at Nova.



My name is Mr Delap and I am a father of three children, a French Teacher and a Deputy Head teacher with four years of experience and a further five years before that as an Assistant Principal. I joined Nova Hreod in September as Vice Principal for Teaching and Learning and Literacy. I am really excited to start working at Nova as the values of the school and the high expectations, for every scholar, which run through all elements of the broad curriculum reflect my own beliefs about education.

In my first few weeks here, it has been a pleasure to get to know scholars and teachers in classrooms, on stage and on the playing fields as we head purposefully towards the end of a busy and exciting term.

Mr Delap



I'm Mrs Fox. I am one of the Vice Principals at Nova responsible for student support. I work closely with Mrs King and the attendance team and I lead the pastoral 'hub' team who are the people students get to know best as they work with students individually in order to support their social, emotional, and health needs.

I am devoted to creating a warm/strict culture within Nova in which students feel safe and valued whilst modelling the highest of standards.

I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the scholars at Nova and their families in these first few weeks. I value parental feedback greatly and have taken up every opportunity to talk with as many scholars and their families as possible. I know that working in partnership with parents is invaluable in ensuring scholars' success and happiness in school and so I look forward to getting to know the rest of Nova's community over this year.

I'm Mrs Green. I joined Nova to take up the post of Assistant Principal responsible for raising Key Stage 3 standards and leading on pupil premium, as well as teaching geography. It is so important that children make a good start to their secondary education, and I am in a privileged position to help scholars develop outstanding learning habits and to ensure that they make accelerated progress in their lessons so that they are set up for a bright future.

I have very much enjoyed getting to know the scholars in my first few weeks; I have been impressed by the incisive questions they ask in class and how welcoming they have been. Thank you Nova!





Mr Silvester
Head of Aquila House



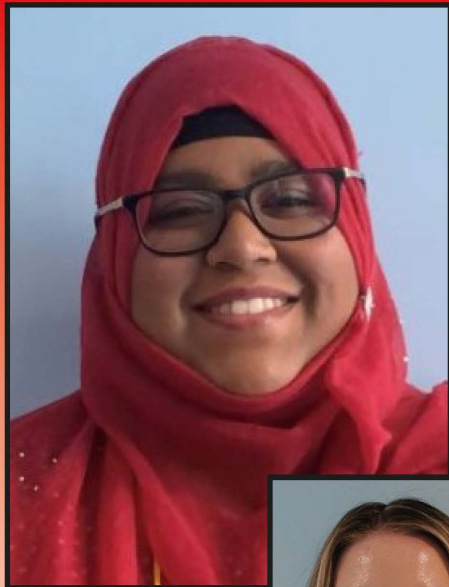
House Manager
Miss Bellamy



Mr Griffiths
Head of Cygnus House



House Manager
Mr Branigan



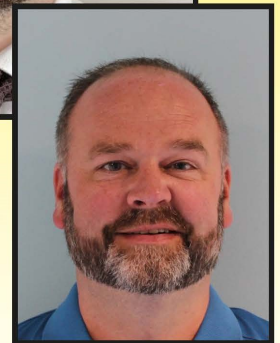
Mrs Malik
Head of Orion House



House Manager
Miss Saunders



Mr Harbour
Head of Pegasus House



House Manager
Mr Wykes

COMMUNICATION

I need to report my child's absence or medical Appointment.

I have a query about FSM or Parent pay...

Use EPRAISE Messenger

A man with glasses and a teal suit is on the left, looking thoughtful. A woman in a brown hijab and glasses is on the right, gesturing with her hand. In the background, a child is lying in bed with a fever and a teddy bear.

We need to see the Supernova clubs for this term...

Use EPRAISE

After School Club

A woman with red hair and a teal top is on the left, and a man in a dark suit is on the right, both smiling. A logo for 'After School Club' is visible.

The fastest and best way to communicate with us.

Nova Hreod Academy
The best in everyone™

DOWNLOAD the APP
We look forward to hearing from you!

epraise.co.uk
The award winning school rewards system

A hand is shown holding a smartphone. The background is blue with the 'ep' logo.

~~Schoolgateway~~

Please REMEMBER TO DELETE THE OLD APP

A vertical teal banner with the word 'Schoolgateway' written vertically, crossed out with a red 'X'. To the left, text reads 'Please REMEMBER TO DELETE THE OLD APP'.

I need to contact my son's teacher but I work during school hours...

I need to speak with Pastoral / House Managers team and the telephone is busy. What can I do?

Use EPRAISE Messenger

A woman with blonde hair and a blue patterned shirt is on the left, gesturing. A woman with dark hair and a red top is on the right, talking on a mobile phone.

Should you have any problem logging into EPRAISE please email: admin@novahreodacademy.org.uk

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS NEWS

In the U14's National School Netball Tournament, the team played strongly, finishing 5th overall out of 12 schools.

Player of the tournament was Aderyn



Congratulations to the Year 11 team who had a fantastic 5-1 win.



TRIPS AND VISITS

A group of Year 11 Business Studies students went to Cadbury World in Birmingham to learn about production and marketing.

“We started the day with a talk about Cadbury and how Cadbury uses marketing, it was very useful as it helped our understanding of things like the marketing mix and much more. After, we started the tour and learnt about how Cadbury started and how Cadbury chocolate was made. Towards the end of the tour we got to draw with melted chocolate and went on a ride called the Cadabra ride, it was great fun and one of the best moments of the trip, however my favourite part was the 4DX cinema experience”

Ruby

“We watched many clips all about the start of Cadbury and how chocolate was first made. We also had a tour of the chocolate factory which was fascinating to see.

The trip was amazing learning different aspects of Cadbury. It was an engaging trip doing activities and I think all 50 of us enjoyed the trip”

Rhys





I really enjoyed today at Cadbury, and I think this will be a great memory when we leave Nova.

Princess





"I had a very good day, I enjoyed the experience and learnt some new information about how businesses work. I also loved the free chocolates!"

Anesu



"Great day, full of memories, I would love to do it again and I had a great day with all my friends - and chocolate of course."

Luke



"I had an amazing day it was good to learn about the marketing of Cadbury"
Lennon



Each issue I will be sharing one great revision technique your child could be using at home. Sometimes scholars want to revise but don't know the best way to go about it – Mrs Unwin's revision corner is here to help! Remember, revision is not something just to be done the night before an exam, the science of learning says spaced practice is important or in other words; little and often.

Whatever method your child uses for revision, make sure that they're **thinking hard**. If they're not thinking hard (e.g. just copying), precious time is being wasted.

This issue is all about knowledge dumps.

How to do a knowledge dump

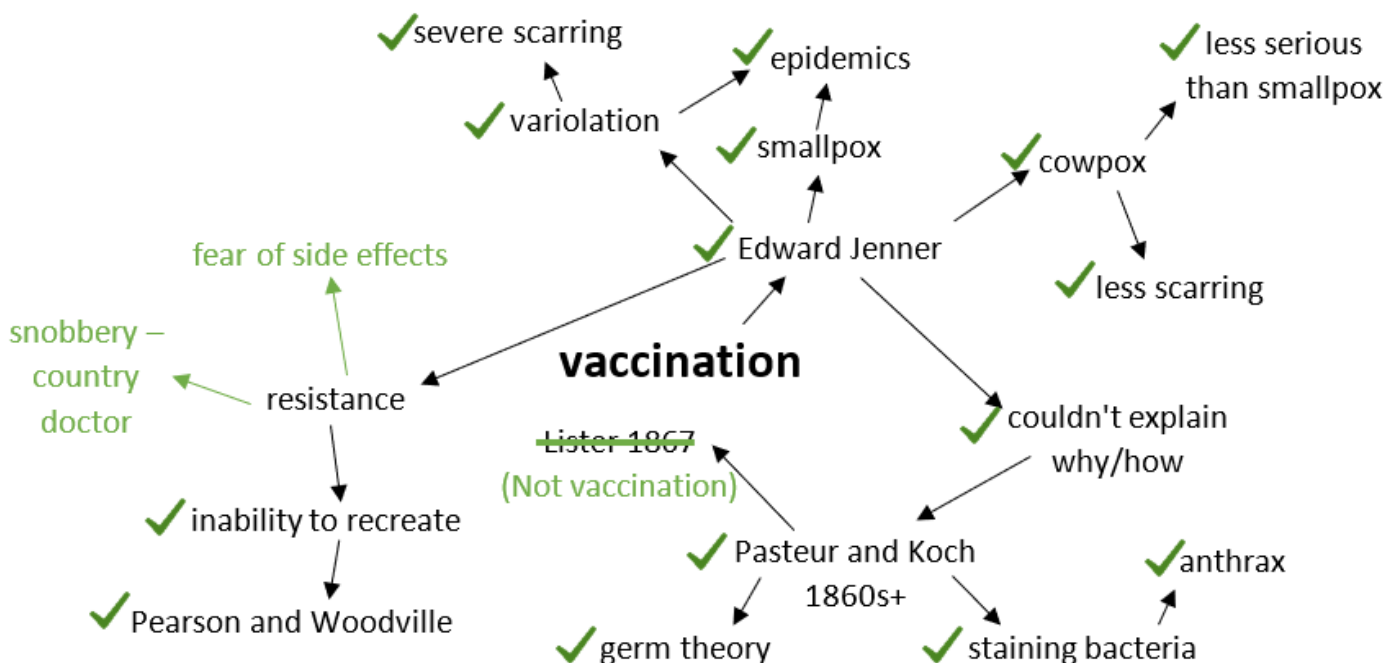
Step 1: Choose a topic – preferably one that you have identified as a weakness.

Step 2: Set a short time limit (max 5 minutes) and write down everything you know about that topic.

Step 3: Compare what you have written to a knowledge organizer or revision guide.

Step 4: Add in anything you missed and correct anything you got wrong in a different colour.

Step 5: Repeat until you have all the key information!



#ONSOCIALMEDIA

An update on some of the stories we've shared on social media in the last fortnight.



Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 27 Sep



Y11 honing their #pasta making skills today



novahreodhumanities



novahreodhumanities Today is the first day of Black History Month and the History department is keen for you to get involved!

Pick up an entry form from Miss Sayers or your History teacher to get involved in our art competition.

Hand in your entry by Tuesday 31st October (just after the half term holiday) and we'll hand out our prizes a week later.

Black History Month 2023

Art Competition

Years 7 and 8:	Years 9 and 10:	Year 11:
Choose an individual from Black British History and produce a piece of artwork about them.	Choose an event from Black British History and produce a piece of artwork about it.	Choose an individual, event, or theme from Black History and produce a piece of artwork about it or them.

Collect entry forms from Miss Sayers or your History teacher.

Hand in your entries to Miss Sayers by **Tuesday 31st October**.

Prizes will be awarded in the week beginning the **13th November**.

#ONSOCIALMEDIA



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Nova Hreod Academy



36 likes

novahreodacademy Our Prefects run Scholar's store every morning for you to be able to buy pieces of missing equipment. This way you're ready from Roll call for a strong start. When Prefects are doing PPE exams the store will be run by Y10 WBA (Well-being Ambassadors). #teamwork #contribution #educationwithcharacter #bestineveryone #novahreodacademy



novahreodacademy
Nova Hreod Academy



novahreodacademy Today Tutor reps (Y8s) were voted for during tutor time. House reps have a chance to apply using the forms link sent via Epraise (Y9s). Wellbeing applications from the end of term 6 will have interviews on Monday. #educationwithcharacter #bestineveryone #novahreodacademy #studentleaders #leadership

1w

Student Leadership Applications have been sent via Epraise.

Appreciation Strategy Humility
Commitment Responsibility Listening
Integrity **Leadership**
Honest Communication
Values Purpose Determination
Passion Principles

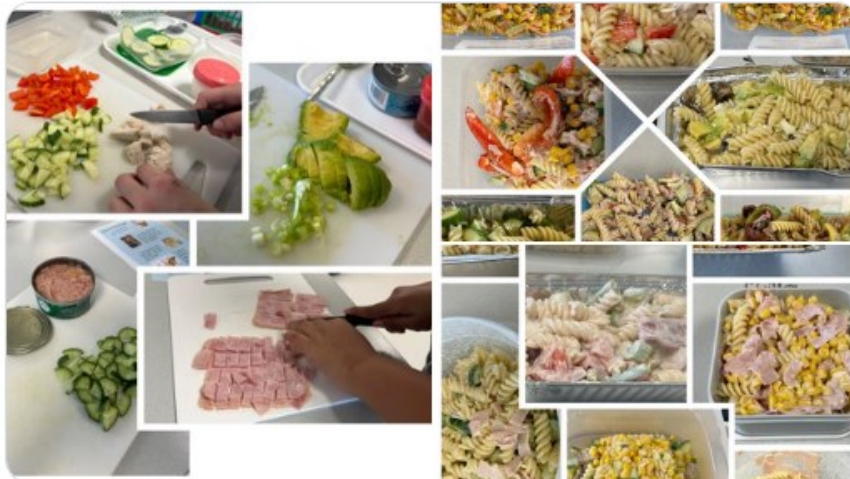
NOVA HREOD ACADEMY



Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 12h



Catalyst group were busy this afternoon designing and making healthy Italian Pasta bowls 🍴 #knifeskills #designing



1

36



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Staff and students at Nova marked World Mental Health Day with a variety of fundraising and fun for students to take part in. Following the theme of #HelloYellow, we encouraged everyone to wear something yellow to support Young Minds, a charity who support young people's mental health. There was a karaoke at lunchtime, inflatable football, a cake sale and Soak The Teacher. The date also coincided with this term's House Championship competition, where teams from all four houses competed in a game of Benchball organized by Miss Parsons and the Sports Captains.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY



At Nova, we are proud to have a student leadership group dedicated to the wellbeing of our students and on World Mental Health Day this is particularly relevant.

Charlie in Year 11 is one of our Wellbeing Ambassadors.

“Being a Wellbeing Ambassador is my chance to contribute towards a leadership role as a role model for those around me.

Wellbeing means to me supporting the students in helping out. Wellbeing is also to comfort people if they’re sad and upset.”

Charlie Year 10



What's on our minds can be the hardest subject.

So what's on yours?

Sometimes, the world can feel like a scary place.

That's why this World Mental Health Day, we've set the nation a different kind of homework.

Because talking about the hardest subjects on our mind can help ease our stress, and reduce our anxiety.

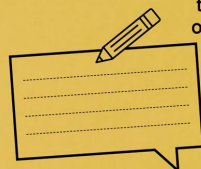
And working on a shared task like this one is a brilliant way to start a proper chat if you need a hand.

Get talking

1

Ask your parent, carer, or an adult you trust if they'll help you with your homework.

Tell them not to worry - nothing will be marked, and they won't even need a calculator!



2

If you're not sure where to start, try writing or drawing your worries or fears on the front cover of this exercise. You can use the box or go outside the lines. Remember: there are no right or wrong answers.

3

Now, spend time together talking through any worries one by one. Discuss questions such as:

*How does it make you feel?
What are you most afraid might happen?
Would it help if you had more information?*

Get listening

Even if we're used to talking together, it can be hard to open up about our worries or fears, particularly the more serious or scary ones. Perhaps you're afraid that talking about them might make you both worry more,

but the reality is the opposite is more likely to be true. When we talk about the hardest subjects, we don't have to have all the answers. The important thing is to listen without judgment, and try not to rush to resolve the problem.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP



HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP



A big THANK YOU to our sports captains who worked with Miss Parsons to organise a fantastic House Championship competition at lunchtime.

On Tuesday, Year 7 and 8 competed, with Years 9, 10 and 11 playing on Wednesday.

*Teams from each house played each other in a league format, with 9/10/11 **Cygnus House** winning all of their games to finish in first place.*

*In Years 7/8, **Pegasus House** were victorious.*

It was a lot of fun.



UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL LIBRARY

We are immensely proud to be a part of the Swindon Youth Festival of Literature, recipient of the 2023 School Library Association Community Award.

The School Library Association Community Award recognises the community effort of a school library that goes above and beyond. This year, they recognised the organisation of Swindon's group of school librarians who work together to provide opportunities for students throughout the town. The Festival is run by the librarians from the twelve schools and celebrates reading, writing and illustration.

2023 will be the 16th year of the Swindon Youth Festival of Literature. It takes place every year in November with twelve Swindon Secondary Schools involved and brings authors, poets and illustrators into schools, together with a headline event at the Wyvern Theatre. This year we are very excited to have Jacqueline Wilson as the headline author.

The Festival includes competitions in creative writing, poetry and illustration run by each school which are then put forward for an overall winner. The winners of the in-school illustration competition are invited to a workshop run by illustrator Steve Antony.

This year's Festival runs from Monday 6th November to Friday 10th November and we will give you more information soon.

Mrs Shurley
School Librarian



BIKEABILITY HOLIDAY COURSES



Swindon Academy

October half term

Level 2

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Our courses:

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- Price: Free if you live in Swindon
- Taught by qualified, DBS-checked instructors



Life Cycle UK

RELEASE YOUR INNER WARRIOR

FREE GIRLS AND LADIES RUGBY TASTER SESSION



All those 11+ are welcome to join both the Supermarine Girls & Ladies for a fun introduction to rugby, followed by food and an opportunity to chat with the teams

SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER
10AM - 12PM



Supermarine RFC
Supermarine Road
Swindon, SN3 4BZ

For more information, visit:

Facebook: [Supermarine Ladies](#)
Instagram: [@supermarineladiesrfc](#)

BE A SUPERHERO Save our planet !

Dress up as your favourite superhero and join us for
a litter pick to keep our community clean

Saturday 28th October 2023 12pm - 2pm

Under 15's



- Responsible adult to accompany child
- Refreshments supplied
- Meet at Haydon Wick Skate Park (behind Morrisons)

For more information, please contact Kate at:
cdofficer@haydonwick.gov.uk



Haydon Wick Parish Council Christmas Card Competition

- FREE to enter
- Ages 5-11 (primary school)
- Winner will receive their own cards as a prize and novelty gifts
- Winning design will be sent out in our Christmas Parcels
 - Closing Date: Friday 3rd November 2023, 4.00pm



Visit our Youth Forum for full instructions and to download a template:

<http://www.haydonwick.gov.uk/youth-forum/>

Or collect a template of your choice from The Council offices
(SN25 1QQ)



SEN SPECIFIC TOURS FOR YEAR 5/6 PARENTS

Thursday 23rd November

9.30am - 11.30am

The SEN specific tours will give you a chance to:

- meet the SENCO
- find out about the SEN provision at Nova
- enjoy a tour of the facilities



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**Nova Hreod Academy
Music Department Presents**

Young Musician of the Year 2023

**Please join us for a fantastic
evening of entertainment
provided by our
talented musicians**

**6.30pm
Wednesday
1st November 2023**

**Nova Hreod Academy
Theatre**



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For more information:

www.novahreodacademy.org.uk



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