



A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR VICE PRINCIPAL



I hope everyone is well rested following the half term break and ready for the challenges of the term ahead. Our Year 11 scholars are soon to begin their first round of mock examinations and I would like to congratulate the vast majority of our Year 11 scholars who have created

and stuck to their revision plans over the holidays. This early preparation will hopefully pay dividends when they are able to celebrate their results on our mock results day.

For those of you who are not aware, I have a feature called 'Mrs Unwin's revision corner' in each newsletter. This gives handy hints and tips of what excellent revision looks like to help you support your child to build useful independent revision habits at home.

We now have a small stock of ties in school, which can be purchased via Parentpay, as we're aware that it's not always easy to get to Monkhouse. Once ordered, the ties can be collected from student services.

The highlight of this week has been the Young Musician of the Year show on Wednesday evening, which featured a wide range of musical talent from our wonderful scholars. Well done to everyone who took part, it was a truly entertaining evening.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Nova News including all the exciting things that have happened and are coming up!

Mrs Unwin
Vice Principal



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER 2023

Tuesday 7th: Ski trip parents' meeting 7pm

Monday 13th: Teaching and Learning Afternoon

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

DECEMBER 2023

Saturday 2nd: Catalyst Taster Session

Thursday 7th: Skip trip parents' meeting with Elemental

Friday 15th: Last day of term

JANUARY 2023

Thursday 4th: First day of term

For more information visit:

www.novahreodacademy.org.uk

THIS WEEK'S TOP EPRAISE SCHOLARS



MRS UNWIN'S REVISION CORNER

This edition of Mrs Unwin's revision corner focuses on the use of practice questions. The factor that tends to limit students using this technique is access to the exam questions. For GCSE students the 2 main exam boards are AQA and Edexcel (although there are others). Students can follow the links to access past papers and mark schemes:

[AQA | Find past papers and mark schemes](#)

[Past papers](#) | [Past exam papers](#) | [Pearson qualifications](#)

Failing that, if a scholar messages their teacher with a request for exam questions I am sure they would be happy to provide!

Once they have some questions the scholar should read the question and annotate in the way they have been shown by each subject area. They should then try and complete the question without the use of notes. They then check their answers against the mark scheme and finally do some further revision on the areas they did not do as well in.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP FRIDAY CHALLENGE



Musical chairs was a very popular and competitive Friday Challenge, with students from all year groups competing for their House. Well done to everyone for a fun challenge.



ORION HOUSE UPDATE

What a great start to the term Orion have had!

As mentioned in assembly this week, a House in Nova is a team for your 5 years here. We want everyone to feel a real sense of belonging at Nova, especially within the 4 Houses.

Not only do I love seeing individual successes throughout the house but as Head of Orion, I ultimately want the whole House pushing each other to persevere throughout the year. Keep coming in and push your attendance to 97%+, those of you on 100% this is a fantastic achievement and I hope you will enjoy your termly reward when you get to it.

Excellent quizzing done by so many of our students and family/teams at home last term, which has meant Haydn bagged our House 250 points and himself a box of chocs! Haydn also won last year so I am keen to see if he and Izac become our regular

quiz winners.

We've got multiple wins on Friday competitions making #FunFridayChallenge a fantastic part of our House culture, I'd like to acknowledge Mr Harbour on all he does on the Competition and Data front here, **thank you** it is much appreciated!

After winning so many competitions, we were the House to beat in the end of term Benchball competition. Well done to Cygnus for beating Pegasus there for us, otherwise they would've gone into the lead! I know after reading Mr Griffiths last piece in the newsletter that he was **elated** with that 500 point win.

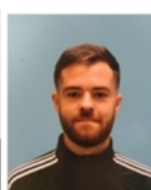


Orion House – Pride in Perseverance



Welcome
Mrs
Holness!

Mrs Malik - AFL for Maths & CAB	Head of House
Ms Saunders	House Manager
Miss Fitzgerald – Geography teacher	Orion 1
Miss Lee – English Teacher	Orion 2
Mr Power – Head of Science	Orion 3
Dr Spreadbury – Science teacher	Orion 4
Ms Vandervalk – Art/photo teacher	Orion 5
Mr Cook – PE teacher	Orion 6
Miss Keogh – Science teacher	Orion 7
Mrs Holness – Art/Photo teacher	Orion 8
Miss Waters – Head of Geography	Orion 9 - Y11s
Mr Miller – Head of French	Orion 10 - Y11s
Mr Watkins and Mr Delap	Orion SLT



ORION HOUSE UPDATE

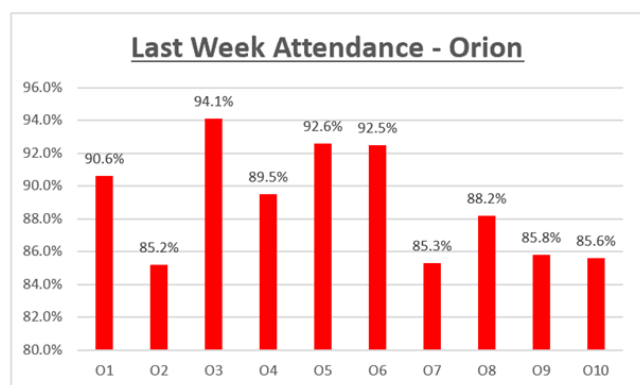
This term brings on more ways to contribute to House and DISC standings.

1. High attendance will mean not only ALT wins and chocolates for tutor groups at the top but also weekly DISC points are given for full attendance. With Tutor reps elected and House reps chosen our secret trick for Star Slip Amnesty (as dubbed by Mr Brunnen last year) can go back to regular action. Often people forget they have won a Star slip or by seeing peers earn them, it motivates others to do so as well.
2. Learning your times tables and making them as speedy as possible whilst also trying to come top of the school as Sparx Tutor groups. This upcoming competition is worth 1000 points and the Top Sparx Tutor Group is worth 50 points (300-350 points up for grabs within one term!). This is alongside completing all home study on time as best as possible and seeking support in advance to avoid detentions and demerits. (and this may well be the most important), fully participating in all that Nova has to offer you, from SuperNova to the Charter Milestones to trips. So many opportunities are given to you at Nova and I know my younger

self would have loved the vast array of enrichment and prospects on offer.

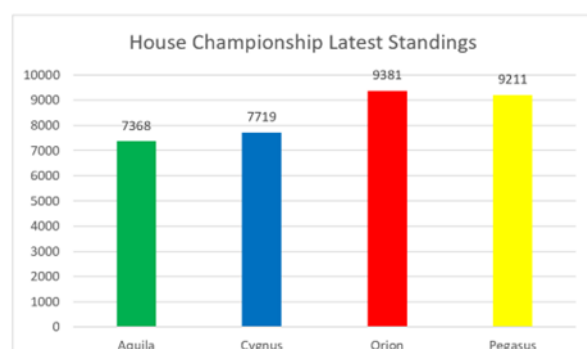
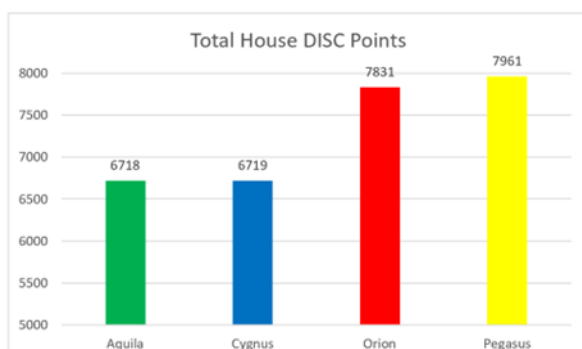
3. Embracing the Integrity and Contribution aspect of our DISC values. Being kind, respectful and honest are just the basics of having integrity. Not only does contribution apply to school but to the wider community too. We should practice being upstanders in our daily lives.
4. Below are some images of how we collate House points and the latest rankings. You will come to see that it is not by luck or a one off competition that has Orion as the top House for consecutive years, but the sheer perseverance throughout the year that wins us the position (and trophies).
5. Lastly, I want to wish all the Y11 good luck on the upcoming PPE exams. It is your chance to check in and see how to improve and master content before the next PPE2s. I also cannot wait to see what the Photography students produced this week during their drop down day. Well done to all the Y10s who are teaching lessons to younger years and displaying leadership in Sports Studies.

Mrs Malik
Head of House—Orion



Term	Date	Competition	Year (Fri comp)	Aquila	Cygnus	Orion	Pegasus
	08-Sep-23	ALT week 1		0	0	0	100
	08-Sep-23	Sparx Top Tutor		0	0	0	0
	08-Sep-23	Sports Comp		0	0	0	0
	08-Sep-23	No challenge		0	0	0	0
	08-Sep-23	No challenge		0	0	0	0
	15-Sep-23	ALT week 2		100	0	100	0
	15-Sep-23	Sparx Top Tutor		0	0	0	50
	15-Sep-23	Sports Comp		0	0	0	0
	15-Sep-23	Cotton Ball-z	Y9/10/11	0	0	250	0
	15-Sep-23	Cotton Ball-z	Y7	0	250	0	0
	22-Sep-23	ALT week 3		0	0	100	100
	22-Sep-23	Sparx Top Tutor		0	0	0	50
	22-Sep-23	Sports Comp		0	0	0	0
	22-Sep-23	Balloon Tower	Y9/10/11	0	250	0	0
	22-Sep-23	Balloon Tower	Y8	0	0	0	250
	29-Sep-23	ALT week 4		0	0	100	100
	29-Sep-23	Sparx Top Tutor		0	0	0	50
	29-Sep-23	Sports Comp		0	0	0	0
	29-Sep-23	After Eights	Y9/10/11	250	0	0	0
	29-Sep-23	After Eights	Y7	0	0	250	0
	06-Oct-23	ALT week 5		0	0	0	100
	06-Oct-23	Sparx Top Tutor		50	0	0	50
	06-Oct-23	Sports Comp		0	0	0	0
	06-Oct-23	Pin Star on Nova	Y9/10/11	0	0	250	0

1



EURO SPACE CENTRE

A group of Year 8 scholars had a unique opportunity to visit the Euro Space Centre in Belgium.

After a very early start on Sunday 8th October we made our way from Nova across the channel and into Belgium. Our first stop was PJs chocolate factory, where we made our own chocolate bars and brought lots of gifts and treats too.

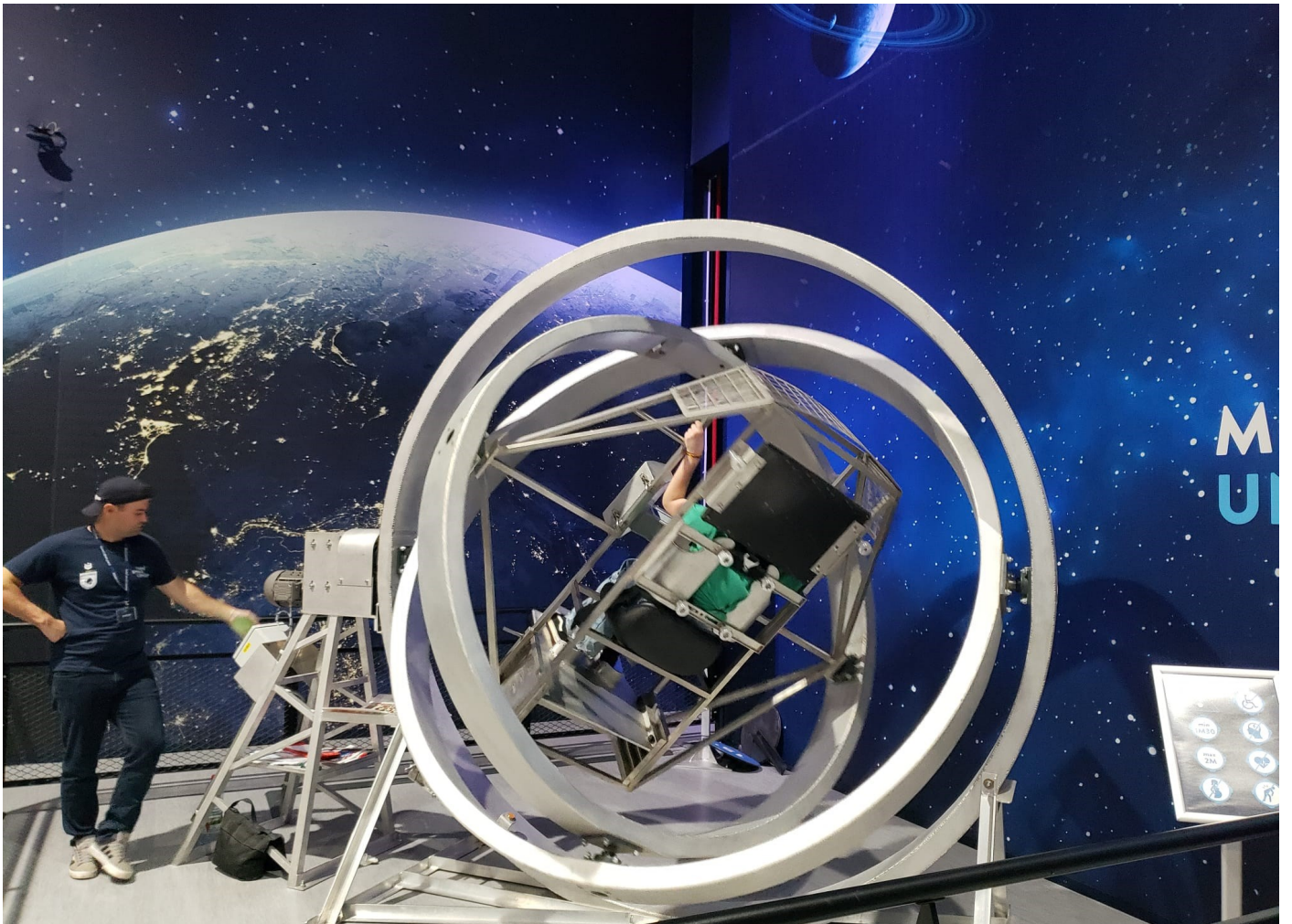


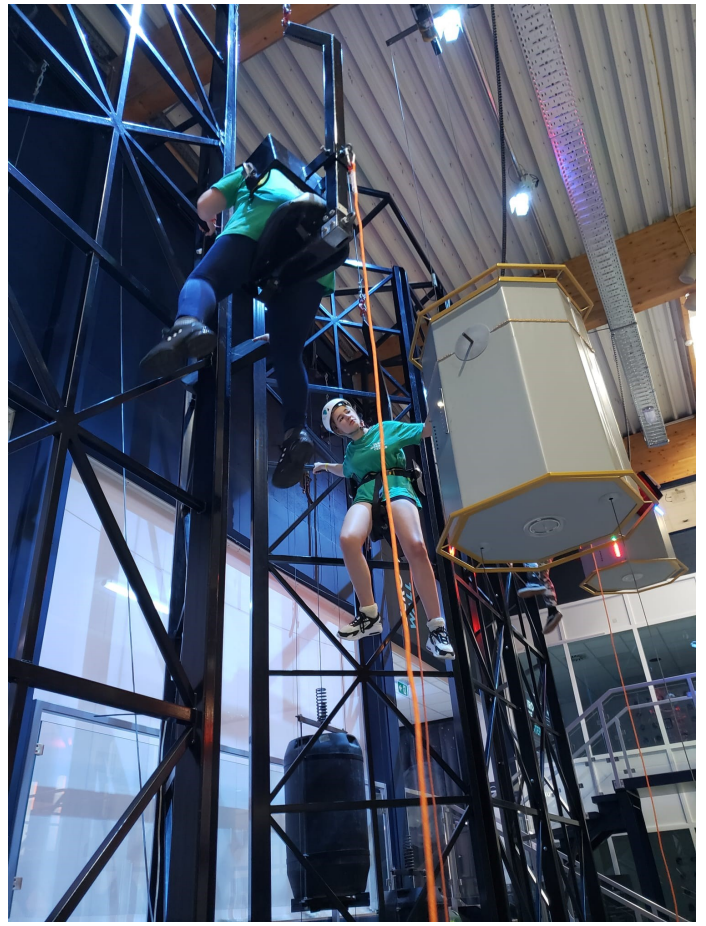
When we arrived at the Euro Space centre we took part in some of the astronaut training facilities (which involved lots of spinning and being dizzy!) as well as simulations where we all had a role to play in docking a satellite onto the ISS and returning the satellite home. The Space Centre is an amazing facility with loads of activities for students to learn about space exploration, try out some of the equipment used by astronauts and developers, and experience zero gravity.

We also visited a local castle at night, where we enjoyed a tour using fire torches as the only source of light!

We all had an excellent time and lots of funny stories to share.

Miss Dominy







We did a lot of things such as zero gravity, multi axis chair and moon walk. The part I enjoyed the most was the centrifuge as it spun so quick you stuck to the wall as the floor dropped under you.

It was fascinating to learn about how many people it takes launch and land a rocket also what it is to live on the ISS. Something that I learned about myself is that you care about what you like to do the most, then you can enjoy it and think about doing it in the future. We also went to a chocolate factory and learnt and tasted how chocolate is made. The castle we went to was very interesting and really old.

Haydn, 8-1

The wide variety of amazing activities gave us a real insight into some of the trials astronauts have gone through to prepare for the conditions in space.

Samuel 8C

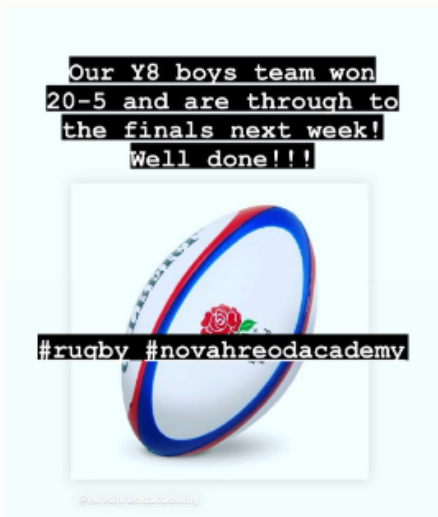
#ONSOCIALMEDIA

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

We cannot wait to see our players in the final next week. Dasher led the charge and Mr Stevens gave an acknowledgment in the morning to the team. All of us are rooting for you! #educationwithcharacter

#bestineveryone #novahreodacademy

Read less



Nova Hreod PE @NovaHreodPE
21 hours ago

Year 8 boys rugby team have won their semi final against APS!

Yes boys! On to the final!

#NovaPE #Rugby



Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 1 Nov

Back to basic today with live modelling of egg cookery skills #poached #boiled #scrambled #fried #eggs Now you have a go Y10 - it's not as easy as it looks 😊



Nova Hreod Academy @novahreodacademy
Oct 23

You've heard it here first, Cultural Clothing will be an option again in our first Non-Uniform Day of the year with more news to come once Student leaders have had their meetings next week to coordinate the activities. This is where your ideas and suggestions count a lot as Yellow Hello was adapted this year in this manner too! Every single one of you deserve to feel a sense of #belonging at #novahreodacademy whether in your year group/house/etc

#educationwithcharacter #bestineveryone #multiculturalism #strongertogether

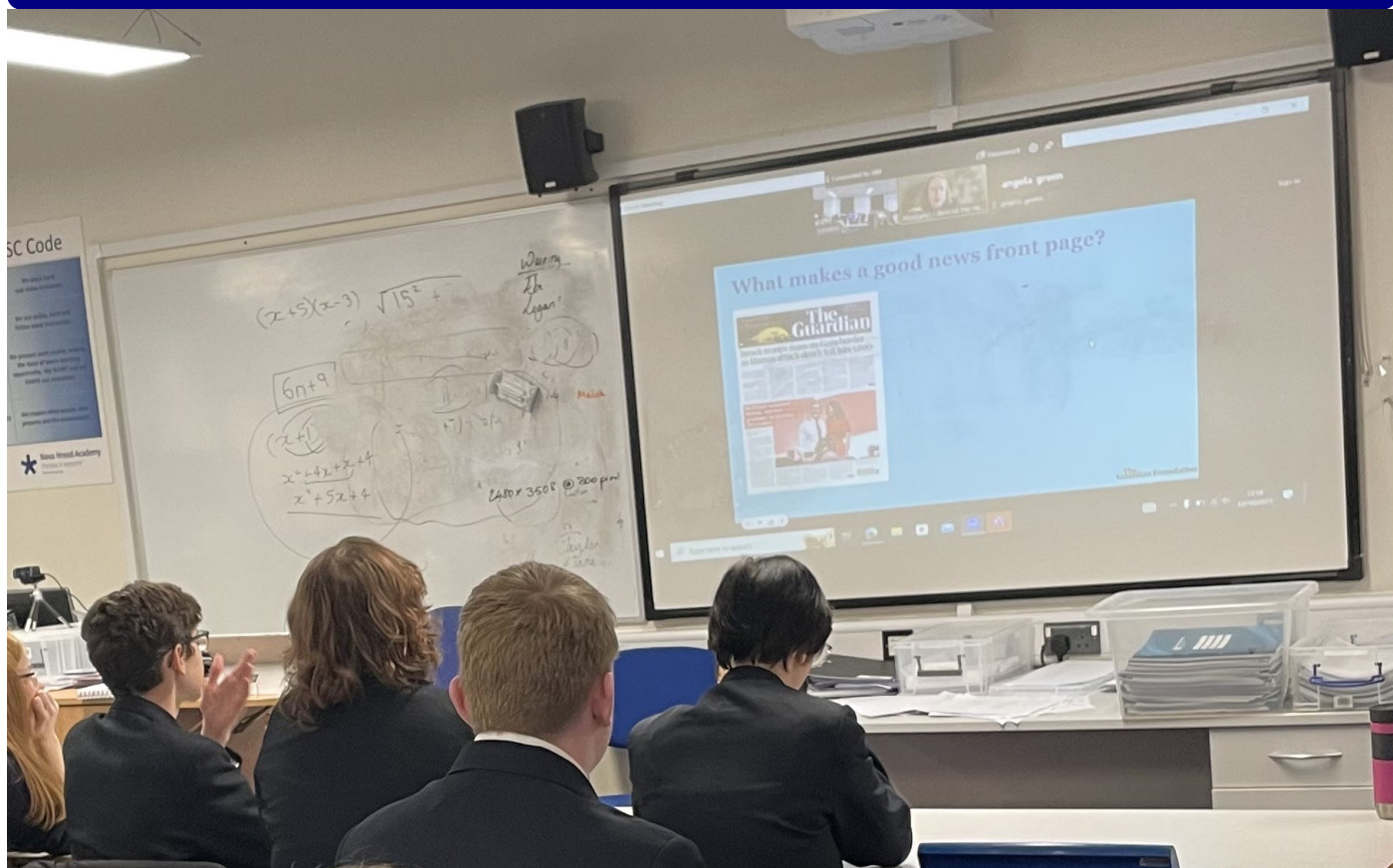
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We're blown away by all the amazing performances last night!
#educationwithcharacter #bestineveryone #novahreodacademy



CREATIVE IMEDIA



On Thursday 12th October, Year 1 Creative iMedia students attended a live streamed event from The Guardian newspaper. This was an interesting and engaging session where students discussed and learned about how a front page was developed and created in this well-known national newspaper. They then related their learning to how a front page for a local newspaper would be devised.

I found the Guardian session helpful as it helped me understand the process in which Media companies function and how news outlets finds stories and publishes them.

Aston Year 11

YOUNG MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR 2023

We had a wonderful evening at this year's Young Musician of the Year. There were 19 high quality performances that made it incredibly difficult for the judges.

Congratulations to everyone who bravely stepped onto the stage to perform, we really did have a wide variety of acts to thrill the audience.

Thank you to our judges who had a tough job, and to everyone who came along to support our scholars.

*Mr Griffiths
Head of Music*





FIRST PLACE

*Daniel and George Year 11 -
Thinking Out Loud, piano and
vocal duet*



SECOND PLACE

*Bracken Year 7 -
Interstellar piano
solo*



THIRD PLACE

*Gracie Year 11 -
piano and vocals solo
original composition*







YEAR 10 SCHOLARS IN GLOBAL AVIATION CHALLENGE

We are excited to be involved in a collaborative research project with the Institute for Research in Schools (IRIS) with Year 10 scholars who are interested in STEM, aviation and engineering.

The project, called "Future Flight" was launched on 5th October, when Dr Spreadbury went to Cotswold Airport in Kemble to visit a company called ZeroAvia, a leading company developing new hydrogen-electric, zero-emission engines for commercial aircraft.

The launch included demonstrations and an introduction to clean flight technologies, including a tour of ZeroAvia's fuel cell and electric motor labs and the testbed [Dornier 228 aircraft](#).

As part of 'Future Flight', scholars will work on projects alongside their normal lessons to explore the concepts and technologies that propel aviation, from aerodynamics to hydrogen-electric propulsion. Scholars will use new software to investigate the most efficient and economical ways to fly a commercial plane route using new sustainable fuels and technologies, and it's hoped they may come up with fresh innovative ideas.

[Future Flight: Pupils join scientific search for greener flight \(researchinschools.org\)](#)

For more information about this project, please contact Dr Spreadbury via Epraise or by email s.spreadbury@novahreodacademy.org.uk.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP—MEET YOUR HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES



LIBRARY SYFL COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to our in school winners from the Swindon Youth Festival of Literature Competitions who will go on to compete against other schools in our region:

Poetry Competition

Year 8 Logan Pegasus 1
Year 10 Eleanor Cygnus 8

Illustration Competition

Year 7
1st Julia Orion 1
2nd Eowyn Cygnus 1
3rd Sencia Aquila 7

Year 8
1st Mya Cygnus 2
2nd Chloe Cygnus 7
3rd Giovanna Aquila 2

Year 9
1st Annabel Pegasus 6
2nd Caitlyn Aquila 2
3rd Isabella Orion 5

Creative Writing Competition

Year 7
1st Julia Orion 1
2nd Amelia Aquila 2

Year 8
1st Esme Orion 5
2nd Kaylia Aquila 6

Year 9
1st Nepharah Orion 8

Year 11
Robyn Aquila 9





LORD OF THE FLIES

LORD OF THE FLIES BBC ADAPTATION
ANNOUNCES OPEN CASTING FOR BOYS

The BBC are holding an open casting for boys aged between 10-13 for Lord of the Flies. Please click on the following link for details:

https://www.bbc.com/mediacentre/2023/lord-of-the-flies-open-casting-for-boys?fbclid=IwAR2w1iXTu2G5ffhz2l_nwu2TMnhWc0FNOMzHrihnN5s8893jypKOWHBSWkQ_aem_AWvizEVV86QjYw4MhrWfXefBy3AIsLPWAsW8F1fg76SwaRkKVgzm85aWFJS9zqOThWU

PARENT SURVEY 2023

Have you completed our parent survey?

It only takes 10 minutes and really helps us make decisions for the future



The Survey is open until

1st December

Look out for the link on Epraise

You could win a



£25 Amazon voucher



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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



[REGISTER HERE](#)



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Year 6

CATALYST STREAM TASTER SESSION

ENGINEERING

The third in a series of challenging taster sessions for pupils considering the Catalyst STEM Stream for September 2024.



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SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2023

9.45am - 12.15pm

[Register here](#)



CATALYST STEM STREAM

Catalyst is Nova's specialist provision for ambitious KS3 scholars who have a strong interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
www.novahreodacademy.org.uk/catalyst-stream



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

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Provider