



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It has been a pleasure to welcome our scholars and staff back and working hard for the second Half Term. We are very much looking forward to the weeks ahead.

There's a real focus on the contribution our scholars make to our community in this newsletter. From acts of kindness and volunteering, to charitable donations and the respectful marking of Remembrance Day. You'll also be able to read about the work of some of our student leaders and a range of stories about the work they do to improve and protect the environment.

Our scholars contribute in so many different ways to the life of our school and the lives of those in our community who need their support.

We're very proud of them.

Nick Wells
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER 2021

15-19 November—Swindon Youth
Festival Literature

17th November—Headteachers Forum

19th November—Non uniform day for
BBC Children in Need

20th November—Swindon Schools
Cross Country Championship

25th November—Class of 21 DISC
Evening

For more information visit
www.novahreodacademy.org.uk









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

BBC Children in Need

On Friday 19th November, Nova Hreod Academy will be holding its first non-uniform day of the year in support of *BBC Children in Need*, and we hope to be able to raise a lot of money for the charity.

There is an option to donate in parentpay.

EPRAISE LEAGUE TABLE

	Total points	Attendance
1st		
2nd		 
3rd		
4th		

EPRAISE TOP STUDENTS



THE WORLD AROUND US

Responses from week 5:

Are labels limiting or liberating? Conflicting views!

Pegasus

Each person is an individual, so it depends on each person.

Some pupils prefer that others are not aware of their ADHD for example, and just carry on as per normal.

Aquila

Having a recognised condition can help some people feel less anxious and realise that difficulties they experience when others don't are for a reason and that they are more likely to get support to help them manage and cope more quickly

**Nova
Votes**

Drive ★ Integrity ★ Scholarship ★ Contribution

Each week in the World Around Us, tutor groups talk through a new topic based on what is happening in the world and around school. At the end of each discussion, scholars are invited to vote based on their own opinion. Each new week starts with a discussion of the previous week's results.

Responses from week 5:

Are labels limiting or liberating? Conflicting views!

Orion

We decided that labels are limited. Getting help you need is great but if you are being treated differently in a classroom people may think differently of you.

(Orion 1)

O4 think it is liberating because it can give you extra help if you need it, however kids might feel embarrassed so the help should be given discreetly.

Cygnus

It allows you to get help specific to your needs. Then you can access your learning.

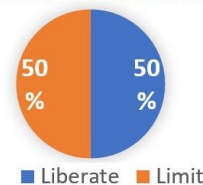
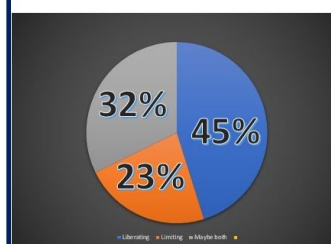
Labels can lead other people to judge you, which in turn has a negative impact on how you see yourself.

**Nova
Votes**

Drive ★ Integrity ★ Scholarship ★ Contribution

Responses from week 5:

Are labels limiting or liberating? Compare this year (left) to last year (right)



**Nova
Votes**

Drive ★ Integrity ★ Scholarship ★ Contribution

ALTERNATIVE ANGELS DONATION

DISC Points are awarded to Nova scholars when they demonstrate the school values of Drive, Integrity, Scholarship and Contribution, which they can convert into gifts from the Epraise shop or donate to charity.

Our generous students have donated over £800 to their chosen charities: Help for Heroes, CALM (Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Movement – Swindon), Diabetes UK and Alternative Angels.

Year 8 student Charlie proudly presented the donation to Jane from Alternative Angels with Mr Foster. She told us how much they depend on the support from the Swindon community and how grateful they are to our scholars for their kind generosity. This week alone, Alternative Angels provided hot meals for 57 rough sleepers and vulnerable people, and we are very proud of our students for choosing to make these donations to charity.



STUDENT MESSENGERS

Each day, two scholars work together in the school office to undertake a variety of duties. These Student Messengers are given the chance to gain some valuable experience behind the scenes here at Nova which helps develop their confidence, independence, written and verbal communication skills, and supports their organisational skills. They take on responsibility for recording and passing on messages and work with staff to carry out a range of general duties in the office. Scholars are awarded house points and are given feedback at the end of their day. This experience is enjoyed by many scholars and most ask if they can do it again.



"I enjoy being busy in the office and around school. I would be quite happy to be a student messenger again and have enjoyed my day in the office"

Emma, Y8

REMEMBRANCE DAY

A Remembrance Day assembly was held virtually through the school on 11th November, supported by a poem read by the School Captains Jin and Harvey and Deputy School Captains Eleanor and Ryan. All students observed 2 minutes silence.



All the students have also contributed to the Charity buying poppies during this week.

READING 1:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing,
Fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead.

Short days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved, and
were loved, and now we lie In Flanders Fields. Take up our quar-
rel with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch;
be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We
shall not sleep, though poppies grow In Flanders Fields.



Thank you to Purple Orchid for the beautiful wreath, the cost of which was donated to the Royal British Legion.





READING 2:

Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields, Sleep sweet - to rise anew! We caught the torch you threw And holding high, we keep the Faith With All who died.

We cherish, too, the poppy red That grows on fields where valor led; It seems to signal to the skies That blood of heroes never dies, But lends a lustre to the red Of the flower that blooms above the dead In Flanders Fields.

And now the Torch and Poppy Red We wear in honor of our dead. Fear not that ye have died for naught; We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought In Flanders Fields.



READING 3:

They shall grow not old, as we
that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the
years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and
in the morning

We will remember them

We will remember them.

SWINDON YOUTH FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE

Students took part in competitions at the end of last term as part of the annual Swindon Youth Festival of Literature. Students were able to enter the Illustration, Creative Writing and Poetry competitions. There were two age categories per individual competition. The winners from these competitions have now been put forward against the other 12 Swindon Secondary schools where there are prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in each category. They all produced excellent entries and should be proud of their efforts. Our winners are:

Creative Writing Competition

Layla year 7 and Isabel year 10

Poetry Competition

Louise year 8 and Mae-Louise year 10

Illustration Competition

Szantal year 8 and Ola year 9

Year 7 Competition

Ruby year 7



NOVA HREOD ACADEMY PUPILS SHINE IN VIRTUAL GREEN LOVE!

Scholars at Nova Hreod Academy joined together virtually with thousands of their peers from across United Learning to watch themselves in the online premiere of Green Love! Songs to save the world.

Green Love! is an ambitious music and performing arts project designed to develop pupils' musical talents and encourage them to think more about the environment and how, together, we can protect it. The project culminated in the professional production of a unique thirty-minute film, featuring performances recorded in the 40 schools involved.

Last academic year, pupils at Nova Hreod Academy immersed themselves in the world of music and dance, enjoying in-school rehearsals and virtual, group-wide Green Love! assemblies delivered by The Voices Foundation and Beat Goes On. Collectively, they learnt six original songs inspired by sustainability and composed by celebrated musicians Alexander L'Estrange and Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, as well as accompanying body percussion rhythms. Having mastered the lyrics and foottapping rhythms, pupils recorded their final in-school performance in the Summer Term.

To celebrate their hard work, pupils enjoyed an early premiere of Green Love! on Friday afternoon. This was followed by a ticketed online showing in the evening, where pupils' friends and families were able to watch the special performance, held in support of Ibba Girls' School in South Sudan. The film is available to watch on YouTube [here](#).

Mr Griffiths Head of Music at Nova said: It was a brilliant opportunity for scholars to be part of the Green Love! project and they thoroughly enjoyed taking part. The topic of climate change inspired some excellent classroom discussions and provided scholars with a chance to reflect on their environment and how it could look in the future.

"Thank you to all our teachers and support staff who showed such enthusiasm in delivering Green Love! to our young people, and likewise to our longstanding partners Joanna and Alexander L'Estrange, The Voices Foundation and Beat Goes On who made the project such a success. Ensuring our young people have access to opportunities like this is all part of how we deliver an Education with Character at United Learning and I am very much looking forward to seeing how we can build on this for the future."

Ms Barker, Head of Music and PA at United Learning

"Being involved in the Green Love! project really made me think about the impact we are having on the environment. We learned the songs as a group and individually at home, the rhythms were quite challenging but fun to do, and the words made me think more about the subject. As a result, I joined the school's Green Team, which is focused on promoting awareness of environmental issues in school. "

Emma, year 8



To heal our world, our world!

HEADS OF HOUSE POST-IT NOTE CHALLENGE

Aquila won the special Heads of House edition of the Friday competition last week despite having a number of points deducted for bending the rules!

Staff had 2 minutes to cover a window in post it notes of their house colour and then one minute to take post its from other houses windows. The final minute was anything goes. Most Valuable Player was Mr Hillary although his strategy to sweep other houses post its off the windows wasn't technically allowed.



AQUILA

Aquila have had so much success this term! During the Friday lunchtime competitions, we have had a few close second places but an incredible win for the STEM competition where the participants had to construct a tower to hold a basketball (Yes, a basketball!!). The tallest standing tower to hold a basketball were awarded 250 house championship points- and our Aquila team were miles better than the rest!

We have also had lots of success in lessons achieving most of our DISC points through the 'working hard in class' category.

Well done Aquila! Keep it up!

Miss Dominy



NOVA HREOD TAKE STEPS TO REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



Nova Hreod Academy is working to reduce its impact on the environment and empower its students to take climate action.

At the end of the last academic year, Nova recruited a group of year 8 students to establish a Green Team.

The Green Team are responsible for driving up the school's recycling rate and finding ways to promote better recycling habits among both staff and pupils.

This initiative is said to not only help to develop the pupils' leadership skills, but also to help to develop their moral responsibility.

More information on Swindon Borough Council's Be the Change campaign can be found at <https://www.swindon.gov.uk/bethechange>

"We are very early in our campaign but already we are noticing that more students are talking about being more environmentally friendly and the small steps they can take."

Miss Dominy,
Aquila HoH & Science teacher



FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Headteacher's Virtual Forum

17th November 2021

6pm

A link has been emailed to parents and carers



We are extremely disappointed that we will have to cancel our Christmas Fair which was due to be on 24th November.

SWINDON



Baby and Children's Nearly New Sale
Nova Hreod Academy

21

SUNDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2021 FROM 10:30-12:00

Little Pickles Market Swindon 21st November 2021

Nova Hreod Academy

Online Youth Club!

MONDAY 4PM - 5PM
7 - 11 YEAR OLDS
TUESDAY 4PM - 5PM
11 - 16 YEAR OLDS
WEDNESDAY 4PM - 5PM
7 - 11 AGE YEAR OLDS

OUTREACHPROJECTME@BARNARDOS.ORG.UK
HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BARNARDOS-SWINDON-TRAILBLAZER-115778876671378
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