



### MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the latest edition of the Nova News. It has been a very eventful half term so far, as we come to the end of our Year 11 mock exam period.

We are grateful and indebted, once again, to the ability of our scholars to adapt to times of uncertainty, in the way that many changes have occurred frequently to enable us to act on the advice we have been given from Public Health England. This has meant that certain limitations to their social spaces, tutor groups, and our Super Nova offer have had to come into play, and we thank our scholars for showing their understanding through their cooperation and consideration of others.

We wish to congratulate our Year 11 as they come to the end of their mock exam period; their drive and general conduct has been commendable. We also wish to congratulate our Year 9 rugby team who made it to the final of the Royal Wootton Bassett Rugby Club tournament and so narrowly missed out on victory. We are so proud of you!

Last week, we had two key literary events in the academy; firstly, Sarah Mussi visited our Year 7 scholars on Monday, and then our Year 8 scholars attended a virtual talk from writer Onjali Q Rauf. It was great to see our scholars so enthused by such inspirational writers.

Whilst certain restrictions may be on us, we are delighted that our weekly competitions have continued to enable us to represent our four houses through various challenges. These have included 'pin the spot on the Pudsey' for Children in Need, as well as a very interesting post-it note challenge involving Heads of House and other staff members from each house. We look forward to many more of these over the coming weeks!

Ryan Nash  
Vice Principal

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### DECEMBER 2021

Tuesday 14th —Year 11 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 15th — Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day









Friday 17th—last day of term

Friday 7th January—first day of Spring term

*For more information visit*  
[www.novahreodacademy.org.uk](http://www.novahreodacademy.org.uk)



## EPRAISE LEAGUE TABLE

	Total points	Attendance
1st		
2nd		
3rd		
4th		

## EPRAISE TOP STUDENTS

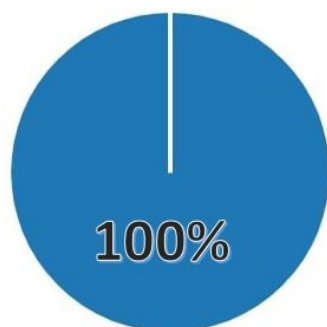


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## THE WORLD AROUND US

### Responses from last term:

*Should society do more to combat racism and hate crimes?*



- Yes - more needs to be done
- No - enough is being done

Drive ★ Integrity ★ Scholarship ★ Contribution

Nova  
Votes

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 last term:

*Should society do more to combat racism and hate crimes?*

Pegasus

There should be very strong sanctions against any racist behaviour in school. Society as a whole should understand and celebrate other religions and beliefs, for example widely celebrating religious festivals other than Christian ones (Christmas, Easter). These could include Ramadan, Eid, etc. (Pegasus 7)

Different cultures and different people are apart of Britain's culture and make Britain a better place. At the moment, racism and hate crimes are not being prioritised by the police/government and more needs to be done. Educating young people in schools will help the problem eventually, however the problem needs to be tackled across all walks of society. Cygnus 1

Nova  
Votes

Drive ★ Integrity ★ Scholarship ★ Contribution

### Responses from last term:

*Should society do more to combat racism and hate crimes?*

Orion:

We should be doing more - we need to support everyone, every day not just on themed months. (Orion 5)

Often the police ignore these types of crimes because they've got so many other crimes to deal with (Orion 4)

Cygnus:

Hate crime needs to be enforced and people need to be made aware of the danger and impact of all hate crimes (Cygnus 5)

Hate crimes are increasing so urgent action is needed. Doing nothing is not an option. (Cygnus 3)

Nova  
Votes

Drive ★ Integrity ★ Scholarship ★ Contribution



## SWINDON YOUTH FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE



Sarah Mussi carried out workshops with year 7 students. She talked about different genre. e.g. horror, murder mystery, fantasy and romance. The students then had to choose a genre and produce a story to perform in front of an audience.



Students watched a recording by author Onjali Q Rauf. During the recording Onjali read out a question by Ruby year 7 who asked "Why did you choose a bus in your book *The Night Bus Hero?*" The link to the video is below and the question is asked approximately 10 minutes in.

Here is the link:

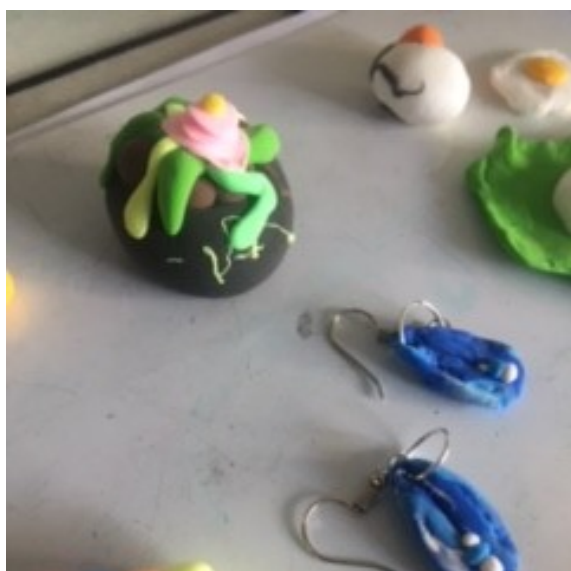
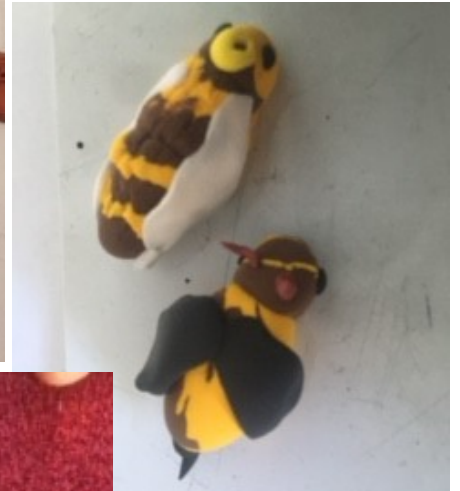
<https://youtube/k2Gi8O5JAoA>



## CREATIVE CRAFTS FROM ELSA

Some of our Elsa students have been working on air dry clay. They have been making jewellery and small features that represent their characters. This is a new product for many and they have learned to mould, colour, mix and sculpt on a small scale.

Art therapy too have taken part in using clay and designed characters and tiny ornaments. They have also started on their designs work with Posca pens to create a long lasting effect on their tote bags.





## HOUSE COMPETITIONS

On Fridays representatives from each house compete for the prize of 250 house points. In the Morse Code challenge, clues were hidden around the Stellar Diner to be found by house representatives who then had to break the code using the clues. The result led them to a room where they had to pick up their house flag. The first one to return their flag to Mr Foster won. Congratulations to Cygnus who won this challenge.



## YEAR 9 RUGBY



Congratulations to our Year 9 rugby team who reached the final of Swindon Schools Rugby Cup Final.





## TECHNOLOGY LESSON

While awaiting a delivery of ball bearings for their maze project, Year 7 students got an early chance to improve their coping saw skills, as they start cutting out their 3D Christmas trees. In normal times these are usually for sale at our Christmas fete, alongside birdfeeders made by students.





## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Mae Louise came 3rd in the Swindon Youth Festival of Literature Poetry competition. This is a fantastic achievement as students from 12 other schools entered the competition.

The competition was judged by Poet Ash Dickinson. Mae Louise's Poem can be seen below.



### POEM ABOUT CHOICE

BY Mae-Louise – Year 10

*Yes and no, wrong or right  
Hot and cold, day or night  
Which path should I choose?  
And what will I lose?  
Choices, choices*

*One path looks empty, barely used  
A life that will leave me emotionally bruised  
The other path looks crowded and very popular  
But my thoughts and feelings will be hidden by a cover  
Choices, choices*

*Do I keep to myself and study?  
Do I go and play with a buddy?  
Do I attend a University?  
Or do I party for all eternity?  
Decisions, decisions*

*One path leads to a life of success  
The other leads to never making progress  
One comes with a long-term reward  
The other would make me feel ignored  
Decisions, decisions*

*One would force me to never stop working  
The other leads to fun, but others smirking  
Smirking at how I failed ...  
Or hating that I prevailed....  
Choices, choices*

*Do I choose fun and friends and love?  
Or do I watch my grades rise above?  
Above what others expect  
Or I could lose my own self-respect  
What do I choose?*

## BBC CHILDREN IN NEED



Thank you to everyone who donated to the non uniform days for this year. Students enjoyed the Children in Need House competition.

In preparation for the competition a team of scholars painted images of Pudseys Bear.

We raised a total of £717.33 for the Charity.

Well Done!







The House competition involved one student from each House having to put spots on Pudsey's eye patch whilst blindfolded. To add an extra challenge the students were turned around 5 times. Congratulations to Orion House who won 250 house points.



## TIMES TABLE COMPETITION



This term saw the return of our annual House Times Table competition and we sure have some amazing mathematicians here at Nova.

The first round was completed in tutor in our year group classes and identified the fastest and highest scoring student in each group. We then went on to complete a House round where those students were narrowed down to the top student in each year group in each House.

Finally we had the overall grand final streamed live to all groups in the school where the top students went head to head with the other houses. This was a knockout round and gave us a winner for each year group.

The winning year 7 was **Kyran S**, year 8 was **Finlay M**, year 9 was **Dayo S** and in year 10 **Lucy K**.

A huge well done to all students who took part and to the rest of the school for their support. It was a clear win for one House with 3 out of the 4 winning students being from Cygnus!

Mr Griffiths is very proud of the Trophy now that it has been adorned with blue ribbons and his 1000 house championship point win!

Stay tuned for more updates throughout the year when we will see the return of the University challenge and Countdown competitions.

Mrs Moore  
*Pegasus Head of House*

## Times Table House Competition

Year 7 Champion      Year 8 Champion      Year 9 Champion      Year 10 Champion



**1000 HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS FOR THE WINNING HOUSE!!!**





# Christmas Raffle

Win £2,000 in time for Christmas

**Buy your tickets today  
and support your  
community this Christmas**

Just  
**£1**  
a ticket!

Online entries close on Monday 13  
December. The draw takes place on  
Tuesday 14 December 2021.

No tickets may be sold to or by  
persons under 16 years of age.



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## Christmas Learn to Ride



Join Paul and Matt for a fun filled beginners workshop aimed at those still on stabilisers or balance bikes, ready to learn to ride pedals unaided. We'll have lots of activities to make this exciting transition stress free for the children!

**Monday 20  
December 2021**  
Wroughton Junior  
School  
9am - 12pm  
£35

TO BOOK A PLACE:  
Call Paul on 07590 688808

or email  
[paul@paulashmancycling.com](mailto:paul@paulashmancycling.com)



## Christmas cycling camps

Join Paul, Jennifer and the team for a fun filled HALF DAY session filled with bike skills, and festive cycling games. Prizes for best fancy dress and/or decorated bike!

**Tuesday 21 December 2021**

Wroughton Junior School  
9am - 12pm

£20 for the morning to include hot chocolate and festive snack.

All you need is warm clothing, bike (no stabilisers), helmet and a smile on your face!



PLACES ARE LIMITED!!!

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[paul@paulashmancycling.com](mailto:paul@paulashmancycling.com)



## Christmas Adventure Ride

Join Paul, Jennifer and the team for a festive adventure ride, covering many of the local traffic free trails. We'll look at skills and technique round Croft before riding out to Lydiard Park for a hot chocolate.

**Tuesday 21 December 2021**

Meet at Wroughton Junior School at 12.30pm  
Pick up from Lydiard  
Park 3.30pm

£35 for the session to include hot chocolate and festive snack.

All you need is warm clothing, bike (no stabilisers), helmet and a smile on your face!



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or email  
[paul@paulashmancycling.com](mailto:paul@paulashmancycling.com)



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS




**Arbor**

In January 2022 we will be moving to a new app for communication with parents. We will send more information in due course.

Swindon Libraries Information Service & PRIME YOUTH THEATRE

**SPREAD THE WORD!**  
 SWINDON TEENS

*We Want You!*

**NEW opportunity**

**Build skills Take part Volunteer**

**We are looking for teens who will help us plan two science themed family events taking place in March 2022**

**BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK 2022**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MELISSA.MIDDLEMASS@SWINDON.GOV.UK

*Designed and created especially for you by Reprographics Nova Hreod Academy*




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