



A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRINCIPAL



While we look forward to working hard in classrooms to the very end of term as we approach the end of the Christmas term, we find opportunities to celebrate that the wheels that power Nova Hreod Academy are driven by scholars' talents across all

curricular and extra curricular areas. It is always a privilege to hear about the sporting, singing, acting and extra curricular successes that make Nova such a rich culture to be part of.

We enjoyed the Young Musician of the year a few weeks ago, where, fortunately, judging was made slightly easier by having an external professional on the panel! Such a close-run competition and a showcase of true talent across the year groups. The Christmas extravaganza last week was no less impressive: singing, musical and acting talents from across the school were on display to a packed theatre of parents and supporters – we truly do have a talented bunch at Nova – and a dedicated team of staff who support to make it all possible. Fantastic performances all round.

Our sporting scholars have garnered impressive wins in rugby and in cross country in recent months. In addition the girls' football teams, driven by scholar hard work and dedication and encouragement from home and from teachers, are showing great promise and the PE team are very excited for their futures – with only one loss in 10 games! A heady mix of participation and achievement congratulations to all involved!

*Mr Delap
Vice Principal*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

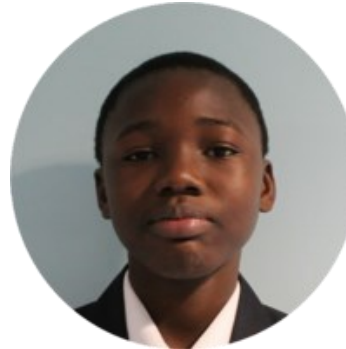
DECEMBER 2023

Friday 15th: Last day of term
—school ends 12.50pm

JANUARY 2024

Thursday 4th: Scholars return to school
Saturday 20th: Ski Trip

THIS WEEK'S TOP EPRAISE SCHOLARS



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The Nova ATTENDANCE League Table



Will your tutor **triumph**?
Will you be a house **hero**?
Can you join the **100% club**?

100% in a week = 1000 credits for your team!
95% in a week = 500 credits for your team!

**LIVE WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT
EVERY FRIDAY!**



HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP FRIDAY CHALLENGE



The Friday Challenge was inflatable football, with students trying their hardest to get the highest score.



HOUSE SPORT COMPETITION

The first match was between Cygnus and Orion with Cygnus winning
KS3 Cygnus win against Orion 6-2
KS4 Cygnus win against Orion 12-2



The second match was between Aquila and Pegasus
KS3 Pegasus win against Aquila 6-0
KS4 Pegasus win against Aquila 4-2





The final was between Cygnus and Pegasus
Congratulations to the winners—
KS3 Cygnus 4-2
KS4 Pegasus 0-4
Cygnus and Pegasus won 500 house points each



HOUSE UPDATE



I would like to start the Aquila update with some congratulations. The Young Musician of the Year competition took place in October

and our own Bracken from Aquila 6 was voted into second place for his *Interstellar* piano solo. I managed to catch Bracken's performance at the live lounge event put on at lunchtime in front of about 100 students and staff. It was excellent, and I can see why Bracken caught the judges' eyes and ears.



I would also like to congratulate every member of Aquila who entered one of the Swindon Youth Festival of Literature competitions. We had six students who came in the top three from Year 7 - 11 in the creative writing and illustration competition. However, I would like to give a special mention to Robyn from Aquila 9 who was placed first in the year 11 creative writing competition, well done Robyn.



You'll find more Aquila scholars scattered throughout this week's newsletter. Look out for them as we celebrate their drive and contribution.

Attendance matters. If you have high attendance you have the opportunity to be taught by subject specialists at Nova and stand a better chance of success when it comes to BIEs and eventually GCSEs. The overall attendance for Aquila currently sits at 87.3%. Now if this was the percentage you received for a test you might well be very pleased, however, when it comes to attendance we need to look a bit deeper. 87.3% is the equivalent of missing 3 lessons a week. This is the equivalent of 120 lessons a year, which adds up to 6,600 minutes of missed learning! For the remainder of the academic year try and attend Nova every day and increase your chance of success for the future.

Mr D Silvester
Head of Aquila

WE ARE PROUD OF...



Milla (Y11 Aquila) has been enjoying more success on the ice, playing in the women's premier league for Bristol Huskies and the women's elite league with Guildford Lightning. She also plays for the U16s girls' league and has been approached by Bristol to do a foundation coaching course. Her dedication to the sport is impressive; we're following Milla's progress with pride and wish her success with the GB trial at the end of this month.

If you're going to see Snow White, the panto at the Wyvern Theatre this year, look out for our very own Sapphire (Y8 Aquila), who is in the cast. (oh yes she is!) She's been very impressive on stage and has been having a wonderful time.



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



Finlay - Year 11

Mr Clarke - Maths

For exceptional drive and consistently high standards of scholarship.



Maryam - Year 9

Dr Makanda - Maths

Excellence in Sparx. Reaching level 10, top of Y9!



Lexi - Year 7

Ms Clare - Maths

Lexi moved from 7Ma5 to 7Ma2. Fitting into set 2 seamlessly. 100% in 4+ End of topic tests!



Caitlin - Year 10

Mr Hind - Maths

For working hard in every lesson, displaying high levels of drive and scholarship, and asking lots of valuable questions.



Zachary - Year 7

Mrs Malik - Maths

Consistently showing Drive and Scholarship by not only attaining top scores in end of topic tests but always doing XP Boost and Target since September. Amazing! Well done Zachary



Amy - Year 10

Mrs Malik - Maths

Getting Sparx homework done early as usually it is the first one done from the class and soon after being set! Brilliant Amy!



Dominika - Year 10

Ms Forrest - iMedia

Excellent DISC values and high level of work in class.



Chloe - Year 8

Ms Forrest - Maths

Consistent hard work and exceptional DISC values.



Simon - Year 8

Ms Forrest - Computing

Excellent drive and passion for programming.



Mateusz - Year 7

Ms Stanik - Maths

Hard work and dedication to his learning, as well as exceptional drive to progress.



Lily-May - Year 11

Mr Watkins - Maths

Outstanding drive and scholarship within maths lessons, and the only scholar to attend both optional Maths interventions.



Austin - Year 10

Mrs Evans - iMedia

For consistent and exceptional engagement and drive in a new subject (Creative iMedia).



Suzanna - Year 11

Mrs Evans - Business

For an outstanding improvement in achievement, in Business.



Harry - Year 9

Mrs Thomas - Maths

For working hard in every lesson, displaying high levels of drive and scholarship, and asking lots of valuable questions.



Hayden - Year 10

Miss Liu - Maths

Displaying high levels of drive and integrity in all maths lessons.

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS NEWS



A win in the first Year 7 tournament of the year. All the girls played exceptionally well. Defence had a clean sheet, and a special shoutout to Honor M (3 goals) and Olivia R (2 goals) who were amazing. MVP Honor M



In the second tournament, Year 7 girls played against some very strong sides! They played excellently.

Game 1 vs St Jo's - WIN 3-0

Game 2 vs LPA - LOSS 2-0

Game 3 vs Kingsdown - WIN 2-0

Game 4 vs Commonweal - DRAW 0-0

Goals from: Evie J (x2), Olivia (x2), Honor

Miss Parsons MVP - Evie J and Mrs Mason MVP - Edith W



We were very proud of the U14 girls at their first football tournament of the year. Everyone played really well and worked hard.

Nova vs Commonweal DRAW 1-1

Nova vs Lawn Manor WIN 4-0

Nova vs LPA LOSS 2-0

Nova vs Ridgeway DRAW 0-0

MVP - Emily B W, who scored some excellent goals and controlled the game superbly in midfield.

WILTSHIRE SCHOOLS' CROSS COUNTRY

On a cold November morning, Nova hosted the annual Swindon Schools' Cross country championship.

Congratulations to everyone who qualified for the competition, there were some very impressive performances.

Special congratulations to the four Nova scholars who qualified to represent Swindon in the next round for their age groups.

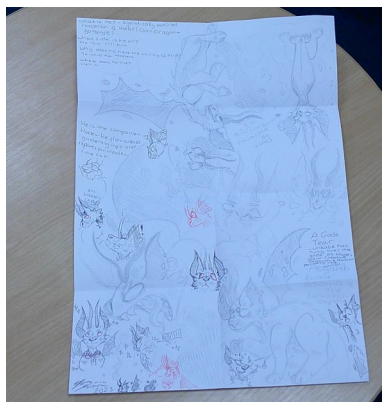
- 1st place Jesse (Y8 Aquila)
- 6th place Etta (Y10 Orion)
- 12th place Szantal (Year 10 Aquila)
- 6th place Evan (Y7 Cygnus)



TRIPS AND VISITS



Nova Hreod winners from the Swindon Youth Festival of Literature illustration competition attended an illustration workshop at the central library Swindon. The workshop was ran by Steve Antony who is a writer and illustrator, he asked the scholars to create and draw a character for a story.



CELEBRATION EVENT

The Mayor of Swindon presented awards to our Swindon Youth Festival of Literature winners Logan Year 8 Poetry Competition, Eleanor Year 10 Poetry Competition and Esme Year 8 Creative writing competition. Also Billy who is Swindon Youth Festival of Literature Student Ambassador.



#ONSOCIALMEDIA

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



Nova Hreod Academy @novahreodacademy
Nov 27

Cross country runners from schools all over came along to compete. Well done to all who participated on a cold and frosty morning ☁️ and we can't wait to find out how our runners did. Thank you to all who made this happen. We see you and appreciate you! #crosscountry #educationwithcharacter #bestineveryone #novahreodacademy

Read less



Nova Hreod Academy @NovaHreodUL
6 hours ago

Two groups of Year 11 with 100% attendance in term two are enjoying a cinema experience this morning with a Christmas classic, hot chocolate and, of course, popcorn. #AttendToAchieve #AttendanceMatters



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Nova Hreod Academy
5 days ago



Thank you to everyone involved in tonight's fantastic Christmas Extravaganza. Look out for more photos in the next newsletter.



Boost post

👍 25 💬 1 ➡️ ...



Write a comment...



Ben Fowler Well done to all the kids 5d ...
you done an amazing job, your very lucky to have a teacher like Mr. Griffiths backing you 🍷



Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 12 Dec
Y10 made their Christmas cakes last week. Today they are icing them with marzipan and fondant. Tomorrow is decoration day! 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷



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Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 13 Dec
Well we had some great Christmas cake designs today from Y10 and a perfect 10/10 from Isobel with her 'bow' 🍷 cake!



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**Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!**



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



CARDS OF KINDNESS

As part of the Nova Hreod value of Contribution we extended our Reverse Advent Calendar campaign to include a 'Card of Kindness' week for the first time this year. For the last week of term, Scholars are invited to write a Christmas greeting on a Nova Christmas card, expressing their caring thoughts to patients and their families who are receiving support from the Prospect Hospice at this time of year.



Emma Coates from Prospect came in for the launch of the campaign on Tuesday and was blown away by the number of scholars willing to spend a few minutes of their lunch to contribute. We also offered scholars the opportunity to write messages of thanks to those who work in the hospice, letting them know that their work is important and that as part of the community, we appreciate all that they do. We hope this will become part of the Reverse Advent Calendar campaign for years to come, showing our scholars that contribution can take many different forms.



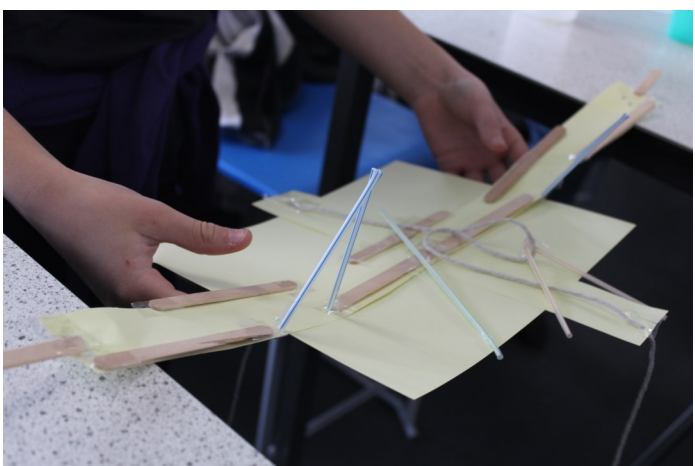
Mrs Bekir

"I am over the moon to be invited here today and to see so many of your young people getting involved. Thank you so much for thinking of us".

Emma Coates, Prospect Hospice

CATALYST STEM TASTER SESSION

Year 5 and 6 Catalyst STEM Stream applicants enjoyed an Engineering workshop where they built bridges and designed a device to transport a precious cargo through space. At the end of the sessions, they all got to try their designs by launching them from a great height to see if they'd survive, and testing the strength of their bridges to see if they could cope with the cargo.



CHARITY AND FUNDRAISING

To raise money for Children in Need and Save the Children, the chaplaincy team organised Mario Kart and Sumo Wrestling for students to enjoy at break and lunchtime for a charity donation.



Throughout the day, volunteers held a car wash in the staff car park, with staff donating to the charities in return. Everyone worked hard and enjoyed themselves whilst demonstrating the Nova value of Contribution.



Thank you to everyone who donated to help raise funds. We raised a total of £675.78 which will be split equally between Children in Need and Save the Children.

THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU
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THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU



POPPY APPEAL

Thank you very much for helping with our Appeal.

£147.26
was collected by you.

Without your help, we would be unable to continue our vital welfare and benevolent work.

Yours sincerely
April E. Potter
Local Honorary Organiser

District Total (if available) £

Registered Charity No. 219279

CHARITY AND FUNDRAISING

On the Friday, we held a cultural non-uniform day with Nova Nibbles. Scholars were invited to bring in a traditional national dish and we were blown away by the standard of dishes we received. Everything was sold at break and lunchtime to raise funds for the charities. We are extremely grateful to everyone who baked, cooked and donated the delicious treats.



Thank you to everyone who donated to the non-uniform day on 30th November. A total of £778 has been donated to Harry's Get Home Safely campaign

We'd like to express our gratitude to Harry's family for their hard work to improve road safety around schools, and in particular on Akers Way; and we are grateful for all the donations received on non-uniform day.



BLUNT TRUTHS WORKSHOP

Nova Hreed was delighted to welcome a team of police and health care professionals for the Blunt Truths workshop in which year 9 scholars gained an insight into the dangers of knife crime and how to provide emergency first aid to anyone who may have been affected. The scholars were praised for their engagement.



Our thanks go to the teams from GWH and Wiltshire Police.

www.noknivesbetterlives.com www.fearless.org

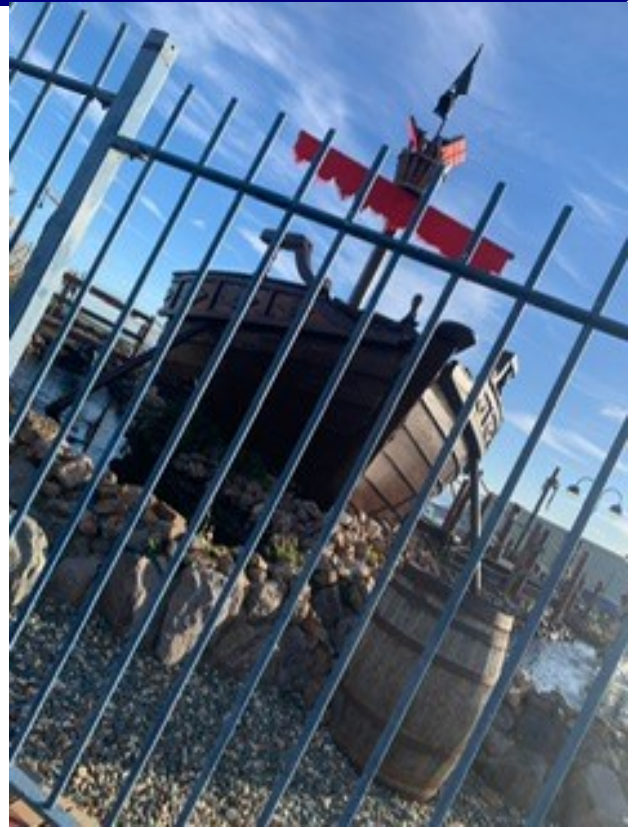
TRIPS AND VISITS



56 of our Year 7 scholars went on an exciting trip to Bristol's Tobacco Factory Theatre to see a production of Oliver Twist. Year 7s have been reading the wonderful novel by Dickens, but this was a chance to see an interpretation set in modern Bristol of the Victorian classic. Our scholars commented on the ambitious performance by a small cast who each took on multiple roles in the intimate space with a centre stage. Seeing the novel being brought to life was educational, thought-provoking and very entertaining.

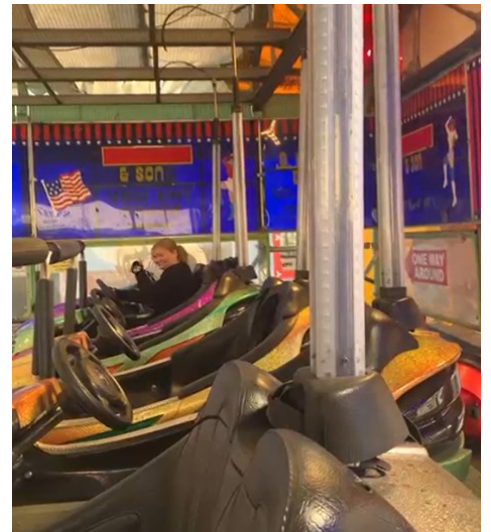
Miss Unsworth

MR GRIFFITHS ON TOUR



Mr Griffiths and Mrs Malik took a group of Year 10 and 11 scholars to Barry Island.

Mr Griffiths was in his element as he showed the students around his home town. They enjoyed a game of laser quest, visited the theme park and the beach, and drove around to look at some Gavin and Stacy sites including Uncle Bryn's house!



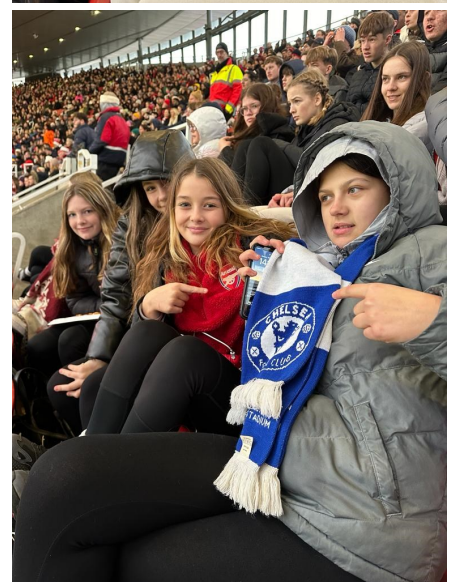
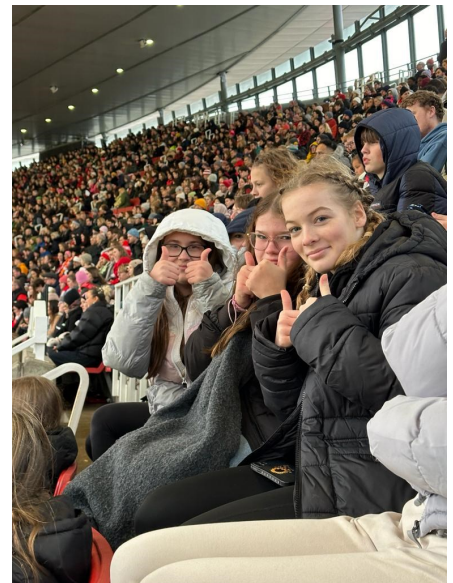
TRIPS AND VISITS



The trip to the Emirates was fun. There was some fun rivalry between the Arsenal supporters and the Chelsea supporters on the coach to the stadium. The best part was in the first half when the score was 3:1 to Arsenal. People were jumping up and down after the goal. It was a long day and everyone was very tired at the end, but I feel that the trip was a success and it was one of the best.
Aaron (Y8 Pegasus)

The scholars loved it, but the Chelsea fans on the bus were fuming because Arsenal won 4-1. It was a great atmosphere and the scholars were excellently behaved and represented the school really well.

Miss Parsons



Thanks to Nova and to the staff involved in this trip. My daughter had a wonderful time. We really appreciated that you spent your Sunday to giving our kids such a brilliant experience. Once again, many thanks!

SM, Mother of Sofia (Y7 Cygnus)

UPDATES FOR PARENTS



As part of United Learning's drive to Carbon Neutral, we are pleased to introduce Meat Free Mondays from the start of next term. The Stellar Diner will be serving a range of tasty meat free options on the main menu, together with vegetarian hot and cold Grab 'n' Go options.

To see the menus options, visit the website at [Nova Hreod Academy > Information for Students > Stellar Diner](#)



ParentPay

Parentpay has recently introduced One-click payments, which allows you to make school purchases using your bank account instead of a credit card.

It is important to know that One-click payments can take **up to three working days** to collect the funds from your bank (up to ten days during the setup period), and the payment will fail if there is not enough money in the bank account to cover the purchases at the time the money is collected, causing a delay in getting goods or a cancellation of a place. It will also cause a delay in receiving refunds.

To continue paying by card, simply select **“Other payment method.”**

To find out more please click on the following link:

[What is One-click payments? – Parent Support \(parentpaygroup.com\)](#)

Payment method

Pay by One-click payments

A faster checkout with just one click. Payments will be taken from your bank account only when you tell us to.

Other payment method

[Cancel](#)

ELSA

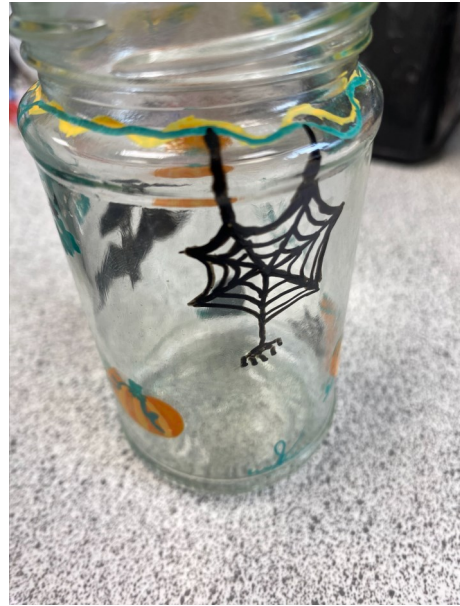
The ELSA group have been spending some of their intervention sessions crafting, painting and designing Halloween crafts and now we are getting ready for the run up to Christmas, designing Christmas features to brighten up the trees.

Students really value this time to aid and support regulation, communication, anxiety and sensory and social skills. We have found at Nova that sometimes we all need is a little time to offload and share worries and concerns and this helps us to re-engage in learning and gives us the tools to self-manage our days ahead.

Here are just a few of our wonderful designs.

Mrs Raymen

ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)



CREATIVE CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA



We were blown away by the talent on show at the Christmas Extravaganza. From beat boxing to hilarious drama performances, fantastic vocals and musical talent really entertained the packed theatre. The hard work and hours of practice were really evident and we loved seeing the pride on the faces of the parents and friends who came along. Thank you to all the scholars who entertained us or worked behind the scenes to make the show a real success.





For more photos please visit our website: Creative Christmas Extravaganza 2023
(novahreodacademy.org.uk)



SUPERNOVA ENRICHMENT



This week we're featuring Weightlifting club with Mr Stevens on Thursdays. Sign up using Epraise activities.





Registered charity number 1149068

Recycle your Tree!

In aid of

Prospect Hospice

together making every day count

Registered charity number: 280093

Registration closes Monday, 1st January, 2024



www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

After costs, Prospect Hospice receive 90% and up to 10% will be distributed by Just Helping to other local charities. More information on where your donation goes can be found on our website.

We will be collecting & recycling trees from 6th to 7th January 2024.
Scan the QR code or visit our URL and enter your post code to register.



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**



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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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