



A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



As we come to the close of another successful term at Nova, it is lovely to be able to look back at all that our scholars have achieved over the last 6 weeks. It really has been a term where the Nova DISC values have not just been in mind, but also in action!

Firstly, as Mrs Green mentioned in the last edition, students in Years 7 to 10 have shown great scholarship in the completion of their BiE assessments. We recognise the importance of training scholars to revise and prepare for assessments in preparation for their GCSEs at the end of Year 11. However, the integrity that comes from accepting feedback from these assessments and recognising that we are all on a learning journey where we can strive for improvement is equally, if not more, valuable.

Here at Nova, our drive is not only for academic achievement, but also to create well-rounded scholars who have passions and pursuits beyond the classroom. The recent ski trip to the French resort Les Orres was a huge success. The 40 scholars who went on this trip not only had lots of fun in a beautiful setting, but also showed great resilience in tackling harsh weather, long travel and learning a difficult, physical skill. Well done to those scholars who were complimented by the resorts' staff; you have done Nova proud! We'd also like to say a big thank you to Mr Wilkinson, Mr Silvester, Mrs Mason and Miss Bellamy for running this trip and providing our scholars with this fabulous opportunity.

Trips have been plentiful this term across many subjects. Poetry Live at Bath Forum allowed Year 11s to hear live readings of the poetry they're studying for English Literature (including the

current poet laureate, Simon Armitage). Year 8 scholars got to delve into British history with their visit to the Tower of London. Year 10s travelled to the Old Operating Theatre and Science Museum: this was an eye-opening experience to the early methods used in the oldest operating theatre in Europe. Although not venturing out of Nova's walls, our Catalyst Stream scholars were extremely fortunate to receive a visit from Paul Davison, an ex-Williams F1 and current Formula E race engineer for Jaguar TCS racing, showing them the exciting practical applications of their learning in the classroom.

As we close this term's chapter, I wish all scholars and families a well-deserved rest. One of the best ways to relax; grow our interests and expand our minds is to read. So, I would like to remind scholars that the Nova Reading Challenge is still running with prizes to be won from chocolate, film afternoons and badges of honour. Therefore, I encourage Nova scholars to read their way around their hobbies, favourite subjects, diverse locations and fictional worlds during half term. I look forward to hearing about their reading adventures in Term 4!

Mrs Honeysett

Assistant Principal

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY 2024

Monday 12th to Friday 16th

Half Term Holidays

Thursday 22nd

[Y7-10 Achievement Review Day](#)

Tuesday 27th

[Year 9 Options Evening](#)

THIS WEEK'S TOP EPRAISE SCHOLARS



MRS UNWIN'S REVISION CORNER

Well done to everyone who worked hard taking BiEs over the last few weeks. With academic review day round the corner, you might find yourself asking the questions;
Where did my child do well?
Where did it not go so well?
How can I help them improve?

If things didn't go how your child hoped, then make sure you look back over the previous versions of the newsletters for sections on the following different revision techniques;

- Mind dumps
- Flash cards
- Using past papers

Any questions on how to help your child revise can be sent to the relevant faculty leader or myself via epraise.

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.

Congratulations to Cygnus who won 250 house points making and flying paper airplanes and congratulations to Pegasus house who received 250 house points playing giant Jenga.






Which prize will you win?

- ❖ **Bronze Award – Chocolate Treat!**
- ❖ **Silver Award – A chocolate treat and Cinema Afternoon**
- ❖ **Gold Award – A chocolate treat, Cinema afternoon and Reading Champion Badge of Honour!**

We have our first GOLD winner.
Congratulations to ESME



Nova's Reading Challenge				Name: _____	Year: _____
Read a non-fiction book Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read a comic/ graphic novel Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read something big an author you've never read before Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read something by an author who shows the first letters of your last name. Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	  	
Read a book that was recommended to you by a friend or teacher Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read a book set in a different time or place Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read something that a family member enjoyed reading as a child Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read a book over 200 pages long Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____		
Read something over 50 years old Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read a book that has been made into a film Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Read a book you've borrowed from the town or school library Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____	Listen to an audiobook online (there are plenty that are free on YouTube) Title: _____ Author: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____		

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

THIS ACKNOWLEDGES THAT

THIS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE

Nova Gold Reading Challenge

Academic Year 2023/24 Mrs Honeysett, Assistant Principal for Literacy and Oracy

Nova Wood Academy

To get claim your prize, you must show your completed row to Mrs Honeysett.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP FUTSAL

Well done to everyone who took part in the Futsal House Competition this week.

Many of our scholars attended to watch and support their house at lunchtime. The winners were as follows

KS3 Pegasus v Orion—Orion won

KS3 Girls Cygnus v Aquila—Cygnus won

KS4 Pegasus v Orion—Orion won

The winning groups won 250 Points each for their house.



HOUSE UPDATE

Hello Nova scholars, parents and carers.

As we all know, term 3 is synonymous with dark days, plenty of rain and the post-Christmas blues. However, our team in Pegasus have been the inspirational ray of sunshine we all needed, making for a fantastic start to 2024! In this post I'd like to highlight some of our achievements and make a couple of shout-outs to certain members of staff and scholars.



Firstly, a big well done to Mrs Clare's tutor group **Pegasus 5**. They are by far the highest scoring group for attendance at Nova. In fact, they have come top in our school's attendance league table



every single week since coming back from Christmas break with an average of 95.6% attendance. Remember, it's not the staff that made this fantastic effort, it is every single one of our scholars that turns up, is ready to learn and consistently puts their best foot forward. Well done to you all.

Secondly, I'd like to mention a certain Dan A, whose underarm throw netted Pegasus a whopping 250 house points in the return of Wellie Wanging (a Friday competition held during lunchtime). Dan, your throws have become something of legend within the walls of Nova. From all of us – thank you!



Finally, it is with great pride that our very own Pegasus scholar Lily J won a silver medal in the southern region qualifiers and scored a place in the British Youth Fencing Championships for under 12s. Well done Lily, take this time to enjoy the fruits of your hard work and keep setting the bar high!

As Term 3 comes to an end, we can only look forward to future possibilities to win big for Pegasus House. Some of the upcoming competitions in school are tug of war, the limbo, giant connect 4, Red nose day, and the list continues. When we believe and put ourselves forward, we are in the best place to achieve.

Remember Pegasus, be brave, soar high.

Mr Harbour
Head of Pegasus

MATHS STAR OF THE TERM

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



Hamilton - Year 10
Mr Clarke - Maths
For achieving 100% in BiE 1.



Imogen - Year 10
Sparx - Maths
Most independant learning Y10 on Sparx - 300 hours, fantastic!



Toluwaleke - Year 8
Sparx - Maths
Most independant learning Y8 on Sparx - 600 hours, superb!



Lacey - Year 7
Sparx - Maths
Y7 top Sparx student, first to reach level 2! Amazing!



Paula - Year 9
Mr Hind - Maths
Outstanding performance on BiE 1 exam.



William - Year 10
Mrs Malik - Maths
Exceptional performance in BiE, excellent display of scholarship.



Leo - Year 7
Mrs Malik - Maths
Exceptional performance in BiE, excellent display of scholarship.



Peri - Year 8
Ms Forrest - Maths
Excellent performance in BiE, excellent display of scholarship.



Samuel - Year 10
Ms Forrest - iMedia
Excellent drive and passion in Creative iMedia.



Logan - Year 8
Ms Forrest - Computing
Consistent hard work in Computer Science, excellent display of scholarship.



Margo - Year 7
Ms Stanik - Maths
For excellent behaviour, fantastic maths skills and great BiE score.



Lewis - Year 10
Mr Watkins - Maths
For exceptional effort and attainment in every maths lesson.



Leah - Year 10
Mrs Evans - Business
For showing excellent exam technique in a new subject.



Scarlett - Year 11
Mrs Evans - iMedia
Showing real commitment and drive to completing coursework to a very high standard.



Oliver - Year 7
Mrs Thomas - Maths
For consistent hard work and always kind to peers.

SPARX MILESTONES NEARLY AT 1 MILLION!

Nova Hreod Academy

366 students

have already improved at their times tables this year. Great job!



Sparx Maths

sparxmaths.com

Nova Hreod Academy

Students in your school have completed

10,840 hours

of personalised learning
on Sparx Maths this year!



Sparx Maths

sparxmaths.com

Nova Hreod Academy

948,075

questions answered correctly in
Sparx Maths so far this year

Sparx Maths

sparxmaths.com

TRIPS AND VISITS



40 students took a trip to the French Ski Resort Les Orres, a beautiful destination.

The ski trip was an amazing holiday and a huge test of character. Each student overcame personal and shared challenges with some extreme temperatures, lack of sleep, demonstrating huge resilience learning a new and very difficult skill in a new environment. Every student was able to link turns on a variety of runs with our top groups demonstrating this on some challenging and icy red runs.

Everyone did the school proud with compliments from the hotel staff and Elemental the trip company saying what a delightful and excellent group of students. A huge well done to them all - at times they could have easily tried to quit but with encouragement stuck it out.

Mr Wilkinson



The trip was amazing. We had 5 hours of skiing every day. My favourite bit was the evening activities because they were lots of fun. One night we had a talent show and there was a party on the last night with a karaoke. I've been skiing before and the instructors helped me to improve my skills. I would definitely recommend the trip to anyone.

Evelinne, Year 8



We had an exciting week and although it was tiring it was definitely worth going. I would recommend to anyone to take the opportunity to go on the ski trip. I enjoyed meeting and getting to know our instructors, they made it a fun experience for us all. I made new friends on the trip, the activities in the evening were lots of fun and my personal favourite was the bum-boarding outside of the hotel, when we all got to slide down the hill on a board, at super fast speed! I really enjoyed learning to ski and would love to go again.

Steven, Year 8



BUSINESS STUDIES STUDENTS WIN MARKETING OPPORTUNITY



"I am delighted that Phoebe, Ryan and Marley entered our competition to come up with an entrepreneurial idea. I am looking forward to working with them to help make their dog walk/ race a reality and raise vital funds for our charity"

**Chris Smith – Christ Church
Site Operations Manager**

Business Studies students from Nova Hreod Academy have been involved in developing a new fundraising project as part of a competition run by Christ Church, in Old Town.

Christ Church invited all schools in Swindon to create entrepreneurial ideas to raise money for their community centre. The students from Nova Hreod Academy, all in Year 10, conducted research and investigated ideas for a project, and then prepared presentations which were pitched to their Business teacher Mrs Evans, and two other members of school business support staff. The presentations were scored on their content, verbal skills and presentation slides, and winners were chosen from each class. The two sets of classroom winners were Hamilton and Hayden, and Leah and Etta.

All the entries were sent to Christ Church for consideration, and the winning entry was submitted by Marley, Ryan and Phoebe. The students won a £50 Amazon voucher, sponsored by Excalibur Communications, and have started developing their idea of a dog fun day with races. Working with Chris Smith from Christ Church, they will plan and run the event, to include the opportunity of working with Gel Studios on an advertising campaign.



RAISING ASPIRATIONS

We were delighted to welcome Paul Davison to deliver a talk to the Catalyst scholars at the start of February. Paul is a race engineer for Jaguar TCS who travels the world touring with the team and is their Chief Race Engineer back at home in the UK.

Paul delighted the scholars with an informative talk about the journey into motorsport, the excitement of working in Formula 1 and Formula E for almost 20 years. He managed to bring along lots of artefacts from the factory including signed helmets from F1 and FE drivers, steering wheels, engines and driveshafts! The excellent range of questions certainly put Paul through his paces once he had finished and he encouraged everyone never to give up on what inspires them.

Finally - nobody walked away empty handed as the merchandise taps turned on to full blast with scholars getting their hands on caps and t-shirts at the end of the afternoon.

I would like to extend a massive thank you to Paul and to remind him that he has promised to come in again next year - with even more exciting equipment for us to play with!

The talk was part of a series of seminars for Catalyst STEM Stream students to learn from people in the STEM industry.



*Mr Delap
Vice Principal*



On 5th February we welcomed Alexa Wasielewski from financial tech firm *Thought Machine* to speak to scholars about her experiences as a Woman in Technology and her route into the field. Alexa, who studied at New College in Swindon, is now one of the most inspirational women in her industry and she told our scholars all about how she got into the field, and how the choices they make now could affect the rest of their lives.

CATALYST VISIT TO THAMESDOWN DRIVE

On 2nd February, Year 7 Catalyst scholars took a fascinating trip to the £16m pipe replacement project on Thamesdown Drive as part of their engineering lessons. We looked at the new pipe being installed by Barhale and the equipment they use. We learnt about the engineering techniques and learnt more about the different types of engineering. In engineering lessons we are currently deciding a name for the tunnel boring machine which travels nationwide to different sites to create tunnels for new pipes.



'I liked observing the boring machine and how it worked - it was very fascinating'

Bracken



'I thought it was very interesting and showed me things I have never seen before'

Evan

#ONSOCIALMEDIA



Nova Hreod PE @NovaHreodPE · 6 Feb
Who's coming to watch the House Competition this week? Join in the fun and support your house.

1 82



Nova Hreod Academy @novahreodacademy
2 days ago

Superb milestone of almost 1 million Sparx questions being answered correctly 🎉!
@sparx_maths #educationwithcharacter #bestineveryone #novahreodacademy
Read more



Boost unavailable

10

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

Nova Hreod Academy · 2 days ago

Thank you to Barhale and Thames Water for welcoming our Catalyst Stream and science scholars for a fascinating look around the £16m pipe replacement...

Read more



Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 6 Feb
10A were 'wok'ing and rolling with their chow mein for #ChineseNewYear 🍜
#LunarNewYear2024 🍀🍊

3 71

Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 17h
10B 'wok'ing around the clock today #ChineseNewYear #LunarNewYear2024 🍜🍀🍊

25

WE ARE PROUD OF

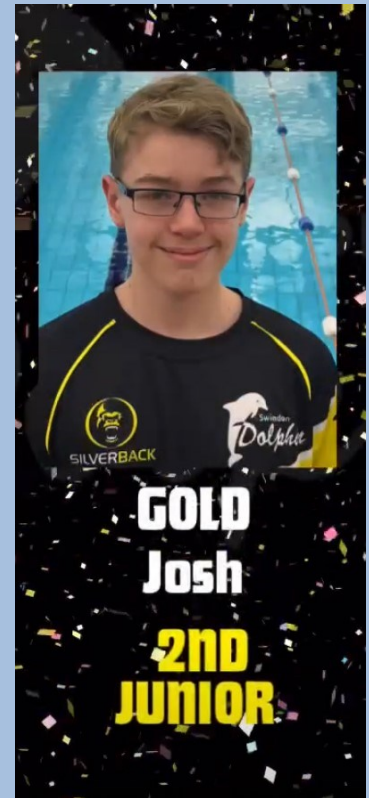
Josh N Year 9 has been competing in the Wiltshire County Swimming Championships the past 3 weekends winning another 5 medals to add to his collection!

He competed in 14 events where he got personal best times in every event and some were quite big personal bests.

He won Gold in the age 14, 200m Butterfly, he also got Silver in his 400m Freestyle and 800m Freestyle and he got Bronze in his 400m Medley and 100m Butterfly. He also got 2nd in the Junior Championship for his 200m Butterfly.

Josh has only been back full time training for the past 4 weeks as he has been suffering with a bad shoulder and was only doing limited training sessions between end of October and beginning of January.

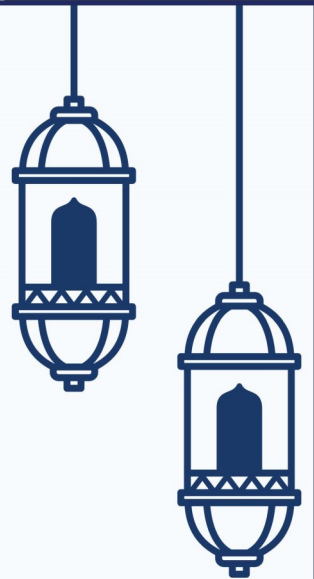
Well done Josh.



Hanna Warner, former School Captain of Nova Hreod Academy, has been awarded the **Libby Reed Award for contribution to the Life of the College** at Cirencester College.

Cirencester College told us: *“Hanna was an outstanding ambassador. Throughout her two years at College, she assisted at Open Events, School Careers Fairs, Taster Days and Enrolment. In fact, in 2023 she pretty much ran the enrolment days – ensuring that prospective students and parents were looked after, whilst simultaneously managing the team of ambassadors. Hanna was always happy to assist, offering reassurance to prospective students. Furthermore, she played a significant role in our ‘catching a bus’ video. Without her, many students might have struggled to navigate their way to the college.”*

We are very proud of Hanna and very much looking forward to hearing about whatever she does next!



Nova Hreed
Academy
Global Ambassadors

invite you to an



Interfaith Iftar Evening

Thursday 14th March 2024
at 5.00pm



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

If you would like to attend
scan QR code



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

YEAR 7, 8, 9 & 10 ACHIEVEMENT REVIEW DAY

Thursday
22nd February 2024

10.00am - 7pm



BOOK NOW
<https://novahreod.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

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FOR MORE INFORMATION
admin@novahreodacademy.org.uk

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OPEN MORNINGS 2024

Open Morning is the perfect opportunity for Year 5 pupils and their parents to visit Nova Hreod Academy during a school day

Join us for a short presentation, meet staff and current scholars and have a tour of the building.

Tuesday 12th March 2024

9am - 11am

Thursday 6th June 2024

9am - 11am



To register
Scan the QR code

Catalyst STEM Stream Open Morning



Tuesday 19th March 2024

9am - 10am

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

www.novahreodacademy.org.uk

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Ofsted
Good
Provider