



A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



For anyone who doesn't know me, I'm the Assistant Principal responsible for students' wellbeing, and my team supports anyone who needs additional care and guidance outside of the classroom. I'm the Designated Safeguarding Lead for Nova.

In the past few weeks, we've had a focus on personal safety and wellbeing in school and in the community. We've welcomed external agencies to talk to students about issues such as knife crime and road safety. We have secured an additional person to the listening team, which has increased the caseload for the service, providing valuable support to students who need it. We've also been offered additional support through United Learning for children waiting for CAMHS, where they'll be offered counselling whilst waiting for CAMHS support to begin.

Miss Simms runs our Classroom Ready provision, which supports students who experience challenges in attending school due to negative feelings such as anxiety, or emotional or physical stress). Instead of using avoidance to cope with feeling overwhelmed, we offer help for students to recognise the triggers of

their anxiety; identify small steps they feel they can take, and have ways they can calm themselves when they are starting to feel anxious. This helps them deal with stressful situations throughout life without becoming overwhelmed or having to avoid the things they find challenging.

I am delighted to welcome a new member of the Pastoral Team this term. Naomi Butler joins us with a wealth of experience in supporting vulnerable teenagers in her previous roles, and we are pleased that she's joined us as House Manager for Aquila House. We will also be joined by a new Pastoral Responder who will work with students and their families, specifically about behavioural issues.

You will have received a message about the new Arbor parent app, which has been launched this term. The app currently provides live information and notifications about behaviour related issues and will be expanded to include other aspects of school life, including reports and attendance information. If you haven't already downloaded the app, I recommend you find it on the AppStore.

Mrs King
Assistant Principal, Student Support

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH/APRIL 2024

Friday 8th—Sunday 10th—Year 11 PGL weekend

Tuesday 12th—Open Morning

Thursday 14th—Iftar Evening

Friday 15th—Non Uniform Day Comic Relief

Tuesday 19th—Catalyst STEM Stream Open Morning

Wednesday 27th—Year 11 Parents' Evening

Friday 29th to Sunday 14th April (inc) —Easter Holidays

Monday 15th April—Inset Day —school closed for students

Tuesday 16th April—first day of term

For more information visit: www.novahreodacademy.org.uk

THIS WEEK'S TOP EPRAISE SCHOLARS



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Nova Hreod Academy

Attendance Drop-In Sessions

Every day from
9.40 to 10.35

Parents/Carers can come into school and
discuss their child's attendance with Ms Penfold



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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.

Scholars can sign up using Epraise Activities to take part in any of the challenges.

Friday 23rd February Tug of War. Congratulations to Cygnus who won 250 house points.

Friday 1st March—Connect 4—Congratulations to Pegasus who won 250 points for their house in the Connect 4 challenge.



AQUILA HOUSE UPDATE



Hello Nova scholars, parents and carers.

We have made it to term 4. Mornings and evenings are getting lighter making everybody feel like spring is on the way. I would like to take the opportunity to highlight certain groups, people and achievements made by members of Aquila House.



Firstly, I would like to acknowledge Ms Rennie's group Aquila 6. So far this academic year they have an average attendance of

91.1%. I think I have given a box of chocolates to Aquila 6 most weeks since September, well done and keep it up.

Not only do they have the highest attendance, but also Aquila 6 have won the most disc points since September. This academic year they have managed to earn 3307 disc points through star slips and disc points in lessons. One member of this group has already earned an amazing 296 points. However, Aquila 3 and 4 are not far behind with both having earned over 3200 points each. Congratulations to all the students and keep it up.

Our new House Manager, Mrs Butler, has started to get to know some of the students and we are glad to have her on the team.



I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Milla in Aquila 10. Milla has made the final GB ice hockey camp next month, where squad selection will be made. Everybody at Nova is incredibly proud and rooting for her and can't wait to see where ice hockey takes her.

As we move through term 4 and beyond we are looking to add to the Friday competition wins and the Times table competition win. We will be looking forward to challenging for the University challenge competition and as many Friday lunchtime competitions as possible to get us to the top of the house standings entering term 5.

So Aquila keep achieving star cards and disc points and let's put green ribbons around the next big trophy.

Mr Silvester
Head of Aquila

YEAR 8 CELEBRATE SPORTING SUCCESS

Last week we held a special assembly to celebrate the success of our year 8 sports stars, including Jesse who has progressed through to the national level cross country championships, and the Year 8 rugby team who won the Swindon Schools' Rugby Cup, defeating LPA in the final at Royal Wootton Bassett Rugby Club, having lost to the same opponents in the semi-final last year. The assembly focused on the success of Year 8, the sporting offer for the terms ahead and the opportunities and skills engaging in sport can provide.

Many thanks to Thomas and Clive Page from Mr Shifter, who generously donated and presented trophies to all the members of the team.



STELLAR SCIENCE AND MYSTERY MATHS

Year 5 pupils from Greenmeadow Primary and Haydonleigh Primary Schools enjoyed a morning of science and maths lessons at Nova, solving mysteries for us, before Dr Clapp's ever-popular "Fire and Ice" show. Everyone was amazed as Dr Clapp revealed the scientific secrets behind some popular magic tricks and demonstrated some explosive science. The engagement from the pupils of both schools was fantastic and we can't thank them enough for coming along. Particularly, to the three brave pupils who volunteered to stand underneath a cup of water for Dr Clapp to pour above their heads!



STELLAR SCIENCE AND MYSTERY MATHS



#ONSOCIALMEDIA

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



Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 20h
Y10 Eccles Cakes today. Complex skills and #traditional foods. #eccles #flaky #pastry #shaping. Could you smell them baking? 🤤



1 ❤️ 26 🗨️ 📌



Tassomai @Tassomai · 13 Feb
A big congratulations @NovaHreedUL - one of your pupils completed 20 Daily Goals or more in January and has won a prize in our random prize draw! We'll be in touch ⭐



1 ❤️ 90 🗨️ 📌



Nova Hreed Academy @novahreedacademy
2 days ago

Y10s have had Prefect application assembly last Tuesday and this week the rest of the Y7-10s have seen what they can do to work towards becoming a prefect in KS4. Remember the deadline is Monday 4th March 8am and all details are on a epraise #educationwithcharacter #bestineveryone #novahreedacademy

Read less



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Boost unavailable

6 ❤️ 🗨️ ⋮



Nova Cooks @NovaCooks · 27 Feb
Flaky Pastry in the making today - chilling overnight for Eccles cakes tomorrow. #flaky #pastry



5 ❤️ 54 🗨️ 📌

DRAMA

Year 11 drama scholars have entered their final week of rehearsals for their practical exam. They have now had an examiner assess their interpretations of *Bouncers and Shakers* by John Godber.

Scholars have worked hard on their interpretations and are assessed on:

- Acting
- Lighting
- Sound
- Set / props
- Costume / hair / make up

Break a leg !!



NEW PLAY AREA

A group of Nova students proudly attended the opening of the newly renovated Trent Road Play Area in Haydon Wick.

The students were all Year 6 pupils at Greenmeadow School when the play area was being designed, and they were able to review the designs and help the developers decide which pieces of apparatus they felt would be popular. Greenmeadow Primary School invited them to the official opening as a thank you for their input.



MRS UNWIN'S REVISION CORNER

The Y11s are currently doing their second set of mock examinations. Here are some top tips for students who become anxious during an exam:



ANSWER THE EASY QUESTIONS FIRST

Just start by putting your name on the paper. Or the date. You have to start somewhere. Thumb through the test and tackle the questions you think you know.

WRITE DOWN INFORMATION YOU'RE AFRAID OF FORGETTING

If you've memorized dates or names, or created a mnemonic device for remembering something, immediately write down all that information somewhere on your test so that you don't stress about forgetting it.



USE THE PROCESS OF ELIMINATION TO BUILD MOMENTUM

Start by eliminating answers you know are incorrect. You might not know the correct answer right away, but you can likely look at the answer choices and find one or two that you know to be wrong. Physically cross these out.

SKIP + MARK QUESTIONS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW OR THAT ARE TRIGGERING ANXIETY.

Circle or mark these questions so you know to come back to them. Taking this step is actually progress; knowing you're making progress on a question reduces anxiety about it.



GROUND YOURSELF

Pause your test and survey the room you're in. Look around and notice each of your five senses. Name something you see, hear, smell, feel and taste. This might sound like a woo-woo strategy but it reduces anxiety in the moment.

USE 4-7-8 BREATHING

Breathe in through your nose for 4 seconds, hold your breath for 7 seconds, and release through the mouth for 8 seconds. Repeat this 3-4 times until your heart rate slows down. Actually count - that's what makes this strategy work.



START WRITING WHAT YOU DO KNOW.

If stuck on a hard question, think about what you do know about the topic. Write this down somewhere. Recalling information that's related to a question can trigger yourself to remember the right information. This is Associative thinking.

CATALYST TRIP TO F1 WILLIAMS HEADQUARTERS



As part of their engineering curriculum, Year 8 Catalyst Scholars visited the Williams F1 Headquarters. Scholars took part in various activities including a tour of the building, an Esport simulator and using their engineering skills to develop a Lego Mindstorm.

When we went on the Williams F1 trip we saw F1 cars from 1977 all the way to 2021. We also made a team to promote our car with a presentation and a demo of the car going round a track. My favourite part of the trip was going onto a simulation and driving round tracks on a video game. Overall the trip was amazing and was very fun!

Reece
Year 8

CATALYST TRIP TO F1 WILLIAMS HEADQUARTERS



SPARX MATHS

The Maths department have been overwhelmed at reaching the 1 million correct answers milestone in Sparx maths so far this academic year. That's over 11,580 hours of learning this year, and it's only March! That's real Drive and Scholarship - well done everyone for reaching this milestone.



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On 22nd February

Over

1 Million

questions have already
been answered correctly in

Sparx Maths

since September

sparxmaths.com

SUPER NOVA

These activities can be used as your "physical" section of the Duke of Edinbrugh Award

Sports CLUBS TERM 3

Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Girls Rugby Mr Wilkinson 14.40-15.35 PE	Lego Robotics Club Miss Clare 15:35-16:30 SB4	Keyboard Club Mrs. Griffiths GA8 15:35-16:30	Drama Club Miss Rubach GA7 15:35-16:30	KS3 Band Club Mr. Griffiths 15:35-16:30 GA8	Creative Lego Club Miss Claire 15:35-16:30 SB4
	Poetry Club Ms Lee and Ms Rennie FD3 15:35-16:30	Imagine Chaplaincy Team 15:35-16:30 Dance Studio	Book Club Mrs Shirley Library 15:35-16:30	Tassomai Club Miss Griffiths 15:35-16:30 SB9	Archery Tag Lunch Time Sports Hall
	iMedia Club (Year 10 and 11) Mrs Evans SB9 15:35-16:30	Carron Board Club Break time 10:40 – 10:55 SB6	'Get Ahead- Catch up' Club Mrs Martin FA1 15:35-16:30 (Year 10 and 11 only)		Trampoline Mr Wilkinson 14.40-13.35 Sports Hall
	Nova Nasheed and Qirat Club Mrs Malik SB6 15:35-16:30	Sparx Support Club Lunchtimes in SB9 and after school Faculty run 15:35-16:30 FC9	Boxing Mr Wilkinson PE 15.35-16.30		

Study Base Every Day SA6/7

Monday and Friday: 14:40-15:35

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays 15:35 – 16:30



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Super Nova Term 3

CHOOSING HISTORY

Are you aged 14-18 and interested in history and heritage?

Are you looking into GCSE options, A-Levels, degrees, placements, jobs or volunteering with an interest in history?

Come and learn what roles, options and pathways are available!

- Speak to real professionals working in museums, archives and libraries
- Check out information stands from heritage organisations
- Meet local heritage experts and hear the path they followed

Saturday 9th March 10am-4pm

Central Library, Regent Circus, SN1 1QG

Q&A panels with heritage professionals at 11am and 2pm

This FREE drop-in event is organised by

Local Studies (Swindon Libraries)

localstudies@swindon.gov.uk (01793) 463238

Our History, Your Future



Historic England



nationwide

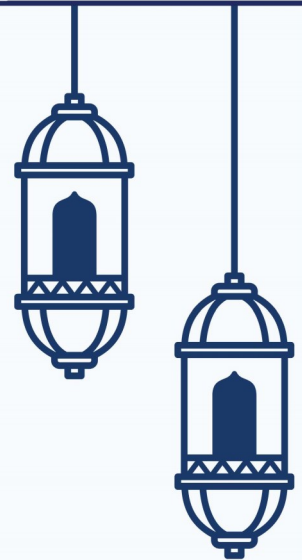
Wiltshire & Swindon
**HISTORY
CENTRE**



MUSEUM & ART
SWINDON



**MECHANICS
INSTITUTION
TRUST**



Nova Hreod
Academy
Global Ambassadors

invite you to an



Interfaith Iftar Evening



Thursday 14th March 2024
at 5.00pm



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If you would like to attend
scan QR code





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NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY

FRIDAY 15th MARCH



RED NOSE DAY



WEAR
CULTURAL
CLOTHING

IN SUPPORT OF

**COMIC
RELIEF**

LUNCH
TIME GAMES
IN THE
ATRIUM

DONATIONS VIA PARENT PAY
FOR NON UNIFORM

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



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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



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

To register
Scan the QR code



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

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