



### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Earlier this week I hosted a Headteacher's Forum where I shared the results of our recent parental survey and the steps we are taking to respond to your feedback, including the use of EPraise to improve communication with parents and carers. This was followed by a very interesting Q&A session and discussion, and I will be sharing the feedback from the session in the next few days. The next Headteacher's Forum will be on 9th March and we will write to you closer to the date to confirm whether it will be online or in school.

As you will be aware, next Wednesday is Achievement Review Day so students in Year 7-10 are not expected to attend school but should join you in the video call with their tutor to discuss their progress and targets. There is a small number of parents who haven't yet made an appointment so please visit <https://novahreod.schoolcloud.co.uk/> or contact the school office for assistance. Failure to attend an ARD appointment will show as an absence against your child's record.

In this newsletter we celebrate the achievements of Gracie and Tasha who qualified for the National Inspiring Generations final, and Blaise and Logan in Year 10 who have created an impressive computer code linked to their studies. Year 11 photography students have taken their mock exam and produced some beautiful images.

As we break up for half term we are looking forward to COVID restrictions easing which will see an increase in the number of events we can host in school, the first of which will be an exciting exhibition of our recent art and photography students work. We believe young people are insightful and imaginative. Their creativity and curiosity are a vital part of transforming the world we live in, to make it a fairer and more inclusive place for all. This work explores the theme of 'Rebellious Transformation' and varies from punk culture to a wide exploration of different media. This show represents the bravery and passion young people have and aims to impress you with their bold and inventive creations.

To pre-empt the popularity of this show we have split viewing times into two groups. If you have a child in KS3, please visit between 4.30 and 5.30. If your child is in KS4, please visit between 5.30 and 6.30. Please bring money to buy light refreshments and artworks or gifts will be on sale on too.

I hope you have a safe and happy half term break; our scholars have worked hard this term and we're looking forward to returning to our normal routines in the Spring term.

**Nick Wells**  
Headteacher

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### FEBRUARY 2022

Wednesday 16th — Achievement Review Day

21st-25th — Half term

#### MARCH 2022

Tuesday 1st — Rebellious Transformation Art & Photography Exhibition

Wednesday 9th — Headteacher Parent Forum

Tuesday 15th — Open Morning

Thursday 31st — Year 11 Parents' Evening

*For more information visit*

[www.novahreodacademy.org.uk](http://www.novahreodacademy.org.uk)

### BEST IN EVERYONE ASSESSMENTS











**We want young people to achieve more than they believed was possible**



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## EPRAISE LEAGUE TABLE

	Total points	Attendance
1st		
2nd		
3rd		
4th		

## EPRAISE TOP STUDENTS JANUARY



## THE WORLD AROUND US

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 World Braille Day:

Do you know about World Braille Day ?

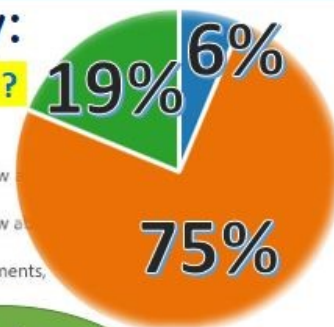
This shows the talent that blind people can have despite their disability - Kye Firmin 9-5

Nobody in 8-1 was aware of World Braille Day before today, however everyone now believes that it is an extremely important day to not only to appreciate the invention of braille, but also to raise awareness for how difficult life would be for blind people without braille. We think that braille should be used more widely in places such as shops and restaurants, so that everyone has equal opportunities.

It would be good for scholars to learn braille so that it can help blind people and not make them feel excluded. Blind people or visually impaired people can have more independence if we used braille more.

Some scholars said they wouldn't mind relying on others to read signs to them. I feel that this shows a slight lack of empathy.

- Yes - We already knew
- No - We did not know a
- Other - see our comments,



Drive \* Integrity \* Scholarship \* Contribution

Nova  
Votes

## AQUILA HOUSE UPDATE



Over Christmas Aquila ran the reverse advent calendar, asking both Aquila scholars and the rest of the school to bring in items for both Alternative Angels and The Salvation Army. As a Head of House I was so proud to see the donation and contributions made by scholars right across the school.

Aquila have also seen some excellent wins on the Friday lunchtime competitions, most recently year 9 working together to win the year 9 quoits competition, helping to contribute to the house championship points.

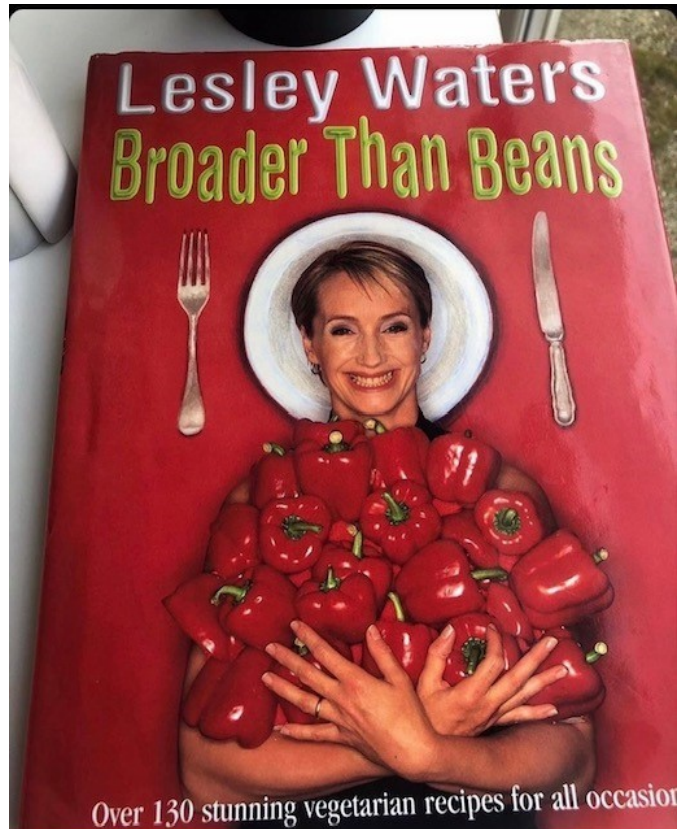
Well done to Aquila 6 too, who are showing great attendance figures and have earnt lots of boxes of chocolates when we return to house tutor groups from the attendance league competitions.

**Miss Dominy**  
*Head of House*



## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Gracie and Tasha were very creditable runners up in the National Inspiring Culinary Generations final in Bournemouth on 28th January. They both commented on what a great experience it was. They had to compete in a commercial kitchen and were unfamiliar with both the surroundings and the kitchen equipment, which always piles on the pressure and they both coped admirably. They were a credit to the school and congratulations to them both.



## CAREERS INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

### DID YOU KNOW...?

There's a wealth of information on the school website for parents and carers relating to career pathways, post-16 choices and vocational information.

Click on the image below



Careers & Post-16  
information



**MUSIC BY DJ CHEFF  
AND EUAN MS**

# REBELLIOUS TRANSFORMATION

**PRIVATE VIEW:  
TUESDAY 1ST MARCH**

**KS3 - 4.30 - 5.30PM  
KS4 - 5.30 - 6.30PM**

ART AND  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
EXHIBITION



DRAMA STUDIO  
NOVA HREOD  
ACADEMY

# THE THEORETICAL PROBABILITY

In Maths, Year 10 have been learning about probability and two scholars went above and beyond to investigate some of the phenomena we see within the topic. Blaise Killingback and Logan Jones have written a code that virtually rolls a dice several times (they chose 1 million!) and records how many times it lands on each number. In lessons, we learn how, as the number of rolls increases, the fraction of times we see a particular number will get closer and closer to  $1/6$  or 16.66%. The results after 1 million rolls have so far shown accuracy to 1 decimal place and as you read this, the code is still producing more and more results with the number of rolls reaching close to 10 million!

```
import random as rand

running = True

while running:

    i = input("Enter Number Of Rolls: ")
    i = int(i)
    total = i
    one = 0
    two = 0
    three = 0
    four = 0
    five = 0
    six = 0

    while i > 0:

        number = rand.randint(1,6)
        print(number)
        i = i - 1

        if number == 1:
            one = one + 1

        if number == 2:
            two = two + 1

        if number == 3:
            three = three + 1

        if number == 4:
            four = four + 1

        if number == 5:
            five = five + 1

        if number == 6:
            six = six + 1

    print("done")

    oneperc = str(100*(one/total))
    twoperc = str(100*(two/total))
    threeperc = str(100*(three/total))
    fourperc = str(100*(four/total))
    fiveperc = str(100*(five/total))
    sixperc = str(100*(six/total))

    print("number of ones:",one)
    print("number of twos:",two)
    print("number of threes:",three)
    print("number of fours:",four)
    print("number of fives:",five)
    print("number of sixes:",six)

    print("percentage of ones:",oneperc+"%")
    print("percentage of twos:",twoperc+"%")
    print("percentage of threes:",threeperc+"%")
    print("percentage of fours:",fourperc+"%")
    print("percentage of fives:",fiveperc+"%")
    print("percentage of sixes:",sixperc+"%")
```



Mr Sheehan  
@MrSheehanMaths

After teaching experimental/theoretical probability convergence last week, a student showed me a code he had written that "rolled a dice" a million times and showed the probability of each outcome converging to  $1/6$ !

Outstanding effort from scholars at @NovaHreedUL

7:29 pm · 20 Jan 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

1 Retweet 2 Likes

$p(1) = 16.6716\%$   
 $p(2) = 16.6775\%$   
 $p(3) = 16.6476\%$   
 $p(4) = 16.6545\%$   
 $p(5) = 16.6545\%$   
 $p(6) = 16.6943\%$

Probability of numbers on a fair 6 sided dice rolled 1 million times.

## SUPERNOVA ENRICHMENT

Drama club is on every Thursday after school for Year 7 Scholars! This week we were learning all about Trestle Theatre company and exploring how to tell stories with masks.



## HOME STUDY

Bedrock is an online programme that helps students to develop their vocabulary and understanding of new words in context. At Nova, Bedrock is set as English home study every week for Years 7-11. We ask scholars to complete two Bedrock 'lessons', accruing 20 points. Some scholars go above and beyond this and must be applauded for doing so!



Congratulations to the following scholars:

TERM 2	TOP POINTS	TOP PROGRESS	TOPIC COMPLETIONS
7 79.15%	Lila 7-3/En Lily 7-7/En	Miley 7-6/En Hannah 7 1	Lila 7-3/En 13 Lily 7-7/E
8 85.39%	Ruby 8-4/En Phoebe 8-2/En	Jayden 8-7/EnA, Hriti 8-3/En	Ruby 8-4/En Dylan 8-4/En
9 76.01%	David 9-2/En Melissa-Lou 9-1/En	Rhys P 9-5/En Nathan 9-6/En	David 9-2/En Melissa-Lou 9-1/En
10 84.26%	Blaise 10-1/En, Millie 10-6/En	Luke 10-1/En Chloe 10-1/En	Blaise 10-1/En, Grace 10 2
11 76.89%	Francesca Freya 11-1/En,	Gabriel 11-2/En, Amy 11-5/En	Francesca 23 Freya

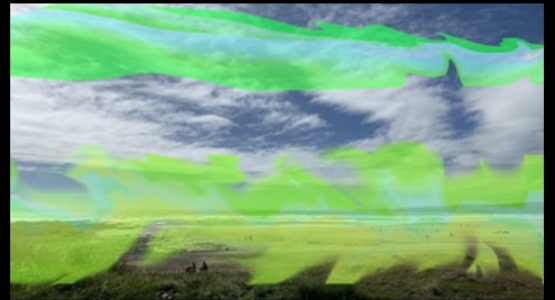
## YEAR 11 MOCK PHOTOGRAPHY EXAM

Year 11 photography students have created some fantastic images for their GCSE Mock exam. They behaved impeccably throughout the session and we're very proud of the outcomes.

Kyle



Aiden



Jackson



Kimberly



Madyson



Ellie Louise

Emily

Jess



Francesca

## CHAPLAINCY TEAM

The start of term 3 was an exciting one for Nova as the Chaplaincy team has launched their SuperNova club, Imagine. This club takes place on a Monday after school in the dance studio, is open to all year groups and includes games and activities as well as discussions around issues relevant to scholars.

Our Chaplaincy team includes Amy and Leonora who run Imagine and have been brilliant supporting with the Friday House Competitions each week and Jamie, who you will have seen around school as part of the Listening Team.

There is now an official Chaplaincy Team room at the back of the library as well as a Multi-faith Prayer Room which some of our Muslim scholars have been using at key points in the day to complete their daily prayers.

*Simon Foster*

*Assistant Principal - Character*



## NEWS FROM THE CHAPLAINCY TEAM

Hi, my name's Amy and I'm part of the chaplaincy team at Nova. I'm incredibly excited to be able to come into school and connect with some of the students here. I was a student here myself, and I know a little bit about the pressures of school, friendship, family and life. I know that one thing that helped me out was having a team of people around, who weren't my teachers but youth workers, who cared about me and just wanted to listen to what I had to say, without judgement. That is what we want to provide for students, safe places to be and safe people to chat to, without judgement.

I have loved coming into school on Thursday lunchtimes and meeting some of the students here. On Friday lunchtimes I have been able to help out with the Friday competition and that has been fantastic. On Mondays we have started an after school club called "Imagine," this has been an incredibly fun time filled with games and space to chat, if you want to find out what it's all about come to the dance studio after school on Mondays. We have also been setting up a chaplaincy room by the library that we hope to be able to use to explore faith more over the coming months.

I am really excited to meet more students and develop the work with and for young people so if you have an idea that you think we can help with let us know or if you just want to chat come and find us.

Amy Cox  
Chaplaincy Team



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way to communicate with us.



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**DOWNLOAD the APP**

We look forward to hearing from you!

epraise.co.uk

The award winning school rewards system



# FEBRUARY HALF TERM INSPIRATION

A WHAT'S ON GUIDE FOR FAMILIES TO FIND  
THINGS TO DO IN THE LOCAL AREA

[www.swindonrocks.co.uk](http://www.swindonrocks.co.uk)



## HALF TERM FUN

With February half term nearing, visit Swindon Rocks to find things to do in the local area. Make sure you don't miss out this half term by using the February Half Term button on our home page to find over 30 ideas. There is so much to enjoy with Amazing Bubble Man at Swindon Arts Centre and more!

[Visit our website to find out more.](http://www.swindonrocks.co.uk)

## PARKS & WALKS

Looking for ways to get out the house over half term? Check out our Parks and Walks section. With over 15 Parks and Walks on Swindon Rocks there is so much for you to head out and explore as a family!

[Click here or follow the green Parks and Walks button on the website.](http://www.swindonrocks.co.uk)



## HOLIDAY CLUBS

There are lots of great organisations that offer holiday clubs and camps in Swindon during the school holidays. If you need to sort out childcare this half term check out our Holiday Clubs in Swindon Guide to see some of the best.

[Click here to browse our Holiday Clubs guide.](http://www.swindonrocks.co.uk)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS



### Half Term cycle camp

Join Paul and Jennifer for a fun filled session of tricks, park and flatland bike skills, cycling games, competitions and much more! Price includes snacks and drinks. All you need is a bike, helmet and a smile on your face!



**Friday  
25 February 2022**  
Wroughton Junior  
School  
12.30pm - 3.30pm  
£20

PLACES ARE LIMITED!!!

TO BOOK A PLACE:  
Call Paul on 07590 688808

or email  
paul@paulashmancycling.com

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EXETER



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### Virtual Achievement Review Day

**16th February 2022**



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### Open Mornings

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022  
Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022  
Thursday 23rd June 2022  
9-11am

### Catalyst STEM Stream

#### Open Morning

Thursday 23rd June 2022  
11am-12pm

register online at [www.novahreodacademy.org.uk](http://www.novahreodacademy.org.uk)

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