



### A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



I want to start this edition of Nova News by saying a huge well done to all of our hard-working Year 11 scholars who are now in the thick of their GCSE examinations. Although exam season can be a stressful time for all involved, it is also an amazing opportunity for our scholars to show off the huge breadth of knowledge

and understanding they have acquired during their time at Nova. Whether this is breaking down and solving complex problems in maths, making astute economic observations in business or analysing and interpreting influential texts in English, these exams allow our Year 11s to demonstrate what they are capable of in a broad range of important subjects.

Starting the 2nd week back after half term, our next round of Best in Everyone assessments (BiE 2) are due to start for our Year 7 – 10 scholars. These assessments provide our most accurate understanding of what has been learned throughout the year, and more importantly provides teachers with essential information on what to revise, reteach or stretch during the rest of the year. The final timetables for these assessments are currently being finalised, so please look out for a full schedule soon. In the meantime, students are encouraged to start revision for these as soon as possible. Subject teachers will provide additional information on how to revise, but as a great starting point, any online learning platforms such as Sparx make an excellent revision resource. In the majority of subjects, assessments will include all the content covered this year, as well as elements of the curriculum covered in any previous years.

It is also an exciting time for our year 9 scholars, who have found out their GCSE options this week. Students were able to choose 4 out of a total of 16 different options to study alongside their core subjects, providing

a huge range of different experiences. At Nova, we pride ourselves on offering a broad curriculum, allowing students to take subjects they may never have studied before (such as Computer Science, Photography or Health & Social Care), as well as being able to study their existing favourite subjects (such as French, Art or Geography) to a higher depth. The GCSE option process is the first time students are able to have substantial control over what they learn, and helps each of our scholars tailor their academic lives to meet their interests, talents and skills. We have an exceptional cohort of students at Nova, and this tailoring of learning is an excellent way to help us best cater to each and every one of them.

As we move into our final half-term, there are many different things to be excited about. For our year 11s, we'll be having our End of Year celebrations to recognise the end of their time at Nova. They will also have their Summer Ball, marking an important passage between their school life and adult life. For the rest of the school, in addition to the important exams already discussed, term 6 brings the exciting and competitive Sports Day, as well as many other fun and engaging competitions, trips and events.

I want to finish by wishing all our Nova scholars the very best for each of their upcoming exams. Keep up your revision, keep working hard and you will attain a set of results to be proud of, opening up the doors you need for the exciting futures ahead of you.

**Mr Watkins Assistant Principal**

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### MAY 2024

Monday 27th to Friday 31st (inc) - half term holidays

#### JUNE 2024

Monday 3rd —Students return to school

Thursday 6th—Open Morning

#### JUNE 2024

Tuesday 18th—Teaching and Learning Afternoon (school ends 13:20)

Wednesday 19th—Summer Concert

Thursday 20th—Y6 Transition Evening

Wednesday 26th —Year 6 Induction Day

## THIS WEEK'S TOP EPRAISE SCHOLARS



## WE ARE PROUD OF...

### SWIM ENGLAND NATIONAL SUMMER MEET 2024



**BETINA PUSZKARSKA**  
200M BUTTERFLY

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Year 9 Betina has again qualified for the Swim England National Summer Meet which will be held in Sheffield in August.

The Summer Meet is Swim England's biggest domestic swimming event of the year and forms part of a swimming competition structure in Great Britain whereby the top ranked swimmers are invited to compete at the British Swimming Summer Championships.

We are very proud of Betina's qualification and we wish her every success.

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## HOUSE UPDATE



Cygnus have had another successful few months contributing to the House championships and setting ourselves up for a tight end of year battle to win the overall competition. We have given ourselves an excellent chance by winning the Term 4 Week 4 ALT for highest attendance! You have to be in it to win it and our attendance is on the up! Following on from this success we won the 1000 point University Challenge, an incredible win that all of our scholars should be proud of. It was a tense final, but Cygnus were consistently brilliant across all of the year groups.

To show we are the House of many talents, we couldn't just rest at winning the University Challenge, we also won the Limbo final challenge. A brilliant challenge where Cygnus scholars displayed their amazing flexibility. We then won the end of the term sports competition which was a brilliant way to end the term! Congratulations to all of the competitors who took part.

In Term 5 we started strongly with another ALT win for outstanding attendance. We followed this up with another win during the Ring Toss Friday competition. Our aim was more accurate than the other Houses and we outscored them massively during the competition. We have lots of exciting competitions coming up where we will be giving 100% to challenge for the title.

**Mr Griffiths**  
**Head of Cygnus**



Anna	Cygnus	Oxton	Peppas
Y7			
Y8			
Y9			
Y10			
Goal	3	9	3

95  
(10)



## SUPERNOVA—GARDENING CLUB



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Our new gardening club has started this term and our scholars have been planting seeds and learning about which ones to plant at this time of year. The scholars are also super keen to grow fruit and vegetables too. We hope to share the results of our work as they progress.

Mrs Bekir

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# Bengali

## FACTS:

Bengali language, member of the Indo-Aryan group of the Indo-Iranian branch of the Indo-European language family. It is spoken by more than 210 million people as a first or second language, with some 100 million Bengali speakers in Bangladesh; about 85 million in India, primarily in the states of West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura; and sizable immigrant communities in the United Kingdom, the United States, and the Middle East

**Bengali is the state language of Bangladesh and one of the languages officially recognized in the constitution of India. Here are some examples:**

English	Bengali
How are you?	তুমি কেমন আছ? Tumi kemon acho
Be careful	সাবধান Sābadhān
And	এবং Ēbang
But	কিন্তু Kintu
Help me	আমাকে সাহায্য করো Āmākē sāhāyya karō
Can I borrow it?	আমি কি এটা ধার নিতে পারি? Āmi ki eṭā dhār nitē pāri?
What's your name?	তোমার নাম কি? Tōmār nām ki?
I am...	আমি... Āmi...
My name is...	আমার নাম... Āmār nām...



- Script:** The Bangla script, called "Bangla Lipi" or "Bangla Script," is an abugida, meaning each consonant character carries an inherent vowel sound that can be modified with diacritics. It was developed from the Brahmi script and has undergone various changes over the centuries.
- Literary Tradition:** Bangla has a rich literary heritage dating back to the 9th century. Renowned poets, writers, and scholars have contributed significantly to Bangla literature, making it one of the most vibrant and diverse literary traditions in the world.
- Rabindranath Tagore:** Although primarily known as a poet, Tagore's literary repertoire includes several novels. While he didn't win any specific awards for his novels, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1913 for his overall contribution to literature, which includes his novels like "Gora," "Ghare-Baire" (The Home and the World), and "Chokher Bali" (A Grain of Sand).

## WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Held every year on 21 May, the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development celebrates not only the richness of the world's cultures, but also the essential role of intercultural dialogue for achieving peace and sustainable development.

At Nova for Culture Day there was lots to do to mark this day and truly embrace contribution.

We had an array of food, from jollof rice with chicken, Turkish snacks, spicy veggie samosas, cakes and more as part of Nova Nibbles during break and lunch time. This was all thanks to the voluntary contribution of our students and families at home who took the time and energy to create delicious food.

A further thanks to the Year 10 prefects and Mr Unwin for selling at break and Year 10 student leaders for selling at lunch.

Students and staff had the opportunity to either wear full uniform, or cultural clothing. Today was not a non-uniform day for charity as that is later in term 6.

In the spirit of inclusivity everyone was also invited to wear sports t-shirt or jersey from any local/national/international team.

Daniel Year 11 a Global Ambassador suggested that we had speakers and microphones in the atrium at break and lunch, which added to the success of the day.

Requests were made to Mr Griffiths who started break time off with Punjabi MC which fused into an array of tune requests from around the world from Shakira to Sweet Caroline to more classics.

Carrom Club students brought down the Carrom boards which meant more students got involved in playing the game.

The school atmosphere was overwhelmingly positive the whole day, thank you to all who made this a success.



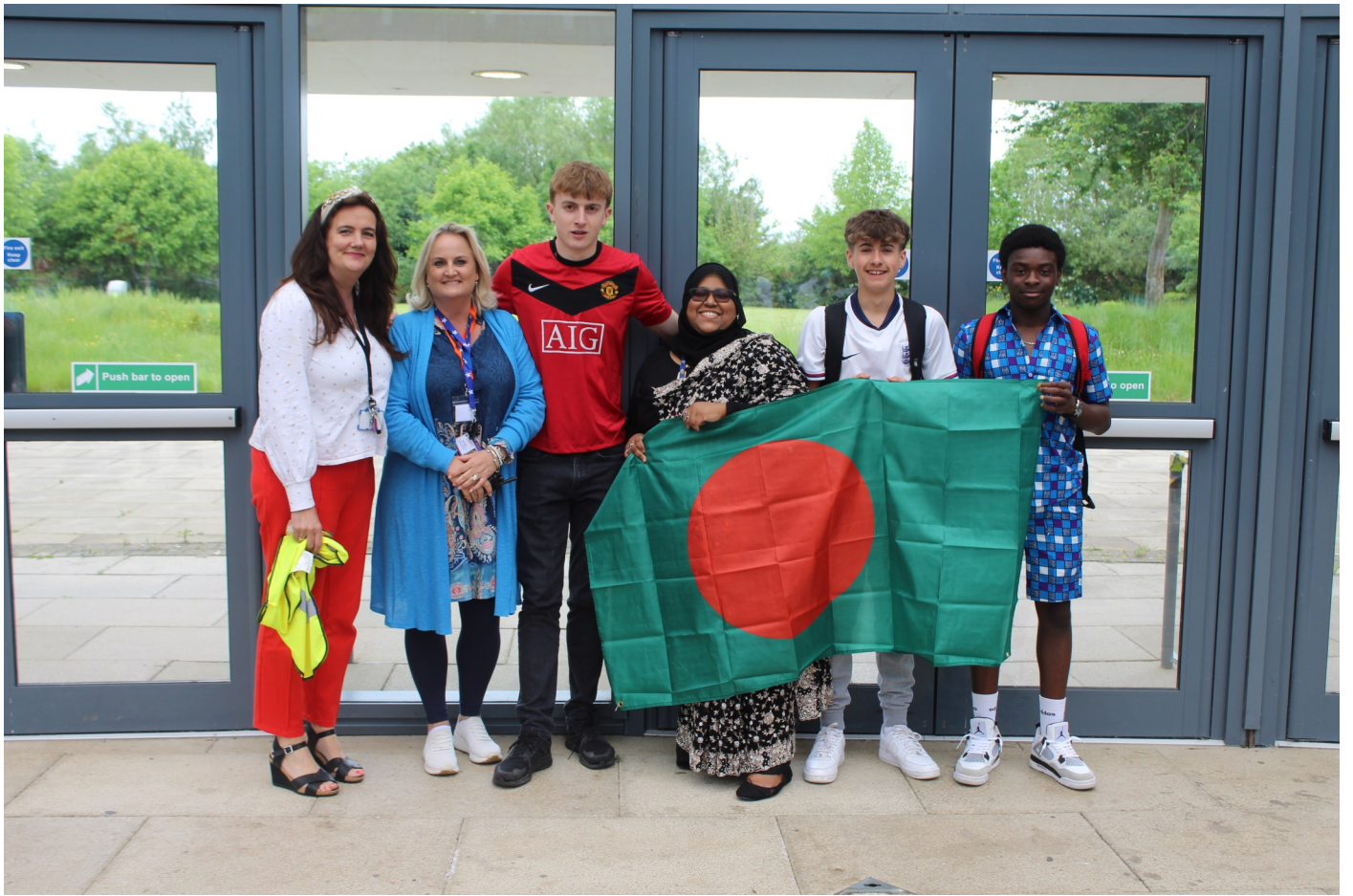














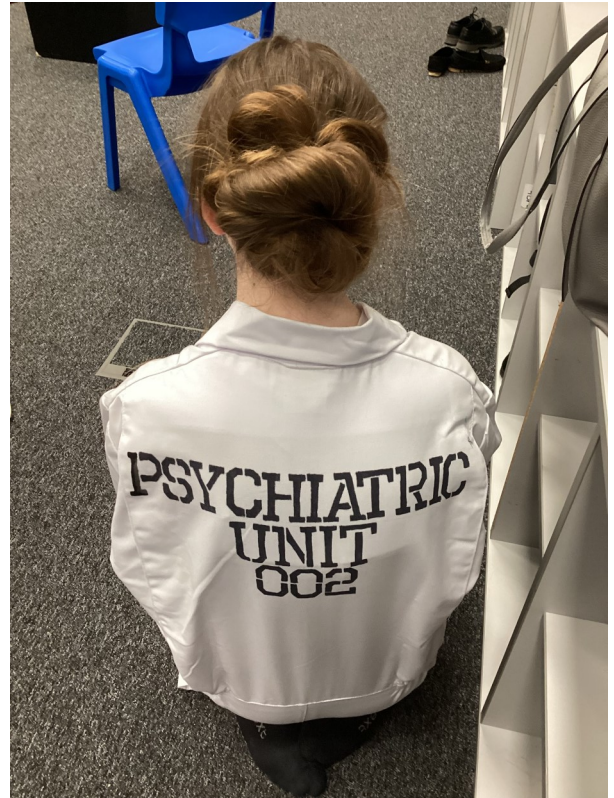
## LATEST NEWS FROM DRAMA



This term, year 10 drama students have been working hard on their component 1 practical performances. We've had a range of excellent pieces with scholars being assessed in acting, costume /hair/ makeup, sound and lighting. We also took part in a lighting workshop, where scholars explored and experimented with the colour spectrum and special lights.

*Mrs Derham*

*Head of Drama and Assistant Faculty Leader of Performing Arts*





## CHANGE OF PERSONNEL IN THE SCHOOL LIBRARY



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Billy in Year 11 is leaving his role as Head Student Librarian to concentrate on his exams. He's done a wonderful job of supporting Mrs Shurley and mentoring the other student librarians and we're very grateful for his help.

Thank you Billy for all your hard work in the role of Head Librarian.

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We would like to introduce Year 10 Katie who is taking over the role of Head Student Librarian from Billy.

Katie applied for the role of Head Librarian and impressed the interview panel with her application and her approach to the role.

We wish you well in your new role.

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## STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Student leadership is an important part of the ethos of Nova Hreod Academy and is rooted in the core principles of Drive, Integrity, Scholarship and Contribution.

In this article, one of our Year 10 students shares her experience of life at Nova and talks about how she has embraced opportunities during her time at Nova.



“I joined Nova during the pandemic in September 2020. My first experience was a welcome video from Mr Wells. When I started, I was paired up with a group of prefects who gave us a tour of the building. Then we were put into sets and tutor groups and given a timetable. I remember it being scary going into school because it was so much bigger than my primary school.

I have been a student librarian since Key Stage 3. As a student librarian I make sure the books are in the right place and help people find what they’re looking for.

In Year 9 I became a House Rep, and in that position I had to support the Tutor Ambassadors. Also in KS3 I applied for a role on the Green Team which I am still doing. The Green Team takes care of the environmental issues around the school, including making sure that there is no rubbish around the school and that there are enough bins around.

Over the past 4 years I have been in many concerts such as the **Christmas Concert**, **Young Musician of the Year** and more. The Christmas Concert was my favourite as I played my flute in it without messing up. Last year I had a role in the school play **High School Musical**. I enjoyed it a lot and this year I am in the production of **Matilda**, which I’m really looking forward to. The rehearsals have been so much fun.

Another thing that I’ve enjoyed is supporting the school with Open Days and Careers Evenings, meeting visitors and talking to them about our school.

This year I am going on the Paris trip for my GCSEs which I am excited about.

When I joined Nova I wanted to help out and get involved and I’m glad I have because I have gained confidence and friends. The next thing to look forward to is my work experience in July. I will be going to Cross Street Garage where I will be doing some admin work.

I have enjoyed my years at Nova and I just can’t wait for Year 11.

**Emma**  
**Year 10**







The Nova Hreod Academy  
Production of



ROALD DAHL'S  
**Matilda**  
THE MUSICAL JR.

Book by  
Dennis Kelly

Orchestrations and Additional Music by  
Chris Nightingale

Music and Lyrics by  
Tim Minchin

**18th & 19th July 2024 - 6.00pm**



**£5 Per Person**  
**Available on Parent Pay**

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International  
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI  
[www.mtishows.co.uk](http://www.mtishows.co.uk)





## • FREE SHOP •

If you need clothing for yourself, your children or other family members, come along and browse our selection of clothes which you can take away and keep for free.

Jacob and Zoe will be there to offer help and advice - we look forward to seeing you!

Every  
Wednesday  
1pm - 2pm

**Call Live Well for details: 01793 465513**

**The Hub 36 The Parade Swindon SN1 1BA**



**NOVA HREOD ACADEMY PRESENT**

# **SUMMER CONCERT**



**STARRING**

# **MUSIC STUDENTS**

**WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE AT 6.30PM**

**FANTASTIC ENTERTAINMENT  
PROVIDED BY OUR TALENTED MUSICIANS**

**NOVA HREOD ACADEMY THEATRE**

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**£1 PER PERSON  
AVAILABLE ON  
PARENT PAY**







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

# FREE

# School

# MEALS



## Why apply?

- Registering for free school meals will bring more money to school to help your children to achieve.
- We have spent funding we receive on small group sessions to boost reading, additional after-school support lessons for scholars studying for their GCSEs, ELSA support sessions (for scholars that need help with managing emotions) to name a few!
- In Years 10 and 11, scholars eligible for free school meals receive a 30% discount on school trips. We may be able to extend this to Years 7-9 with additional funding.
- Registering for free school meals is confidential, your child's peers will not know that they applied, and you only need apply once.
- Taking up the meal is recommended but optional. So picky eaters don't have to eat the meal.
- Free school meals represent a £49 saving per month, per child.
- Eligible scholars in Year 11 have received revision guides that they can take away and use at home on a long-term loan worth £30 and an exam pencil case with pens and pencils worth £8.
- Nova has a great diner, with a good variety of nutritious food and is rated excellent by the Food Standards Agency.

Please check your eligibility by scanning the QR code, more money for the school means we can continue to improve your children's education.





## FORTHCOMING EVENTS



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

# OPEN MORNINGS 2024

Open Morning is the perfect opportunity 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.

### 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.*

### Year 5 Open Morning

**Thursday 6th June 2024**

**9am - 11am**



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

To register  
Scan the QR code



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Good  
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