



# Nobel

Excellence in Everything

## From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

A couple of weeks ago I was approached by a sixth form student who reported some unpleasant behaviour from a younger student in the school. It transpired that he had overheard a conversation between some students that he thought needed addressing and, as a result he offered to take some assemblies – brave and quite unprecedented.

The conversation he overheard was built around misconceptions and stereotypes, specifically emphasising a link between religion and terrorism – plainly wrong assumptions and I agreed that we could plan some assemblies together around living in a multi-cultural society and understanding religion and faith. Ryan, Sanjida and Georgia subsequently delivered a very moving and powerful assembly, the gist of which was do not judge a whole religion on the activities of a few extremists, and that by understanding religion we can create a more cohesive society based on mutual understanding and respect – the reception they received from all our students made us very proud. By the way, we do not blame our young people for misunderstanding difficult issues in a complex world, we just ask that they think about what they are saying and that they are sensitive to each other.

Essentially, our school fundamentally supports the important values of freedom, tolerance and democracy and at this time of the year I think it is especially important to value and respect all the faiths and beliefs that make up our special Nobel community.

Within this multi-cultural context we still like to make an effort to celebrate Christmas and there were a number of special events taking place this week including the school pantomime, Christmas lunch and our annual visit for a nativity service at St Hugh's and St John's Church in Mobbsbury Way - a truly lovely whole-school occasion.

Whether you are religious or not I wish you all a peaceful holiday and as we look forward to continuing to work with you in the best interests of all Nobelians, remembering that kindness and respect are at the heart of all cohesive communities – especially ours.

Warm regards,

Martyn Henson

## Year 11 news...



The year 11 students have been working incredibly hard this half term in the lead up to the mock examinations. Thank you to staff for running additional interventions to further support student progress and thank you also to the students who have been attending these regularly.

Year 11 will have a mock results day on Friday 15 January as we want to ensure that both the mocks and the results are as true to the real GCSE examinations in the summer as possible.

Finally, on Friday 27 November I was incredibly proud of the students involved in the Nobel Celebrates Success breakfast. These students deserve recognition and to be celebrated for their excellent progress during a very challenging half term. Well done to all involved, and congratulations.



I hope Year 11 have a very well deserved, restful break.

Miss Gant

## U14 Girls Basketball

The U14 girls basketball team represented Stevenage at the Herts School games playing teams from Harpenden, Watford, Ware, Dacorum, St Albans and Birchwood. During all of the games the girls played some outstanding defensive play and Louise Sollis and Megan Wood shot some incredible baskets. The outstanding player of the tournament for Nobel had to be Shemaye Otuedon who kept coming out and tackling all of the players hard including girls a year above her. She showed such determination and had to be the most improved player of the tournament.

Congratulations to the following students who represented Nobel and Stevenage at the games:

Louise Sollis (Capt)  
Shemaye Otuedon  
Megan Wood  
Amber Flowers  
Jade Osborn  
Anna Hyland

Mrs Saville

## Ex Art Student Receives Medal

A former Nobel art student has just received a bronze medal in the graphic design category of the Worldskills UK final. Hannah Martin now studies graphic design at Oaklands College in St. Albans. Hannah had to design packaging and advertising to encourage young people to get active. She was up against university and young professionals, so it was an amazing achievement to get so far.



## World challenge



The Costa Rica World Challenge team completed their training weekend in Hemel Hempstead to see if they are ready to spend a month in the Cloud Forests of South America. World Challenge is a program that is offered to Nobelians in years 9 and 11 to give them an opportunity to be taken out of their comfort zones and to their limits. Whilst out on expedition the team are responsible for everything from finance to planning accommodation and organising travel; the school leaders are only there in case the team are making a serious mistake.

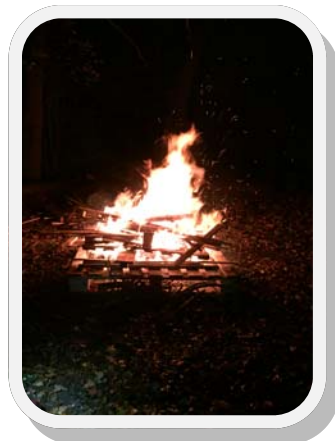
Team Costa Rica were very impressive on the training weekend and seemed to take to expedition life very well. I don't think I have eaten so well on a weekend away with challengers cooking on Trangias before! We had sausage casserole with rice finished off with cake and custard!

During the weekend the team are put through their paces to see how they would cope in certain situations that they may well face on expedition in Costa Rica. Staying in tents during a weekend in November with winds of up to 70mph wasn't for the faint hearted and the team pulled through and survived.

We depart for Costa Rica on 20 July 2016 for one whole month and judging from this weekend we are going to have an excellent time away.

Well done team, the countdown has well and truly started!

Mr Camp and Miss Palombo



Youngsters Finn and Shane press the plunger to illuminate town centre as hundreds brave the cold

# Now we're switched on for Christmas

Christmas has arrived in Stevenage after a switch-on event saw the town centre lit up for the festive season.

This year's headline act was Charlie Beatty, pictured below. Charlie, part of The X-Factor boyband The Rick, performed to the crowds before competition winners Finn and Shane Cynes pressed down the plunger at 6.30pm on Thursday to flood the town centre with festive illumination.

Former Britain's Got Talent star Robbie Firnie also made an

appearance, while Stevenage favourites Rory Scoble and

by Nick Gill

nick.gill@thecomet.net

Man Kirk, as well as up and coming new bands April Blue, Entopia, Raw Kadence and the Cardinal Kings all took their turn in the spotlight, too.

The cast of this year's *Sleeping Beauty* pantomime at the Gordon Craig Theatre – including Coronation Street star Wendi Peters – also lent a hand, as Stevenage mayor Howard Barnill and borough council leader Sharon Taylor watched on.

The panto stars took time out from their hectic preparations for the panto, which opened at the Stevenage Theatre on Friday night and will run through until late in January.

The night, which opened with Warriors Performing Arts Academy strutting their stuff and also included fun fair rides and Christmas stalls, concluded with fireworks.

Afterwards, delighted town centre manager Tracy Parry said: "There was a great turnout as there always is – it's a well established event in the town and a



Our big moment: competition winners Shane Cynes, 10, and brother Finn, aged three, press the plunger as panto star Aidan O'Neill cheers them on.

popular one. It was quite a cold day but it didn't seem to deter people and they came in their hundreds.

"It was nice to see local performers being given a platform to showcase their talents and the fireworks at the end were amazing."

"The guys from Fairlands Valley

Park do a sterling job and it made a great finale – for me it's like Christmas has now arrived."

A Christmas market in the Town Square is open daily from 9am to 5.30pm throughout the festive period, with a food court and gift stalls for shoppers to enjoy.



A landmark dressed in lights: the famous clock tower in Town Square takes on a whole new look.

## Over due library books...

This Christmas holiday please hunt out any outstanding books you may have from Nobel School library and return them to us no matter how late they may be; other students are waiting to borrow them.

Have a great holiday!

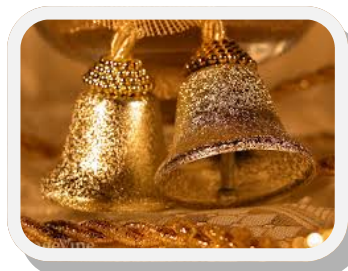
Mrs. Essakhi  
Librarian

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY NEXT TERM

Harry Potter Book Night 04 February  
<http://harrypotterbooknight.com>

World Book Day 03 March  
<http://worldbookday.com>

North Herts Schools  
book award  
morning 16 March



## A musical experience

A number of year 7 students were given the opportunity to explore their musical talents and learn how to play the ukulele in 5 weeks with Gabriel Nacu and Liam Amer. This opportunity was offered by Hertfordshire Music Services. Music is seen to be a great communication tool boosting pupils' self-esteem and conversational skills. Those students involved were able to learn and play a song of their choice in the 5 lessons. Students found the experience "good" and "interesting".



Miss Amey

SAM Learning is a website run in a similar fashion to a social networking site where students can complete thousands of different tasks and work across subjects and topics. The service covers all National Curriculum subject areas for KS2, KS3 and GCSE. Content is written by examiners and teachers and is updated frequently. It can be used both at school and at home and all Nobel students have access to it free of charge!

Why use SAM Learning?

- The materials are written by experienced subject teachers and examiners.
- Students receive instant feedback and marks, giving them the opportunity to identify strengths and areas for improvement and revision targets before the exams.
- Two recent studies carried out showed that the majority of students who spent 10+ hours using Sam Learning, as part of their revision programme, achieved a grade higher in their GCSEs than had been predicted.
- Students are able to access the service at anytime and anywhere. Many exercises are also tablet enabled.
- Students can create their own avatars and compete against their friends – it's fun!

In order to log in students will need to go to [www.samlearning.com](http://www.samlearning.com). The login bar is in the top right hand corner of the screen. Here they should enter the following details:

Centre ID SG2NS2

User ID: DOBinitials (e.g. 150399nr)

Password: DOBinitials (as User ID)

If your child has changed their password and cannot remember it they should either click on "Can't login?" or email me and I can reset it.

Some teachers may set homework via this service but it can equally be used for revision purposes and independent learning at home.

We hope that your child is able to take full advantage of SAM Learning and thank you in advance for supporting the initiative.

Mrs Rose  
Deputy Headteacher

### *Language learners of the half term*

Year 7 Nazifah Kamali 7 M CTL  
for German

Year 8 Katie Isaacs 8C OSR  
for Mandarin

Year 9 Jordan White 9M BCS  
for Spanish

Year 10 Fahroza Urreheman 10T JPT  
for French

Year 11 Daniel Allen 11T CFS  
for Spanish

Year 13 Harry Bean 13 M AMS  
for French

Year 13 Samantha Archer 13 C JMT  
for French



## Governors' news...

This has proved to be a very interesting term in a number of ways. There are known dates in the calendar, such as exam results, that we eagerly await to see how our students have achieved, and then there are unexpected items that can throw that 'curved ball' into our lives.

One such was a request from the Local Authority (LA) to discuss Nobel converting to a foundation trust school, still within the control of the LA but, as a trust with charitable status, able to claim rate relief. We were told that, if the top 20 schools (based on the size of their rates bill) converted, the money saved could be spread across all maintained schools in the county helping with ongoing funding. The timescale for a decision was short, due to the need to achieve the conversion before April, and, after due consideration by the board of governors and the school's leadership team, we decided not to approve the request. We did decide that the time was right to look more closely at the options for Nobel, but with a timescale of our choosing.

After some research, and a couple of workshops, we have agreed to set up a working party consisting of governors and staff, to explore the pros and cons of the various options and to answer a specific list of questions raised in the debate.

The working party will gather the information over the next couple of months and will present the information to a staff meeting and also to a parent meeting sometime in late February. The information and feedback from those meetings will be formally presented to the board of governors at a meeting just before the end of spring term at which a decision on the next step will be taken. I should be clear that there is no agenda as to what that decision is likely to be, but if you have been following the news you will be aware that the government is very clear that they expect all schools to be academies or free schools by 2020 and they are also indicating that money paid to academies to provide services statutorily delivered by LA to maintained schools will be tapered to zero by 2020.

At the meetings we will summarise the research. Our current research indicates there are many possible paths a school could take: single academy; becoming part of a multi-academy trust; foundation trust; co-operative trust; and federation to name but a few. Many of these require assets and contracts to be moved from the LA to the school.

Governors appreciate that even a decision to research options can create concern, but we feel that an open and honest consultation is the right way to proceed and I hope you do too. Please feel free to email me any questions you have, and I would encourage you to come to the meeting and join the discussion.

If you have any questions on this or any general comments I can be contacted via [chair@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chair@nobel.herts.sch.uk).

As the festive period approaches, on behalf of the governors I would like to wish everyone season's greetings but particularly our hard working and professional staff and of course our students.

Richard Aggus  
Chair of Governors



## Visit to the Royal Veterinary College workshop at Barclay

On Friday 4 December, a small group of Year 10 students went to Barclay school to participate in a workshop run by the University of Hertfordshire, Oaklands college and the RVC. To begin with we were given a short talk by a tutor from the college and it included things like what kinds of grades you needed to get in, accommodation and what happens on the course etc.



*Looking at different animal specimens including snake skin, sharks teeth, skulls and sea stars.*



*Amy Melhuish and Courtney Young looking at X – rays*

We then split up into smaller groups mingling with other schools to go around 7-8 different stands. We did things like gowning up, looking at X-rays, playing an evolution game, looking at some things from Oaklands and 'bone guessing.' This was my favourite as you really had to guess hard to try and figure out what kind of animal it was. For example, we had an elephant femur, ball and socket joint and all, and we were still convinced it came from a dinosaur...

I enjoyed the experience as we got to talk to lots of students who had recently graduated from courses, or were still doing them. The workshop helped me understand the future more, and showed me what I need to do to help making my dreams of being an equine/ zoo vet or a doctor come true.

By Erin Oliver Year10



## Year 11 Child Development visit a very special school

As part of their GCSE in Child Development, year 11 students have to observe how children under 5 years old grow and develop. In class the students have researched the physical, intellectual, emotional and social development of children. This theoretical knowledge was underpinned by a visit to Lonsdale School in Stevenage. The students were given a tour of the school and were able to enter classrooms to see how children with developmental delay and physical disability were able to learn. The tour was organised and lead by Suzanne Thrower who is Deputy Head. As part of the visit students observed adapted classrooms and assistive equipment such as cochlear implants and computer aided learning. All the Nobel students involved felt the visit was inspiring and a number have expressed an interest in doing voluntary work.

Miss Amey



## Maths faculty news...



As part of The Nobel School's involvement in the secondary phase of the DfE and NCETM England- China exchange project, we welcomed two teachers from Shanghai, Ms Peizhen Wang and Mr Xiaobao Wu, to the school in November.

Throughout their four week visit, Ms Wang and Mr Wu taught four groups of Nobel students from Year 7, 8 and 9. Each class was taught a sequence of 10 lessons jointly planned by Mrs Borchers, Dr Tolchenova, Ms Wang and Mr Wu. The year 7 students worked on division, whilst the older students studied studying algebra, solving equations.

A series of special events took place to enable over 100 teachers from other schools to learn more about the Shanghai approach to teaching and learning mathematics which has put the performance of Shanghai students at the very top of the PISA tables. At each of these events, an initial briefing session covered the key similarities and differences between the English and Shanghai approaches to teaching and learning maths.

The English teachers then had an opportunity to observe actual lessons; typically, there were more than 30 teachers watching a lesson which was also professionally filmed to share with a wider audience. Following the observations, afternoon sessions emulated the teacher research group discussions that Shanghai teachers conduct after joint observations of each other's teaching. The English teachers had a chance to ask Mr Wu and Ms Wang detailed questions about their planning and teaching methods.

The Nobel School has developed many links with local primary schools to make the transition for students joining in Year 7 as smooth as possible. As part of this ongoing work, there was a special *Shanghai Maths in Stevenage* session for primary school teachers when links were made between the calculation policies used by primary schools and the mastery approach to learning mathematics.

We were very proud indeed of all the students who were involved in the lessons: their attitudes to learning and behaviour were exemplary throughout. At the end of the visit, an evening reception took place when parents had a chance to meet Ms Wang and Mr Wu.

Mrs Borchers then attended the farewell event at the Chinese Embassy and was privileged to give the official speech on behalf of all the English teachers involved in the project.

Mr Brown

Head of Maths faculty

*Ms Wang, Nick Gibb and Mrs Borchers at the Chinese Embassy.*



*Mr Wu and Ms Wang were presented with some student artwork as a memento of Nobel.*



*Visiting teachers observe students' work during a Year 7 lesson.*

<http://www.mathshubs.org.uk/bespoke/december-2015/secondary-schools-building-on-exchange-experience/>



November has been an exciting month for work related learning events. Since the last Nobel News the following activities have taken place at Nobel.

On Monday 16 November we were very fortunate to have some past students come back to the school to discuss their careers with our students. The first group to benefit were our Year 10 Health and Social Care Students who got to hear from a social worker as well as a student nurse.

Our year 10 students were very positive about this experience, giving them lots of information about the courses that they would need to study, the grades they would need to achieve, and what the day-to-day job entails. One of our students, Lauren Griffin, was so inspired by this experience she is now working towards being a social worker.

The next group of students to benefit from the experiences of our past students were our GCSE PE students who were visited by a rower who represents Team GB. Elise Buckwell feels more inspired to follow her dreams for a career in sport; however she was made more aware of the dedication, time and determination required to pursue a future in sport.

We were also incredibly lucky to have an engineer from MBDA come to talk to our students. He secured the prestigious position following the completion of an engineering degree.

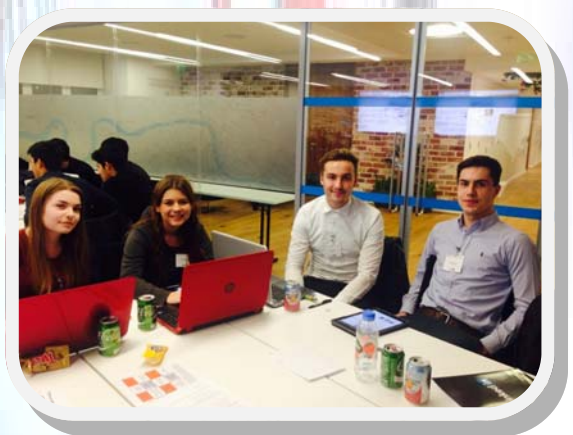
Our students were enthused and excited to see what they can achieve with some hard work, focus and determination.

The very next day, Tuesday 17 November, Lloyds Bank ran a Financial Capabilities lesson for our GCSE Business students. The lesson encouraged students to think about being money aware, how to save money, and taking out loans. The students enjoyed the day, as it gave them an insight into the world of banking for them personally, but also as part of their studies.



On Friday 20 November, 40 Year 12 students visited the Skills Show in Birmingham. With over 150 businesses offering advice on careers, it gave the students an opportunity to take part in taster sessions, and attend spot light talks from business leaders where they got to hear from real people doing real jobs. These included former Rugby World Cup winner, Will Greenwood, Dawn Elson from Gatwick Airport and Phil Smeaton from Costa.

As part of the school link with the Future First organisation we were invited to an afternoon's event at the LinkedIn offices, on 30 November, in London. The students were representatives from Year 12 and 13 BTEC and A level Business classes. The four students that went on the day mixed with other students from around the country, with a total of 40 students taking part. They learnt about the LinkedIn organisation and were shown how to set up their own profile, to enhance their networking skills and understand the full value of the LinkedIn network. These students will disseminate this information to the rest of the Sixth Form, so that the whole cohort can benefit from this fantastic opportunity.



Mr Trotter

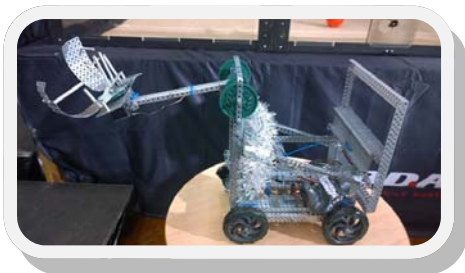
Head of Employer Engagement and Careers

# Art Design & Technology Faculty



## Robot Rumble 9

Six Year 9 students took part in the Robot Rumble 'final' on Saturday 12 December. The robot was called DR C J3 after their initials – Daniel, Roshni, Charlene, Jack, Jess and Jordan. They entered the competition in May of this year whilst in Year 8. Lee Stickland the D&T Technician and two mentors from MBDA have supported the team since September to help students create a competitive robot and teach them how to programme the autonomous functions.



The first part of the competition consisted of a skills based 'knockout' tournament during the morning. Their robot had to complete a number of challenges. It is fair to say that we crushed the opposition with Daniel as our driver. The quality of robot build by the team proved both reliable and versatile.

SCHOOL NAME	HEAD TO HEAD			STATION SORTING			AUTO-DETECT			SPEED CHALLENGE			Points	Order
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3		
Nobel	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
St Albans 1	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95
St Albans 2	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
Thomas Abney	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
Richard Hale	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
The Priory	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
Manors	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
Feaverhill 1	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
Moat's Walk 1	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Feaverhill 2	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
Barnwell School	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
St Albans Girls School	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
Moat's Walk 2	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40

Throughout the day the 13 other school teams were frantically working to improve their designs and function of their robots. Although our original design concept was excellent and

needed little improvement, we had recognized that our robot had too much friction between the wheels and that on the programmed section of the challenge we needed to improve our time if we were to remain competitive. The team worked throughout lunch to make some modifications and posted the fastest times in two out of the three events, coming second in the sorting event. This placed us in first position in the knockout competition.

Place	Team	Match	Knockout Stage	Problem Solv	Navigation Test	Total Score
1	Nobel	100	100	100	100	400
2	St Albans 1	95	95	95	95	380
3	Thomas Abney	85	85	85	85	340
4	St Albans 2	80	80	80	80	320
5	Richard Hale	75	75	75	75	300
6	The Priory	70	70	70	70	280
7	Manors	65	65	65	65	260
8	Feaverhill 1	60	60	60	60	240
9	Moat's Walk 1	55	55	55	55	220
10	Feaverhill 2	50	50	50	50	200
11	Barnwell School	45	45	45	45	180
12	St Albans Girls School	40	40	40	40	160
13	Moat's Walk 2	35	35	35	35	140

The robot continued to perform in an outstanding way for the afternoon and the reliability issues suffered in previous years were nonexistent. Daniel was unflappable and showed nerves of steel as round by round he out drove the opposition to make the Nobel team the overall competition winners!



Stephen McPartland, MP for Stevenage, presented the team with their medals and plaques for winning both the knockout stages. He said how pleased he was that after 9 years of presenting the awards at the MBDA Robot Rumble final, he had finally got to present the plaques to a Stevenage school.

Continued on page 12

## Robot Rumble 9..cont



Throughout the year and to keep the team motivated in their late after school sessions, they had been promised a celebratory Nandos.

Mr Lovelock  
Director of ADT Faculty



### TERM DATES 2016-2017

#### Autumn Term 2016

Thursday 1 September to Wednesday 21 December

Autumn Half Term: Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October

Christmas Break: Thursday 22 December to Wednesday 4 January

#### Spring Term 2017

Thursday 5 January to Friday 31 March

Spring Half Term: Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February

Easter Break: Monday 3 April to Monday 17 April

#### Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18 April to Monday 24 July

Summer Half Term: Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June

May Bank Holiday: Monday 1 May

### INSET DAYS AND ADDITIONAL SPECIAL DATES

INSET day	1 September 2016
School begins (staggered start)	2 September 2016
Whole school begins timetabled lessons	5 September 2016
INSET day	Day after Nobel's open evening
INSET day	5 January 2017 (devolved)
INSET day	6 January 2017
INSET day	21 July 2017 (devolved)
Occasional day	24 July 2017

## Merry Christmas from the Art Department



The Year 10 Art and Design and Art Textile group put all their skills to the test recently, when asked to produce a Christmas dress made entirely from recycled materials.

Luckily Mrs Kenney brought in the tree (we hope she doesn't want it back!) and we were recently given a donation of old blinds which were cut into pieces.

The two classes worked well together using their creative skills to produce an amazing tree which can be seen in the Art department.

Many thanks for donations of materials to the Art Department. If you have any of the following unused in your cupboards they would be very welcome: buttons, material, wool, paper, ribbons .

Thank you.

The Art Department



## *Institute of Education in London.*

On Wednesday 9 December, twenty year 12 and year 13 students, along with Miss Christie, attended a series of lectures called "Physics in Action", featuring talks and discussions with leading physicists and scientists in their fields of expertise and a few bad jokes. We even had some time at the end of the day to go to Covent Garden to complete some Christmas shopping before catching the train back to Stevenage. Overall the students had an excellent day; it was very thought provoking and has given them some drive in their physics studies. They would highly recommend it to the next year's AS level students.

Dr. Finn

"On the 9 of December a group of A-levels physics students comprising of both year 12 and 13 attended a lecture called 'Physics in Action' at the Institute of Education. The first speaker discussed smart cities and how we can gather data from lots of sources to build up a picture of how a city is used. The speaker used the example of data collected from Boris Bikes; this allowed the plotting of paths travelled by the bikes and hence we could see where the busiest areas were. He then showed us a really cool pixel stick demonstration which created various digital images of the map of London, showing high traffic areas and populations. All this data can be used to plan and improve the development of smart cities.

The second talk was all about geophysics. This was the application of physics to real life natural disasters. The speaker went through all the natural disasters from the least dangerous to the most; it was interesting to find out something as destructive as an earthquake is not truly a real threat to humanity as it is only the collapse of buildings which endangers life. He showed the amount of energy we can expect to each of these events to give off: the figure was not in the usual unit of joules but instead mega tonnes, measuring the equivalence of the disaster to tonnes of TNT.

Following a lunch break we had another talk about a holiday in space. This was a very interesting talk all about the difficulties and limitations with space travel. One of the problems they faced was landing a space craft, and still

having the craft be reusable and the passengers alive. We saw a video of the test trial of such a landing which failed spectacularly, resulting in a massive explosion. Due to it being a test, no one was harmed. It was fascinating to learn that space travel may be closer than we think, as developments continue to be made and even companies like Amazon are trying to put people into space. Unfortunately the price of these galactic adventures will set you back a couple of hundred thousand pounds!

Our next talk was from a very enthusiastic speaker all about speed limits of the universe. He performed a live demonstration on stage reaching the smallest of three speed limits. By using his 'special method' otherwise known as whipping the bull whip he was able to reach a speed 767 mph; at this speed he created a sonic boom! He then went on to talk about an even crazier phenomenon that enables you to miraculously float in the air. This speed was an unbelievably high speed and is what allows satellites to orbit the Earth. Afterwards, he briefly touched on time travel: the idea that the faster you go, the faster time passes for you so people around you would see you doing things in slow motion.

Finally the last talk was about making the world's most accurate thermometer. Although the title of the talk did not sound particularly enthralling, the speaker was very interesting to listen to. He started by telling us that all the thermometers in the world are wrong. This was a very bold statement that he went to back up and explain. The most accurate thermometer which he has made was based on the speed of sound and how the speed can be used to work out the temperature of an object. He then supported this with a live experiment which unfortunately didn't work as expected but none the less was a fascinating talk.

Overall I found the trip very enjoyable and felt that I learnt a lot from the trip, and I would highly recommend the trip to next year's students."

Ben Smith 13C JMT

## *Institute of Education in London...cont*

“On Wednesday 9 December, 20 sixth form physics students attended a series of lectures at the Institute of Education in London. After arriving ever so slightly late, we snuck into the lecture hall part way through the first lecture, which was based on Smart Cities. We then watched another four lectures throughout the day, which discussed natural disasters, travel into space, natural speed limits and measuring temperature with sound waves to make the most accurate thermometer. I enjoyed the lectures, especially the speed limits within nature discussion. We learnt about breaching the speed of sound, speed of light and then the speed at which we would need to travel at to be able to slow down time. After the lectures had finished, we walked across London to Covent Garden where we spent two hours shopping. I had a lovely day. Thank you Dr Finn and Miss Christie. ”

Emma Bull 12M KDL



Nic Harrigan using Justin Bieber to explain the Doppler effect.

## *School Closure in the event of an Emergency*

**We are heading towards that time of year when we may get snow. The assumption is that the school will always be open. Students will be advised to wear a weather proof coat and warm shoes/boots, but otherwise will be expected to wear uniform as normal.**

**Should a decision be made to close the school, information relating to the school closure will be recorded on the school website, and a notice will be put on facebook. Parents and staff will also be informed by text. The school answer phone message will be changed to reflect the decision by 7.15 a.m. Staff and parents are advised to check the website if they have received no message (or ring the school if no internet access). Announcements will also be made, if possible, on local radio.**

**The following timetable will apply:**

<b>10.15 am</b>	<b>Form Time – AM Registration and special instructions</b>
<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Period 1</b>
<b>11.30 am</b>	<b>Period 2</b>
<b>12.30 am</b>	<b>Lunch – reduced offer to allow for potential staffing problems in the kitchen</b>
<b>13.00 pm</b>	<b>Period 3 - PM Registration</b>
<b>14.00 pm</b>	<b>Period 4</b>
<b>15.00 pm</b>	<b>Early Close</b>

## ***Candy Cane Delivery***

To mark the last week of term, the SST are organising a candy cane delivery service, in which students will be able to buy candy canes, and get them delivered to their friends as seasonal gifts. This service is a part of our Christmas activity week, where SST will be organising some exciting events that will help bring even more Christmas cheer to Nobel.

## ***End of Term Festivities***

As 2015 draws to a close it is important to look back at a great year for the Sixth Form. Exams in May feel like a world away as students begin their revision for upcoming mock exams. For most Year 13 students this will be their last Christmas at Nobel and looking forward to 2016 it will be great to see as many students as possible involved in the events the team have planned for the last week of term including candy cane delivery, ice skating trip, Christmas craft club, bake sale and Christmas prize draw.

Events planned for the upcoming year so far: craft club and Year 13 Prom,

We wish all students, staff, parents and friends a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

*Joseph Barnes*



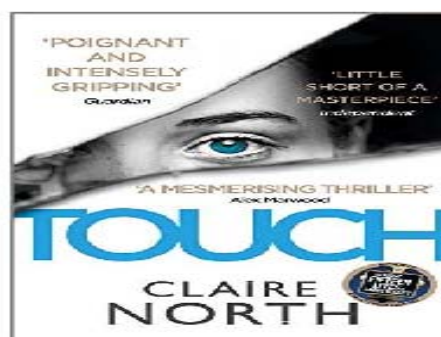
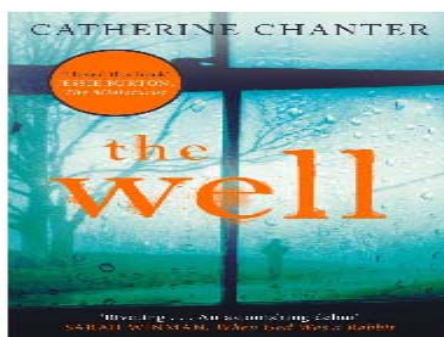
<b>The Senior Student Team 2015-16</b>			
<b>CORE</b>		<b>EVENTS</b>	
<b>Head Girl:</b>	<b>Ellie Ward</b>	Phoebe Kettley-Linsell	Harry Bean
<b>Head Boy:</b>	<b>Bobby Banks</b>	Katy Knight	Olufunlola Oluwole
<b>Deputy Head Girl:</b>	<b>Hannah Hardie</b>	Bret Facey	
<b>Deputy Head Boy:</b>	<b>Joseph Barnes</b>		
<b>HATL:</b>	<b>Lauren Hayllar</b>		
<b>COMMUNITIES</b>		<b>PROJECT MANAGEMENT &amp; ORGANISATION</b>	
<b>Sam Archer</b>	<b>Ryan Shaw-Hawkins</b>	<b>Dylan Butterfield</b>	<b>Elana Dance</b>
<b>Bethany Hobbs</b>	<b>Ben Gray</b>	<b>Michael Tsang</b>	<b>Ben Smith</b>
<b>Gemma Vadolia</b>	<b>Harpreet Pannu</b>		
<b>SeniorStudentTeam@nobel.herts.sch.uk</b>			

**NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF AND  
COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP**

Next meeting will be held in the Library 6.30pm

Tuesday 5 January 2016

**THE BOOKS TO READ ARE:**



Contact: Rosalind Essahi: 01438 222600 or email:

[library@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:library@nobel.herts.sch.uk)

Read all or part of the book and come and discuss it  
in a friendly informal group



**Certificate of Thanks**

*The Nobel School*

*In recognition of raising*

*£414.00*

*From:*

*8 Hour Endurance Bike Ride –  
July 2015*

Fundraiser

*Steve Alban*

Date

*1<sup>st</sup> December 2015*



Keech Hospice Care, Great Bramingham Lane,  
Streatley, Luton LU3 3NT

Registered Charity Number: 1035069





Mr Robert Lovelock  
The Nobel School  
Mobbsbury Way  
Stevenage  
SG2 0HS

30 November 2015

Great Bramingham Lane  
Streatley, Luton, LU3 3NT

Tel: 01582 492339

Fax: 01582 564906

info@keech.org.uk

www.keech.org.uk

Dear Mr Lovelock and Pupils

Without the support of The Nobel School we could not hope to achieve so much in helping a patient to feel safe and cared for, a family reassured and supported.

Please accept then my heartfelt thanks for your gift of £414.00 from your 8 Hour Endurance Bike Ride in July 2015. Please give a special thank you to Holly (The Destroyer) Ingram and Miss Janna (The Terminator) Stammejer.

If you could let me know who set up just giving pages I will endeavour to trace these and allocate them to this challenge – I would need to know their name to be able to do this and then I could give you an acute sum that has been raised.

Because of the way the hospice is funded we are entirely dependent on voluntary donations to fund over 70% of our work.

Your support will be ensuring Keech continues to remain a place of love and a service to the community for our patients and families.

On behalf of them for whom The Nobel School makes the difference, thank you.

We are very proud of what you are helping us to achieve at the hospice and we would be delighted to show you the difference you are making at our next Visitor's Day on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015. If you would like to come along, please contact Maggie Doust on 01582 707958.

If you would like to know more about our work and other ways you can help, please do not hesitate to contact me, your local Keech Regional Fundraiser.

Yours sincerely

Steve Albon

Regional Fundraiser East Herts

T 01582 707952

E salbon@keech.org.uk

2015

A United company registered in England  
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Charity No. 1035089





**Do your bit in a Christmas knit!**

On Friday 18 November The Nobel School will be supporting the Text Santa campaign by allowing students to wear their Christmas jumpers for the day, in return for a £1 donation.

Text Santa is supporting three major charities this year:

- McMillan Cancer Support
- Make-A-Wish UK
- Save the Children.

Raising money for this great cause will help those affected by crisis, help grant wishes to children fighting life-threatening conditions and fund nurses so those with cancer get the care they need. Text Santa will give hope to families in the UK and overseas.

So on Friday 18 November we are asking our students to show their support for this fantastic cause by wearing their Christmas jumpers to school. Students will have the option to wear a Christmas jumper instead of their blazer. However, all other parts of their uniform must still adhere to the school uniform policy.

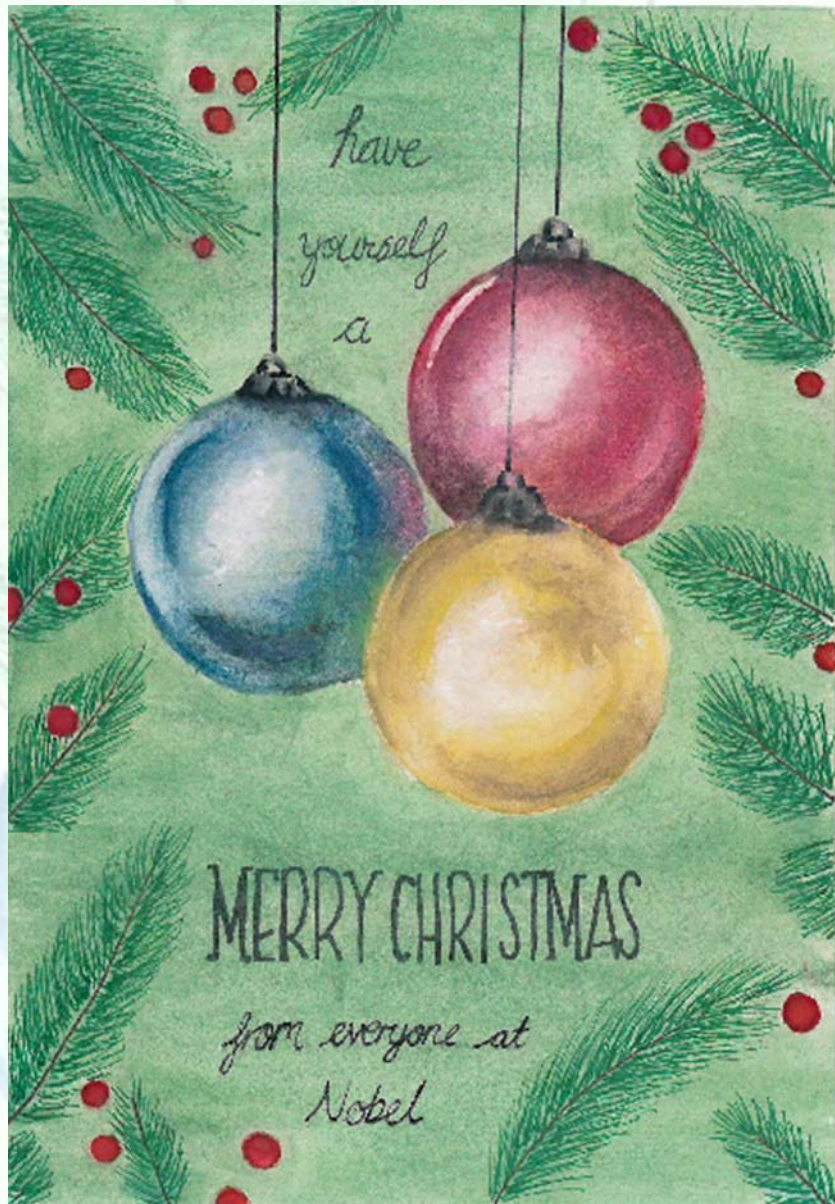
Students need to pay £1 to their form tutor before Friday if they wish to take part in this fund raising event. For further information please speak to your Head of House.

Whether you go wacky with a woolly or simply wear your festive jumper, help give hope this Christmas... Nobelians, let's do our bit in a Christmas knit!

Miss Cronin

Head of Curie House





***Forthcoming events:***

4 January - All students return to school

4 - 8 January - Year 9 interviews

6 January - Sixth form mock exams commence

15 January - Year 11 mock results day

21 January - School closed to students