



Nobel

Excellence in Everything

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

I was really pleased to note that John Francis, editor of 'The Comet', reads our newsletter! Without any prompting from us, he referred, in his editorial comment on page 5, to the four Nobelians who have been received conditional offers from Oxford and Cambridge colleges. This emphasises how significant this is for Stevenage not just our lovely school – needless to say, I dropped John a line thanking him for reading 'Nobel News' and celebrating our good news across the town.

On a slightly different note, we were delighted and quite moved to receive a letter earlier this week from Garreth Evans, a Nobelian between 2001-2006:-

'Dear Nobel School,

In 2006, I would have never believed anyone who told me, this is how the next decade would turn out. During my time at the Nobel school I was often in and out of trouble, in fact I was fortunate not to be expelled. As a young teenager I struggled with dyslexia, dyspraxia and ADHD, academically I was very poor. However down to some self-belief, supportive teachers, hard studying before my exams I was able to get my 5 Cs including mathematics, English and science. When I look back this was a huge turning point in the lives of so many people in my year. Achieving this goal was life changing; I went to college, then university for a BSc in sport science, was able to travel the world working with world class athletes, went back university to get a MSC in nursing working in critical care and I'm now in the process of going back to university and joining the army where I intend to study Medicine and go to Sandhurst (RMAS) to become a medical cadet.

The point is, anything is possible! You just need to try really hard and believe in yourself because the next couple of years will define you as people.

If possible I would like to share my story with some students, I hope it can possibly give them the belief they can aspire to be anything they wish'.

I do hope that our students will read Garreth's letter and feel inspired to work hard and apply themselves, especially our year 11 who only have 12 more school weeks before the GCSE examination season starts. Furthermore, we would love to hear about the careers and successes of other Nobelians. If you have a story to share or would like to visit us and perhaps talk to some students please contact Mr. Trotter (stuart.trotter@nobel.herts.sch.uk) Indeed, if you have any contacts with former students around the world please feel free to forward 'Nobel News' to them. We really want to engage with former Nobelians and develop our alumni database. Mr. Trotter would love to hear from you.

Finally, we will be closing the school from 2pm next Wednesday 3 February (45mins early) to facilitate a vital staff training session. We will be working together during this time to develop our plan to make sure our school is 'outstanding' at our next inspection. I will tell you more about these plans in the next edition of 'Nobel News'.

Warm regards,

Martyn Henson

Art Design and Technology Faculty

Table football competition

During December, 10 teams of students took part in the preliminary competition to decide who would face a school Senior Leadership team in a 'play-off' final decider.

Houses	G P	W	D	L	G F	G A	G D	PT S
Curie team7 Callum Roulson and Aiden Randall	3	3	0	0	30	11	19	9

Callum and Aiden from Year 8 were clear winners of the preliminary rounds suffering no draws and no losses .

Their goal difference was +19 and they were looking forward to the show-down with Mr. Henson and Mr. Burningham. Unfortunately due to events beyond his control Mr. Burningham was unable to play and so Mr. Morley gallantly stood in as a substitute. He proved to be a 'mean' table football competitor, scoring a number of goals from the defensive players. Mr. Henson also showed some exceptional skill with the ball, firstly passing along his line of players, between the rows and then shooting with accuracy.

The final was set to be played across three sets to decide the winning team.

Game 1: Henson and Morley 10
Roulson and Randall 6

Each team appeared confident during the opening gambits and the exchanges of play were fairly evenly matched with goals being scored by both sides. Eventually the experience and guile of the staff team was too much for the students and they narrowly lost the first round.

Game 2: Henson and Morley 10
Roulson and Randall 1

The game started with 5 goals being scored in rapid succession by both Mr. Henson and Mr. Morley with no reply from Callum or Aiden. The student team appeared dazed and confused as the staff team played the ball with apparent nonchalance between their forward and back players. Callum and Aiden appeared to have nothing in their locker with which to reply to the dazzling display of football skill being displayed; however, they did manage to score a consolation goal before finally losing the match.



The Staff were overjoyed with the result and put the masterful display down to the hours of experience on table football machines during their University days.



Mr. Henson and Mr. Morley with their winning trophies and the match ball.

Celebration breakfast

On 20 January, 22 year 10 students, who are making outstanding progress in their studies, were invited to celebrate their success by taking breakfast with the headteacher. Parents, guardians and younger brothers and sisters were also invited to celebrate with us. Not only are these students working hard in their lessons, they were also rewarded for excellent behaviour and attitude to learning. Mr Spence, head of year, commented that he is incredibly proud of these students and that they should keep working hard and they will be rewarded with excellent exam results next year."



Jessica Allum
Danielle Atkinson
James Bell
Chloe Binmore
James Boyer
Jessica Callister
Tatenda Chiwerezwa
Isabel Croucher
Amy Hutchinson
Emily Maguire
Charlotte Miller
Eliesha Netherwood
Erin Oliver
Lucas Pollock
Katie Pullen
Shannon Robinson
Jessica Rowe
Willow Rowlands
Anna Thomas
Christopher Twomey
Farozha Urrehman
Cynthia Wordingham

Sports faculty

Extra- curricular provision

We have had a large amount of success in a great variety of sports and this is backed up by the fact that over two hundred students are attending school sporting clubs weekly.

The athletics Satellite club will be starting again for the students who are interested in athletics. This club has really supported our athletics team improving their skill levels in hurdles, high jump and athletics generally. This club is run and led by Stevenage and North Herts athletic club on Thursday evenings after school from 3.30 – 5 pm in the sports hall.

Girl cricketers have also been supported by the county cricket coaches who run the Lady Taverner's Satellite club on a Tuesday after school from 3.30 – 4.30pm in the sports hall. This is again another excellent opportunity for our girl cricketers.



Rugby

The year 10 rugby team have had some excellent results this term in rugby beating Knights Templar school 65 – 0. They have a large number of fixtures coming up at the end of January and beginning of February. Year 7 boys played in a rugby tournament at Stevenage RFC and only lost one game to Thomas Alleynes, beating two other schools – JHN and Highfield.

Mr Howells

Director of Faculty



CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING

Last year, the SST held a festive bake sale and ran a candy-cane delivery service. Through this, we were able to raise over £40 which will be used to facilitate improvements to Timebridge and fund further events in the year ahead. Many thanks to Ben Gray and his mother for baking some delicious treats as well as to Lauren Hayllar for printing and attaching all the many messages for the candy-canes.

PROM

The deposit has now been given to the Cromwell Hotel and the Year 13 Prom will be going ahead on the 1st July. We appreciate everybody managing to give in their deposits before the deadline. Further details about the day and the full payment will be announced soon.

CRAFT CLUB

In order to run the club more often, we are looking to train some Year 12 students to help out. If we have sufficient volunteers, this would mean that Craft Club would be able to be run after September, allowing the next set of Year 7s to have an opportunity to have fun and make new friends. This is an excellent volunteering opportunity for Year 12s so please contact us if you are interested.

UNIVERSITY CHALLENGE

For the past few months, Ryan Shaw-Hawkins, Ben Gray, Harpreet Pannu and Dylan Butterfield have been working with Mr Freeman to come up with some challenging questions to quiz the Sixth Form teams during this year's Nobel University Challenge. The first Challenge will be between Year 12 teams on the 24th February. Best of luck to all the teams which will be participating this year!

Written by Michael Tsang

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

Health and Social Care and Child

Development students say:

“Hello Kitty.”

On Friday 8 January, both year 11 child development and year 10 health and social care students were able to put their theoretical knowledge of how children grow and develop into practice on our Headteacher, Mr Henson’s 4 year old daughter, Kitty. The students found out about her favourite animal, the zebra and that she has a twin sister and how pasta is her favourite food. Although this may seem trivial, what the students were really discovering, through observation, was how Kitty was developing according to the milestone norms for her age. Students observed Kitty’s fine motor skills when drawing and her cognitive development with numbers. Mr Henson will be pleased to know the conclusion the students reached is that Kitty is above average for her age in all areas of her physical, emotional, intellectual and social development.

Ms Amey

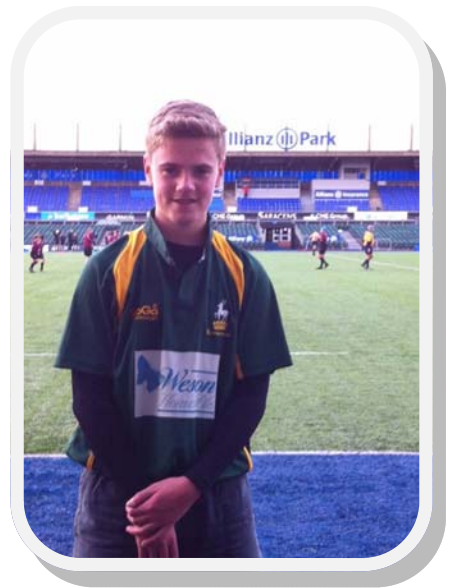


Congratulations to...

Alex Boxer who has been selected for Herts County Rugby. It is no surprise as Alex is the leading try scorer for Nobel this season with 8 tries for the school over their 5 fixtures. On 21 December Alex represented Herts county in a triangular tournament against Essex and Kent at Saracens home ground, Allianz Park. Alex scored 3 of Herts' 4 tries as they beat Essex 4 -2 and a further try as Herts were narrowly beaten 3-2 by Kent. His performance was notable and he stood out among an already elite group of players. We wish the fly half/centre all the best with the rest of his season.

Well done Alex.

Mr Spence



Ellie Wilson in year 10 for being selected to play rugby for Herts County for a second season in the under 15 girls team. Ellie has also taken this one step further at being selected for the ‘regional’ squad and we wish her all the best with her upcoming training and games. Ellie has already had an extremely positive season with Nobel as she captained the tournament side that won at Hertford in September, holding great expectations for the official County tournament in March. The hard running centre has led by example with straight lines and aggressive defence that has clearly been seen by county and regional selectors.

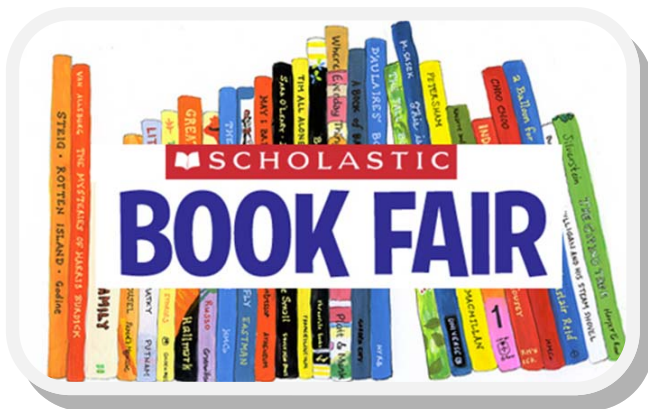
Well done.

Mr Spence

Library news...



Celebrate Harry Potter Book Night after school on Thursday 4 February. Join in the magic with a film show, readings, games and treats 3.40-4.40 in the Library. All welcome!



The Book Fair will be open in the Library lunchtimes from 3 February until 9 February. Parents and carers are also welcome to visit the book fair in the Library after school Wednesday 3 February, Friday 5 February, Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 February. Books are priced from £2.99 and students will be able to use their £1 World Book Day voucher towards purchases.

Mrs Essakhi
Librarian

Forthcoming events:

- 1 - 12 February - Yr 11 interviews
- 3 February - Early closure: students to be dismissed at 13:55
- 8 February - Nobel parents' forum meeting
- 10 February - Yr12 & 13 parents' evening
- 11 February - Celebration
- 12 February - last day students finish at 15:05

House news...

The Spelling Bee



It is that time of year again when all Nobel students will be taking part in the annual Spelling Bee. It is always a highlight of the year that students and staff look forward to. The winner will once again receive an Amazon Kindle Fire HD. The same format will apply, starting with the form round, house round and then the final itself. Exact dates will be shared with students shortly



Sport Relief

This year is Sport Relief (18 March) and here at Nobel we will be looking to raise as much money as possible for this great charity. If you have any fundraising ideas, please pass them on to your form reps or Head of House.

Kind Regards
The Heads of House

Year 9 news...

Since my last entry in to the Nobel News a great deal has happened regarding the year group. In record time we have received nearly all of the student's options choices and Miss Cox has begun the difficult process of timetabling.

During this time it has been my pleasure to receive a great deal of acknowledgement on behalf of your children. The way in which the cohort conducted themselves at this time was outstanding! Thank you all for moving appointments and making yourselves available to be involved.

It has become the norm (and long may it continue) that we've been involved in a great number of extra-curricular activities, groups and club events. The first one to spring to mind was the success of our 'Robot Rumble' team in the intermediate competition. Our team included; Daniel Duyungan; Roshni Dholakia; Charleene Kazaura; Jack Petley; Jessica Tralau and Jordan White. A massive well-done to everyone involved and a special mention to Mr Lovelock who heads up the programme; we couldn't have this opportunity without your time, effort and encouragement.

Attendance in the year group has taken a small dip in recent months. Therefore, I do ask that parents make use of the school 'app' to report absences or phone in to the school and follow the appropriate instructions. My concern will always be for students' safety first, so please make contacting the school a priority.

Our Mock Trials team has been practising each and every Monday and reports from Ms Magill promise that this year could be our year. The students involved are too many to include in the article but I cannot wait to go and support them in the near future.

Other notable individual performances include Taylor Adams progressing to represent the school and Hertfordshire County in Cardiff at the trampoline finals. Taylor placed 5th of 13 young hopefuls in her category, which, given this was her first major competition for the school, is exceptional. Also our very own Ethan Walsh has been invited to attend the 'Czech Youth Open' and compete with Europe's elite in table tennis; good luck Ethan!

As always, if you have any enquiries regarding the options process or wish to discuss any concerns, please contact Miss Cox who is the Assistant Headteacher in charge of the process (becky.cox@nobel.herts.sch.uk)

If you need any questions answered please continue to send them to me via email: carl.swendell@nobel.herts.sch.uk

Warmest regards

Mr Swendell
Head of Year 9

Friends of Nobel School 100 Club Winners for January

Number	Name	Prize
7	Darrell Dennhardt	£33
50	Tracy Richardson	£26

Parental Drug Awareness Workshop

Concerned that your knowledge about drugs and alcohol is limited or out of date?

Then we would like to invite you to our Drug Awareness Workshop especially designed for parents / guardians at The Nobel School on Thursday 4 February 2016 from 6:00pm until 7:30pm.

The workshop aims to:

- provide relevant, up-to-date information about alcohol, cannabis and legal highs in a safe and familiar environment;
- offer strategies for parents to have open conversations with their children about drug and alcohol misuse;
- promote ways in which parents can help children make positive, healthy choices.

As well as an interactive presentation and informal learning tasks, there will be an opportunity to ask questions and find out where to go for more information and support.

Please let us know if you wish to attend either by completing the reply slip at the foot of the letter we sent home recently or by emailing lynboreham@nobel.herts.sch.uk



We look forward to welcoming you.

Exam Invigilator

H1.4, variable hours, mainly May, June and December

We are looking to recruit exam invigilators to join our existing team and work with us during our school's exam periods, mainly May, June and December. Candidates must be well organised, confident in dealing with young people and able to remain calm under pressure. Experience is not essential as full training will be given. Flexibility in hours will be needed – we are looking for invigilators who are available to work from 8:00am and working hours will be tailored to meet the exam timetable.

The key focus of this position is to supervise examination invigilation and ensure that guidelines and regulations for the integrity and security of examination papers and procedures are followed during an examination session. Educated to GCSE standard, you will have good leadership and customer service skills and the ability to create a calm, organised and vigilant environment.

Closing date: Sunday 31 January 2016,
11:59pm

HR Officer

H6, 37 hours per week, term time plus 15 days

We are seeking to appoint a suitably qualified/experienced HR Officer to support the Finance and HR Manager. You will be responsible for ensuring the provision of effective and efficient administration of HR within school. You will have excellent Excel and Word skills, together with an ability to work with a variety of different computer software packages/online systems. The successful candidate needs to be extremely well organised, emotionally resilient and have the ability to prioritise their own workload to ensure that strict deadlines are met. You will also have the ability to use your own initiative and work as part of team. You will be required to work closely with the Head's PA/Admin Manager and the School Business Manager.

Closing date: Monday 1 February 2016, 5pm

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	5 October 2016
INSET day	5 January 2017 (devolved)
INSET day	6 January 2017
INSET day	21 July 2017 (devolved)
Occasional day	24 July 2017

Forthcoming fixtures

Football

Year 7

1 Feb v Barclay (away)

Year 8

8 Feb v Highfield (away)

Year 9

8 Feb v Highfield (home, on the astro)

Year 10

1 Feb v Barclay (away)

Basketball

Year 7

2 Feb v Barclay (away)

5 Feb v Knights Templar (away)

Year 8

9 Feb v Barclay (away)

Year 10

11 Feb v Fearnhill (away)



Performances from across the school and clubs celebrated in an evening of dance.

Thursday 10 March 7:00-9:00pm

Leslie Rose Auditorium

Tickets £2 payments taken on the night.

Performances in a variety of dance styles will be showcased at this year's show. Our talented GCSE, and A level students examination dances will be performed along with extra-curricular clubs. Ballet, tap, commercial and lyrical styles will be shown; it is set to be a fun filled evening of dance and entertainment.

If you are interested in being a part of the dances then it's not too late to join! Come down to the dance clubs on offer, or if you wish to come along and support the dancers then come and collect a letter from the Performance Faculty office. We look forward to seeing you.

Day of the Week	1:05-1:35pm
Monday	Tap Dance Club
Tuesday	Year 9 Gifted and Talented—all welcome Boys Parkour/Street Club
Wednesday	Nobel Youth Dance Club—all welcome
Thursday	Sister dance sequence (invitation only)
Friday	Bookable space for rehearsals.

SCHOLASTIC

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03 February 2016 - 10 February 2016

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