



Nobel

Excellence in Everything

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

In the last edition of Nobel News I promised some feedback on the staff training session that took place on Wednesday 3 February – as you will remember we closed 45 minutes early to facilitate this; thank you again for your understanding. We were working together during this time to formulate our plan to make sure our school develops ‘outstanding’ Nobelians. If we achieve this then the ‘outstanding’ Ofsted badge will follow, but our lovely school is here for its students not just to satisfy a government agency (our determined aim is to achieve both, however).

We have developed a simple approach to school development, something that all of us, be you a student, staff, parent or governor, can understand: a model that we can use to precisely measure the school’s development. It is all based around the following sentence:

Nobelians RACE to achieve

where RACE is an acronym that can be used to display our intentions in the following poster:



Behind each of the letters the school has set targets and made commitments that will measure our success up to September 2017. It is based around our vision and we intend to display the poster around the school so that all Nobelians can ‘buy-in’ to what we are trying to achieve. A more detailed presentation of these ideas will feature on our website after half-term – we are very excited by this plan and would really like parents and carers to engage with it.

On a separate note, I should like to give parents ample notification that from September 2016 we intend to use e-mail to send letters to parents. However, for parents who do not have e-mail and to deliver ‘legal’ documents (such as exclusion notifications) letters will still be delivered in the traditional way – in times of tight budgets, this will save the school a significant amount of time and money. There will be more on how this will work in future editions of Nobel News.

Finally, I should like to wish you all a good half-term holiday – we are making fantastic progress as a school, much of it down to the enthusiasm and support that we receive from parents and carers.

Warm regards,

Martyn Henson

Year 10 news...

It has been a very pleasing second term for the year 10 cohort as students continue to work hard and progress through their first year of GCSE courses. The settling in period is over and we are seeing lots of exceptionally hard work from many students as the current aim is to gather as much information and make as much progress as possible in their current subject. This was evident at the end of January as we saw a record 22 year 10 students attend the Headteacher's celebration breakfast. This is an opportunity for students, parents and Nobel staff to come together and celebrate those students who have no behaviour points and are making exceptional progress over most or all subjects taken. In many of the cases it was exceptional progress in all.



Year 10 boys working hard in Resistant Materials



Year 10 Girls producing some fantastic work on the sewing machines in textiles.

Congratulations to the year 10 boys football team who played in particularly difficult conditions against Barclay. A slow first half uphill and into the wind saw a 0-0 score at half time. The second half was a lot more lively with Barclay conceding a penalty which was nicely taken by Ross Gladman. What happened next can only be described as a storm as the hard wind made any flight of the ball ridiculously difficult to judge and two minutes before the end Barclay managed to

finish off a scrappy goal with lots of confusion in the Nobel penalty area. With seconds left, Keown Cant took on most of the Barclay team to release Harrison Barringer who took the ball wide and send a perfect cross in horrendous conditions. Aidan Rampton leapt like a salmon to head the ball into the back of the Barclay net and was the hero of the day. I was exceptionally proud of the boys with their attitude and resilience in a tough game where the deserving team was victorious.

Other extra curricular activities, including indoor rowing and futsal in the Stevenage School Games, have brought great success to year 10 as the year 10 girls team were victorious on Wednesday 3rd February. The 2000m combined rowing team consisted of Elise Buckwell, Ella Syed, Erin Oliver and Tia Jackson who had a very close final beating Thomas Alleyne Academy, John Henry Newman and Barclay. The girls showed 'grit' and determination to finish as Stevenage champions. Well done to Tia Jackson for stepping in at the last minute and helping the team out. Congratulations girls.

Further congratulations to the under 16 futsal team which consisted of four year 10 girls, Elisha Netherwood, Katie Pullen, Georgia Dale and Paige Hossack, who went on to defeat Thomas Alleyne Academy 7-1 in the Stevenage final. An excellent and successful week for the year 10 students who are still committed to extra curricular clubs while balancing the extra demands brought on by their GCSE subjects.



Year 10 news cont...

The PE department also took 15 Nobel students to Twickenham Stadium on Friday 29th January to watch the England rugby team train. The students were impeccably behaved and enjoyed a question and answer session with new head coach Eddie Jones, watched a timed 45 minute session followed by around 45 minutes of group, positional, individual skill and fitness work. The players were true role models as all Nobel students were successful in getting autographs despite 15,000 fans (approx.) turning up to watch the training session. It is fantastic to reward students, who have shown great commitment to Nobel rugby and performed well in school, with the chance to see such elite players as Billy Vunipolo, George Ford, Owen Farrell and Danny Care. Thank you to Mr Howells for running the trip, a fantastic experience.



Keep working hard year 10 in all your GCSE options and get involved in accessing as many opportunities as possible as you will receive many at the Nobel School.

Mr Spence
Head of Year 10

Governor News

On Wednesday evening the Board of Governors heard from the working party it set up in December to look at the options for the status of the school moving forward. In the last newsletter I wrote about the thinking behind setting up that working party and it reported last night that the school would be best served in the immediate future by becoming a Foundation Trust school. The Board of Governors approved the concept of that change and has asked that consultations now happen with students, staff and parents and events will be planned after half term. The working party will answer any questions and capture views and will then report back to the next meeting of the Board of Governors, on the 23 March, at which a formal decision will be taken on whether to progress or not.

The school will communicate the dates of the meetings and we look forward to meeting people and talking about the change and hearing your views.

Richard Aggus

Chair of Governors

Dates for the diary:

22 February - students return to school

22 February - Yr7 and Yr8 data to the VLE

23 February - parents ' nformation evening for Duke of Edinburgh

2 March - Yr8 Parents evening

4 March - Yr9 data to the VLE



PRIZE DRAW

A Prize Draw has been set up and organised by Bret Facey and Joseph Barnes, available for any sixth formers and teachers to take part. The first prize will be a £20 gift card with 2 runners up prizes of £10 each. We will be selling tickets during form during the week for £1 a ticket or £4 for a strip of 5 tickets so remember to have some money spare! The money raised will be used to fund the entertainment at Prom, allowing the ticket prices to stay low. The winners will be announced after half-term.

Y13 LEAVERS' ASSEMBLY

We are looking to collect some photos of Year 13s from our time here at Nobel over the years to collate them into a slideshow to play at the Leavers' Assembly. If you have any photos from school trips, events, performances or any other group photos, please email them to Ben Gray as soon as possible. Many have already been sent in but it would be great to have even more.

LOLLIPOP DELIVERY

Up until Valentine's Day, we will be offering a lollipop delivery service. For only 50p, we will deliver a heart-shaped lollipop with your own personalised message to someone you care about around school. We will be set up near the STEM stairs so come check it out.

Written by Michael Tsang

HARRY POTTER BOOK NIGHT

Thirty excited Harry Potter fans came to the library after school to celebrate Harry Potter Book Night. They were invited to take part in the Harry Potter character clue trail, puzzles and quizzes. Students also decorated small cakes to look like characters from the book. We then settled down to watch Harry Potter and The Philosophers Stone, accompanied by cauldrons of popcorn! A great time was had by all.



Mrs Essakhi
Librarian

The Senior Student Team 2015-16			
CORE		EVENTS	
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	
COMMUNITIES		PROJECT MANAGEMENT & ORGANISATION	
Sam Archer	Ryan Shaw-Hawkins	Dylan Butterfield	Michael Tsang
Bethany Hobbs	Ben Gray	Ben Smith	
Gemma Vadolia	Harpreet Pannu		
SeniorStudentTeam@nobel.herts.sch.uk			

County Cross country championships 2016

On Saturday 6 February, five students went down to St. Albans to compete in the county cross country championships.



Mazeed Ogungbo (pictured left) in year 8 finished in a very strong 26th position out of 80 runners .



Lounis Geumache (pictured above) in year 7 did extremely well finishing 6th out of about 100 runners and has now qualified to represent Hertfordshire in the English schools cross country championships on 5 March 2016.



Adam Mason (below) in the intermediate race also performed very strongly, finishing in the highest position out of all our students – he was 5th and has will also be representing Hertfordshire in the English schools cross country championships.

Finally Erin Oliver (below) did extremely well finishing in the top 30 for her intermediate race.



Mia Fahy (above) in year 7 also finished in a commendable position (47th) which is an excellent effort for her first experience of the championships.



Well done to all these students for achieving excellent results on the day.

Mr Howells



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.

Nobel Rowing teams dominate the Stevenage school games

All the following teams were successful at the Stevenage Schools Games on Wednesday and won their age categories in the rowing championships.

The under 14 boys' team, consisting of Dominic Buckland, Tobi Laguda, Gideon Oketunji and Semba Bwayla, dominated the year 9 race by winning the 2000m race over 200 metres ahead of the next team. Hopefully they will compete well in the county school games.

The under 16 girls' team (Tia Jackson, Ella Syed, Elise Buckwell and Erin Oliver) won their respective race in a very close affair (won by 10 metres over 2000m).



The under 16 boys' team (Matthew Monaghan, Luke Hamilton, Cosmo Tomlinson and Jordan Fox) won their category by over 30 metres.

Well done to all teams – they will now go through to represent Stevenage in the county school games in March.

Mr Howells



Year 10 Alumni visit 20 January

During PSHCEE on 20 January a handful of ex-students came back to Nobel to share their life and job experiences. Each form group had a number of guest speakers who spoke about their experiences since they left school. Their job roles varied from a social worker to a member of Team GB's rowing squad. This was an extremely valuable opportunity for the students and it was great to see so many of our Alumni doing well. Many thanks to Alex Broliia, Nicola Summers, Ellie Laverty, Carly Broom, Oliver James, Corin Stevenson and Hannah Marshall who gave up their time to support the school.



If you are interested in supporting the careers education in the school please get in touch.

Your Future Careers Fayre 29 January

On the 29 January we took 40 Year 11 and 6th form students to the Gordon Craig Theatre to take part in the Your Future careers fayre, organised by Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce. The students were given the opportunity to collect information from colleges and businesses from around Hertfordshire. Nearly 50 different businesses were in attendance, giving the students an opportunity to collect information about different careers. These included:

AON

Cii-Chartered Insurance Institute

Computacentre

GSK

John Laing Training

MBDA

North Herts College

NOVOTEL

Oaklands College

Solveway Ltd

Toad Hall Nursery

University of Hertfordshire

University of Bedfordshire

Cope Work Experience



If you need any advice on apprenticeships then visit:

<https://www.youthconnexions-hertfordshire.org/careers/jobs-apprenticeships/>

<http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>

Mr Trotter

We'd love your Active Kids



What is Active Kids?

"Active Kids is all about helping children understand the importance of leading healthier lives. That's why we've created a range of resources to educate kids of all ages to eat well, move well and live well."



This year we would like to encourage students, families and family friends to collect as many vouchers as possible to beat last year's total. We will be running this as a House competition. The form and the House which collects the most vouchers will receive a prize and house points for the house total. We would love for all to get involved and of course do their part for their House!

Students can hand in their vouchers at front reception in the Active Kids voucher box or keep hold of them until a house representative collects them from the form class. Please note that the vouchers have changed this year. They will now be printed on white paper and look like the image attached, so please do not mistake them for a receipt.



Let's hope we can collect lots of vouchers to purchase some fantastic new equipment for the school!

Many thanks
The Heads of House

Performance news

After a successful Christmas concert the dance, drama and music departments are working toward 'Celebration' on 11 February and a 'Dance Showcase' on 10 March.

By the time you read this Celebration will be over, but as I write the students are busy putting the final touches to their performances. This is the one show of the year that is brought to you by the students, who are responsible for choosing and rehearsing their own pieces. If you were able to attend the concert, then let me say a big thank you on behalf of the students, and as a faculty we hope that you enjoyed the show.

The dance showcase is a chance for the

dance exam students and clubs to share the work that they have been doing all year. It promises to be an entertaining evening, and one that brings purpose to the hard work that the students put in all year.

Looking forward, we will be auditioning for our summer production soon, which will be a production of 'Annie', the musical. Putting on a full musical is a large undertaking, so auditions and music rehearsals will take place before the Easter holidays, with the staging, setting, acting and dancing being included in the summer term.

Mr Hardy
Director of performance

MFL Language learners of...

January and February

- Yr 7 Leon Reeve 7 E SCN for Spanish
Yr 8 Pathanchali Thevacumar 8M JBS for Mandarin
Yr 9 Georgena Benson 9M RCE for French
Yr 10 Ross Gladman 10M LSE for German
Yr 11 Matthew Wan 11E HFY for French
Yr 12 Charlie Day 12C BLK for Spanish



The free school meal menu...

Available for the £2.15 FSM allowance are the following examples (although other combinations can be made for the same price, those listed are the more balanced options):

Main Hot lunch
Roasted topside of beef
Savoy cabbage
Glazed parsnip
Yorkshire pudding
Onion gravy
Roasted potatoes
£1.60

Slow braised lamb curry, coconut rice, chickpea daal, onion bhaji, mango chutney
£1.60.

Freshly battered MSC cod and chips with beans or peas £1.60

These meals would leave 55p which could buy a hot daily dessert or a fresh fruit juice carton.

Other combinations outside the FSM recommendation:

Budget simple fill roll or sandwich £1.00
Fresh fruit 35p
Fruit juice 55p
Total £1.90

Regular sandwich (two fillings) £1.50
Tray bake 45p

Hot pasta meal 1 sauce 1 topping £1.60
Hot dessert of the day £0.55

Water is also available to students for free should they wish to spend their full FSM allowance on food alone.

We have also introduced daily hot 'Saver Items' on the hot grab and go counters advertised by a 'Saver Item' Menu board. These are sold at 55p, 75p and 95p.

Edwards and Blake



2016 ★ THE ★ 2016
NOBEL SCHOOL
FILM FESTIVAL

ADMIT ONE

DATE THURSDAY 31ST MARCH 2016
TIME 7PM
DRESS CODE HOLLYWOOD GLAMOUR
LOCATION NOBEL AUDITORIUM
TICKETS £2.50 each

All money raised will go
towards the Friends of
Nobel School ★



...invite you to their Fun Quiz Night

Friday, 18th March

6.30 for 7.00pm start
(Finish approx. 9.30pm)

Bring your friends and family for a fun evening
whilst helping to support Nobel School
(questions suitable for ages 11+)

Tickets available via the school
** £3 per person in advance **
(£4 on the door)

Teams of 3-6 people or just come along and join up with others.

Please bring your own drinks and nibbles!

- Raffle -
(donations gratefully received)

Team: Name:

I would like to order tickets for the Quiz Night
£3 per person in advance.

I enclose £ cash/cheque
(payable to Nobel School PA)

Student's Name Form

(Please return envelope/payment to Mrs Lynn Way in the school Admin Office)