

News

16 September 2016
Edition 4.1

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

We are really pleased with the way we have started the new academic year and thrilled with the examination results that our hardworking students achieved; I should like to congratulate all those Nobelians who took examinations, we saw tremendous success at all levels.

Schools are now being measured using the new 'progress 8' indicator (measuring student progress rather than attainment) and early indications are the school has exceeded expectations on this – this will be confirmed at the end of September when all schools' student progress is gauged against other schools nationally. I will tell you more about 'progress 8' in a future edition of *Nobel News*.

On an individual basis, at GCSE, Matthew Wan, Haarith Aubad, Minal Karadia, Jade Bolt, Harry Draper and Matthew Banks all gained a clean sweep of A* and A grades. Our Sixth Form, which is now 300, is 50% bigger than three years ago. This increase is compounded by the 34 'new to Nobel' students joining us in Year 12. This is all very positive and evidence that our lovely school becomes more popular by the year. The slight downside of such expansion is that we are now really tight for space in the school, a nice challenge that we will need to face over the next few years.

At A level we achieved some of the very best results in the school's history, indeed good enough to classify progress in the Sixth Form as outstanding. There were great individual performances that deserve special mention - Harpreet Pannu, Michael Tsang, Bobby Banks, Dylan Butterfield, Dominic McEwen,



Clare Holtham, Philip Snoad, Ben Gray and Ellie Ward who all gained a clean sweep of A*s and As. Of these Bobby Banks (Head Boy) – physics, Ellie Ward (Head Girl) – geography and Ben Gray – history will all be going up to Oxford. This is a fantastic achievement, a first for Nobel. We really hope that these achievements act as a catalyst for our younger students to aim high. With every student moving on to university, work or a higher level apprenticeship, our Sixth Form really has had a fantastic year.

This is a phenomenal performance by the students supported by excellent teachers, support staff and parents. We have certainly had a very good year and we are absolutely determined to continue to improve. I have an expert staff and we have made some excellent appointments for this term. Please continue to support the school in whatever way you can; the best advertising comes from you when you discuss the school and its achievement with family, friends and neighbours.

On a different note, we are also focussing very much on the progress of students in key stage 3 (Yrs. 7, 8 and 9) and realise that some of the changes to the national curriculum have led to some confusion. We will do our very best this year to make sure that, as parents and carers, you thoroughly understand the progress measures we are using – look out for further information on this matter in future editions of *Nobel News*, and try, if you can, to attend one of the information evenings we are planning. Dates for these meetings will be published soon.

Finally, outside my office in the large atrium, we have a quote from Vincent van Gogh:

'Great things are done by a series of small things brought together'.

Sir Dave Brailsford, ex-UK cycling supremo, would call these 'marginal gains', so please can I ask your support in helping us to eradicate small uniform indiscretions such as: top buttons being undone, shirts not being tucked in, proper school shoes not being worn etc. We are absolutely convinced, that if we get these small things right, the impact will be enormous.

Looking forward to another fantastic academic year at Nobel.

Warm regards

Martyn Henson



ENGLISH AND MATHS QUALIFICATIONS AT NOBEL SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

An opportunity to develop your skills in English (reading, writing and confidence with grammar etc) and practical maths that you can use on a daily basis.

Both courses offer the opportunity of a functional skills qualification which is very popular with employers.

Where: Nobel School

When: Monday 26th September 2016

When: Maths : 6.15-9.30pm and English 6.15-8.45pm

Cost: Just £5 registration fee!

Call Debbie Clark 01438 735002 or email debbie.clark@nobel.herts.sch.uk for more information or to book a place.

Getting to and from school



Although the parent survey results last year were excellent, one of the areas that you felt that we needed to work on was encouraging

healthy lifestyles. As part of our continued work to develop similar messages at home and at school, we are encouraging parents to let their children walk or ride to school each day. Although there are sometimes fully understandable reasons why students might require a lift, as most of our families live within a 1.5 Km radius of the school, we think it is reasonable to think that they could make their way independently. There are lots of encouraging and informative websites out there to support this cause.

This is an extract from the BBC website:

Walking to school

Walking is a great way to get to school - it's healthy, free and doesn't create **pollution**. It also reduces **traffic** congestion during the 'school run'. Walking to school also gives older children **independence**. Once they know their route and can cross roads safely, they can walk by themselves or with friends. Reducing the number of cars around a school, reduces the risk of injury to pedestrians.

Cycling to school

Cycling is another great way to get to school. If your child cycles to school, make sure their bike is in good working order, and that they wear a helmet and reflective jacket. Work out the best route, with the least traffic. Find out about cycle training, which should be provided free by your local authority. There is advice about training at, <http://www.stevenage.gov.uk/52710/52732/>

Driving to school (to be avoided if possible)

If walking or cycling aren't possible, there are several ways of getting to school by road:

- public transport
- car-sharing
- family car

Driving your child to school with empty seats in your car is the least environmentally-friendly way to get them to school. However, it's still the way many kids get to school. If this is your situation, it's worth taking some time to see if you could organise it any other way, at least on some days. Lift sharing and buses really do reduce the numbers of vehicles on the road.

Travel tips for secondary pupils

- **If you are worried about safety, practise** your child's journey with them before they start secondary school.
- Make sure your child is aware of potential **danger points** - looking carefully before crossing **busy roads**, taking extra care at **bus stops** and getting on and off **trains**.
- Make sure your child avoids the use of mobile phones whilst crossing roads.
- Talk with your child about what they should do if they felt **threatened**, e.g. if they felt an adult was **following** them or **behaving oddly** on public transport.

Mr Burningham
Deputy headteacher

Reply from...



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

During our study lessons in Year 8 we learnt how to write a letter. As a group we practised our letter writing skills. There was a major event across the country to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. We watched a video of the celebrations that took place in Stevenage Town Centre and a beacon being lit.

We decided to write a letter to Buckingham Palace to give our best wishes to the Queen. We never expected a reply, but were very surprised and very pleased to receive a reply from her Lady in Waiting.

Jack Tilbury 9C DCE



Left to Right: Joe Ratcliffe (9C NBN), Brooke Scott (9E AHY), Max Darvill (9C DCE), Jack Tilbury (9C DCE), Ryan Bolton (9C NBN)



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

To: The Pupils in Year Eight at The Nobel School

The Queen wishes me to thank you for the letters which you have sent on the occasion of Her Majesty's ninetieth birthday.

The Queen was very touched by the care you have taken to write your letters for her and greatly appreciates your kind words.

Her Majesty hopes you will understand that, because of the enormous number of letters and messages she has received in the last few months, it has not been possible to reply to you until now and I am to thank you, very much, for your thought for The Queen at this time.

Lady in Waiting

Lady-in-Waiting

26 July 2016



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

*I send you my grateful thanks
for the kind words you have
sent to me on the occasion of
my ninetieth birthday*

ELIZABETH R
2016

SST news...



First of all, the SST would like to congratulate everybody on their exam results and wish the very best of luck to all the students who will soon be starting university, apprenticeships or jobs.

We are very much looking forward to this coming academic year, and have a lot planned. Although, as sixth formers, we have to study hard, it is also important to have some R & R. The SST have taken the responsibility to look after the health and happiness of the sixth form and as well as making sure that you all get your 5 a day, future 'well-being' events will include ice skating, a Christmas party, university challenge and inter-year competitions.

Whilst the new year 12s are currently being promoted from the Sky Bet championship of the lower school to the Barclays Premier League of sixth form, the year 13s are focusing on their future transfers to university, apprenticeships or other goals.

We hope everybody had a restful summer and are now ready to tackle the new year. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new year 7s and new to Nobel sixth form students and hope you settle well into life at Nobel.

Kind regards

The SST

Cricket

Congratulations to Stevenage Under 13 Girls' Cricket Team. The team was made up of 9 Nobelians. They competed in the Herts Junior League. They lost out narrowly to Abbots Langley in the final.



Success in Latin

Congratulations to the following students who all received A* grades in Level 2 Latin (GCSE equivalent): Bobby Banks, Matthew Banks, Clare Holtham, Daniel Lambert, Michael Tsang, Gopal Vakani and Michael Wan. Clare and Michael received 100%. Kiana Moradian in Year 8 studied during lunchtimes and achieved an A*-grade at Level 1, a magnificent achievement.

Mrs Byrne

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Instructions

Place 1 - 9 once in each row

Place 1 - 9 once in each column

Place 1 - 9 once in each 3x3 box

Complete the 'sum cages' such that the total of the numbers in each cage is the number stated at the start of that cage. You are not allowed to repeat any numbers within any sum cage

Student data collection forms

Students in years 8 to 11 will be receiving student data collection forms for you to check and update if necessary. If you would prefer your son/daughter not to be given this information and have it emailed instead please let me know Mrs L Way

lynn.way@nobel.herts.sch.uk

Friends of Nobel School 100 Club Winners for August

Number	Name	Prize
96	S J Perkins	£33
6	D Southwell	£26

Nobel School PE Department is now on Twitter!

Follow us on @NobelSchoolPE for fixture news, club updates, results, POMs and other departmental news. If you have any questions then please come and see PE.



AUTUMN TERM SPORT EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCHTIME 1:10 – 1:40	FITNESS – Y7 ONLY TABLE TENNIS BADMINTON KS3	FITNESS – ALL YEARS VOLLEYBALL KS3 RUGBY SKILLS	FITNESS – ALL YEARS VOLLEYBALL KS4 TABLE TENNIS	FITNESS – ALL YEARS BADMINTON KS4/5 TABLE TENNIS	FITNESS – ALL YEARS BASKETBALL
AFTER SCHOOL 3:30-4:30	BOYS FOOTBALL NETBALL X-COUNTRY BEGINNERS RUNNING FITNESS	GIRLS FOOTBALL ITAD – INVITE ONLY WELL-BEING CLUB – INVITE ONLY	STAFF MEETING NETBALL FIXTURES	GYMNASTICS TRAMPOLINING RUGBY – GIRLS & BOYS HOCKEY	BASKETBALL STAFF SPORTS

*PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE PE AREAS UNTIL CLUBS START AND THERE IS A MEMBER OF STAFF PRESENT, THANK YOU.

FRIENDS OF NOBEL SCHOOL

The Friends of Nobel School is a small, friendly group of parents, staff and supporters of the school who meet roughly once a month during the school year to plan a number of events - some of them to raise money for school projects and others just for the benefit of pupils.

Forthcoming Events

'The Chef Presents' Food Taster Evening	Monday 10th October 2016
Year 7 & 8 Autumn Disco	Friday 14th October 2016
Quiz Night	Friday 10th March 2017
Barn Dance	Saturday 20th May 2017
Year 7 & 8 Summer Disco	Friday 23rd June 2017

If you are able to help in any way, either by joining the committee, helping out at events or offering raffle prizes or skills that you may have, please complete and return the slip below. We also run a profitable 100 Club, with half the money each month being paid out in prizes and half going to Friends' funds. Please tick the box below if you would like to sign up and we will send you the relevant forms. Thank you for your support.

✂ _____

Friends of Nobel School

- ☐ I would be interested in joining the Committee
- ☐ I would be willing to help at an event
- ☐ Please keep me informed of future events by email
- ☐ Please send me information on joining the 100 Club

If you have any ideas for future events, may be able to donate raffle prizes/vouchers or have any skills that might be useful, please give details below:

Name: _____ Student name/form: _____

Email address: _____

Telephone/mobile: _____

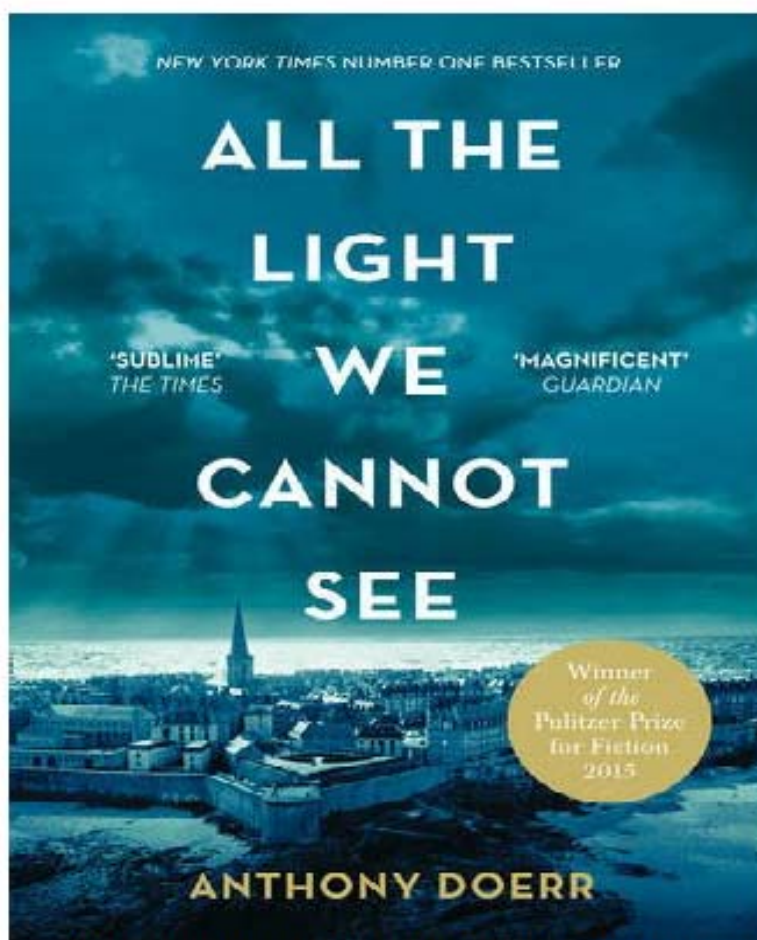
Please return to the Friends of Nobel School, c/o Mrs Lynn Way, Admin Office, The Nobel School,

NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in the Library 6.30pm

Tuesday 18 October 2016

THE BOOK TO READ IS:



Contact: Rosalind Essakhi: 01438 222600 or email:

library@nobel.herts.sch.uk

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



Dates for the diary:

19 September - Year 8 meet the head of year information evening
POSTPONED

20 September - Year 7 Wymondley Wood information evening

21 September - FONS meeting

21 September - Year 12 university taster visit

23 - 25 September - Three Peaks Challenge

26 - 30 September - Year 7 Wymondley Wood camp

26 September - Year 10 information evening

26 September - Parents' forum

29 September - Year 8 parents in science

Daily No. 3705

Easy

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