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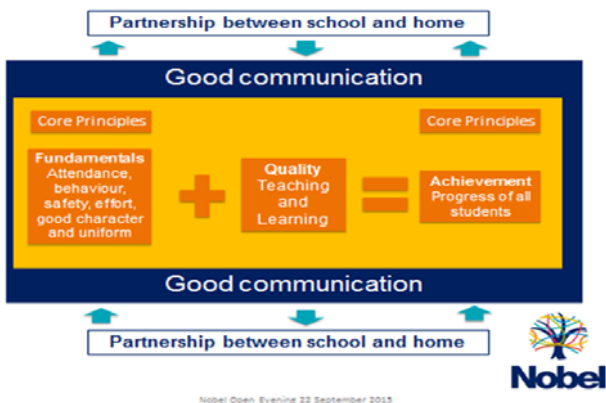
Nobel

Excellence in Everything

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

Those of you who have attended the school open evening over the last three years will know that when I speak to prospective parents I always stress to them that what we are trying to achieve as a school is quite simple – excellent examination results coupled with well-rounded young people who are fully prepared to meet the challenges of the changing world. This is the ‘equation’ I share with students, staff, governors and parents:



Our core principles are based around what we call our ‘fundamentals’- these are the simple things that we have to get right before we can guarantee ‘progress for all students’. In a sense, my role as headteacher is ensure that we provide the very best teaching and learning and our job, in partnership between school and home, is make sure that: ‘Nobelians will be equipped to make informed choices, be responsible citizens, enjoy successful careers and achieve personal fulfilment’.

I should like to draw your attention this week to two important ‘fundamentals’ – uniform and attendance.

Uniform

We have a very smart and simple school uniform that represents two things:

Firstly, it shows that students ‘mean business’ when they come to school; staff are encouraged to dress smartly for school for the same reasons. Coming to school is different to evenings and weekends.

Secondly, by wearing our uniform and dressing smartly it demonstrates that we are proud to be part of this lovely school.

May I therefore ask you to keep an eye on common uniform transgressions:

- Blazers are to be worn at all times.
- Blazer sleeves are not to be ‘rolled up’.
- Shirts are tucked in at all times.
- Top buttons are to be fastened at all times.
- Flat black shoes are to be worn, no trainers or boots.

We are a very smart school and we are absolutely determined to maintain this.

Attendance

Our school attendance figure so far this term has been excellent – over 96%, and last year it was 95.5%. We need to maintain these high levels, as good attendance is intrinsically linked to academic progress. Please consider the following:

- Avoid taking your children on holiday during term time.
- Whenever possible, send your child to school – obviously keep them off if they are infectious or they have a temperature. Colds and sniffles can probably be endured at school.

As you know, we value your support enormously - a healthy partnership between home and school is vital as we all develop and progress. Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,
Martyn Henson

Lots to look forward to...

Operation Christmas Child November 11 2015



It's that time of year again where we begin think about those less fortunate than ourselves at Christmas time. Operation Christmas child is a charity which is now the UK's largest children's Christmas appeal. The idea is simple. Children and adults wrap and pack shoeboxes with a range of gifts both big and small, which will be collected in tutor groups across the school.

Last Christmas, a total of 977, 880 children from 15 countries across the world received a special shoebox gift thanks to the commitment of supporters and volunteers across the UK. Here at The Nobel School we collected a grand total of 447 shoe boxes; this year we have set ourselves a target to collect over 500 gift boxes. So what goes in your shoe box?

Donations are separated into four different categories (with boxes containing a variety of each): **toys** (soft toy, jigsaw, yo-yo); **educational supplies** (Felt pens, colouring book, pens, pencils, notepad); **hygiene items** (Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, soap) **and other items** (gloves, scarf, hat). Please remember all items should be new and don't forget to add in your £3 contribution to the postage of your package.

Christmas fayre Sunday 15 November

Sticking with the festive theme, Sunday 15 November will be our annual Nobel Christmas Fayre. This year we hope to have a range of festive stalls open throughout the day along with a range of Christmas performances, food and drink, festive face-painting and Santa's grotto. If you are interested in running a stall or would like to donate a prize for our raffle then please speak to your Head of House.

This year our Christmas fayre is supporting a local charity, Stevenage Haven, who provide shelter and support for people experiencing homelessness in Stevenage and North Herts. In order to raise as much as possible for this fantastic cause it would be great to see you all there.

Inter-house Sport competition

During the last week of each half term the Heads of House will be running an inter house sport competition. Your sports teams must consist of both girls and boys and you can enter two teams for your house in each year group. First up is 7 a-side football. The dates and times for each year group are as follow:

- Year 11 and 6th form will play Friday 16 October
- Year 7 will play on Monday 19 October
- Year 8 will play on Tuesday 20 October
- Year 9 will play Wednesday 21 October
- Year 10 will play Thursday 22 October

Remember each student receives a house point for taking part in the competition so be sure to get involved. For more information please speak to Miss Palombo.



Maths Relay competition

The Maths Relay is a team competition where you answer a variety of problems in a race against other teams. The team that gets the most points wins. Teams must be made up of the same house and the same year group with a maximum of 4 students per team.

Lots to look forward to... cont'd

The winning team will each receive £10 worth of vouchers.

All relays will begin after school and will be located in MA01 (The Maths Open Classroom) on the following dates:

- Year 7: Monday 23 November
- Year 8: Tuesday 24 November
- Year 9: Wednesday 25 November
- Year 10: Thursday 26 November
- Year 11: Friday 27 November

If you are interested, give Mr Malam the names of the students in your team, including your form. Deadline for this is Friday 6 November.



Big well done...

A big well done to 9C LBM who won our sports day flag competition back in July. Lots of time and effort went into all the form flags that were created for our big event but 9C LBM really captured the spirit of the day so well done once again on their flag-tastic effort.

Miss Cronin (Head of Curie)



Important information - Detentions

At The Nobel School we have a rigorous Behaviour for Learning policy that is built on the principal that all students have the right to learn. This policy consists of both rewards for consistently good and outstanding contributions, as well as sanctions when our school's expectations are not met.

Part of these sanctions includes the issuing of detentions, which we feel is a vital part of correcting behaviour that falls below our expectations. Furthermore, non-attendance at these detentions is taken very seriously.

Therefore, should students fail to attend three detentions they will serve one day in reflection. If they fail to attend three more detentions they will serve a further day in reflection. If they then fail to attend a further three detentions, totalling nine, they will serve a one day fixed term exclusion. Students are told in each lesson and form time if they have a detention on that day and lists of detainees are posted in three places around the school, so that students are fully aware of any detentions they might have.

Mr Willsher

Behaviour for Learning Co-Ordinator

Year 7 Wymondley Wood camp

During the week of 28 September – 02 October we had our annual getting to know you camp at Wymondley Wood Scout and Guide Centre. All students in Year 7 were invited to camp for two nights and spend the days taking part in various team-building activities outside of the normal classroom environment. The students have reported that they had an excellent time (notwithstanding the walk there and back) taking part in the events down at the camp.



Building shelters which were tested with water whilst the students hid inside.



Singing, dancing and craftwork in our new marquee.



Building fires to toast marshmallows and cook sausages on.



Diamond cricket.



Mr Boycott's famous evening campfire, where staff and students were "entertained" by "Nobel's Got Talent" whilst drinking hot chocolate.

We would like to thank all the staff who made the trip possible by either covering lessons back at school, supervising the walks to and from the camp site, visiting us at the camp or staying overnight.

We will leave you with a report from one of the students.

Mr Camp (Head of Eliot House) and Mr Smith (Head of Year 7).

My trip to Wymondley Wood...

The day was finally here, the day myself and some of my fellow Nobelians set off on our two night trip to Wymondley Woods campsite. We started our long and very tiring walk, a distance of 5 miles in all, to a quiet, open space surrounded by a vast amount of trees towering above us, while displaying the beautiful colours of autumn.

During our stay, we took part in lots of fun, outdoor activities and games including shelter building, fire lighting, rounders and cricket.

To build a shelter we had to search for sticks of all different shapes and sizes so they could hold up the two pieces of tarpaulin, a large strong, flexible and water resistant type of material. By placing the sticks on top of the tarpaulin we were able to build our team a water proof shelter.

Fire lighting was great! We had to collect sticks so we could make a small fire good enough for us all to cook a juicy, fat sausage or a hot, squidgy marshmallow. They were deliciously yummy! Rounders and cricket were fun; a few of the sixth formers ran and took part in both of these activities and it was funny to see them lose!

Night time on camp was enjoyable, we even had a talent show where the majority of people took part. But there's nothing like sitting around the warmth of the crackling camp fire whilst sipping hot chocolate, eating scrumptious cakes and happily singing traditional camp fire songs with your friends.

Oliver Hextall 7M MMH

Working together in the best interests of all Nobelians

We are a big school, with over 1,500 students, and we need to ask for your support with the following to minimise disruption at our reception.

Reception is not able to take forgotten PE kits, planners, homework, food ingredients, money, packed lunch or other such items to students in their classrooms. Parents are, of course, welcome to bring in forgotten items that their children may collect from reception during their break/lunch time.

Similarly, reception is no longer able to call home for forgotten PE kits, planners, homework or food ingredients. We will, however, call home to ask parents for forgotten lunches and dinner money, which the students may collect from reception.

We ask that you encourage your child to drink more water, so as to minimise the chance of them dehydrating which can cause headaches (the school does not distribute aspirin, paracetamol or any other form of painkiller).

In order to avoid your child being late for any medical or dental appointments scheduled during school hours, please kindly ensure your child knows what time they are to meet you at reception - it is their responsibility to meet you on time. In cases of emergency, reception will of course go and collect your child on your behalf. If your child becomes unwell whilst at school, one of our first aiders will assess them and contact you if they feel your child should go home.

Finally, and in an effort to help save you money, we ask that you label all your child's belongings, as any lost property handed in at reception that is named will be given back to that student. Should your child lose anything, please ask them to first check the classrooms they had lessons in that day and the black bins in the PE department before asking at reception.

Library News

What the Library offers students at Nobel.

Every student in Years 7-9 can borrow two books and take them home for two weeks. We have a wide selection of both fiction and non-fiction to choose from and have a suggestions book for students to request any titles we don't have and that they would like us to get. We regularly buy new books and keep up to date with the latest publications.

The library also has a range of magazines, newspapers, graphic novels and leisure reads.

We are open for students to borrow books, complete preparation for learning or just read during morning break and lunch time, and after school until 4.30 Monday-Thursday and 4pm Friday. The librarian is on hand to help students find suitable resources and suggest great reading books.

During the year we celebrate World Book Day, special events and festivals with displays, competitions and activities. We also have reading groups which take part in the North Hertfordshire Schools Book Award and shadow national book awards, such as the Carnegie Medal. We are fortunate to host a number of author visits with the aim of inspiring students to read for pleasure.

Book Corner

Here are the top ten most popular reads in Nobel Library. Come to the library to borrow these and discover more!



1. *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
2. *Say Her Name* by James Dawson
3. *Skulduggery Pleasant* by Derek Landy
4. *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
5. *Fault in Our Stars* by John Green
6. *Billionaire Boy* by David Walliams
7. *Zom-B* by Darren Shan
8. *Lily Alone* by Jacqueline Wilson
9. *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney
10. *Cherry Crush* by Cathy Cassidy

Mrs Essakhi

Librarian

Forthcoming events:

16 October: Year 7 disco

18 - 20 October : Year 12 & 13 Physics visit to Switzerland

19 October: Year 7 Parents' in science 5:30pm - 7:00pm

26 - 30 October: Half term

3 November: GCSE and A Level Dance visit to Sadlers Wells Peacock Theatre

Congratulations and well done to...

Mayor's Christmas Card 2015 Competition for Secondary Schools

Our very own Bryher Tyrrell and Taylor Gloyn have won the Mayor and Mayoress' competition for secondary school students to design a Christmas card for Christmas 2015. Not only will Bryer and Taylor's designs be printed for use by the Mayor's office this Christmas but Bryer and Taylor have been invited to join the Mayor and Mayoress for afternoon tea in the Mayor's parlor. We couldn't be more proud of our Nobelians.



Bryher Tyrrell



Taylor Gloyn

Girls' rugby

Congratulations to the Year 7 and 8 girls' rugby team. They played against both John Warner School and Knights Templar School on Thursday 1 October and won both games. Their behaviour, determination and attitude was absolutely impeccable. It was a pleasure to take them to this fixture. Congratulations to all students who played and in particular to Rachael Ifarajimi from 7M MMH who was voted girl of the match.

Courtney Aylott	Chantelle Benjamin
Bow Akers	Tia Zealand
Gemma Wallis	Amber Flowers
Rachael Ifarajimi	Samantha Kiwanuka
Emily King	Lucy Watts

Debating Matters

Well done to our Year 13 debating teams (Joseph Barnes, Funlola Oluwole and Ben Gray) who won the qualifying rounds of the Debating Matters competition. Joe had to compete in both debates and Ben had to step in at the last minute, so they did extremely well. They competed against Queenswood School in Hatfield and Spalding High School and won both debates. They performed brilliantly and I am so proud of all of them. Ryan Shaw-Hawkins and Jack Miller were excellent support and Ryan asked some really intelligent questions to challenge all the teams.

The next round will be in the spring term and we will be looking for Year 12 students to join the team; please let them know.

Huge thanks also to Mr Coates for taking us to the competition.

Miss Magill

Tumbling Competition

Emily Bailey won bronze competing at Club grade 1 at MK Springers tumbling competition on September 27. This was her first competition representing her club SSAC gymnastics (Stevenage Sports Acrobatic Club).

This is a wonderful achievement and The Nobel School looks forward to Emily's success in the future.

Well done Emily 7E SCN.



Art Design and Technology news...

Staffing

This September has been a huge change for the whole of the ADT Faculty with the retirement of two long-serving staff resulting in new additions to the staffing team, Joseph James and Jasvinder Jutla. Joe is starting his career in teaching having worked in the film industry and co-authoring of a children's book. Joe is teaching art and design and design technology classes in Years 7-9. Jasvinder has recently moved to the area and works three days a week teaching Year 7-9 design and technology and GCSE resistant materials.

Qualification update

As with many other subjects, there are several changes underway regarding qualifications in ADT subjects. Art A level has moved to the new linear specification, meaning that there are no longer any exams at the end of Year 12. There will be changes to GCSEs in art and design, and food from 2016, and changes to technology GCSEs and A levels from 2017.

Within the faculty, we are always looking to ensure that our curriculum offer enables students to make good progress and gain qualifications that enable them to further progress at the end of Year 11. With this in mind, we have introduced GCSE Product Design, and we are looking to introduce a more vocational engineering qualification to meet the needs of our students.

Inspiring Textiles

The Art department took Year 12 Art Textiles students to the Knit and Stitch show in London recently. The students had an amazing and inspiring time learning new techniques, discovering new materials and meeting the artists.

Courtney Grieve in year 12 said 'I enjoyed the experience, what a great source of inspiration for my coursework.'

Robot Rumble

Six Year 9 students are competing in the Robot Rumble 'intermediate challenge' on Friday 16 October. They currently sit in third position in the competition.

Visits to Industry

The successful IBC Vauxhall Production Plant tour has been scheduled for November for Year 10 GCSE Engineering students. Students find out about assembly methods and the apprenticeship schemes on offer.



Mr Lovelock

Director of Art, Design & Technology Faculty

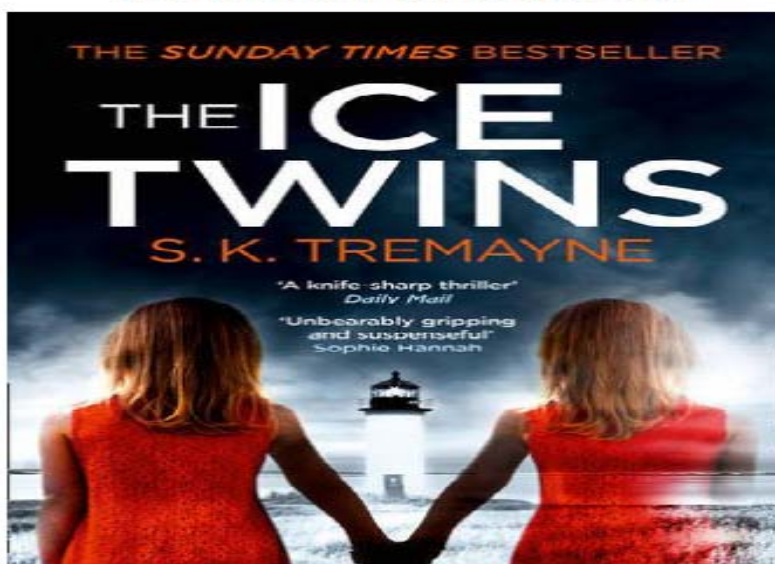


Community Book Group

NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in the Library 6.30pm
Wednesday October 21

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



Year 8 Parents in Science Evening

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend the annual Year 8 Parents in Science Evening, on Monday 16 November 2015 from 5:30 – 7:00pm.

This is an evening that is designed to get our Year 8 students working together with their parents, showcasing their improving science skills, to carry out a scientific investigation. It is a lovely opportunity for your child to show you what they have learnt, as well as allowing your child to interact with students they may not normally get the chance to meet. It is also a chance for students to work with our Sixth Form science ambassadors, and to work with the science teachers in a less formal setting.

If you, and your child, would like to attend this evening, please email me (megan.christie@nobel.herts.sch.uk) by the 2 November 2015.

We look forward to seeing you for an exciting evening of the best science has to offer.

Miss Christie

The Nobel School Presents



Teachers

by John Godber

**directed by Wendy
Darsley**

Tickets

**Adults - £4.00
Concessions - £2.00**

**TUESDAY 20 October
&
WEDNESDAY 21
October**

7.00pm

**LESLIE ROSE
AUDITORIUM**

Whitewall High School is a large comprehensive somewhere in England. It is in a 'Special Priority Area', which means that it has got its fair share of problems. School leavers, Salty, Gail and Hobby are amongst a large number of no-hopers who see future for themselves when they have left school. Then, a new, young drama teacher arrives and takes them under his wing. When he persuades them to put on an end-of-term play about school life they show unexpected talent. Their play is a great success, but will they be able to build on this experience in their future life?"