



Nobel

Excellence in Everything

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you all had a good half-term and that your children were looking forward to coming back to school; any teacher in the country will tell you that as the nights draw in and the clocks go back, the next half-term can be most challenging in the school year. However, I can report that both students and staff have returned to school full of enthusiasm, energy and hope. We are really looking forward to another very successful academic year and the early indications are that we should surpass our record breaking examination results from last summer. Our latest year 11 'data-drop', where teachers, through assessment, indicate what students will achieve in their examinations, was most encouraging. Students across the ability range are making significant progress – there is a really serious and determined atmosphere in school and, with your support, I'm absolutely sure they will fulfill their expectations and more. However, may I remind everyone that the biggest restricting factor is a 'fear of failure' – a mindset that says 'I can't do that!' This attitude needs to be challenged by all of us, all the time. Getting things wrong, making mistakes and taking risks is what proper education is really about. I want you to encourage your children to ask questions and develop their own point of view; being successful in the 21st century will be as much about 'character' as it is about examination results – with a positive mindset and by working together, we can achieve both.

On Tuesday afternoon we welcomed two teachers from Shanghai, Ms Peizhen Wang and Mr Xiaobao Wu, they are spending a month at our school working specifically with our mathematics faculty and more generally with other teachers in Stevenage, Hertfordshire and beyond. As you may be aware, Shanghai province in China enjoys the very best mathematics results in the world therefore their skills and knowledge will be absolutely invaluable as we challenge all of our young people to succeed in mathematics. We are very privileged to have Mr. Wu and Ms. Wang as our guests and we will report in much more detail about their visit in a future edition of 'Nobel News'.

Finally, can I remind you that our Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on Wednesday 11 November starting at 6pm. This is an absolutely vital evening for students and parents as it marks the start of process of information, advice and guidance that all of our year 11 students will be receiving over the next few months. We really do think that our Sixth Form is the best place for the vast majority of our graduating year 11s; please come along and see what we have to offer and if you have friends or neighbours with youngsters in year 11 at other schools – spread the word!

Warm regards,
Martyn Henson

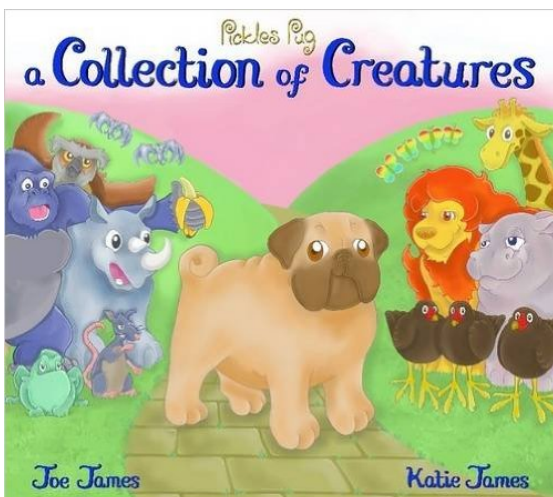
New and retired teachers' from Nobel school

Mr James Nobel's Art and D.T. teacher has written a children's book which has recently been published, available to buy at **PicklesPug.com**

If anyone wishes to purchase a personalised copy, please contact **joseph.james@nobel.herts.sch.uk**

The idea of the book was devised by a brother and sister team. Joe, an Art/DT teacher at The Nobel School in Stevenage and has a degree in Art and Design, wrote the majority of the story and provided the illustrations. Katie, an English teacher at Harlington Upper in Bedford, conceived the original premise of utilising the collective nouns of animals, as well as contributing to the story.

Pickles is an inquisitive young pug who embarks on a journey of discovery. On unhappily finding that his family are collectively known as 'a litter of pups', Pickles sets out to find an alternative moniker, meeting many new friends along the way. The young pup discovers creatures of all shapes and sizes, before finally returning back home to his 'pack of dogs' wiser and contented.



The book is coupled with some exciting wordplay courtesy of existing collective nouns found within the English language, along with some bright and eye catching artwork that playfully represent those nouns. The story is aimed at 3-7 year olds and retails at £3.95.



Nobel School donates Artwork to Lister
Recently retired Art Teacher Frances Thomas, who volunteers at Lister Hospital, has arranged for students' artwork to be framed and put up around the hospital.

'The Lister hospital is thrilled to develop its fabulous ongoing relationship with Nobel school. Just this week we were delighted to receive some amazing art work from Nobel pupils for display in the hospital. We know enhancing the patient care environment with quality artwork makes a real positive difference for our patients and staff ... so to receive these amazing works is just great for all at the hospital. We will be displaying the work on our main corridor and our newly opened Community Hub to emphasis the link with valued local community partners such as Nobel.'

Thanks to teachers and pupils at Nobel for such a wonderful gift.'

David Brewer
Head of Engagement



David Brewer and Fran Thomas

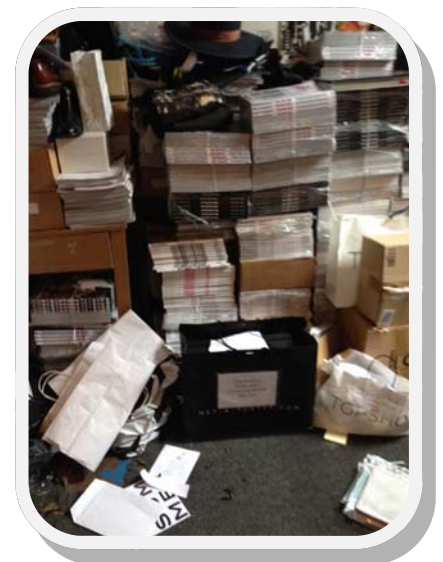
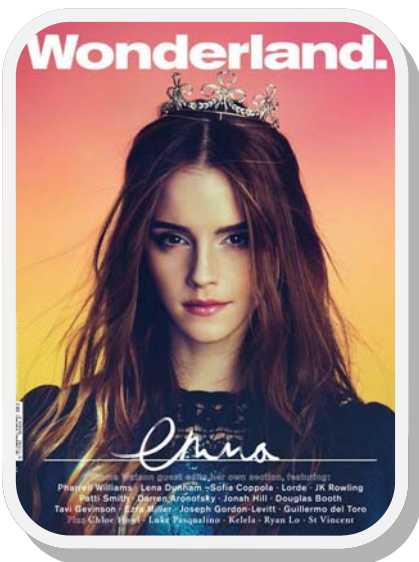
A Level Textiles

A Level Textiles student Isabel Wright gives us an insight into the world of fashion from her recently completed work experience.

Work Experience at Wonderland Magazine –
Izzie Wright

At the beginning of the school year I did some work experience at Wonderland Magazine which is based around fashion, music and beauty. I was lucky enough to be able to go there because my cousin is the editorial director; she invited me to experience what they do in the office and how they create the magazine. In the office there were two floors, one for editorial and the other for fashion and PR. I spent most of my time in fashion and PR helping out. Whilst I was there I got to go to PR offices such as Diesel, Guess and Ella Dror to do clothing returns, which meant taking numerous trips on the tube as the offices were scattered all around central London. It was manic in the office as there were many apprentices working on editorial and fashion PR, writing articles and trying to find venues for events as they had the 10th anniversary edition being released later on in the week.

When I was in the office I packed away clothing which was used for photoshoots for models and celebrities and unpacked new clothing which had been ordered in. The PR assistants also let me open the invitations for London Fashion Week and make note of which ones the office would be attending as they all have busy schedules. Although some of the tasks weren't very active it was interesting to see how much work everyone in the office had to do to make sure everything was in order. I did tasks ranging from admin and filling out return sheets to picking out clothes for models to wear whilst they were having headshots taken in the office. I really enjoyed being in that environment as there was never time to sit around getting bored. Being able to do work experience in such an amazing place has reinforced the reason why I want to go into fashion; as a career as it opens doors to opportunities which are rare in everyday life.



Year 7 Parents in Science Evening

On Monday 19 October the Science faculty held their annual Year 7 Parents in Science Evening. We had a fantastic turn out, with over 90 Year 7 students and their parents in attendance.

After being welcomed with a biscuit and a glass of squash, our guests were invited to carry out flame tests, to see how different metal salts will burn producing different coloured flames and squeaky pop tests, adding hydrochloric acid to magnesium metal and then burning the hydrogen gas produced – resulting in a sometimes rather loud squeaky pop! Our families then carried out a GCSE-level practical, looking at the effect of concentration on the rate of a chemical reaction. After gathering their results, they drew a results table and wrote down a conclusion and an evaluation.

The evening was closed off with a demonstration of elephant's toothpaste and northern lights! It was a fantastic evening and fun was had by all.

Many thanks to Ms Ceschini, Mr Freeman and Dr Finn for helping to run the evening, and to our Sixth Form helpers: Jack Davidson, Robert Gross, Bobby Banks, Philip Snoad, Dylan Butterfield, Tristan Bland, Kloe Buccal and Stephanie Poon.

Miss Christie



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. 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.

This event will take place on Monday 16 November 2015 from 5:30 – 7:00pm.

If you, and your child, would like to attend this evening, please email me at megan.christie@nobel.herts.sch.uk.

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

Miss Christie

Sixth form news...

We were delighted to welcome Dr. Kosnatu Abdulai back to Nobel on Tuesday 20 October. A former student of Nobel, Kosi took time out of her busy schedule to meet with students in Year 12 who are considering applying for medicine at university next year. Kosi left Nobel in 2003 to study medicine at the University of Cambridge, before completing her training at Oxford. After qualifying as a Doctor 6 years ago, Kosi is now a specialist obstetrician and gynecologist.

Kosi shared her experience of preparing her university application, the interview process and the realities of life both at med school and as a junior doctor. The year 12 students asked very interesting questions and were keen to learn about the importance of relevant work experience, the pursuit of extra-curricular projects and hobbies and keeping up to date with current issues in the NHS. It was a very inspiring talk and Kosi offered valuable advice to year 12 students.

We are very grateful to Dr. Abdulai for her support and to Ms. Port for setting up the meeting. It is always a pleasure to welcome returning Nobelians who are able to inspire those about to embark on their undergraduate programmes. We wish her every success in her yearlong placement in a hospital in South Africa.

Mrs. U Bright



St John's Ambulance recently came to Nobel to deliver a First Aid training programme to Year 12 students. Students were given the opportunity to attend a workshop which covered topics including communication and casualty care, recovery position and resuscitation. They were also taught how to deal with bone, muscle and joint injuries, severe bleeding and choking. Every student had to demonstrate their ability to resuscitate using the First Aid dummies and to show their skills in bandaging and applying a sling. A total of 74 students are now qualified First Aiders and were awarded certificates during assembly. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

Mrs Allen



Cashless Catering

Please note that as from Monday 9 November, the Finance Office will not be able to provide students with change for the Cashless Catering system. Parents should make sure that students are given the correct change for the machines in school or alternatively make a payment using the online payment system, details of which are on our website.

Mrs Crawley
Business Manager

Year 9 visit from Performance Poet Jacob Sam-La Rose

On the morning of 22 October, year 9 filed into the hall. There was an air of excitement and some trepidation. Year 9 were about to see their first performance poet, Jacob Sam-La Rose. Jacob has visited Nobel in the past, and we were lucky that he was able to take time from his busy schedule as newly appointed Professor of Poetry at Goldsmiths University and his many international commitments to schools in Chicago and Singapore. Jacob soon allayed the fears of some students that poetry was about “flowery language” and “long dead poets” by performing some of his own poetry and discussing it with the audience. Jacob told the students how he became a poet and the variety of projects he is involved in, working with artists, musicians and dancers as well as teaching and youth poetry slams.



One of the workshops held in the Library

Our students asked lots of great questions and all too soon the session was over. Later students were able to take part in one of three poetry workshops. They all came away with the basis of a poem to develop further. The students were truly inspired and displayed some incredible talent. I would like to thank all the staff who helped with and supported this event.

Mrs Essakhi
Librarian



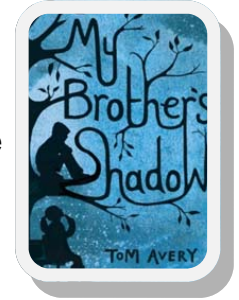
Jacob talking to Year 9 in the Leslie Rose Auditorium



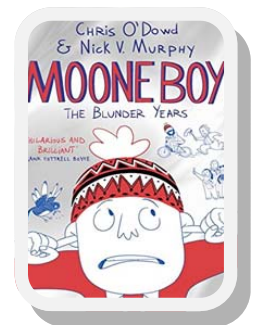
Book corner

Here is a selection of exciting new fiction which has been recently added to the Library:

My name is Kaia.
I'm frozen because of what happened.
I'm trapped because of what I saw. Can someone help me to grow again?
Kaia is frozen when her brother dies, but can an unexpected friend help her to grow again?



Martin Moone is eleven and completely fed up with being the only boy in a family of girls. He's desperate for a decent wingman to help him navigate his idiotic life. So when best mate Padraic suggests Martin get an imaginary friend - or 'IF' for short - he decides to give it a go.



This is the first book in the incredible new series from the author of 'Percy Jackson,' the 'Kane Chronicles' and 'Heroes of Olympus.' Magnus Chase discovers that he is the son of a Norse god.



The gods of Asgard are preparing for war. Trolls, giants and worse monsters are stirring for doomsday. To prevent Ragnarok, Magnus must search the Nine Worlds for a weapon that has been lost for thousands of years. When an attack by fire giants forces him to choose between his own safety and the lives of hundreds of innocents, Magnus makes a fatal decision. Sometimes, the only way to start a new life is to die...



CHRISTMAS FAYRE **SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER**

With it not being long until Christmas, the SST have been involved with the initial planning for our Christmas Fayre and will be helping out on the day. Along with a stall specifically run by the SST, some of us will be painting faces, managing the bouncy castle and being elves!

SPORTS DAY SUCCESS



For those of us who were here last year, you may remember the Tuck Shop we held on Sports Day. Thanks to everybody's help, we managed to raise over £250. This money will be used to improve the Sixth Form and to help fund any events we will hold in the future.

OPEN EVENING

During the Nobel Open Evening, the SST and other members of the Sixth Form helped to make sure the event ran smoothly. Some of us gave out prospectuses, others helped in various subject departments while the rest toured visitors around the building. Bobby and Ellie gave fantastic speeches to parents during the Mr Henson's speech, which is available for viewing online.

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

Written by Michael Tsang

SST TRIP TO WESTMINSTER

On 28 September, Stephen McPartland (MP for Stevenage) sponsored a trip for SST members to visit the Houses of Parliament. Through an in-depth tour of the building, we were able to learn a lot about the history of the architecture and of the artwork on display. It was fascinating to see just how many paintings and sculptures there were and even more fascinating to learn that when the rooms were designed there were meant to be even more pieces of art on display. However, due to the length of time needed to paint, and perhaps in part due to money shortages, many rooms which had spaces intended for paintings of British military victories or of scenes from King Arthur had to be instead filled with portraits of the royal family, which is not to say that they were less impressive.

Another interesting part of the tour was just how many rules there were about where you could and could not sit. It was tempting to sit down in the House of Commons and pretend for a minute that you were an MP, not helped by part of the tour taking place between the bench rows, but it was forbidden to do so, even though no actual MPs were present. While we were there, a class of primary school children were being toured and they were humorously made to kneel between the bench rows to rest their feet and to avoid sitting on the benches. With several tours happening at the same time, it was no wonder why the places where you could sit down were so full. Regardless, it was amusing to be able to enter the House of Commons, a room where the Queen would not be able to enter.

In the end, it was an enriching trip where we could immerse ourselves into an important part of British history and learn more about the workings of modern politics.

By Michael Tsang

Year 8 news...

The start of Year 8 has seen a big change in the pastoral team with a new Head of Year (Mr Lee), Student Support Officer (Miss Fox) and three new form tutors (Mrs Sinclair, Mr Breese and Mr Willsher). The first half of term has allowed these new members of staff to get to know the young people in their care and we have all been very impressed by what we have seen. Even though we are very early in the year, there have already been some very encouraging signs of Year 8 students demonstrating a superb attitude to their school. A large number of Year 8 students helped out at Open Evening in September, primarily acting as guides for families visiting the school. They did a fantastic job showcasing all that our school has to offer and acted as wonderful ambassadors of Nobel. I was incredibly proud to hear several visitors commenting on how helpful their guide was. All students involved should feel similarly proud of themselves. There have also been superb performances on the sporting field with the Year 8 girls' rugby team's performance particularly standing out. These girls had not played competitive rugby before but threw themselves into it. Playing as a team rather than a collection of individuals, working hard for one another and showing admirable bravery, they comprehensively won both their games and we all hope they will be the start of a very successful season. In the classroom, many Year 8 students are progressing well with excellent attendance, a good number of house points and no behaviour points. It goes without saying that students that get these three important areas of school right will be very successful in school. Collectively, the year group's attendance to date sits at just over the targeted 95%. Thank you to both students and families for their efforts in getting to this target and I look forward to seeing it get even better over the next few months.

Despite a very positive start to the year, there have been an alarming number of sanctions for not handing in PLT which is a concern. I would like to make all families aware that I run a Year 8 PLT Club every day after school in HU01 and all students are welcome. If any students are struggling to get their work done at home, I would strongly recommend that they come along to this.

Mr Lee
Head of Year 8

‘Teechers’ By John Godber

The hysterical, yet touching, classroom comedy.

IN a comical end-of-term play, three Year 11 students enthusiastically bring to life their new drama teacher’s progress through two terms of: rowdy classes, pessimistic co-workers and an uncooperative caretaker. Disenchanted, Jeff Nixon leaves for the ‘safe haven’ of a private school, and seemingly abandons his newly inspired students. ‘*Teechers*’ is a contemporary classic, with a vital message about education for the ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’. Director Wendy Parsley (with help from a very talented cast) brought the 1980s tale bang up to date.



William Hextall’s wide variety of facial expressions were very entertaining – with the grumpy caretaker being one of the many highlights from the show. Coral Willis produced a flirty performance as ‘bouncy’ PE teacher Miss Prime, which contrasted wonderfully with Megan Dowler’s quirky portrayal of ‘Am-Dram’ loving Head Teacher Mrs Parry.

Alex Sabine and Jordan Dutt had the very hard task of giving a new interpretation on the well-known characters of Oggy Moxon and Deputy Head Mr Basford. Both actors were a treat for the audience to watch, with much laughter and gritting of teeth being had.

Personality was added through the witty main characters of Salty, Gail and Hobby; played wonderfully by Ashley Woolhead, Laura Clarke and Lucy Rodgers. A real comradeship was shown on stage between these actors, with Godber’s snappy lines being delivered with confidence and ease.

Haydn Mullane entertained the audience as the slightly-awkward new drama teacher Jeff Nixon. He convincingly explained the character’s ‘rose tinted’ views on the education system with a

The supporting cast stepped up to the huge challenge of playing multiple roles convincingly, flicking between their various characters with seemingly little effort. Kizzie Hopkinson and Eden Cardine created realistic representations of the well-meaning/struggling teachers, while Holly Walker, Abbie Hamilton and Kaitlin Corney focused on supplying the audience with humorous yet disillusioned school kids (mobile phones galore!)

Stand out moments: dodgy teacher dancing at the Christmas disco, a caretaker hell-bent on clearing up the School Hall before the drama club is even over, and the slow-motion Tennis match was choreographed brilliantly. With that said, there was only one thing that this biased critic thought was missing – a jam packed Auditorium!

Don’t get me wrong, the audience of supportive family, friends and staff was extremely encouraging for the nervous cast – but the sheer volume of grinning, laughing and chuckling faces wasn’t nearly enough to satisfy the eye.

If you didn’t manage to catch the show this time, then please don’t miss out again. There are plenty of other fantastic Music concerts, Dance shows and Drama productions produced by the dedicated Performing Arts Faculty (all starring your talented children). If you don’t believe me one ardent Nobel School audience member said, ‘It is one of the great privileges of being headteacher that you always get a front row invite to school productions! I laughed out loud many times at this lovely production and marvelled at the performances of our Nobelians.

Congratulations to all concerned; I am a very proud headteacher’ – see what did I tell you? Again, you may think we’re inclined to think this way – but I think we’re allowed to brag about our dedicated students. However, why not come along and judge for yourself?

Miss Clarke - English Faculty, and (not so) Secret Theatre Critic.

Information...

Exam Invigilators – Bank Staff (Variable Hour Contract)

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.

Nobel School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all of its students and staff. The successful candidate will have to meet the requirements of the person specification in order to be offered the post and will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references. We welcome applications from all suitably qualified teachers regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or religion.

For further information, please contact Chantal Coakes (chantal.coakes@nobel.herts.sch.uk).

Do you know of anyone...

who would be willing to support Employer Engagement and Careers at Nobel School with Work Placements, students' talks or industry visits? If so contact Stuart.Trotter@Nobel.herts.sch.uk

The Nobel school is delighted to be able to offer a unique opportunity to suitable students to participate in a series of modules designed to prepare students for the Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT) for Oxford University entrance or for STEP and AEA examinations



The first module will begin on Saturday 31st October at 10am at Nobel school, Mobbsbury Way, Stevenage Herts. SG2 OHS.

Please contact Irina Tolchenova on:
Email Irina.Tolchenova@nobel.herts.sch.uk
Telephone: 01438 222600
for more information or to book a place for this unique and rare opportunity.

Well done to all students, The charity money raised for Keech Hospice and Multiple Sclerosis Society was £828.00



“Congratulations to Roshni Dholakia for being our first Gold Nobelian. Mr Henson was proud to present our first Gold Pin to Roshni (Yr 9) for completing all 12 steps of the Successful Nobeliens programme.”





Are you interested in gaining a qualification in



Maths?

Hertfordshire Adult and Family Learning Service and **Nobel School** invite you to a **FREE** Functional Skills course in Maths where you will have the opportunity to;

- Have a chance to develop your maths skills in a fun and relaxed way
- Enjoy working in a group with similar interests
- Apply what you learn to everyday life and situations
- Discover strengths in maths you did not know you had
- Develop an understanding of how children learn
- Gain a qualification for your CV or to help you at work



This 24 week course will take place over the school's academic year
Starts: Monday 9th November
Time: 6.45 to 9.00 pm
At: Nobel School, Mobbsbury Way, Stevenage Herts SG4 7DY

If you would like more information or wish to reserve a place please return the slip below or contact Debbieclark@nobel.herts.sch.uk

X.....

Functional Skills Maths course: 9th November 2015 6.45-9.00pm at Nobel School

Name: Contact Number:.....

Email:..... I am interested in Learning more about the maths course

I would like to book a place on the maths course (Please tick)



Music workshop days

In the run up to half term the music department held two workshop days for year 7 and year 9 students. These workshops offered students the opportunity to play new instruments and discover new genres of music with an emphasis on encouraging students to participate in the African drumming and Samba extra-curricular groups. Archie Samson, a year 9 student, has written an account of the day:

“On Friday 16th October, year 9 took part in half hour samba workshops. It was a great opportunity to learn about a new type of music. We each had an instrument: Tamborims, Surdo drums, Agogo bells, Chocalhos and Repinique drums. First Caz, the leader of the workshop, taught us how to play each instrument and gave us a beat. She then directed us in with her whistle, an Apieto, and it sounded amazing. It was really fun and everyone learnt a lot from it and hopefully more people will be attending the Nobel samba club on a Tuesday after school.”



Miss Woodhouse

MFL...

MFL September / October Language learners of the half term



German

Yr7 Molly Prutton 7TLRN

French

Yr8 Kenny Davies 8CPWE

Spanish

Yr9 Tobi Laguda 9ESWE

German

Yr10 Macy Leigh 10EJHS

French

Appey Ogenyi 11NES



Friends of Nobel School 100 Club Winners for October

Number	Name	Prize
23	Andy Smith	£33
99	Om Walsh	£26

Community book group...

NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in the Library 6.30pm

Tuesday November 17

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



Forthcoming events:

Saturday 7 November - Yr 11 study skills workshop 9:30am - 3:00pm

Wednesday 11 November - Yr 11 Post 16 options evening 6:00 - 7:30pm

Saturday 14 November - Christmas Fayre 11:00am - 2:00pm

Monday 16 November - Yr 8 Parents in science 5:30 - 7:00pm

Wednesday 18 November - Friends of Nobel School (FONS) food event 7:00 - 8:00pm

Wednesday 25 November - Yr 9 Options information evening 6:30 - 8:30pm

Friday 18 December - last day of term.

The Nobel School

Christmas Fayre 2015

Saturday 14 November



11am – 2pm

Gift ideas, Santa, Bouncy Castle + Refreshments and much more!

Choirs

Mulled Wine + Fresh Mince Pies

Stalls will cost £10, where £5 will be donated to The Stevenage Haven charity

Donations on the door will also be appreciated.

For more information on how to book a stall please contact

Christmasfayre@nobel.herts.sch.uk

