

# News

01 July 2016  
Edition 3.18

## From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

It has been a really challenging time for our country. The European Union referendum has created unrest and division – unfortunately, this is symptom of a process that requires a binary, yes/no response to a single question. When there is no room for compromise, we are forced to take sides and our language can become divisive and combative instead of tolerant and measured. However, the beauty of living in a democracy is that we accept the will of the majority and move on and I will be taking assemblies over the next couple of weeks stressing that our community and the atmosphere that we have in our lovely school, will not be affected at all by the ‘fall-out’ from the referendum – set out below is a reminder of our school ethos.

*We believe in a school culture where:*

*we value everyone, embracing diversity.*

*we work together, learning from each other by sharing ideas.*

*we take responsibility for our own actions.*

*we push the boundaries of achievement and challenge ourselves to improve.*

*we measure and monitor our performance and have clear measurable targets.*

*we encourage and support all types of enrichment activities.*

I was shocked and disappointed to read reports that elsewhere in the country some people were being told to ‘go home’ and told that they are not welcome anymore. Whatever happens, we must not get involved in such behaviour. It is fundamental to being a true Nobelian that ‘we value everyone, embracing diversity’ and it is during turbulent times that we must do our best to adhere to these essential principles.

On a specific school level, I can report that with less than three weeks of the academic year left, we have had another fabulous year. I should



# Nobel

Excellence in Everything

like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful people that work in this very special school. Our teachers continue to operate over and above expectations as they work with each other to improve the learning of our students but also provide Nobelians with extra-curricular opportunities that build character and resilience. I should also like to thank all the support staff including Engie and Edwards Blake staff, who work tirelessly, often behind the scenes, to help us be the best we can possibly be as we strive for ‘Excellence in Everything’. We will be fully staffed again in September as our recruitment procedures continue to buck the national trend of teacher shortages – by and large, people like working here!

On a separate note, I am holding a parents’ surgery here at school next Wednesday 6 July between 5:30-6:30pm. To make an appointment to see me, please contact my secretary, Mrs Coakes ([chantal.coakes@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chantal.coakes@nobel.herts.sch.uk)).

The 19<sup>th</sup> and final edition of Nobel News will be published on Tuesday 19 July – this will look forward to next year and I will attempt to outline to you our ambitions as we work towards our next Ofsted inspection and, hopefully, outstanding status.

Warm regards,

<https://twitter.com/nobelschooluk>



<https://www.facebook.com/nobelschooluk>



## Rio week!

The Olympic Games are fast approaching and Nobel School is keen to join in with the celebrations!

On **Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 July** all Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be out of normal lessons and involved in a range of experiences that will improve their awareness of **global citizenship** through learning about the **Olympics**, this year held in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil!**

### What's on offer?

**Design an Olympic Park** in Maths and Humanities!

**Experience the Rio Carnival** in MFL and Performance!

**Analyse sporting performance** in Science and PE!

Learn about the **contrasting fortunes for those living in Rio during the Olympics** in English and ADT!

### Please note:

To accommodate the sessions **school will end at 3.05pm on Thursday 7 July** (normal finish time 3.25pm).

Year 8 should wear their PE kit to school on Wednesday 6 July

Year 7 and Year 9 should wear their PE kit to school on Thursday 7 July



## Computing news...

A group of year 9 computing students, helped by Dr Finn and me have been working with a team of IT staff from Wilmott Dixon to gain experience with Raspberry Pi computers. These pocket-sized computers can do most of the things that a standard computer can but need more specialist commands to be learned before you can use them. In the first four weeks of the course the students have progressed from learning the basic commands that operate the computer to starting 3-D graphics programming in a Minecraft environment. The first programming work used Scratch, where blocks are put together to build up a program. This is usually used to build games but our students were set a number of maths challenges that they all solved in different ways to get the right result. The next session moved on to use Python, where students now had to type in their programs instead of building blocks of code. This is the main programming language used in schools and is a skill that will be useful as the students start to tackle the Computer Science GCSE next term. They created 2-D graphics programs in Python and in the most recent session moved on to 3-D graphics.

As this is the first time that Wilmott Dixon have delivered this material it was hard to guess how the students would get on with the course. As it can be hard to get the students to leave after some sessions it is clear that it is an enjoyable and engaging topic!

In the remaining three sessions the students will choose a project to showcase their new skills, possibly with a building theme suggested by the Wilmott Dixon team.

Mr Bell

Teacher of Computing / IT



## Robot Rumble 2016 Preliminary event!

On Friday 24 June 2016 we went to MBDA headquarters in Stevenage with Mrs Townhill, together with our newly made robot/buggy to take part in the preliminary event of the Robot Rumble. We managed to achieve 7<sup>th</sup> place out of 16 groups with our quickest time of 11.86 seconds in the Obstacle Course. This earned us 10 Robot Rumble Stars to take forward to the intermediate event in October 2016. During the three attempts at the obstacle course, we made some changes to our design (such as, a wheel change as well as some assistance with our programming skills). About half way through the event our Bluetooth keys were not responding correctly so we improvised and used the data cable to run the robot.

**Tia:** "The thing I liked most about the day was when we first raced down the track, but it was annoying when the remote ran out of batteries because we were worried about whether we were going to miss our turn."



**Seb:** "I absolutely loved the day! It was so scary for the first hour or two I was so worried we'd not be prepared but I soon realised I was loving it. When I saw people not understanding some of the programming, I helped! It was awesome."

**Matt:** "I loved the challenges we had to overcome. The fact that we got our robot moving was a nice thing to see, since we had issues previously with the programming, therefore when we got it moving correctly, I was ecstatic! I can't wait until the future events, but also developing our design and improving it. All in all, it was an amazing day!"

**Jamie:** "I loved the experience. At first I thought that we would not be ready because of the program, it wasn't working correctly. We got back on track and came 7<sup>th</sup>! I am very excited for the future events – October and December 2016."

Article written by

Tia Zealand

Jamie O'Brian

Matthew Oliver

Sebastian Sabine

## Three Peaks practice walk

On Sunday 26 June a small group of the three peaks team and teachers took on Cadair Idris in Wales and climbed 874 metres (2885 feet) to the summit.

We experienced sunshine, wind, light rain and then torrential rain as we traversed the 'Devil's Bowl'.

The students were exemplary and showed real determination and spirit to complete the circular walk up and around the crag despite the mixed conditions.

Students names: Alexander Terrett, Abigail Schofield-Basham, Alice Welch, Maria Araba,

and Juliette Georges.

Recognition should also be given to Miss Pearson and Miss Mordaunt who have supported me with this walk for the last 4 years.

Mr Lovelock



More photos on page 4

30 June 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

You might have seen in the news that some teachers will be taking industrial action on 5 July 2016. The strike is about the level of funding schools receive, teachers' terms and conditions and teacher workload. The argument is not with Nobel or with the local authority employers, but our school will be affected by the strike.

Some of our teachers will be taking strike action on 5 July 2016, others will be working normally. We will not be able to guarantee the safety of all of our children on that day, and we will need to close the school to some year groups that will not be properly supervised.

The following year groups will not be sufficiently supported and you will need to make other arrangements for your child on that day. Do not send your child to school if he/she is in one of these year groups: 7, 8 and 9.

The year 11-12 induction day will take place as scheduled. Any year 11 student not listed to attend the induction day or year 12 student not listed as assisting should not be sent to school.


The year 10 English exam (all year 10s) will take place as scheduled on Tuesday morning.

The start time for the year 10 exams scheduled for Tuesday afternoon (namely engineering, Mandarin, sociology, dance and PE exams) will be brought forward to midday (all year 10 students with an afternoon exam must remain in school between exams). All year 10 students should wear uniform whilst in school.

I know that making alternative arrangements for your children will be difficult for some parents. That is why we are giving as much notice as possible and running as many classes/events as we can safely.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you need further clarification. I'm sure that we will quickly get back to normal on Wednesday.

Yours faithfully

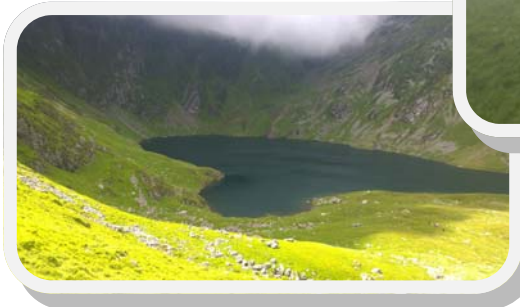


Martyn Henson  
Headteacher



*"Ofsted 2014: The Nobel School is a good school"*

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We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to this year's summer showcase, which will be held on **Tuesday 12 July at 7pm in the Leslie Rose Auditorium**. This end of year concert will be a chance for our talented actors, dancers and musicians to share their talents with you.

Refreshments will be served from 6:30 pm and during the interval. There will be no

charge for this concert, but we will need you to let us know if you are attending so that we can reserve you a space. It always means a lot to students when family members and staff attend the concerts, and helps to build and improve staff-student relationships around the school.

We look forward to seeing lots of you there  
The performance faculty.

## Duke of Edinburgh award - presentation evening

On the 14 June, Nobel School held its first presentation evening for the students who have taken part in the DofE award. The night was a huge success, with students, staff and parents all enjoying the occasion.

The main reason for the evening is for students to present what they have achieved during their 3 weekends completing their expedition section. They presented to their peers and all of their parents, which can be quite daunting, but all students were fantastic. At the same time we also celebrated individual and group successes, from the other sections of the award. Very shortly, we should have some of the students receiving their Bronze Award!

Looking forward to next year, if any Year 9 students are interested in getting involved with the DofE award, they need to contact me in school.

Kind Regards  
Mr Malam  
DofE Coordinator



### *Friends of Nobel School 100 Club Winners for June*

Number	Name	Prize
4	Ed Twomey	£33
53	Christopher Watts	£26

## Lost property

Lost property will be available to view at Reception from 8.30am Wednesday 13 July to 1.00pm Wednesday 20 July. Please encourage your child to come and collect any belongings they may have lost. Parents are also welcome to come and look for lost belongings. Any lost property not collected by Wednesday 20 July will be recycled.

## **Biomedical scientist is winning career for The Nobel School**

Health Education England (HEE) is delighted to announce that students from The Nobel School are the East of England winners of the *Step into the NHS* national schools' competition.

Students Molly Cave and Roshni Dholakia impressed the judges with their entry to promote the role of a biomedical scientist to their peers. The girls created a great video which allowed students to better understand what a biomedical scientist does on a day-to-day basis.

Now in its eighth year, the competition attracted numerous entries from up and down the country and more than 3,000 students got involved. The competition aims to promote the 350 plus careers available in health and students were tasked with designing an advertisement and job description for their chosen role. They could work individually or in groups of up to four.

Miss Pearson said: "We are thrilled that our students have won this important prize. This competition has proven to be a valuable classroom tool, engaging students with the workings of the health service and the different career options available to them. The hard work and effort invested in their project reflects their commitment and dedication."

Roshni said: "We picked the job role of a biomedical scientist because we did a quiz on which career would suit us most and we both got biomedical scientist on the top of our list. The NHS competition was a wonderful experience and we learnt a lot about biomedical scientists and other jobs in the NHS too."

Molly added: "We really enjoyed taking part in the competition and are now more aware of the wide variety of careers available in the NHS. The competition has made us aware of what qualifications and skills are needed for certain roles in health and has definitely got me interested in a job in the NHS in the future."

Sarah Marcello, Strategic development manager for Health Education England in the East of England, said: "I'd like to congratulate Molly Cave, Roshni Dholakia and The Nobel School for their fantastic entry. Young people are extremely important to the future of the NHS workforce. It is important that the NHS engages with young people now and lets them know about the wealth of career opportunities.

"There are 350 different careers to choose from in health and jobs range from community matron, dietician or public health analyst to a finance manager or web developer. Initiatives such as the schools competition really help to raise awareness of this."

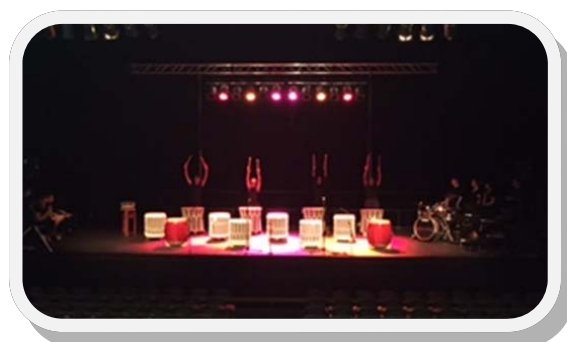
## **Taiko drumming**

Last week, four year eight students from Nobel were selected to perform in the Stevenage music mini festival at the Gordon Craig. This festival celebrated 70 years of Stevenage and included a number of primary schools and other acts on separate days. The Nobel students Jovan Navjee, Alexi Newman, Naomi Mbewe and Rocher Fergus performed a Japanese style of drumming called taiko and collaborated with students from Barnwell and Thomas Alleyne School.

We rehearsed over five weeks leading up to the show and found the drumming both fun and exciting. It was interesting learning how to play the drums and the different techniques used.

We were really pleased to have been selected and represent our school and are looking forward to continuing with the Taiko drumming extra-curricular club now running at Nobel on Mondays after school.

By Alexi Newman, 8AHY



## Sports day - Friday 8 July

Nobel's annual sports day will take place on Friday 8 July. Students will make their own way to the Ridlins Stadium for 8:30 am to register, with competition commencing at 9:00 am and finishing at around 1:45 pm. There will be a minibus available to shuttle students who have no access to transport from school to Ridlins from 7:45 am onwards.

On this day it is important that students wear the correct PE kit and bring warm clothes and waterproofs just in case the weather turns inclement. It is also advisable to bring plenty of water, sun cream and a hat for protection against the sun. No face paint is allowed to be worn on the day.

We would be grateful if all students could wear a tee-shirt of their house colour:

Curie	Blue
Eliot	Green
Mandela	Red
Theresa	Yellow

There will be no food provided on the day, so students should bring a packed lunch with them. Students who receive free school meals will have a packed lunch provided for them which will be delivered to the stadium.

If you would like to come and watch your son or daughter compete, there will be a designated area for parent spectators; please note that parents will not be permitted to access other areas in the athletics stadium and will not be able to sit with students. The taking of photographs and videos is permitted, but no material should be placed on any form of social media. A map of the venue and timetable is on the school website.

Mr Howells

Director of Faculty



## LODGE FARM VISIT THE ART DEPARTMENT

The art department received a visit from the reception class at Lodge Farm recently. They came to see the GCSE Art Exhibition, and were very excited to visit Nobel. The children enjoyed seeing the artwork and the year 12 art graphic students were brilliant at guiding them around the exhibition. The Lodge Farm students particularly enjoyed the 3D shoes that were on display and when they returned back to class they produced some lovely Artwork of their own inspired by their visit.





## Message from Miss Gant

Dear parents and students of year 7,

It is my pleasure to formally introduce myself as the Head of Year 8 beginning September 2016.

Having just waved goodbye to my year 11's after being with them since year 8, it fills me with excitement to be able to go through this process again with a new year group.

I have worked at Nobel for over 7 years, as well as being a former Nobelian myself. I hold the school in the highest regard and know that Nobel is a very special place filled with staff who genuinely want the best for its students.

Joining me in supporting your sons and daughters is Sue Smith, the year group's new Student Support Officer. Ms Smith and I have worked together for 4 years and we have both been liaising heavily with Mr Smith and Ms Penney to get to know your children.

We have also started to attend assemblies and will be doing an official handover during these last few weeks, when we will present our fundamental expectations that students should always work hard and be kind to each other.

I wish you all a fantastic summer and look forward to meeting you during the next academic year.

Miss Gant



## Athletics Championships

Congratulations to the students listed below for representing Nobel at the County Athletics Championships on Saturday 11 June at Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead. There were some outstanding performances that have led to some athletes meeting the entry standards for the English Schools Athletics Championships. These students will be considered for the county team. Well done to all for their efforts.

### Year 7

Lounis Guemache participated in the 1500 metres and finished in 16th place with a time of 5.25 minutes.

### Year 9

Semba Bwalya participated in the 200 metres. He finished in 2nd place in the final with a time of 24.00 seconds. Semba achieved the entry standard. Semba also competed in the long jump finishing in 13th place with a jump of 4.84 metres.

Gideon Okentunji competed in the 200 metres and finished in 3rd place in his heat with a time of 25.8 seconds.

Dominic Buckland finished in 2nd place in the discus. He threw 36.93 metres which was an entry standard.

### Year 10

Nick Murray competed in the 100 metres. He won his final with a time of 11.5 seconds. This is an excellent achievement.

Sam Wiggins competed in the 800 metres. He finished in 8th place with a time of 2.08 minutes.

Erin Oliver competed in the 800 metres. She finished in 9th place with a time of 2.33 minutes.

### Year 11

Alisha Levy finished in first place in the javelin. She threw 37.11 metres. This is an entry standard throw.

Miss Foy

Logic puzzle:

A hunter met two shepherds, one of whom had three loaves and the other, five loaves. All the loaves were the same size. The three men agreed to share the eight loaves equally between them. After they had eaten, the hunter gave the shepherds eight bronze coins as payment for his meal. How should the two shepherds divide this money based on the bread they gave to the hunter?

Answer page 10

## Dates for the diary:

3 to 10 July - Yr10 German visit

4 & 5 July - Sixth Form induction

5 July - School closed for yrs 7, 8 & 9 due to industrial action. Year 10 exams and sixth form induction day will still take place; students must wear school uniform.

7 July - Yr10 mock exams finish

8 July - Yr7, 8 and 9 Form tutor reports on VLE

8 July - Sports day

11 July - New year 7 parents induction meeting

12 July - Summer Concert

13 July - Sports presentation evening

14 July - Transition day

15 July - Yr10 Form tutor reports on VLE

### 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

Solution page 10

Daily No. 3691

Easy

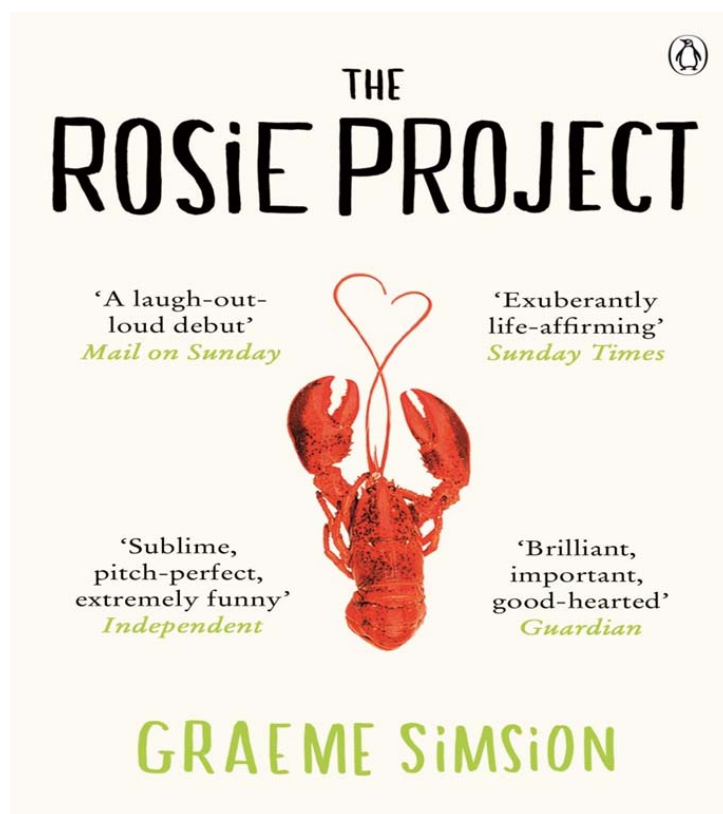
30		12		12	7		15	
		7				23		
18	7		16	4				22
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	18					24		
6			15				18	
				22				

# NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in the Library 6.30pm

Tuesday 12 July 2016

**THE BOOK TO READ IS:**



Contact: Rosalind Essakhi: 01438 222600 or email: [library@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:library@nobel.herts.sch.uk)

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

## Logic puzzle answer

The shepherd who had three loaves should get one coin and the shepherd who had five loaves should get seven coins. If there were eight loaves and three men, each man ate two and two-thirds loaves. So the first shepherd gave the hunter one-third of a loaf and the second shepherd gave the hunter two and one-third loaves. The shepherd who gave one-third of a loaf should get one coin and the one who gave seven-thirds of a loaf should get seven coins

Daily No. 3691

Easy

30	6	7	12	3	9	12	5	7	4	1	15	2	8
8	9	7	1	6	7	2	23	3	4	5			
18	5	7	2	4	16	4	8	1	3	7	9	22	6
4	1	5	3	17	8	6	2	7	9				
9	24	6	24	7	16	5	2	1	4	11	8	3	
3	8	2	7	4	20	9	6	8	5	3	1		
7	18	4	8	1	6	5	24	9	3	2			
6	1	5	9	15	2	3	7	8	18	6	4		
2	3	6	4	22	9	8	5	1	7				

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# Sixth Form Induction

## 4 & 5 July

- Compulsory for all students who would like to join the sixth form in September
- An opportunity for you to find out more about sixth form life
- Experience taster sessions for the subjects you are interested in studying in September



**Nobel**  
Sixth Form





# Extra-Curricular Clubs

## Summer Term



	BEFORE SCHOOL	LUNCH TIME	AFTER SCHOOL
MONDAY		TENNIS - MUGA FOOTBALL - ASTRO KWIK CRICKET - ASTRO BASKETBALL - MUGA	ATHLETICS – All years
TUESDAY		TENNIS - MUGA FOOTBALL - ASTRO KWIK CRICKET - ASTRO BASKETBALL - MUGA	ROUNDERS- All years (Boys and Girls)
WEDNESDAY	CRICKET TRAINING (Boys and Girls)	TENNIS - MUGA FOOTBALL - ASTRO KWIK CRICKET - ASTRO BASKETBALL - MUGA	CRICKET CLUB –All years (Boys and Girls)
THURSDAY		TENNIS - MUGA FOOTBALL - ASTRO KWIK CRICKET - ASTRO BASKETBALL - MUGA	CARDIO TENNIS
FRIDAY	CRICKET TRAINING (Boys and Girls)	TENNIS - MUGA FOOTBALL - ASTRO KWIK CRICKET - ASTRO BASKETBALL - MUGA	STAFF SPORTS