

News

24 February 2017
Edition 4.10

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

Students and staff have been working extremely hard since the beginning of the Spring term and for most of us the half-term holiday was really well received. School holidays are not necessarily easy to organise for working parents, but they do give the vast majority of students and staff the opportunity to recharge their batteries. However, there were a number of staff and many year 11 students who spent three days in school over the holidays 'catching up' in the key areas of English and mathematics. Well over 30 students attended sessions specifically designed and focused, through Question Level Analysis based on the 'mock' examinations, on challenging misconceptions and developing confidence. When I came into school last Thursday the atmosphere was fantastic and the determination to succeed palpable. Well done to all involved and special thanks to:

Mrs. Marshall, who organised the sessions, Ms. Blight and Ms. Clarke from maths; Mr. MacGuire, Mrs. Phillips, Ms. Sinclair and Mr. Mabbitt from English and Ms. Ormiston, Mr. Boycott, Ms. Pearson and Ms. Mordaunt from science – our students are very grateful, thank you.

As always, when it comes to examinations, we are mostly concerned with the progress of individual Nobelians. This is at the heart of what we do at our lovely school – to maximise the academic performance of all our students. However, there is also a 'spin-off' for the school - we want to perform really well as an institution so that we will be classified as outstanding at our next inspection. In terms of achieving such a judgment, we are not quite there yet. There is much that is excellent in our school, but we do



Nobel

Excellence in Everything

performance if we are to be totally confident in being 'outstanding'. Helping the students who came into school last week to fulfill their potential will go a long way to improving the school's 'progress 8' score. I will ask Mr Martin to explain 'progress 8' to you in the next edition of Nobel News.

Finally, if your son or daughter is in year 11 and you think they could do with some extra support or if you would like to discuss with someone how you, at home, can make a difference please do not hesitate to contact Mr Spence

(ryan.spence@nobel.herts.sch.uk)

Furthermore, recent evidence from Hertfordshire County Council suggests that around 10% of families who qualify for extra 'pupil premium' funding are not actually claiming this entitlement. If you think you might qualify for some extra support please contact Mrs Marshall

(julia.marshall@nobel.herts.sch.uk).

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Warm regards

Martyn Henson

HSBC Mandarin Chinese Speaking Competition

Recently, the Year 11 class studying Mandarin Chinese for GCSE went into London to take part in a speaking competition with the first prize being a free trip to Beijing!

There were several areas in which the students were able to be assessed and we decided upon performing a drama as a group. We did have the option of performing a dance or a song but felt that a drama would help us more with our speaking assessments at GCSE and be more demanding. The group consisted of Serena Bateman, Jessica Rowe, Cynthia Wordingham, Willow Rowlands, Emily Whitaker and Kiana Moradian.

Kiana is currently studying French and Mandarin in Year 9 and was included as the competition rules required at least 2 different ability groups in the same team. Kiana is a very proficient speaker of Mandarin however, despite only studying it for just over a year at this point so we decided to enter her in the individual category as well.

The day arrived and after much preparation and practice after school, we went into London to perform. Kiana went first in the individual category where she performed superbly in the beginner's group. She spoke for 3 minutes in Mandarin to an expectant crowd and panel of judges who were listening carefully to both her content and pronunciation. Afterwards, she was asked 3 questions about her presentation in Mandarin by a judge which she had no preparation time for. She answered all 3 correctly. Lastly, Kiana was shown 3 lines in English which she had to immediately interpret and say in Mandarin. Despite the other candidates having fairly straightforward ones, Kiana was faced with some very difficult ones! Kiana bravely answered all 3 excellently and the crowd were very impressed by her Chinese!

Next we did some last minute practice and then it was time to perform our piece on stage as a group. It was very nerve wracking, many schools from all over Britain were in the audience and there was a panel of judges once more. Despite nerves slightly getting the better of them, the team put in an excellent performance under stress. The play depicted job interviews as our final topic of study in GCSE is Jobs/Future Careers and we felt that it would be a great opportunity to practise this new and important vocabulary before the summer GCSE exam. The students wrote the whole script themselves which also included some comedy (from Serena!) and cultural aspects such as drinking jasmine tea which we knew would score us bonus points!

Knowing that we would not know the results for several weeks, we then made our way into Chinatown near Leicester Square to celebrate our efforts, speak some more Mandarin to the restaurant staff and have our fill of dim sum! From there we made our way home to Stevenage by train.

A few weeks later we were informed via email that neither the group nor Kiana in the individuals made it through to the Grand Final. We were all shocked, especially for Kiana as her performance had been very impressive. We did however feel that it had been a wonderful experience and great practice for upcoming speaking tests. It was also very revealing to see what other types of schools study Mandarin in the UK and meet students with a similar passion for languages. All in all, it was a successful experience and one which will stick in minds for a long time. Well done to all students involved and a special thanks to Hong Yu Jiang in Year 11 for his help in checking the team's pronunciation during their practice.

Bring on next year's competition! Jiayou! 加油！

Mr Trew
Head of Languages

Year 7 news...

I'm not sure where the last 6 months have gone! It seems like only a few weeks ago that our Year 7s became Nobelians, but already they are half way through their first year.

At this stage in Year 7, the first round of data has been collected ahead of our upcoming Parents' Evenings on 27 February and 1 March. This data looks very promising with more than 75 % of the cohort currently making expected or better than expected progress within their training groups, across all subjects.

At our end of term assembly in December, the following achievements were celebrated:

Of the 240 students in the Year 7, 203 students have outstanding attendance (> 95%), 93 have 100% attendance, with Ryan Robbins, winning the 100 % attendance raffle. 138 students have no behaviour points (a record at the end of the first term during my time as Head of Year 7), Jasmine Driver won the "perfect behaviour" raffle.

Prizes were also awarded for house points – The prize for the most community house points prize (awarded for contribution to the Nobel community) was won by Viktor Trotter and Charlotte Livings, whilst the prize for most academic house points (awarded for exceptional work in lessons and PLT) was won by Thomas Allen and Ella Whitworth. The prize for the most house points overall went to Piper Macquillan.

All prize winners receive vouchers for Amazon.

Finally, the top 10% of students who have made the most progress, academically, since joining Nobel, whilst maintaining a high standard of behaviour, have been invited to a celebration breakfast with Mr Henson, their form tutors, and me; an event that I am very much looking forward to.

Our Year 7 students have made a fantastic start to life as Nobelians – keep up the great work!

Mr Smith

Head of Year 7.

Dates for the diary:

1 March - Year 7 parents' evening

2 March - World Book day

8 March - FONS meeting

10 March - FONS quiz night

Brain teaser

All natural numbers can be written as the sum of cubes of other natural numbers.

For example:

$$37 = 2^3 + 8 + 1 + 1 = 3^3 + 2^3 + 1^3 + 1^3$$

All but two natural numbers can be written as the sum of eight or fewer cubes.

Two numbers require the sum of at least nine cubes.

- One such number is 239. Write 239 as the sum of nine cubes.
- What is the other natural number that requires a sum of at least nine cubes?

Solution page 7

County Cross Country Championships...

On Saturday 4 February the PE department took some students down to the County cross country championships at Verulam Park in St. Albans. All students did very well in the competition finishing in the top 40 of each race. Adam Mason (22) did very well finishing in twelfth place.

Here he was competing against students who were on the whole a year above him in year 13.



here he will represent Hertfordshire cross country team in these championships.

Samuel Wiggins in year 11 also did very well in his age group finishing fifth which means he qualifies for the English Schools Cross country championships in March,



Leah Bottomley did very well in the pre junior age group for girls finishing a commendable twenty eighth in the race. Since this is her first experience of competing in the cross country championships she did very well.



The year 7 boys above who competed in the Pre Junior event also did very well. Above - Benedict Clarke (thirty second), Albie Battle (thirty third) and Rojay Elizee (thirty sixth). Below - Lavel Thomas-Davis and Ryan Samupita. Here all the boys did very well finishing in the top 40 of all competitors.

Well done to all took part in the competition, you did us all proud!

Nobel PE department



Indoor rowing championships – Stevenage

School Games Held at Barnwell leisure centre
1 February 2017



The Boys under 16s team above won the Stevenage School Games 4 x500m relay rowing race easily over the other Stevenage schools winning by 300 metres. The team comprises – Lewis Montague, Gideon Oketunji, Sam Heron and Dominic Buckland. They are now going to represent Stevenage in the county school games in March.



The under 14s team also won the indoor Stevenage games rowing championships by 200 metres and again will represent Stevenage in the county championships in March. The team comprised of Mazeed Ogungbo, Alex Boxer, Freddie O'Brien and Sam Brookes

Both girls' teams did very well but were unlucky not to qualify for the county school games.



Week beginning 6 February

D is for... derive

Verb

to obtain something from (a specified source).

“She **derived** great pleasure from reading poetry.”

LiFE Course at Stevenage Fire Station

At the end of January selected year 9 and 10 students got the opportunity to spend five days at the Stevenage Fire Station as part of the Local Intervention Fire Education (LiFE) programme. During the week students had the opportunity to learn how to operate specialist equipment and take part in practice drills used by the Fire Service as part of their regular training. These included:

- Breathing apparatus training
- Hose running skills
- Using the correct method to hold a hose under pressure
- Ascending and descending a ladder safely and confidently
- Making an initial assessment of an accident and demonstrating the ability to place a casualty in the recovery position.



At the end of the week the students took part in a passing out ceremony which included demonstrating their newly learned skills. Mr Grinyer and I attended and were extremely proud of the students and their achievements. It was noticeable how much they had grown in confidence during the week.

A massive well done to all those students involved and huge thank you to everyone at the Fire Station who was involved in the delivery of the programme.

Mrs Field



Sudoku

Daily No. 4034

Easy

6			16	11	4	14		12	
4		22				45	14	12	9
			18	11					
13				11				6	
						10	27		8
7			12					13	
13	8			13					8
				12	7	4			
14			5					16	

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 7

Solutions

Daily No. 4034

Easy								
6 2	4	16 7	11 5	4 1	14 8	6	12 3	9
4 1	22 5	9	6	3	45 4	14 2	12 7	9 8
3 3	8	18 6	11 2	9	7	4	5	1
13 6	9	1	11 7	5	3	8	6 2	4
7 5	3	8	4	2	10 1	27 9	6	8 5
13 4	8 1	3	9	13 7	6	7	13 1	3
9 9	7	5	1	12 8	7 2	4 3	4	6 6
14 8	6	2	3	4	5	1	16 9	7

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Book fair news...



Well done to Ella Whitworth who won the draw for £25 worth of books.

Thank you to all those who came to our book fair you raised £80 for new books for the library.

a) $239 = 125 + 27 + 27 + 27 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 8 + 1$

b) $23 = 8 + 8 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 1$

In 1770, Edward Waring asked if for every number k, there is a number s such that every natural number can be represented as the sum of at most s powers of k.

It was not until 1909 that a proof of Waring's problem was developed, the Hilbert-Waring Theorem.



Week beginning 20 February

E is for... explicit

adjective

1. stated clearly and in detail, leaving no room for confusion or doubt.

"The arrangement had not been made **explicit**."

2. (of a person) stating something in an **explicit** manner.

"Let me be **explicit**."

Muddy Mayhem!

Teachers and sixth form students from Nobel School have signed up to the Garden House Hospice event, Muddy Mayhem on March 18.

Please would you sponsor the team in raising money for this local charity? You can use the 'Just Giving' page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Nobelschool> or pass the money to any of the teachers taking part.

The Garden House Hospice provides free specialist palliative care for patients , families and carers facing life limiting illnesses from across North Hertfordshire including Stevenage, Letchworth Garden City, Hitchin, Baldock and Royston and surrounding villages.

Two square fatties - Mr Brown, Mr Mesher, Mr Moore, Mr Thompson

Mud Pi's - Ms Clarke, Mr Minkov, Mr Price, Mr Tayler

Titans - Miss Chalkright, Mrs Jones, Mr O'Neill, Mr Spence

Die Hards - Mr Gunduz, Mr Lovelock, Mr Stickland, Mr Walsh



Student team – 'The Designers' - Miss Montvilaite, Mr Barlow, Miss Papworth, Miss Okoturo, Miss Clark, Mr Fisk, Miss Darling



ITV NEEDS FAMILIES NOW

FOR A BRAND NEW, PRIME TIME, MONEY SAVING FOOD PROGRAMME!

Do you spend £350 + on your weekly food shop?

Would you like to cut the cost of your family's shopping bill?

Want to jazz up mealtimes and discover new dishes?

We'd love to hear from you, don't delay, contact us today!

We welcome and encourage applications from people of all backgrounds.

Email: foodshow@crackitproductions.co.uk

0203 761 4715



Head of House news...

In the coming weeks, the Heads of House will begin fundraising for Comic Relief and Red Nose Day (24 March 2017). Further information will be provided to form tutors and through

assemblies about events and opportunities to raise money but if any parents, staff or students have any great fundraising ideas then we would love to hear from you. We are intending to sell red noses and will make sure that students are made aware of when these become available.

Since returning after the Christmas break, the Heads of House have been busy planning and hosting the annual Spelling Bee. This is an intense competition where the students are tested on their knowledge of spelling some of the most complicated words that they are likely to face during their school career. After two tough rounds, each House was left with one representative who would compete in the Grand Final on Thursday 9 February. Our four finalists were Katie Isaacs (Curie), Roshni Dholakia (Eliot), Natalia Igbinosa (Mandela) and Loren Gregory (Teresa). The finalists took part in several spelling challenges, including unscrambling anagrams and a “team spell” where they gave a letter at a time. After an hour of extreme concentration from all of our finalists, it was Katie Isaacs who emerged victorious and claimed the fantastic Amazon Kindle Fire prize! All four Heads of House would like to congratulate Katie on her well-deserved win for Curie House as well as saying a big thank you to all of the students who took part in any of the Spelling Bee rounds.

I am extremely pleased to announce that recent House point totals have shown that



Curie House are still at the top of the leader board with 16888 points, closely followed by Teresa with 16043, Mandela in 3rd with 14956 and finally Eliot with 13818. House points are awarded for behaviour that reflects that of a true Nobelian, whether that's through attending extra-curricular activities, showing exceptional behaviour or stepping up to new and difficult challenges. I am proud to see my House at the top, but also to see that so far this year almost 62000 House points have been given out to our fantastic students across the whole school! It highlights to me just how exceptional our students really are.—true Nobelians whether that's through attending extra-curricular activities, showing exceptional behaviour or stepping up to new and difficult challenges. I am proud to see my House at the top, but also to see that so far this year almost 62000 House points have been given out to our fantastic students across the whole school! It highlights to me just how exceptional our students really are.

As always, the Heads of House would like to thank all of the students for their hard work so far this term and we look forward to updating you on fundraising projects and competitions in the near future.

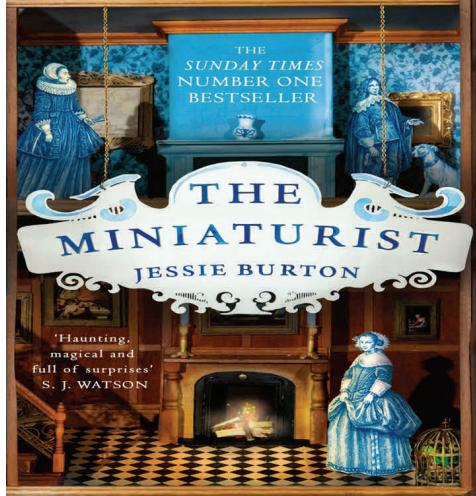
Miss West

(Head of Curie House), on behalf of the Heads of Houses

NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF AND COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in the Library 6.30pm
Tuesday 28 March 2017

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

Harry Potter book night

On Thursday evening 02 February, trainee witches and wizards descended on Nobel to celebrate Harry Potter Book Night. Students took part in an exciting potions class, led by Miss Ormiston. There was a treasure hunt around school and craft activities. Students then feasted on pizza and yummy cakes. This was followed by a Harry Potter Night official quiz. The evening was rounded off by excerpts of Harry Potter stories read by staff and sixth form students.



Emily and Caroline enjoying the potions class



Craft sessions

A really enjoyable evening was had by all. Special thanks to those who helped to make the evening a great success, Mrs Marshall, Miss Ormiston, Miss Sinclair, staff and students that read stories, Will Davies who made the video and our fabulous sixth form helpers.

Mrs Essakhi
Librarian



Nobel
Friends

...invite you to their Fun Quiz Night

Friday, 10th March 2017

**6.30 for 7.00pm start
(Finish approx. 10pm)**

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

Tables bookable 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)

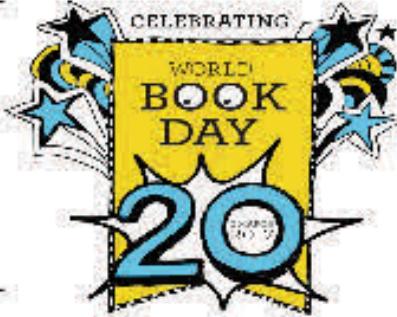
Team: Name:

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)

**BOOK THEMED
WORLD BOOK DAY
CAKE SALE**



WHEN: THURSDAY 02 MARCH

**WHERE: LUNCH TIME IN THE
LIBRARY**



**WHAT TO DO: BRING YOUR
DELICIOUSLY DECORATED CAKES IN
THE THEME OF YOUR FAVOURITE
BOOK OR BOOK CHARACTER TO THE
LIBRARY IN THE MORNING**

**ALL MONEY RAISED WILL BUY
BOOKS FOR RIMUKA 1 HIGH
SCHOOL KADOMA**

The importance of being active

How do we promote this in PE @ Nobel?



FACT 1: ACHIEVEMENT

Pupils improve in all subjects



FACT 2: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Pupils are more confident & positive



FACT 3: SOCIAL SKILLS

Pupils have more developed social skills



FACT 4: HEALTH & EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Pupils have a better outlook on life



FACT 5: LEADERSHIP

Pupils will be able to make informed decisions



You are always encouraged to try your best, within practices and games. If you do this you will achieve.



You are always encouraged to try your best; you are offered personal learning targets as well as tasks to suit your ability.



You are given the opportunity to work with students of the same ability in PE lessons and are encouraged to attend extra-curricular clubs to meet new friends and other people interested in the same sports as you.



Sport develops your health and fitness; you have a variety of PE lessons and opportunities to take part in sport and physical activity. Physical activity releases positive endorphins which relieves stress and makes you happier and harder working for your other lessons. Students who regularly take part in physical activity achieve more!



You are given the opportunity to lead warm-ups and activities within your lessons. This develops your knowledge and understanding as well as your confidence. You will also be offered leadership courses within PE lessons, especially in key stage 4.



association for
**Physical
Education**



Nobel



SPRING TERM SPORT EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCHTIME 1:10 – 1:40	FITNESS – ALL YEARS	FITNESS – ALL YEARS	FITNESS – ALL YEARS	FITNESS – ALL YEARS	FITNESS – ALL YEARS
	BADMINTON	BOYS FUTSAL	BADMINTON	BADMINTON	BASKETBALL
	TABLE TENNIS	BOCCIA	TABLE TENNIS	TABLE TENNIS	
			OCR YR 10 – SHS CLASS ONLY	OCR YR 10 – SHS CLASS ONLY	
AFTER SCHOOL 3:30-4:30	BOYS FOOTBALL	GIRLS FOOTBALL	GIRLS CRICKET	RUGBY – GIRLS & BOYS	BASKETBALL
	NETBALL	GIRLS ACTIVE CLUB – INVITE ONLY	WELL-BEING – INVITE ONLY	GCSE PRACTICAL – YR11 INVITE ONLY	GIRLS ONLY FITNESS
	X-COUNTRY		STAFF MEETING		STAFF SPORTS
	BEGINNERS RUNNING		NETBALL FIXTURES		
	FITNESS				

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