

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that all our young people had a safe and enjoyable half-term. Obviously, for us teachers with young families it is very nice to share a few days doing family activities but we are also acutely aware that most families find school holidays a 'challenge' in terms of supervision and that for our parents and carers half-term is definitely not a holiday!

However, teaching is a very challenging job, much more so today than when I started as a young teacher back in the 1980s. Quite rightly, there is far more accountability than there was back then and to some extent society has brought greater challenges. Given these challenges, I'm sure you will agree that it is good for staff and children to recharge the batteries and enjoy a short break.

The other thing that seems to happen as I get older is that weeks and months pass so quickly! It is incredible to think that we are only a few weeks away from the Year 11 'mock' examinations. Students are very driven and working hard. However, we have highlighted a particular cohort of students who were not meeting expected levels of progress and we have injected some extra support for them; the great news is that the majority of them have responded positively. If you are a parent of one of these students we will be have a specific, supportive conversation on the form tutor evening on 15 November. We are absolutely determined that all of our students, whatever

their attainment levels, make expected progress.

Finally, as this is my fifth year as head of this lovely school, I thought we ought to look at our vision for the school again. Our current vision is below and was formulated when I joined the school in September 2013.

'At Nobel we care about everyone in our community. We believe that, by emphasising the importance of excellent behaviour and attendance, and through high quality teaching and learning, we can all achieve to the very best of our ability. In the classroom, through enrichment activities or as citizens with good character, we will always work hard and participate to achieve 'Excellence in Everything'.

I will be engaging with the whole school community to reframe this vision, and indeed what it means to be a good Nobelian, starting with Parents' Forum on 16 November and the staff on 22 November.

As always, thank you for your continued support and encouragement.

Kind regards

Martyn Henson

Wymondley Woods News

Mr Camp...

Transition from primary to secondary school can be tough! Wymondley Woods eases that transition and helps Young Nobelians settle in and make memories and friendships that will see them through their studies at Nobel.

Both sides of the year group did an amazing job on the walks, completing it in record time. What a pleasure it was to walk through the streets and fields with such a polite and happy team. Getting used to your new surroundings can be daunting; however, the year 7's took it all in their stride and on the first night of the Eliot & Curie camp, they were all fast asleep by 21:30 (a record!). The activities on offer, run by an amazing six form team, were some of the best we have had: orienteering, to encourage team work and conversations; team building to test resilience and cooperation; arts and crafts for a bit of down time and to converse with others; laser quest for strategies and team building; and shelter building for a bit of healthy competition. Out of all the wonderful activities on offer, it was just amazing to see a year group outside of the learning environment and enjoy each others' company.

It is vital for our form tutors to spend this valuable time with their tutor groups, to get to know the new Nobelians and to develop relationships with them that will help in the years to come.



Just arrived after the long walk



The six form team helping out so feeding time runs smoothly

Mr Smith is new to Nobel this year and this is what he had to say about the experience...

"I had a great time as a form tutor on the Wymondley trip: it gave me a great opportunity to get to know so many wonderful young people. I was overwhelmed by the amazing teamwork, leadership and enthusiasm shown by those on the trip. My personal highlights include leading my form into laser battles, building dens in the woods and learning what it means to "panna" someone – though to me it will always be a nutmeg, sorry!"



Around the campfire

Wymondley Woods continued...

Laser Tag



The new head of year Mrs Jones had this to say...

"This was also my first year on the Wymondley trip and I honestly think I must have been as nervous as the 210 students. Every single student embraced the experience, grasping every opportunity and activity with both hands and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was great to see all students taking part in every activity as well as getting to know their peers during free time. The walk to and from Wymondley was a challenge for some students but the level of resilience and determination was that of true Nobelians. I am extremely proud of all students who went to Wymondley as many faced new challenges beyond their comfort zone as well as making new friends for life. I hope this new found confidence follows them throughout their future at Nobel."

All in all I think this experience sets up our young Nobelians for anything that the school has in store for them over the next 7 years. It gives them the knowledge for future trips and challenges, knowing that they can stay away from home without their parents and carers. It gives them resilience for when things get tough. Most importantly, it helps them to make new friend and build relationships that, we hope, will last for a lifetime.

Thank you for all your support and cakes; without a supportive Nobel community we would not be able to run such valued experience.

Mr Camp



Den building teams



Year 10 News

Since starting their Key Stage 4 courses, the Year 10 students have settled well into the demands, expectations and work load of Year 10. After the first data drop, which you can access on Moodle if you have not done so already, I would like to congratulate the following pupils who are making the best progress when comparing their current working levels to their target grades: Harvey Barlow, Victoria Igbo, Emily Lane, Bradley Lynch, Nazia Aktar, Maximus Fleming, Rahan Kamli, Charlie Kimpton, Mikhail Rehman and Jared Trice.

Last week, Mr Martin delivered an assembly about GCSEpod. This is a revision tool full of podcasts and activities for all subjects that the Year 10s are studying. They are specific to the exam boards of each subject being taught at Nobel. To log in go to gcsepod.com. As of Tuesday 7 November, 42% of Year 10 pupils had already logged in and created an account. This can be done on the home page

and you require no additional information from school. If you have not done so already I would strongly recommend all pupils in Year 10 create an account and start exploring the vast array of material that is available to them. This will not just be useful for revision for mocks and GCSE exams but also for coursework and homework on topics currently being covered in all subjects.

An important date for your diary is Wednesday 15 November. This is the 'Meet Your Form Tutor' event. All parents will have the opportunity to meet with their child's form tutor for 10 minutes and discuss the start to Year 10, their progress and their behaviour. Appointments run from 2pm until 7.30pm. Form tutors are currently making appointments so please ensure that your child has made an appointment at a convenient time for you. In addition to the 15 November, please find below a summary of key dates for the remainder of Year 10:

Date	Time	Venue	Event	Description
Weds 15/11/17	14:00- 19:30	Main School	Meet the form tutor evening	Parents are invited to meet their child's form tutor and discuss their start to KS4 courses.
Fri 24/11/17	07:45	Dining Hall	Nobel Celebrates Success Breakfast	Breakfast by invitation for those students who have made the most progress so far in Year 10.
Thurs 18/1/18	18:00	Science	KS4 parents in science.	An evening with the science department to see what and how students are being taught.
w/c 22/1/18		Access online	Data drop 2	Data will be available to access online. Please contact reception if you have any queries.
Mon 29/1/18	15:30	Main School	Targeted Support Evening	Parents' evening by invitation only. Appointments with Head of Year and Senior Leadership Team.
Weds 31/1/18	15:30	Dining Hall	Year 10 parents consultation evening	Parents' evening for all other parents. Appointments can be booked online only.
Fri 2/2/18	07:45	Dining Hall	Nobel Celebrates Success Breakfast	Breakfast by invitation for those students who have made the most progress so far in Year 10.
Weds 21/2/18	18:00	Main Hall	Drug Awareness Parents meeting	Parents are invited into school for an information evening on drugs awareness lead by a professional.
Mon 9/4/18 – Fri 20/4/18	Lesson time	Sports hall	Year 10 mock exams	Mock exams for all Year 10 GCSE subjects will take place during this fortnight.
Weds 13/6/18	18:00	School Hall	E-Safety Parents Meeting	Parents are invited into school for an information evening on E-Safety lead by a professional.

Parents in Science Evening

Parents in Science offered KS3 students the opportunity to take part in an experiment with their parents. This was held in the double science lab on 12 October 2017. In this experiment, we used a Bunsen burner, tripod, gauze heatproof mat, beaker, thermometer, a stop clock and a measuring cylinder. We were investigating the effect of volume on the rate of heating. The aim of this investigation was to determine the relationship between the volume of water, and the rate at which the temperature increases. We determined that as we increased the amount of water (an increase in particles) it took longer to heat.



Dr Davis demonstrated an enjoyable experiment to observe “elephant’s toothpaste”. He used chemicals to make a reaction. This resulted in a foamy liquid being squirted out of a bottle like toothpaste at an immense speed. Shockingly the foam hit the ceiling and you could feel the heat if you put your hand near it.

Miss Ormiston organised the experiments. Other science teachers along with 6th formers were there to assist. Thank you for making this event possible. I enjoyed observing the “elephant’s toothpaste” and explaining to my parents how the Bunsen burner worked. I am looking forward to next year’s experiment.

Vinay Dholakia 7E/TSH

On Thursday the 12th October, Nobel’s Year 7 students and their parents were invited to a *Parents in Science* evening. Sixth formers and teachers greeted the parents and the double lab was full by 6 o’clock! We set up a practical for the families, parents and students to take part in to see what our students get up to in their science lessons. We asked the parents to gradually heat up different volumes of water, and once they collected their data, they recorded their results on a graph. The enthusiasm of the parents regarding their child’s learning was really incredible.

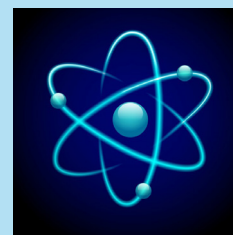


It was amazing seeing all the students getting involved in the experiment (and doing it very well) and watching the parents help out.

Thank you to all who attended, and thank you to the sixth formers and teachers - the night wouldn’t have been as successful as it was without you.



Written by Emily Norris-Smith and Joanna LeFevre



Maths News - "Order on the Court"

Year 13 further maths trip to Letchworth Tennis club (with thanks to Kate Brown (13 MBS), Matthew Wan (13 JPN), Haarith Aubad (13 JPN), Jeremiah Orette (13 STR) and Daniel Lambert (13 JPN))

The task

On Friday 6 October our class of 10 students and our teacher Mr Mynott left Nobel School for Letchworth Tennis Club. Not only was it a great chance to improve our tennis skills (which most of us were lacking in to begin with), it was also a brilliant chance to put into action some Decision Maths skills.

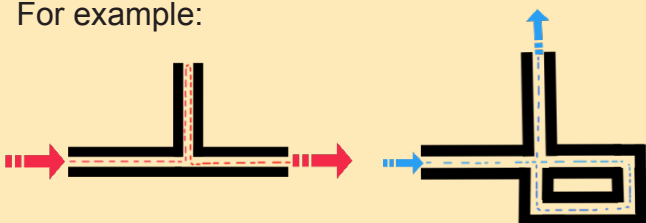
Building up to this day we had been learning different algorithms as part of our D1 unit in Further Maths. Therefore, when we were asked to apply the "route inspection" problem to a practical context, we independently were all able to come up with a solution which we believed was the most effective, and which we were able to apply later on to see which would take the least time.

Our task was to find the shortest route in which each of the lines of the artificial clay tennis court could be brushed to remove excess sand (once for all lines, except the baseline which needed to be brushed twice because it is twice as thick). We also had to think about where we were going to pick up the brush and then store it after brushing.

The method (and maths!)

The problem can be split into nodes and arcs. Nodes are where the lines meet or end, arcs are the lines themselves. If every node has an even number of arcs connected to it, you can follow a line in and out of a node which means cleaning without inefficient backtracking.

For example:



The image on the left has 4 arcs connected to

its central node, no backtracking.

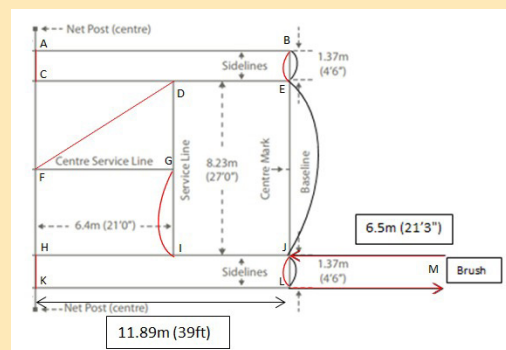
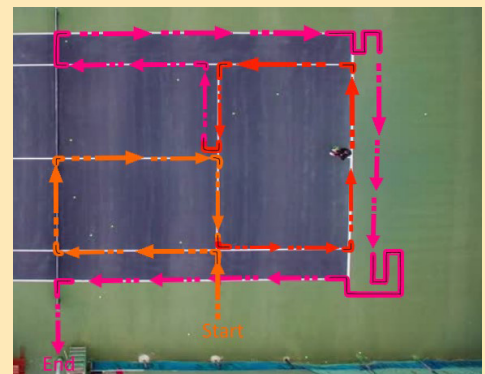
The image on the right has 3 arcs connected to its central node, some backtracking.

So for every node with an odd number of arcs, we want to make it have an even number of arcs. It also just so happens that it is impossible to have a network with an odd number of nodes which have an odd number of arcs connected to it. Try it for yourself if you don't believe it. Due to this, we can pair up all the odd nodes in varying combinations and connect them together to get the shortest distance possible.

The solutions

There was a different optimal solution for the two end courts (where the brush could be stored against the side fence) to that for the middle court (where the brush has to be stored against the back fence).

Matthew Wan's end court solution:



Daniel Lambert's middle court solution:

By using the diagram above here is a route that minimises the distance we have to walk:

M → J → I → G → D → F → G → I → H → K → L → J → E → D → C → A → B → E → B → E → J → L → M

Maths News - Activities in Leys

12 October marked the day when 6 year 11 students from Nobel, chosen by Mrs Clarke, got the opportunity to go to Leys Primary & Nursery School, to conduct some fun maths activities for year 6 students about problem solving.

At the end of period 3, we set off for the primary school, excited about the opportunity. After reaching the school during lunch, we quickly set up the activities: a warm up activity to get the students working as a team, an activity where the students would use images as clues to figure out a math topic, an activity where maths terms were described and then the students would have to find the term itself and finally (and the most popular), a maths relay where the students would work as a team to answer questions. Throughout the activities, Mrs Clarke would expertly guide the teams with the activities.

As we were working in pairs, we were able to do the activities with 3 classes, each with varying levels of ability. However, one thing was constant: everyone enjoyed the event. The students got competitive with the activities, especially with prizes on the line. Activities ended with each team being neck and neck, mere seconds deciding the fate of the teams. The hour flew past us as we ran the activities; everyone had fun.

By the end of the day, everyone involved had learned something. The year 6 students learned about problem solving in maths and team work, while we learned that teaching primary school kids wasn't so bad.

Many of us would describe the experience as "fun, exciting and unique" and "something that you won't learn if you just stay in school". Thus, we would like to thank Mrs Clarke and Leys Primary & Nursery School for this wonderful opportunity!

"Thank you so much for visiting us last week. The children absolutely loved it and had nothing but praise for the fantastic activities you brought with you and the wonderful students who presented the afternoon. Thank you again and we would love to work with you again in the future".

Ms M Doherty
English Subject Leader

"Today was great!!"
Mrs C Venema-Tucker
Computing Subject Leader
EAL Leader

Nishant Sharma



Language Learners of the Half Term

September/October 2017

YEAR 7 : Jason Ching 7T JPT for French
 YEAR 8 : Jenna Lewan 8E ESR for German
 YEAR 9 : Sahil Gaikwad 9T LRN for French
 YEAR 10 : Joseph Heyes 10T KHS for Spanish
 YEAR 11 : Harvey Joyce 11C MMR for Mandarin
 YEAR 12 /13 : Holly Brown 12 NCT for Spanish

Language ភាសា Linguaggio ЯЗЫК
 Γλώσσα Język لسان بولی
 ભાષા ភាសា ภาษာ Lenguaje
 भाषा భాష ភាសា 言語
 Linguagem Wika ភាសា اللغة
 Sprache 语言 ភាសា Bahasa 언어

SST News

Sixth Form Charity Project

On Monday 9th October 2017, representatives from 5 Charities visited the school to talk to the Sixth Form students about what they do, why they personally got involved in the charity and how, as a school, we can support their charity. The 5 charities were: Age Concern, Mercy Ships, Herts Young Homeless, Garden House Hospice and The Samaritan's Purse – Operation Christmas Child. Each form has

now chosen a charity they wish to support for the next 7 months leading to a final event in May where the students have a chance to celebrate and present their achievements to the charities. The forms are now expected to work collaboratively to put on events or organise some fundraising activities to raise as much support and awareness for their charity!



Sporting News

In a bid to continue inspiring our students to have high aspirations, we were lucky enough to organise a hockey master class with Zoe Shipperley, a Great Britain hockey player who has had several international honours. These have included playing at the 2014 Hockey World Cup and also the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The master classes were energetic and engaging which left our students feeling enthused and hungry for more! The sessions focused on the basics of keeping control of the ball, dribbling, tackling and shooting. We're hoping that some of our students will now show more interest in hockey and consider taking themselves to Stevenage Hockey Club.

Miss Chalkwright



Congratulations to the 6th form girls rugby team who defeated Hockerill 8 tries to 1 yesterday. Tries were scored by Paige Hossack (2), Abby Richards (1), Louise Sollis (1), Adwoa Bugyei-Kyei (4).

This was a particularly impressive win as the girls played some of their best rugby I have seen and their defence and tackling was impeccable.

Mr Spence

Sudoku

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 12

Daily No. 4104 Easy

21		4		20			11	10
	3		13	14		22		
9	13						4	
		12	17			3		16
7			14			18		
	17		14				13	7
4		23		13	13			
11	14					4		20
		11			10			

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Logic Puzzle

Farmer's Market

A farmer must spend exactly £100 to buy exactly 100 animals, and must buy at least one of each animal. Cows are £10 each, Goats are £1 each and Chickens are 8 for a £1. What does he buy?

Solution page 12

Friends of Nobel School 100 Club Winners for October

Number	Name	Prize
45	J Adams	£35
3	J Marshall	£25

Week commencing 13 November

J is for... **judicious**

adjective

having, showing, or done with good judgement or sense.

“the **judicious** use of public investment”



Winners of the 2017 Christmas Card Competition



Darcée Norton, 10M LKT



Katie Isaacs, 10C DCE

Dates for the Diary:

10 November	Yr 8 visit to MBDA – Robot Rumble
10 November	Yr 11 Nobel Celebrates Success
15 November	Meet the form tutor all years 2.00-7.30pm
20 November	Yr 11 mock exams start
20 November	Yr 12 visit – Psychology
21 November	Yr 9 parents' option evening
23 November	Yr 8 presentation evening for History Tudor models competition
24 November	Yr 10 Nobel Celebrates Success
24 November	KS5 visit – London Excel Skills Show

Sudoku Solutions

Daily No. 4104 Easy

21	8	4	3	1	5	9	6	7	10	2	
	9	3	2	1	6	3	7	5	4	8	
9	6	13	7	5	2	4	8	9	4	3	1
	3	6	12	7	5	8	4	3	1	2	9
7	5	1	4	3	9	2	8	6	7		
	2	17	8	9	7	6	1	4	13	7	3
4	1	3	6	9	7	5	2	8	4		
11	7	14	9	8	4	2	6	3	1	20	5
	4	5	11	2	8	1	3	7	9	6	

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Logic Puzzle Solutions

7 Cows, 21 Goats, and 72 Chickens.



Week commencing 20 November

K is for... **kowtow**

verb

act in an excessively subservient manner.

“she didn’t have to **kowtow** to a boss”



FRIENDS OF NOBEL SCHOOL

100 CLUB

The Nobel School has a thriving Parents' Association and as part of our fundraising events for the school we run a successful 100 Club.

Each parent who joins the 100 Club pays £2 per month, and half the money raised each month goes towards our funds for the school whilst the remaining money is divided into two prizes, 60% for the first prize and 40% for the second prize.

We are always looking for new members, especially as this is an easy way to raise much needed money for the school, and a way for parents to contribute whilst having a chance to win some money themselves.

Membership is not limited to 100 members – the more members, the more money is raised for the school. Members can have (and are encouraged to have!) more than one entry in the monthly draw by paying the additional subscription. Payments can be made by standing order.

To join the club, please complete the form below and return it with the attached standing order form or cheque (if applicable) in a sealed envelope marked 'Friends of Nobel School 100 Club' for the attention of Mrs Way in the Admin Office, Nobel School, Mobbsbury Way, Stevenage SG2 0HS.

✂

FRIENDS OF NOBEL SCHOOL - 100 CLUB

Name:

(applicants must be over 16)

Address:

.....

Telephone/mobile:

Email:

Quantity of numbers required _____ at £2 per month (£24 per year).

I attach a completed Standing Order Form or

I attach a cheque for £24 (payable to **The Nobel School Parents' Association**)

By signing this form you are declaring that you have received and accept the Friends of Nobel School 100 Club Rules and Regulations

Signed:

100 Club Rules & Regulations

- The 100 Club operates as a Small Society Lottery as defined by the Gambling Act 2005.
- The object of the Club is to raise funds for the school.
- The Club will be run under the supervision of the Friends of Nobel School who will also administer the Club.
- The Club is open to parents, staff and friends of The Nobel School.
- Members must be over 16 years of age.
- Members must fill in an application form (attached) and a standing order form (if applicable).
- Entry will be by subscription of £2 per month, paid by standing order between the 1st and the 5th of each month, on the basis of a minimum period of 12 months. Alternatively, a single annual payment by cheque of £24 (payable to Nobel School Parents' Association) is acceptable.
- Members may have (and are encouraged to have) more than one number upon payment of the relevant subscription.
- The membership year will be September to August of the following year.
- New members may join during the year and will be entered in the first available draw following the setting up of their standing order.
- Registers will be kept recording the name, address and email details of each member, the number(s) allocated to them and the subscriptions received from them.
- Members may cancel at any time, but one month's notice in writing is required. If notice is not received, a member will be deemed to have left the club if their renewal subscription remains unpaid for a period of one month.
- A member is eligible for inclusion in the draw so long as that month's subscription has been paid.
- The relevant numbers of all paid-up members will be entered into the draw for each month.
- The total monthly contribution will be divided equally – 50% to the Friends of Nobel School funds and 50% to the prize fund.
- There are two prizes each month comprising 60% and 40% of the prize fund.
- The draw is made by a member of school staff and a member of the Friends of Nobel School between 25th – and 30th of the month, except during school holidays, when the draw will be made as close to these dates as possible.
- The winners will be notified by telephone or post and details of each month's winners will be published in the Nobel News.
- If a winner cannot be contacted, the winnings will be placed into the Friends of Nobel School funds after six months.
- The Friends of Nobel School shall have the power to amend or revoke these rules at their absolute discretion with such reasonable notice to the 100 Club members as is necessary.

Please complete all sections marked with *

STANDING ORDER MANDATE	
<p>ACCOUNT TO BE DEBITED</p> <p>*Bank name:</p> <p>*Address:</p> <p>*Sort Code:</p> <p>*Account Number:</p> <p>*Account Name:</p> <p>*Day of usual payment (between 1st – 5th):</p>	
<p>SIGNATURE(S)</p> <p>*Account signature(s):</p> <p>*Date:</p> <p>*Contact telephone number:</p> <p>*Contact email address:</p>	
<p>BENEFICIARY DETAILS</p> <p>Bank:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Sort Code:</p> <p>Account Number:</p> <p>Beneficiary Name:</p> <p>REFERENCE:</p> <p>Date of first payment:</p>	<p>Barclays Bank</p> <p>PO Box 2, 2 Town Square, Stevenage</p> <p>NOBEL PA 100 CLUB</p>
<p>PAYMENT DETAILS</p> <p>Amount of first payment:</p> <p>Amount of usual payment:</p> <p>Amount of usual payment in words:</p> <p>When paid:</p>	<p>£2.00</p> <p>£2.00</p> <p>TWO POUNDS</p> <p>Monthly</p>

Please return to the Friends of Nobel School with the completed 100 Club Application Form