

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers

I'm pleased to tell you that our new approach to behaviour management continues to reap rewards. As I have said to you on many occasions, I am always pleased and proud when visitors give us positive feedback about the atmosphere at our lovely school – this happened three times last week!

Ms Becky Cox, who has worked at the school for a very long time, would certainly agree that our school is a unique community; a supportive and stimulating environment. I mention Ms Cox because, unfortunately, she is leaving us at the end of term. She has made an amazing contribution to our school over the last 21 years. She joined the school as a young English teacher and has remained a passionate teacher who loves her subject; hundreds of Nobelians will have been taught by her over the years, many inspired to move on to studying English at university themselves.

Becky has also held many leadership positions. As Director of Sixth Form (twice) she set extremely high standards and was universally admired by students and colleagues and, as an assistant headteacher leading on the curriculum, she was an expert time-tabler and expert in the constantly changing world of curriculum design and development.

A few years ago, when the school was going through a particularly challenging time, she stepped up to being Head of English, temporarily - a real, reliable team player. And, as a senior colleague, she has been inspirational; others have massive respect for her and, since I arrived five and a half years ago, she has proved to be an invaluable advisor and colleague, someone I can rely on giving me excellent advice - Becky has huge amounts of common sense. She has been a stalwart to this school; we will miss her amicable manner, sense of humour and mostly, her unwavering commitment to Nobel.

Becky will be working with Herts for Learning as a School Effectiveness Advisor. She will remain a friend to the school and will always be welcome back as a true Nobelian.

My next newsletter will be the last before Christmas. I will use that opportunity to tell you about who will be replacing Ms Cox and other exciting plans we have for the new year...

In the meantime, have a great weekend.

Warm regards

Martyn Henson

Year 8 Visit to Germany - The BLOG!

Day 1

The journey - After we left school, we took the coach to the Euro-tunnel and boarded the train. The Euro-tunnel took about 30 – 45 minutes but it was worth it when we got to France. We drove through France, Belgium, the Netherlands and into Germany. When we got to Aachen, we parked in the world's biggest car park and we all got off.

Arrival - After we registered in our groups, we walked to the Weihnachtsmärkte (Christmas markets). Once we got to the Weihnachtsmärkte, most people went to the Starbucks right opposite the markets. After a couple of minutes of exploring the markets, we had a tour and a museum trip. We split up into two groups; one group had to split up again, and went on the tour guided by two people who lived in Aachen, and the other group went to the museum.



The tours and the museum - On the tours, we went around the Stadt (town) and we looked at, and talked about, the Rathaus (Town Hall) and Charlemagne (Karl der Große). The tour guides told us stories about a devil who got his thumb ripped off in the cathedral door and the same devil who made the Lousberg hill, just outside of Aachen, famous. They also told us the story of Bahkauv, a big cat, who pounced on men's backs and slowed them down.



The markets - That night, we went back to the Christmas markets and had time to shop and buy some of the many festive goodies.



The hotel - After the Christmas markets, we went back to the coach to get our bags and walked the 15 – 20 minutes to the hotel. When we got to the hotel, we got settled in our rooms and then had dinner in the dining room. For dinner, we had either vegetarian pasta or meaty pasta with salad and a drink.

After dinner we went back to the Christmas markets and bought more things .

Day 2

The hike - After a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast, we went back to Lousberg and walked up Lousberg hill to the viewpoint. After looking over Aachen for a bit, we found the statue of the devil and the lady who saved Aachen from the devil. Then we walked back down the hill and got back on the coach for the long journey home.



Conclusion - My personal opinion of the trip was that it was amazing (other than the 10 hour journey there and back)! We enjoyed the Christmas markets, and had lots of fun in general.

Roni Klaij—8AMC

Nobel Celebrates Success

On Friday 16 November we held our first ever celebration lunch for our Year 13 students. The 22 students who attended, have made the most progress since the last data drop and were rewarded for all their hard work, excellent progress and exemplary behaviour. Mrs Saville, Head of Year 13, added: "We are so proud of these young people for their commitment to their studies and their attitude to learning. They demonstrate what it means to be a true Nobelian and this mindset will serve them very well as they prepare for the next stage in their lives. Very well done!"

Mrs J Saville
Head of Year 13

Chi Chi Anene	Danielle Atkinson
Bethany Bannister	Alexandra Baranova
Serena Bateman	Holly Brown
Harry Burrett	Jessica Callister
Tatenda Chiwereza	Ramisah Chowdhury
Katie Coxall	Ellie Davies
Charley Dowler	Katelyn Imina
Ben Jeffery	Joanna Le Fevre
Georgie Mackenzie	George Meywes
Emily Norris-Smith	Erin Oliver
Sandra Shali	Farozha Urrehman

Amazing Apprenticeships

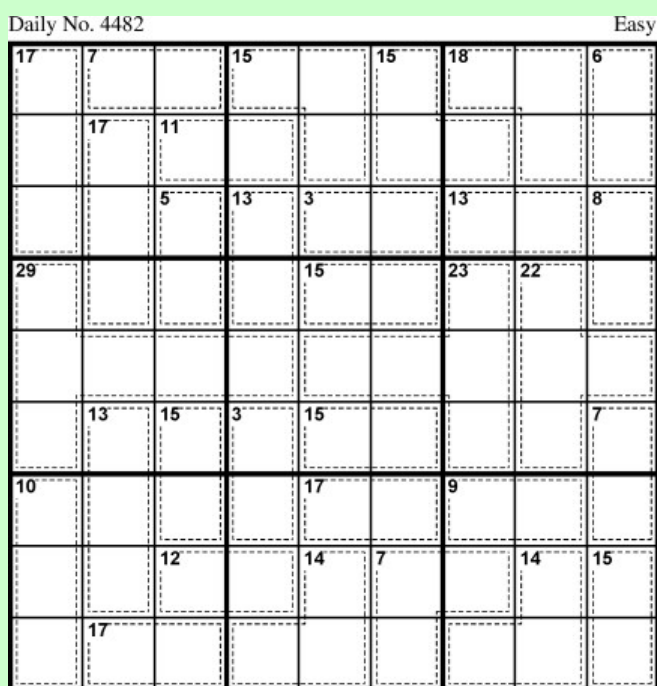
A new Parents' Pack containing a wealth of useful resources is available via the link below.

It may be of particular interest to any parents of students in Key Stage 4 or Key Stage 5, who are considering the apprenticeship route.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2018/11/Parent-Pack-November-1.pdf>



Sudoku puzzle



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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

Logic Puzzle

What is the product?

$$(a-x)(b-x)(c-x) \dots (z-x) = ?$$

Solutions page 8

Friends of Nobel School (FONS)

Look out for this year's Christmas and New Year raffle tickets coming home shortly. We have some fantastic prizes this year, including:

- ♦ Corporate hospitality for ten people at Stevenage Football Club in an Executive Box, including a pre-match meal, reserved seating, half-time refreshments and waitress service from the bar.



- ♦ A one-hour pleasure flight for two in a light aircraft from Duxford, with tea/refreshments at the destination airfield before returning to Duxford.
- ♦ A Kat Von D professional makeup/makeover masterclass.

Plus many other prizes.

Tickets are just £1 each, with five in a book. All students will bring one book home, and we would appreciate your support in buying these if possible. More books will be available from Reception and, as last year, there will be prizes for the form and student who sells the most.

The draw will take place at the FONS meeting on Monday 21 January 2019. Please help us beat last year's total of £2,000!

100 Club winners - November 2018:

1 st	P Heyes	No 22	£30
2 nd	S Baines	No 24	£21

If you would like more information on joining the 100 Club for just £2 a month, please email friends@nobel.herts.sch.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Tickets available here!

Christmas Lunch

20 December 2018
Student Price: £2.25

ROASTED CROWN OF TURKEY WITH
ROASTED POTATOES, STUFFING,
SAUSAGE, BACON & FRESH MARKET
VEGETABLES

Or

WILD MUSHROOM & ROCKET RISOTTO
(Vegetarian/Vegan)

&

SEASONAL SPICED CHOCOLATE
BROWNIE WITH VANILLA CREAM

Or

FRESH FRUIT POT (Vegetarian/Vegan)

Accompanied by carol-singing and served by
members of staff.

Tickets available from the Grab 'n' Go
counter using your card - must be bought
before 13 December.



NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

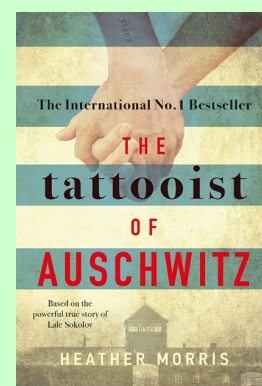
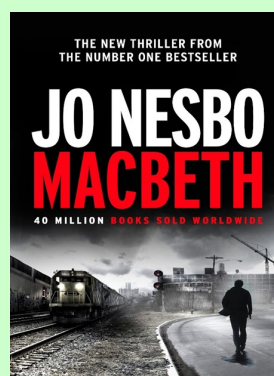
Next meeting will be held in the Library, 6.30pm

Tuesday 15 January 2019

The books to read are:

The Tattooist of Auschwitz

Macbeth



Read all, or part of, the books, and come to discuss it in a friendly informal group

Contact: Rosalind Essakhi: 01438 222600 or
email: library@nobel.herts.sch.uk

What I did last summer

For three days my dad, sister and I rode from Stevenage to my grandparents' home in North Devon (Torrington). The first day's ride from Stevenage to Newbury was in temperatures of over 34°C. We followed a route for cyclists but soon found most of this was towpaths alongside canals, where we faced various issues, people, cyclists, animals, etc, but the worst part were the paths themselves, which varied from tarmac to just mud and grass as well as the numerous gates! This slowed our pace; it was hard but enjoyable.

We all looked forward to a good night's sleep before the second day's ride from Newbury to Glastonbury with a break at the house of one of my old school friend's, Amber. The temperatures were going to be high and we found ourselves, once again, on the towpaths. We had to change our route and get onto the roads so, using our trackers (phones), we adjusted our route as if we were a car but with no major roads, which was better.

During this little adventure we had our support team (my mum and brother-in-law, Wade) making sure we were fed and hydrated throughout. The lunch stop at Amber's was wonderful and made the last few miles to Glastonbury a little easier. During the second day's ride, we saw the White Horse of Westbury and the famous Tor at Glastonbury.

After another good rest, we headed into the last day knowing it was probably going to be the hardest, with some monstrous hills in the later stages in Devon. The weather had not let us down and it was another hot day. We headed out early and made good time. We met the support team for lunch some 28 miles from the finish line but what lay ahead was a lot of hard pedalling. The roads we knew well after so many car journeys to my grandparents' house but, on a bike, it's a different matter. Two major hills stood in our way before we would reach our goal; they proved too much for my dad and me and we had to walk them, but my sister, Georgia, showed us the way. We finally arrived at our destination and we all felt great.



The reason we had this little adventure was to help me raise money for World Challenge 2019 in which, through the school and with other students in my year group, I am participating.

The world challenge - Borneo 2019

I will be trekking Mount Kinabalu, which will take around two days to climb the 4,095m peak. It will be a tough two days carrying all of our gear and food as well. After the two-day climb, we are then going to travel to an isolated village to do some voluntary work, helping to build new dwellings or helping construct the new water pipe system. We will also be trekking through the rainforest of Bario (still carrying all our gear) over a number of days.

If you would like to make a donation, which will help me to fund my expedition to Borneo and to help fund the new resources for the community in the village, please follow the link below.

<https://www.gofundme.com/sarans-world-challenge-borneo>

Thank you in advance for your support.



Saran Hoffman-James, 11RME

Calling all parents!

If you're the parent of a child or young person aged 18 or under, we want your views.

Hertfordshire County Council's Public Health team can provide advice and information to support you with your child's health and wellbeing. We would like to better understand your needs and how we can reach you so that it helps us improve the information we provide.

We would be very grateful if you could let us know your thoughts by completing a short survey, which should take no more than a couple of minutes of your time.

The survey is available at:

<https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/11XAJ/>

Admissions Arrangements

The Nobel School is consulting on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2020/21 and is seeking responses from parents/carers, schools and community groups.

The proposed changes are:

- ♦ To amend the wording and definition of 'Rule 2 – exceptional social and medical reasons to attend a specific school to include children previously looked after abroad and subsequently adopted.

The consultation period runs from 19 November 2018 - 6 January 2019. Please send your comments regarding the proposals to the school direct at admin@nobel.herts.sch.uk. Please mark the emails "FAO The School Business Manager".

For further information please see our website:

<http://thenobelschool.org/about-the-school/admission-arrangements/>

Mrs C Crawley
School Business Manager

Word of the Week - WOW!

K is for... kindred

adjective

Similar in kind; related

"books on **kindred** subjects"

synonyms: related, allied, connected, closely connected/related, comparable

DE: verwandt, gleichartig

FR: parenté

ES: afin, similar

L is for... lackadaisical

adjective

Lacking enthusiasm and determination; carelessly lazy

"a **lackadaisical** defence left the team vulnerable in the second half of the match"

DE: gleichgültig, lustlos

FR: apathique

ES: apático, displicente, indolente

M is for... monotonous

adjective

Dull, tedious, and repetitious; lacking in variety and interest

"The lecturer's voice was **monotonous**"

DE: eintönig, gleichlautend

FR: monotone

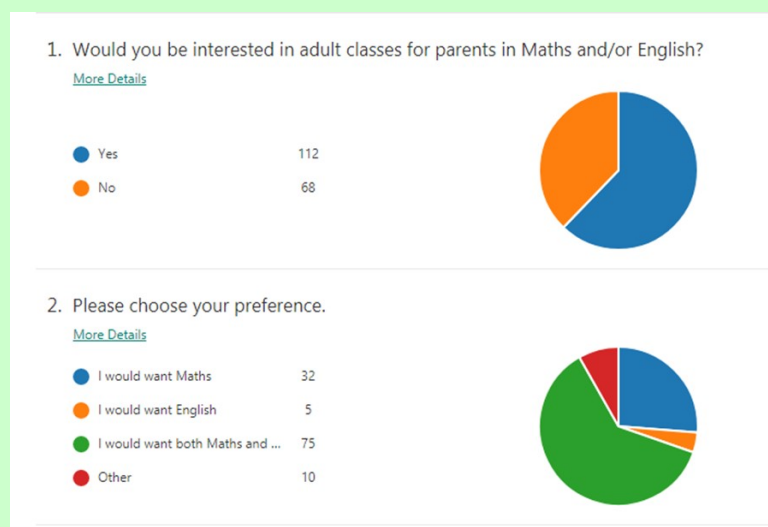
ES: monótono, rutinario

Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA) Update

Parent Learning

There is a short survey out to parents currently trying to determine whether parents might like access to English and Maths qualifications if they don't have them. Please respond if you think it might be of interest: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mZLfypinuE6tZpGvDONWc1qCoJ_POhREmlc_h3qWr9yxUQzZVQIQwWfMNFRcV0w4VTNCS0IBTkRESS4u

Results so far



Please watch out for news later on this term. We hope to partner with the Hertfordshire Family Learning Service to launch some adult learning opportunities.

'Parents In....' Events

You will have seen the Nobel News items this term about Parents in Science, with students and parents having lots of science fun. Please watch out for other subjects during the year and if you feel a particular subject area would be of interest to parents, please use the parentsuggestions@nobel.herts.sch.uk email address to make those suggestions.

Pit Stops

Thank you to all of those parents who have attended and helped us with feedback afterwards. The pit stops have been very well received and were a suggestion from Parents' Forum that we were happy to put in place. If you haven't had a look at the programme yet, the remaining sessions are shown opposite.

Dealing with Mental Health and Anxiety issues.	With mental health issues being experienced by increasing numbers of young people, this session will support parents with early identification and support routes.	13/02/19
Dealing with ICT positively as a family/ E-safety.	Young people need to make good choices regarding the use of ICT. Parents are often the gatekeepers to access. This session will support parents deal with that process and reduce potential risks	20/03/19
Year 11 Targeted Support Evening	Surviving exam stress - sessions to support parents ensure that the correct balance is achieved as students approach examination study and prepare/ revise	25/03/19
Substance abuse awareness and information	Young people need to make good lifestyle choices. Parents often express a need to understand current dangers in order to help support their children at home. This session will address many of the current risks and signs	08/05/19
Supporting GCSE Revision at home	Surviving the exam stress - Sessions to support parents ensure that the correct balance is achieved as students approach examination study and prepare/ revise	March 19 TBC
Supporting Post 16 Revision at home		March 19 TBC

Mr B Burningham
Deputy Head

Parents in Partnership: We really are listening!

At Nobel, we are firmly committed to working in partnership with our wonderfully supportive parents, knowing that, together, we will achieve the very best outcomes for all of our young Nobelians.

We endeavour to give our young people the best experience possible but we are always looking for ways to improve what we can offer and that is why our parent voice is so important to us.

Did you know, we have a dedicated email address, which is regularly monitored – parentsuggestions@nobel.herts.sch.uk

Some of the excellent suggestions that we have already implemented include:

- ♦ support for a 'pop-up' school uniform shop, run by parents and stocked by your kind donations of pre-owned clothing, still in very good condition.
- ♦ implementing the popular Parent Pitstops – short information/guidance sessions run each term to help parents.

We are listening, and we would love to hear from you!

Sudoku and Logic Puzzle solutions

Daily No. 4482

Easy

17	7		15		15	18		6
7	1	6	5	4	3	9	8	2
	17	11						
2	9	3	8	6	7	5	1	4
		5	13	3		13		8
8	5	4	9	2	1	7	6	3
29				15		23	22	
9	3	1	4	7	8	6	2	5
4	6	2	3	1	5	8	7	9
	13	15	3	15				7
5	7	8	2	9	6	3	4	1
10				17		9		
3	2	7	1	8	9	4	5	6
		12		14	7		14	15
6	4	5	7	3	2	1	9	8
	17							
1	8	9	6	5	4	2	3	7

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What is the product? Answer = 0

One of the terms is (x-x) which equals 0.

Anything times 0 is 0



Nobellians head to Cambridge...

Nobellians and teachers ventured to the city of Cambridge to investigate the complexities of the collegial system, life as a student and experience the city itself. From talking to university students, to touring their accommodation (even the student kitchens) and visiting the Fitzwilliam Museum, the Nobel students gained a broader understanding of the future possibilities that exist in the very near future for them. A fun day had by all, where eyes were opened, and sights set high.

"I really enjoyed the Cambridge trip to the Fitzwilliam Museum because we got to see a lot of great artwork and historical artefacts" Keisha Anderson - Year 10.

"I particularly enjoyed walking round Cambridge with my friends" Stanley Gammans – Year 8

"I liked the armoury in the Fitzwilliam Museum" Ted Edgar – Year 9

"The trip was a good experience because I learnt about how the University of Cambridge worked with the colleges" Benjamin Pollock – Year 11.

"The gallery museum inspired me for my year 11 art graphics exam and visiting the university gave me a good idea of what I want to do after my A-levels" Daniel Dixon – Year 10.



SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS

Your child's school has invested in the award winning resource, GCSEPod, to help your child reach their goals! Join the thousands of parents encouraging their children to use GCSEPod to support learning, homework and revision.

"I found GCSEPod especially useful to compliment my knowledge and I'm certain it helped me secure the grades that I have been so happy to receive."

Student

"The correlation between success and failure was made almost 100% clear by the use of GCSEPod."

Vateley School

"My daughter used GCSEPod for her GCSEs and was very successful with her results, she absolutely loved your Pods and this style of revising."

Parent

- Proven to increase results
- 19 exam mapped subjects
- Available online and offline
- Audio visual content
- Builds confidence
- Use on the go, anytime, anywhere



For more information please visit www.gcsepod.com/parent

HOW TO LOGIN:

- 1) Go to www.gcsepod.com and click LOGIN
- 2) Click NEW HERE? GET STARTED!
- 3) Enter your child's details and confirm the name of the school they attend
- 4) Create a username and password



GCSEPOD.COM



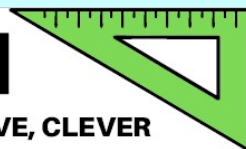
INFO@GCSEPOD.COM



0191 338 7830



BBC



CALLING ALL COMPETITIVE, CLEVER FAMILIES!

Would you love the chance to battle it out, in an exciting new TV intelligence competition?

We want to untap the extraordinary powers of your brain!

Does your mum have an amazing memory?
Can your auntie unravel complicated conundrums?
Is your brother king of sudoku?

This show is about **all** aspects of intelligence: logic, reasoning, communication, strategy and more.

It's not about what's in your brain, but how you use it!

As an individual you may not be good at everything, but as a family do you have what it takes to win?

For more information and to apply please email:

families@label1.tv

Family Teams must include 2 adults and 2 players aged 9-17 years old

For more information on how Label1 will hold, store and process your information, please go to: label1.tv/privacy-policy

Label 1



Christmas Concert Thursday 20th December, 6:30pm Auditorium

Come along and hear The Nobel Choir, Audacity, Djembe Drumming Group, Ukulele Band and Year 9 Band as well as a host of solo performances by students across Nobel

Entrance is free with a charity collection at the end



Dates for your Diary

- 19 December - Presentation Evening for last year's Y13 leavers
- 20 December - Nobel Christmas concert 6:00 pm
- 21 December - School closes for Christmas break 12:45 pm
- 7 January 2019 - Spring term commences





Volunteer to help out at a local charity

Donate to a charity that touches your heart.

Give some food to a homeless person

Donate some food to the local food bank.

Please bring your donations to HU03 or the Humanities office.

Alternately, you can put items in the baskets at the front of Tesco's/ Sainsbury's stores which also go to the

Purchase charity Christmas cards this year.

Befriend/make an effort to talk to another student at school who you see is alone at break or lunchtimes.

Make some home baked Christmas goods and take them to an elderly neighbour or someone you know who is alone this Christmas.

Write some thank you cards/ Christmas cards with thank you messages to people you would not normally think to thank, e.g. parents, cleaners, staff in the school canteen, refuse collectors, etc.

Fill a bag of unwanted clothes/ possessions (in good quality) and donate to a local charity shop.



Supporting your child through KS3 – Year 8

The first report home to parents regarding progress in school is imminent. As a parent, you are your child's most important educator and research shows that parents who are actively involved with their child's learning help their children to achieve more too.

Parental support is crucial to the success of students' learning, and is very much welcomed and appreciated by teachers. Indeed, the importance of parental engagement in students' learning cannot be overstated.

One way in which parents can help - easily and immediately - is by encouraging students to think differently about their learning, and this begins by speaking differently about their learning. The language used at home to discuss learning is as important as that used in school. Classroom teachers are acutely aware of the value of asking probing questions to challenge students to think hard about their learning, and parents are encouraged to adopt this practice at home.

Examples of questions to ask students at the end of their school day are:

- *What did you find difficult today?*
- *What did you manage to improve?*

The responses to these questions can open up a useful dialogue about your child's learning, and help students understand that learning is something to be thought about and talked about - and something that everyone can, and should be encouraged to, get better at.

New KS3

KS3 has changed significantly over the past few years and The Nobel School has worked on a new system of assessing students throughout KS3. Nobel's training group model informs students and parents of the student's current working level but this is only meaningful when used in conjunction with success criteria. Each faculty has developed success criteria for each training group within their subject so that students can identify what they have been successful with and what would be the next steps to improve or progress. Success criteria for all subjects can be found on the school's website and can be accessed by selecting the relevant subject from the curriculum tab. This resource can be used to support the dialogue you have with your child regarding their current progress and next steps.

Resources

As well as the resources found on the schools' website there are a number of other resources that can be used to support your child with their studies.

www.showmyhomework.co.uk View all the details relating to homework - completion time, due date and additional resources.

www.samlearning.com SAM Learning offers online revision and exam practise for KS3. It is a great resource to consolidate learning that has taken place that day or that week. Used regularly, it has proven to improve progress made by students.

www.bbc.co.uk/education Known as BBC Bitesize, this is a useful website to get clear explanations of the knowledge and skills covered at KS3.

www.mymaths.co.uk Interactive lessons, games, and worksheets to support maths learning

Mr David Martin

Assistant Headteacher