

## From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers

Our students never cease to amaze me. So many Nobelians are engaged in activities outside of school – playing sport, singing, acting and, in this case, dancing. Taisye Weeks, in year 8, was recently crowned under-14 British Street Dance Champion. In the recent championships in Cardiff, she overcame competitors from around Britain and a very sore ankle from the qualifying event, to emerge as winner. We are extremely proud of her achievements and are delighted that she decided to join us from another Stevenage school from Easter last year – she is flourishing in her new school.

If there are any other Nobelians out there who have achieved great things and haven't told us, we would love to hear from you.

Parents have elected Kelly Hagland as their new parent governor, she will be inaugurated at our next meeting on Wednesday 6 June – well done to Kelly. We are still looking to 'co-opt' other governors with specific skill sets. We are looking for anyone from an educational, accountancy or contract management background to join our very effective Board of Governors. If you can recommend someone please contact us at school.

We are getting to 'that' time again, year 13 and year 11 are immersed in examination preparation, and headteachers begin to worry about recruitment for September. On both counts, we are in an excellent position. We are very pleased with our students and look forward to celebrating their success in the summer. Staff recruitment has never been healthier in my time at Nobel. Thanks to staff recommendations and our well-established reputation, we have been able to recruit heads of Spanish, biology and chemistry, plus newly qualified teachers in business studies, geography, English and physics as well as a lead practitioner in physics. Physics, as you probably know, is the most difficult subject to recruit for. Some schools survive without a physicist, next academic year we will have five. This is great news for our students as we continue to improve the quality of our provision.

We have established an excellent reputation, but we also need to avoid complacency and never stop trying to improve what we do. You, as parents and carers, should always feel comfortable about contacting us if you have any ideas as to how we might do so ([head@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@nobel.herts.sch.uk)).

Have a safe and restful weekend.

Warm regards  
Martyn Henson

# The Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is going from strength to strength!

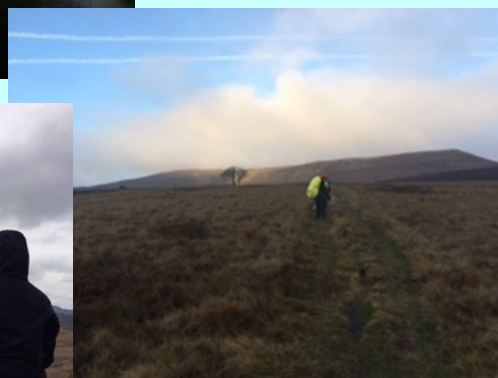
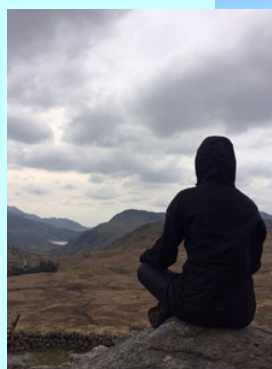
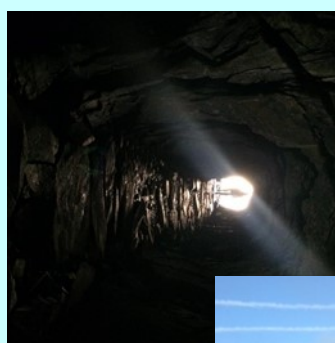
As a school we are currently offering students the opportunity to achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Students in Year 9 will be given the chance to sign up to begin their Bronze Award shortly, with the Bronze expedition being completed in the summer of Year 10. Students are offered places on the Silver and Gold expeditions during their A Level course and are welcome to begin working towards the remaining sections from the start of Year 11.



Forty four Year 10 students are currently in their final stages of completing their Bronze Award, with students having completed their training and preparing to go out on their practice expedition next week.



Year 12 and Year 13 students completing their Gold Award were out in the Snowdonia National Park during the Easter break working with students from other schools within North Hertfordshire to complete their expeditions.



We are currently the third highest achieving school across all Hertfordshire LA schools for award completion and the third highest achieving school across all of North Hertfordshire for both enrolments and awards achieved. These results are fabulous, especially as DofE has only recently been introduced into our school's curriculum. This is only achievable due to the help and support of parents and staff who give up their time in ensuring our students gain such a prestigiously recognised international award.

If you would like to get involved in helping Nobel run the expedition section of the Award, please get in touch with me.

Miss L Steele

Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

# Friends of Nobel School (FoNS) News

As we approach the end of another academic year, we would like to put out a plea for more volunteers to join FONS.

Several of the members have been involved for six years or more, and our children are coming to the end of their time at Nobel. We really need more parents to volunteer – even if you can just help out at one event a year, that would be fantastic.

Our regular events, such as the Christmas raffle, discos, Barn Dance and Quiz Night, plus the monthly 100 Club, raise several thousand pounds a year, all of which is used to benefit students at Nobel.

Our next meeting is on Monday 17 June at 7pm in the Library and we would love to see you there. If you have any questions or need any more information, please email [friends@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:friends@nobel.herts.sch.uk)

## April 100 Club Draw

1st	G McDonagh	No. 48	£30
2nd	J Pennington	No. 39	£21

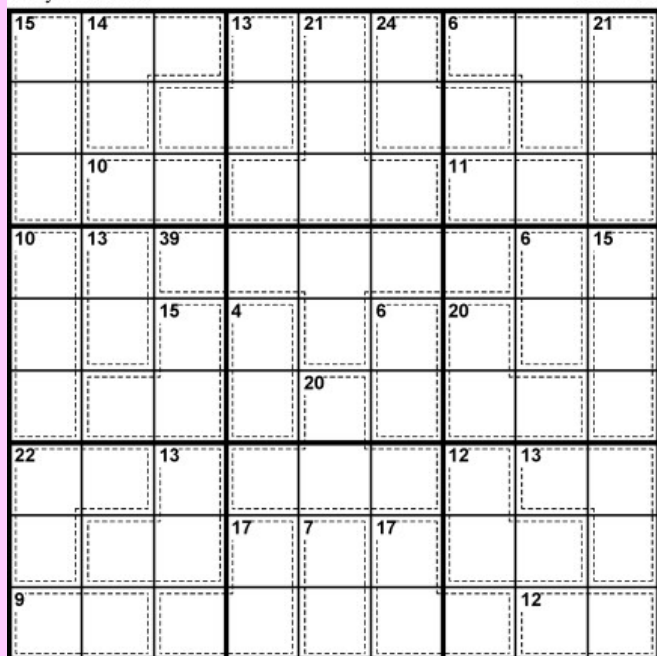
The 100 Club costs just £2 a month for a number in the draw, with 50% of the proceeds being paid out in prize money and 50% going to FONS funds. For more information on this or any of our events, or if you think you might be able to help out on the Committee, please email [friends@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:friends@nobel.herts.sch.uk).

Thank you for your continued support.

## Sudoku Puzzle

Daily No. 4398

Moderate



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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

### Brain Teaser

#### Such a Deal!

*A man received an ad in the mail that promised to double his money. For every dollar he sent in, the ad guaranteed to return double his money minus a \$24 service charge. He thought that was a pretty good deal, so he sent in his money. In the return mail he received double his money less the \$24 service charge. He returned the money he had made and again it was doubled less the service charge. But, when he sent in the money a third time, he was charged the \$24 service fee, but received no money back. How much money did the man lose?*

*Solutions, page 10*



## Work Experience at the Bank of England

In late March I had the chance to gain an insight into the central bank of the UK – the Bank of England.

Its purpose, above all, is to maintain the UK's monetary and financial stability by regulating other banks, issuing banknotes, setting monetary policy (moving interest rates) and monitoring risks in the financial system, taking action if required under the guidance of its current governor, Mark Carney.

Whilst at the Bank of England, I worked as part of the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA); more specifically with a team supervising UK standard chartered banks that operate internationally. I did research on one of the many banks my team was working on at that time in preparation for a meeting, which included people from different parts of the bank and discussion about their routes into the central bank.

My line manager was also involved in making contingency plans in the case of a No-deal Brexit, enabling UK banks' exit from the EU to be as smooth as possible. Thus, I had the opportunity to sit in on a PRA meeting on Brexit which was very interesting and showed me the many measures the bank takes to ensure matters are, and will remain, as trouble-free as possible when/if the UK transitions out of the European Union.

I also got to have a look into the Bank of England Museum (and touch a bar of gold), which gave me a taste of the history that surrounds the bank. Additionally, I received training in identifying counterfeit banknotes and now I can be confident that I can tell the difference.

Overall, this experience made me realise that there is so much more the Bank of England does than just create our notes and set the base rate. There are also different career areas within, which are accessible from all kinds of different pathways.



So, if you want to gain an insight into the bank or access work experience at other high-profile organisations, S4SNextGen: <https://www.s4snextgen.org/> - is a great place to start. They work with a variety of top-level employers in London and across the UK, and this is how I was able to access this fantastic opportunity.

Chi Chi Anene - 13NCT

## The safety of all Nobelians

I have once again been contacted by local residents and been asked to remind parents to be considerate regarding pick up and drop off. Can I urge parents and carers to encourage our young Nobelians to walk or cycle to school. If you do have to drive, please refrain from parking or turning onto private driveways or blocking the bus layby.

Currently, inconsiderate parking appears to be an issue in Dryden Crescent where parking across residents drives and using the private land owned by the scouts is taking place. Regretfully, residents have reported to us that they have been aggressively dealt with by car drivers in some situations.

Please help us ensure that our reputation in the community remains positive by showing due care and attention to our immediate neighbours and so that we maintain student safety.

Thank you for your support.

## Year 9 Biomes in a Box Event

On Wednesday 8 May I had the pleasure of welcoming parents and students from year 9 to our Biomes in a Box Event.

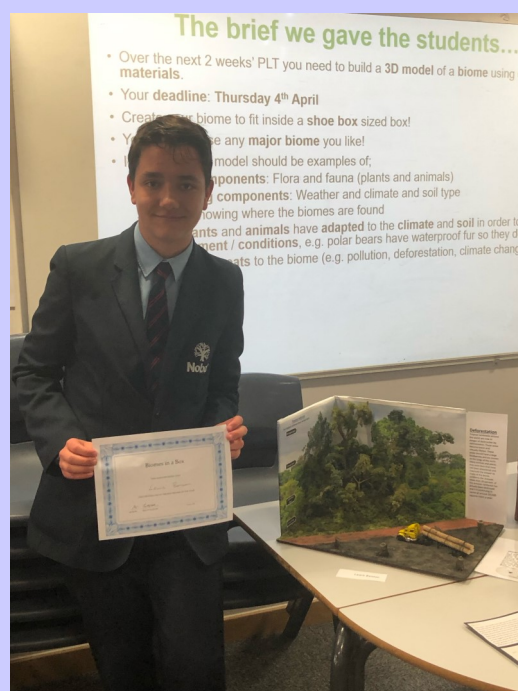
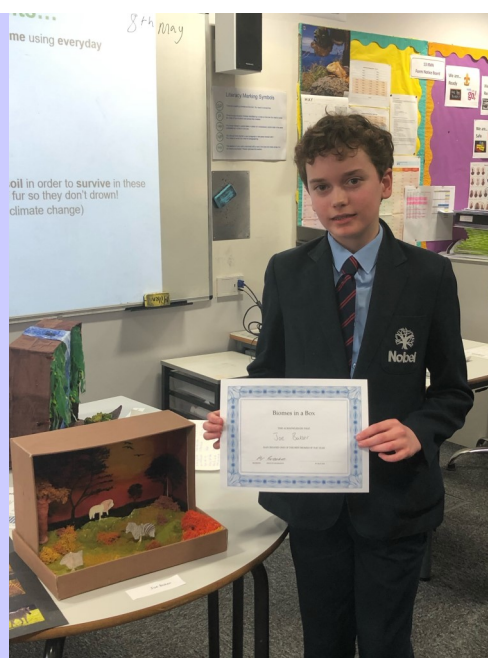
Year 9 have recently been learning about biomes. Biomes are areas of the world which have the same climate and animals like deserts, tropical rainforests or the Polar regions. Along with learning about these areas the students were set an extended PLT to create a biome in a box. Their project needed to include the key elements that are found in a biome such as animals, plants and what the climate is like. Many students also included information about the threats to the environment which currently exist. This led to some very alarming biomes being produced but I am pleased to see that our students understand the problems that we are creating for nature.

The Geography department selected between three and five biomes from each class to go through to the grand final. We hoped this would make the final easier to judge but it proved an almost impossible task as the effort the students put in was outstanding. Well done to all of our students who were involved; the eventual winners were:

- ♦ Best Overall Biome – Joe Baker 9M SHS (pictured top)
- ♦ Best Information Included - Georgie Saunders 9C JGF - (pictured middle)
- ♦ Best Visual Biome – Lewis Benson 9M HTR (pictured bottom)

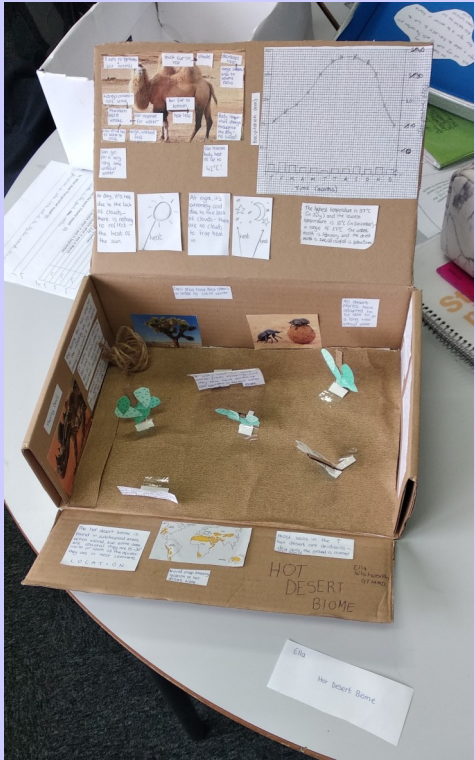
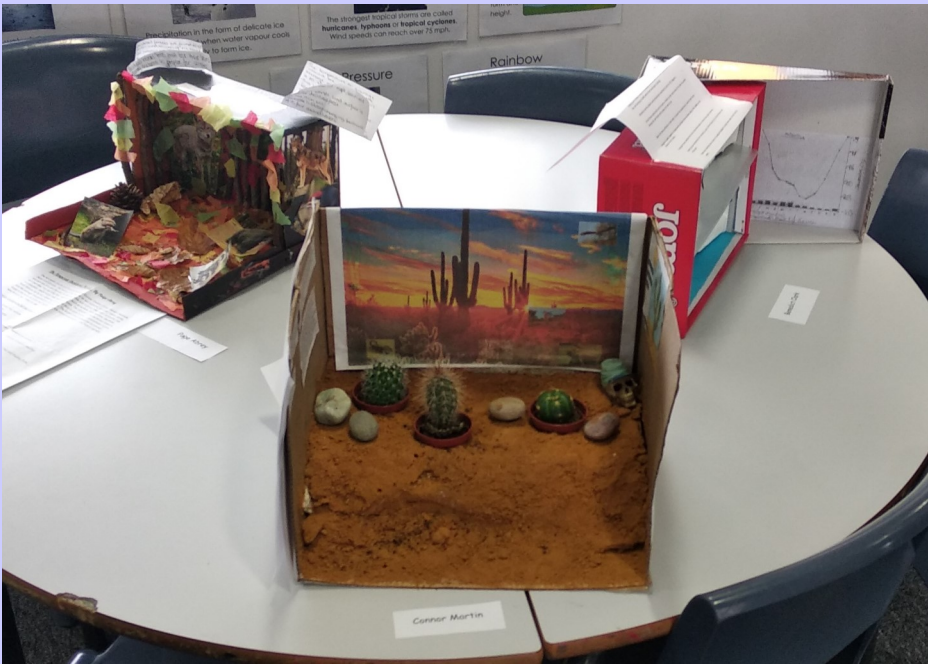
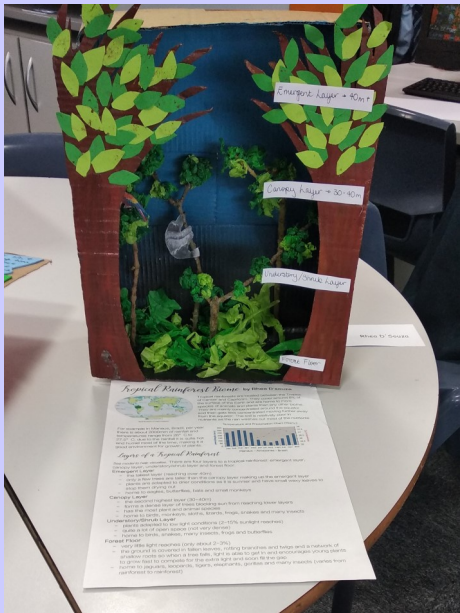
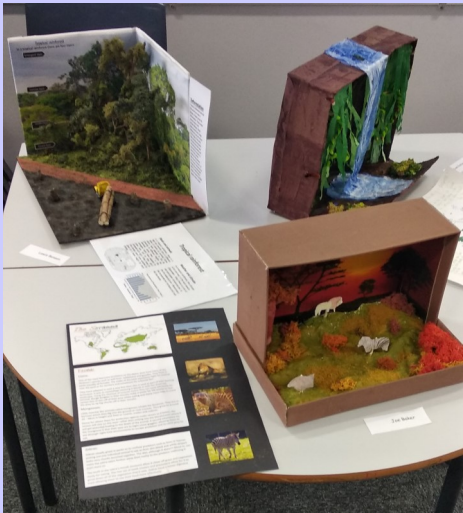
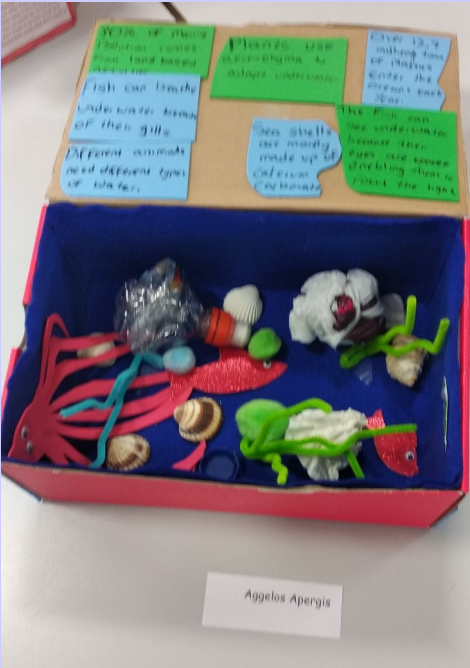
Pictured on the next page are some of the other biomes, which were on display.

Mr G Breese  
Head of Geography





Year 9 Biomes in a Box Event



## Summer Term Sport: Extra-Curricular Timetables

Day	Lunch: 13:10 – 13:40	After School: 15:30 – 16:30
Monday	Tennis – MUGA Basketball – MUGA Cricket – Astro Football - Astro	Athletics – All years
Tuesday	Tennis – MUGA Basketball – MUGA Cricket – Astro Football - Astro	Rounders – All years
Wednesday	Tennis – MUGA Basketball – MUGA Cricket – Astro Football - Astro	Athletic Fixtures
Thursday	Tennis – MUGA Basketball – MUGA Girls' Cricket – Astro Football - Astro	Cricket – All years
Friday	Tennis – MUGA Basketball – MUGA Cricket – Astro Football - Astro	Staff Sports

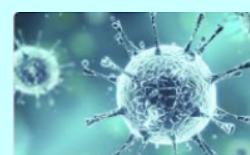
## Seneca Learning

All students and teachers now have free access to Seneca - a revision and homework platform making studying more fun.

Seneca is an interactive way to learn official course content. Their web app covers 150+ exam board-specific courses, condensing what students need to know for their exams.

The software is able to identify gaps in learning. For instance, when you get a question wrong, the platform will repeat the topic in different formats and their smart algorithm has been proven to help students remember topics 2x faster.

Seneca is totally free for students, teachers and parents. You can sign up via [senecalearning.com](https://www.senecalearning.com)





## Sport and Leisure Opportunities at Nobel Venues

For further information, please contact [nobelvenues@nobel.sch.uk](mailto:nobelvenues@nobel.sch.uk)



(Gymnastics)  
**Mondays,**  
**Wednesdays, Fridays**  
17:30-21:00  
**Saturdays** 09:30-13:30



(Walking football)  
**Mondays** 19:00-20:00



**Wednesdays**  
17:30-18:30  
U7s and U8s  
18:30-19:30  
U9s and U10s



**Tuesdays** 18:00-19:00  
Age 4 upwards  
19:00-20:00  
Family session  
**Thursdays** 18:30-20:30



(Dance classes)  
**Thursdays**  
17:30-18:15  
Junior Street  
18:20-19:20  
Senior Street  
20:45-21:45  
Heels Class



(Futsal)  
**Thursdays**  
19:30-21:00



**Tuesdays and Thursdays**  
18:30-19:30 and 19:30-20:30  
**Sundays**  
09:00-10:00, 10:00-11:00



**Saturdays**  
08:45-13:45

## Dates for your Diary


13 May - External exams begin  
27 - 31 May - Half-term holiday







# THE NOBEL FESTIVAL



TUESDAY 18TH JUNE  
3:30 - 5:30PM  
7-9PM



## How to support your child using GCSEPod



### What is GCSEPod?

GCSEPod is an award-winning expert in Subject Knowledge. We provide 3-5 minute bursts of audio-visual, teacher written learning which can help to reinforce and consolidate key GCSE topics covered in lessons.

Experts read and explain everything clearly including all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and diagrams on screen.

### Tips & Tricks

- **Watch online or offline!** Ask your child to download some Pods to their mobile device, this way they are free expand their knowledge wherever they go.
- **Create Playlists!** Use the My Playlist area to create bespoke playlists on topics that they may find challenging. Having a personalised playlist means your child has fast access to Pods that will help to fill in knowledge gaps.
- **Use Favourites!** Challenge your child to a favourite 10 Pods on topics they find difficult/challenging. Watch the Pods together and use one of our other suggested learning techniques to help simplify what it is they're struggling with.
- **Memory Cards!** Watch the Pods and then together write key facts, dates, diagrams and quotes. Then test their knowledge to see how much they remember.  
Top Tip\* Turn it into a competition and reward your child for correctly answered questions. If you're stuck on what questions to ask your child then head over to our 'Quiz your Child' document.
- **Support Homework!** GCSEPod isn't just for revision, it's to help expand your child's subject knowledge. If your child is struggling with a piece of homework, you can search for the topic on GCSEPod and use the Pods as an additional resource.

### Does your child know they have access to GCSEPod?

If your son or daughter have already activated their account, they simply need to log in with the username and password they've created.

If they've not yet activated their GCSEPod account, simply follow these simple instructions:

1. Go to [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com)
2. Click **Login**
3. Click **New Here? Getting Started**
4. Ensure they've selected they are a **Pupil**
5. Enter their personal details as requested
6. Create a Username and Password



GCSEPOD.COM

INFO@GCSEPOD.COM

0191 338 7830

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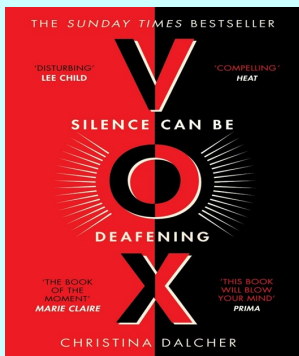
## NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in **the Library**,  
6:30pm, Tuesday 4 June 2019

The books to read are:

### Silence Can Be Deafening

### The Last Thing She Told Me



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](mailto:library@nobel.herts.sch.uk)

## Puzzle Solutions

Daily No. 4398

Moderate

15	14		13	21	24	6	3	21
5	7	4	2	6	8	1	3	9
8	3	6	5	1	9	7	2	4
2	10		4	3	7	5	6	8
10	13	39	6	8	5	4	1	2
3	9	7	6	8	5	4	1	2
6	4	8	1	9	2	3	5	7
1	2	5	3	7	4	9	8	6
22	9	6	13	8	4	1	12	13
7	8	2	9	5	3	6	4	1
9	4	5	1	7	2	6	8	9

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### Brain Teaser

#### ANSWER:

*He lost \$21. Work backwards. If his last payment was doubled, less \$24, it must have been \$12. Payment two must have been \$18, and payment one \$21.*

## Year 13 Celebration Lunch

Congratulations to the 15 students listed below who were all invited to a celebration lunch with the Head on Friday 3 May. This was in recognition of their excellent progress, consistent hard work and exemplary behaviour as evidenced in the latest data drop. Well done to all!

Chinagorom Anene	Bethany Bannister
Holly Brown	Jessica Callister
Katie Coxall	Ellie Davies
Charley Dowler	Megan Falco
George Mewyes	Erin Oliver
Sandra Shali	Elysia Siddiqi
Anna Thomas	Emily Thomas
Farozha Urrehman	