

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers

I can't believe this is the penultimate Nobel News of 2019, the next one will be in a new decade – the beginning of my 5th decade as a teacher! I'll talk a bit more about our New Year resolutions in the next edition, however, this term started with the untimely passing of Miranda – staff and students have shown great resilience since that awful period. I will tell you about how the school will remember Miranda in a future edition.

We have worked tremendously hard this term to improve our teaching and I want to pay tribute to the whole school community for the way they have faced this challenge. I should also like to take this opportunity to thank my senior colleagues, they are a great inspiration.

We asked a couple of weeks ago for you to let me know of any young Nobelians who are achieving great things outside of school. In this edition, I should like to mention two;

Firstly, Max Hubbard in year 9, as well as being an accomplished pianist – you may have heard him play Bohemian Rhapsody, Max also recently achieved Taekwondo 1st Dan black belt grading. As part of this he was also required to learn some Korean language as well as demonstrate the tenets of Taekwondo which are; courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control and indomitable spirit.

Secondly, following closely in the footsteps of one of Stevenage's most famous sons, Arthur Hagland is a member of Barclay School Kart Club, and was presented with three Class 10 1st place medals won at Clay Pigeon, Camberley and Whilton Mill; he was also awarded Most Improved Driver for 2018/2019 season. Arthur has now moved up to Class 12 and is halfway through the 2019/2020 season.

Well done Max and Arthur, I'm looking forward to hearing about more achievements of Nobelians outside of school.

Have a safe and happy weekend.

Warm regards
Martyn Henson

Arthur Hagland Karting Champion

On Thursday 21 November, Barclay School Kart Club had their annual prize giving evening to celebrate the seasons racing. Year 9 student, Arthur Hagland was not only presented with his 3 Class 10 1st place medals, won at Clay Pigeon, Camberley and Whilton Mill, but was also awarded Most Improved Driver for 2018/2019 season.



Arthur has now moved up to Class 12 and is halfway through the 2019/2020 season.

Very well done, Arthur.

The Faraday Challenge

On Wednesday 13 November, 12 Year 8 students had the opportunity to compete in the Faraday Challenge at Barnwell School. During the day our students competed in two teams against other students from Barnwell and Marriotts. Each group had to design a prototype to support Airbus in delivering aid to communities that had been affected by a disaster. Their prototype had to include at least one working electrical circuit, and have a mechanical element to it. Along with this they had to complete planning and budget information. Both groups represented the school in a fantastic manner, and worked well as part of a group. In particular, they were very strong when presenting to the other groups. We did not come home with the trophy on this occasion, but that does not take away from the amazing character that our students displayed throughout. I am sure that this experience has opened their eyes to the many opportunities that are available in engineering, and to consider these in their future.



Miss H Ormiston

Inter-Schools Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 20 November, together with three other students, I travelled to Longdean School in Hemel Hempstead to participate in an inter-schools' maths competition with sixteen other schools. Each school formed a team of four students (two year 12 and two year 13) studying A-level maths.

The competition was made up of three uniquely challenging rounds taking approximately 40 minutes each, requiring the students to work together in order to solve a multitude of problems quickly and precisely for round one then, in pairs, to complete a series of matching questions to earn points for round two.

After the first two rounds, we had a break in which we devised our tactics for the third and final round where our team would split up into pairs, alternating solving problems to finally give a grand total score.

This event was brilliantly brought together with great organisation and lots of interesting yet challenging problems. Despite our team coming eighth out of seventeen, we all had lots of fun and will definitely participate again next year.

James Paget - 12GBE

Year 11 Visit to St Albans

Last Wednesday, 23 Year 11 students visited St Albans to conduct their GCSE fieldwork. The students were investigating the question: "Is St Albans a sustainable community?" Through the use of surveys of the public and observations of the area the students were able to produce their own conclusion about if they thought the settlement was/was not sustainable.

Once the students had collected their data and enjoyed a stop for lunch we made our way back through the park and returned to school to analyse the data they had collected.

Most of the people the students asked knew what 'sustainability' meant but sadly only 44% of people thought that St Albans was a sustainable community.



The students and public were able to suggest many ways the community could be improved and were able to see some possible developments in our investigation.

Mr G Breese

Geography teacher

The School of Hard Knocks

On Thursday 28 November, 17 Year 9 students travelled to The Harrow School as part of their involvement in the School of Hard Knocks program. After just 7 weeks of training the boys were there to take part in their first two games of Rugby, taking on local school Barnwell and a team representing Harrow.

On arrival we were introduced to a different world as boys wearing straw hats wandered between the historical buildings as well as acres of sports pitches as far as the eye could see.

After an intense warm up session led by Nobel PE teacher, Mr Spence, the boys were ready for their first match. Once the nerves were shaken off they went about their business putting in some strong tackles as they slowly imposed their dominance on the game. Aided by some pacey wing play, direct running and quick passing the tries started to add up and Nobel emerged victorious from their first game.

The next challenge, however, was facing the illustrious Harrow on their own turf.

Not to be intimidated the Nobel team picked up where they left off – with tough tackles backed up with powerful running. Nobel grew in confidence and, by the end whistle, had, once again, finished victorious. Every player who took part could hold their head high as they came together as a team to overcome two tough and organised opponents.



The day was rounded off with a team meal in the Harrow dining hall and all went home with an enormous sense of achievement.

Mr M Jones

Head of Year 9

Year 12 Geography Field Trip to the South Downs

On Monday 11 November, 13 intrepid Year 12 students and two teachers set off to the South Downs making (rather amazingly) good progress around the M25 to arrive at the South Downs Youth Hostel around 11am.

On arrival, we met with our member of staff (Ben) from the Field Studies Council who would be leading us in 3 days of Geographical Investigation practice. The Monday was spent exploring the town of Lewes, looking at its identity and character. The students collected a variety of data such as pictures, the amount of litter, services and transport and their own descriptions of the area. Once we returned to the field centre the students analysed their data using some unusual methods including making a world cloud and drawing their own maps of Lewes.



On Tuesday, the students investigated coastal processes, specifically looking at how beaches change in their size and shape over time and how humans interfere with this process.

This day was particularly cold and windy but a hot fish and chip lunch powered the students through another afternoon on the beach in the wind and rain surveying the sea defences, shops and completing their own field sketches.



This was particularly interesting as, by coincidence, there was a huge operation to redistribute the sand and rocks on the beach to protect the town.



On our return to the field centre, the students analysed their data using different methods to the day before, drawing graphs and evaluating their data collection; making sure their information was accurate and not biased. On Wednesday, before returning home, the students were introduced to statistical testing and were able to see, with 95% certainty, that their hypothesis from the day before was correct! A very successful practice investigation.

Mr G Breese
Geography Teacher

Nobel Celebrates Success

Following the latest data drop, 16 Year 12 students and 15 Year 13 students were rewarded for their hard work and effort with an invitation to share soft drinks and pastries with Mr Henson, who also presented them with certificate.

Year 13 students are listed and pictured below:

Abigail Aluko	Mark Brettell
Daniel Bucktrout	Joshua Bull
Poppy Coates	Rosie Crake
Cameron Herbert	Conor Horgan
Callum Jack	Charleene Kazaura
Sophie Lambert	Venus Omokhoa
Mathew Robinson	Jolie Thompson
Lauren Ughetti	



Year 12 students are pictured above and listed below. Head of Year 12, Mrs Saville, congratulated all the students 'on an excellent start to their sixth form studies', and added how 'very proud' she was of their hard work and effort.

Taheer Abdul	Folasade Adeyemo
Sitara Aman	Nazar Butovych
George Ewbank	Dasha George-Ochelli
Loren Gregory	Joseph Heyes
Taylor Inglis	Zahra Kamali
Naomi Mbewe	Kiana Moradian
Jovan Navjee	Sophie Odira-Hansing
Matthew Oliver	Pathanchali Thevacumar

Very well done to all the students. Keep up the good work!

Miss J Mordaunt - Head of Year 13

Mrs J Saville - Head of Year 12

Friends of Nobel School (FONS) News

FONS are excited about our Christmas raffle this year, so be sure to buy your ticket(s) for a chance to win some great prizes, including:

£250 Amazon Voucher : Duxford Pleasure Flight for two : Will Writing for two : A Hamper : Gel Nail Manicure : And many more.

There are lots of ways that you can support FONS, including the 100 Club, which 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. Or why not join us at our next meeting Monday 20 January from 7:00 - 8:00pm in the school library.

November 100 Club winners

1 st	K. Weekes	No. 60	£26
2 nd	J. Rodbard	No. 5	£17

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.

Thank you for your continued support.

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 to 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
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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Tickets available here!

Christmas Lunch

18 December 2019
Student Price: £2.25

ROASTED TURKEY WITH ROASTED
POTATOES, STUFFING, PIGS IN
BLANKETS, VEGETABLE MEDLEY WITH
RED CURRANT GRAVY

Or

CHARGRILLED VEGETABLE TART
(Vegetarian/Vegan)

&

CHRISTMAS THEMED CHEESECAKE

Or

POACHED PEACHES WITH
BLUEBERRIES (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 11 December.

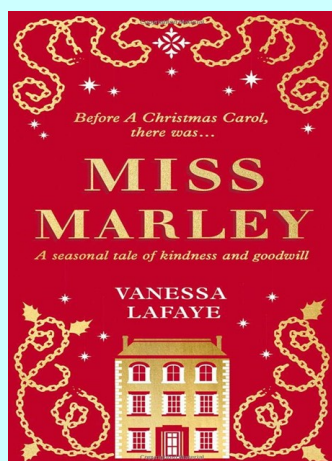
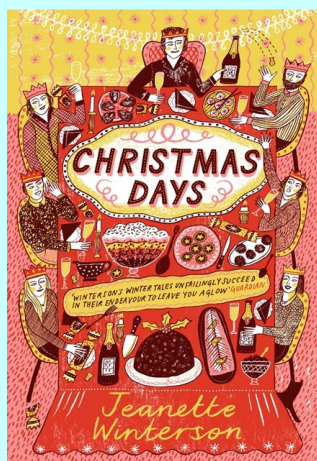


Students on Free School Meals should collect their tickets from Mrs Way, in the main admin office.

NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in **the Library**,
6:30pm, Tuesday 14 January 2020

The books to read are:



Read all, or part of, the books, and come to discuss them in a friendly informal group - Contact: Rosalind Essakhi: 01438 222600 or email:

library@nobel.herts.sch.uk

Dates for your diary

11 December - Year 11 Consultation Evening,
3:15 - 6:45pm

17 December - Christmas Concert, 5:30 -
6:30pm, refreshments served at 5:00pm

18 December - Presentation Evening,
6:00 - 8:00pm

19 December - Last day of term,
students dismissed from 12:15pm

6 January 2020 - Start of term - all students



Job Opportunities at Nobel



Lettings Co-ordinator

Required January 2020

Salary: H5.1 – salary would be £19,430 per annum paid pro-rata - Actual salary £13,128 per annum (approx.)

25 hours per week + overtime - 52 weeks per year

The Nobel School is a very exciting and vibrant school with 1450 on roll, covering the full age and ability range, the majority of whom continue their education into our flourishing sixth form.

We are looking for someone to take charge of our Lettings Department who would be prepared to cover evenings and some weekends. There will also be overtime available to cover staff absence.

The successful applicant will report to the Business Manager and ensure the smooth operations of our busy Lettings Department, Nobel Venues. They will be responsible for the organization of staff and the health, safety and enjoyment of customers and colleagues alike. There will also be some Premises work such as ensuring the security of the building and compliance checks.

Ideally, we are looking for a talented administrator with excellent IT skills, management or supervisory experience and a passion for fitness. A level 3 Fitness qualification would be desirable. The role will involve all aspects of the day to day running of the lettings department including any other duties related to the lettings function.

Tasks may include:

- Supervising, delegating work and preparing ~~rotas~~ for Nobel Venues staff;
- Ensuring the security of the building;
- Processing staff time sheets;
- Marketing - including promoting Nobel Venues and updating the Nobel Venues website, Facebook and Twitter;
- Developing the lettings to ensure the school ~~maximises~~ its income;
- Dealing with Nobel Venues email correspondence, answering queries, providing quotations, and taking and confirming bookings both in person and by email;
- Maintaining a schedule of bookings;
- Keeping and record and maintaining health and safety checks of the fitness suite and all other Nobel Venue/facilities;
- Liaise with the School Business Manager once a week.

~~It is an interesting and diverse role for which you need to be fit and strong.~~ The duties may range from setting up equipment, and ensuring our customers are satisfied to overseeing the rest of the team and making sure that equipment is in good working order.

There will be some late night working during exam periods and the Lettings Co-~~ordinator~~ responsible for ensuring this work is covered.

If you're a fast-thinker who's calm under pressure, diligent and responsible and a natural with people from all walks of life as well as excellent ICT, media skills, this could be an ideal position for you. We are looking for someone with integrity, a positive approach, and who is customer focused.

Nobel School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all of its students and staff. The successful candidate will have to meet the requirements of the person specification in order to be offered the post and will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references. We welcome applications from applicants regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or religion.

Please visit our website for further information or, better still, come and see us on an informal visit. To arrange a pre-visit, during which you would be made warmly welcome, or for additional information, please contact Tom Kennedy-Ota (Lettings Co-~~ordinator~~) 01438 735002.

To apply, please contact Liz Maden, Head's PA (HR@nobel.herts.sch.uk).

The closing date for applications is 11:59pm on Sunday 8 December 2019, and the proposed interview date is TBC. Prospective candidates are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible as the school reserves the right to close the advert should we feel able to appoint an appropriate candidate. Please note that we do not accept CVs in place of application form.



Required as soon as possible

Lettings Duty Officer – Bank Staff

Variable ~~hours~~ contract

Salary: H1.2 (£9.18 per hour) rising to £15 per hour for some specific duties

We are looking for a Duty Officer for our Lettings Department who would be prepared to cover weekend and evening shifts on a regular and ~~rota~~ basis. There will also be overtime available to cover staff absence.

You should be a talented administrator with some ICT skills, a passion for sport/fitness and ideally a Level 3 Fitness or Coaching qualification. Applicants with a Level 2 qualification who aspire to gain their Level 3 may apply - a contribution towards their Level 3 qualification ~~may be considered~~ for the right applicant. Once qualified to Level 3, the successful candidate will be expected to undertake inductions or group training with existing customers at a higher rate of pay.

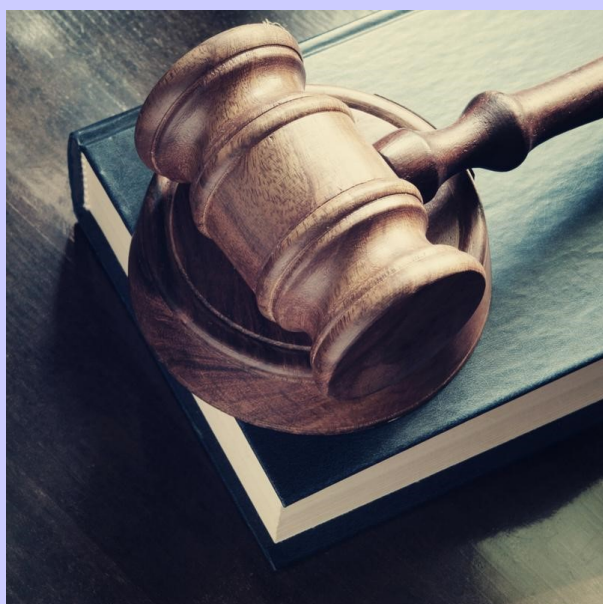
If you would like to visit Nobel, have any queries about this post or would like to apply, please contact Tom Kennedy-Ota - Tom.Kennedy-Ota@nobel.herts.sch.uk

The Nobel School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of all of its students and staff. The successful candidate will have to meet the requirements of the person specification in order to be offered the post and will be subject to satisfactory recruitment checks, including an enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references. We welcome applications from all suitably qualified individuals regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or religion.

Please note that we do not accept CVs in place of application forms.

Interview date(s) to be arranged.

Young Lawyer Programme



On Sunday 24 November, a group of enthusiastic 15 to 18-year olds, including myself, attended the InvestIN Young Lawyers Programme at UCL.

The programme was an educational talk about the skills one needs to become a lawyer, the course also included giving us different law cases to work through. The barristers and solicitors running the programme gave advice about the importance of being able to present yourself confidently and to be able to articulate your words well. They also helped us understand what the different areas of law entailed as well as how to argue well in both the position of a prosecutor and the defender. The programme was worthwhile especially for those of us that did not have connections with lawyers to help us understand the industry. Therefore, it was extremely enjoyable and helped us better understand our passions.

Sitara Aman - 12JLY