

Nobel News

21 January 2022
Edition 10.08



From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

The first two weeks back at school were great. Nobelians have all returned with very good intentions, and conduct around the school is much improved. Our system of restorative conversations, where teachers meet with students to discuss issues from the day before is working, and means that all students can make progress. Lockdown has had a profound effect on all young people, we really feel that we have managed the pandemic excellently and we are proud of the way our students are responding.

I can also report more optimism on Covid numbers too, without wishing to 'count our chickens' we have no teachers out of school for Covid, and only five students tested positive on 10 January. However, may I ask that, for the time being, we continue to regularly test at home and make sure that we get our children in school every day. The pandemic might not be over, but it certainly feels as if we have turned a corner, and that we can look forward to a much brighter Spring and Summer – let's hope so!

Finally, I'd like to mention our excellent Sixth Form. Mr MacGuire and his team set very high standards for our students; teaching and learning is outstanding in Years 12 and 13. Our results are very good and most of our students go on to university. Of those going to university, the proportion going to a Russell Group institution increases year on year and we regularly send Nobelians to Oxford and Cambridge. This year we have two students who have been offered places at Oxford and we are waiting for three Cambridge applicants who had interviews before Christmas. This is very exciting and thank you to Dr Mienczakowski, who leads on university entrance, and does such a good job.

Have a restful weekend.

Warm regards

Martyn Henson

National Apprenticeship Week: 7 - 13 February

Knowledge and understanding of apprenticeships are an extremely important part of the students' education and, with the cost of university qualifications, this is an extremely attractive alternative option for your child to explore.

7 – 13 February is **National Apprenticeship Week** (NAW).

Your son/daughter has probably made you aware that the Y8 work shadowing and Y10 and Y12 work experience events are going ahead this year and are planned for June. This is a great time to start discussing and planning your child's experience.

The school website has links to parent/carer and student information booklets on these events.

<https://thenobelschool.org/careers/>

As you are aware, I regularly share information and opportunities with your son/daughter via school assemblies and via email, inviting them to take part in virtual webinar talks with local employers and their staff. These are available via the Hertfordshire Opportunity Portal (HOP). This week's webinar is on Graphic Design.

<https://www.hopinto.co.uk/explore-careers/webinars/virtual-employer-encounters/>

There are now 45 different webinars available to watch, covering careers from Journalism to Nursing, Construction to Policing and many more.

The school careers tab has the HOP link along with many more hyperlinks to other useful websites, which provide information advice and guidance.

One of the most important considerations with regard to future career prospects is to be aware of the Labour Market Information (LMI), which includes comprehensive details about job opportunities. LMI provides guidance as to whether a future career path is in decline or whether it is part of a growth sector. This helps students identify what the future opportunities might be, but also gives an indication about the potential difficulty of finding jobs in decline as well as highlighting that competition for places will be extremely tough if there are few positions available.

I have attached a link to a short video from the National Careers Service which gives a clear explanation of LMI, and can be watched at your leisure.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZthWNpiH4A>

The Nobel School is extremely proud of its Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) and we thank you for your ongoing support with helping your son/daughter choose the right subjects, complete tasks for their education and to help refocus their attention on their studies when career choice can seem such a distant option.

Please do get in touch if you would like to discuss any of these links or require any further information.

Mr Bob Lovelock

Head of CEIAG



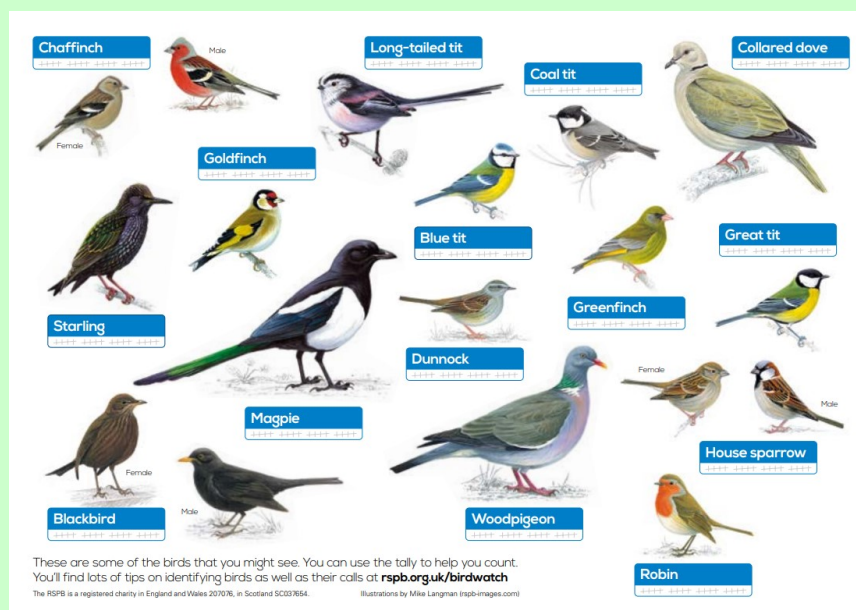
Big Garden Birdwatch: 28-30 January 2022

You may remember last year, I wrote a piece about the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch. Many students and parents took part and you can see our results in the graph opposite.

The RSPB is running the event again this year, between 28 - 30 January, and I encourage everyone to take part in order to help the charity conserve wildlife and track the changes climate crisis is causing to our ecosystems.

You can find details on the RSPB website and on showmyhomework. I look forward to updating you all on our results in a future edition of the Nobel News.

Mr George Breese
Head of Geography



Library News

This week, the library celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Monday 17 January) with a display of books on the Civil Rights movement.

Thank you to Mrs McAnuff who created a very informative PowerPoint to commemorate the day.

Please see the booklist via our Accessit Web App link <https://uk.accessit.online/thn03/?servicelD=ExternalEvent&rlSn=23&rlKey=459806004>

Mrs Ros Essakhi
Librarian



Poets' Corner

Once again, we are delighted to feature an original poem by Year 13 student, Kai Welch-Reynolds.

Bloom is a bitter/sweet work, which we hope you will enjoy and, if it inspires anyone else to put pen to paper, we would love to hear from you.



Bloom

Delicate Sapphic violets, enclosed and sunless.
In perpetuity of loathing, that seemed timeless.
Segregated centuries in boundless darkness.
Their wilting petals, and remorseless killers.

Bloom now, hold me gently.
Calamitous damage erupts beautiful power.
Together again, we rise in unison.
Our colour returns, in elegant pigment.

Tears fall, we become stronger.
Forbidden sunshine enlivens the flowers.
Inadequate darkness, worthy oblivion.
Hateful deficiency veers to paucity.

Now, we stand revived and graceful.
A union of plants, living in freedom.
Euphoric bliss joins the nation.
And we reside again, in potent salvation.

Kai Welch-Reynolds - 13MBS

Friends of Nobel School (FONS) News

Tickets for the FoNS Christmas and New Year raffle have been selling well but, if you have not yet purchased yours, or if you would like to increase your chances of winning by buying more, it is not too late to do so.

Tickets, priced at £1 each (£5 for a book of five tickets) may be purchased via the school Gateway, and all proceeds will continue to support Nobel students.

The deadline for purchasing tickets is Monday 24 January and the draw will take place at the FONS meeting on Wednesday 26 January, at 7.00pm.

Good luck!

The top prize, is a day at Duxford Imperial War Museum, with a pleasure flight for three people in a Piper Dakota-256 aircraft. There are many other fabulous prizes, including:

- ◆ Two wills written up (£250 value)
- ◆ £200 Amazon voucher
- ◆ Studio photoshoot (£150 value)
- ◆ Six bottles of wine
- ◆ One week's membership to Stevenage Leisure gym and swimming pool
- ◆ One make up session for a night out, by an experienced make up artist
- ◆ Free MOT
- ◆ Nail voucher
- ◆ And much more

School Christmas Dinner

On Friday 17 December, it was our infamous school Christmas dinner day! Staff were assisted by a group of willing Sixth Formers to transform the dining room/hall into a festive banquet (please see pictures). As the lunch bell rang, the seats were filled with very excited (and hungry) students, and staff volunteers hand-delivered a Christmas meal to each one of them. It was like a conveyor belt with the fabulous kitchen team plating up the meals at the speed of light and staff members whizzing around to serve the food, clear the tables and then reset them for the next group of students. It was a fantastic atmosphere and there were lots of happy students. A big thank you to all who helped, a real team effort!

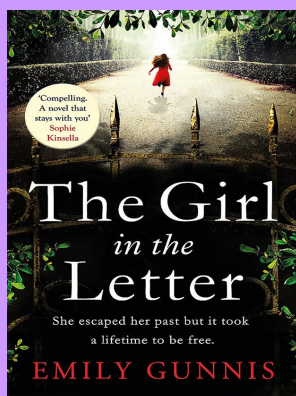


Mr Jordan Dutt
Graduate TA

NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in the Library, 6:30pm, Tuesday 22 February 2022

The book to read is:



Read all or part of the book, and discuss it in a friendly informal group

Contact: Rosalind Essakhi:

01438 222600 or email:

library@nobel.herts.sch.uk

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Dance Club

Students are reminded that Dance clubs are back on the weekly lunchtime schedule. All age groups are welcome, and students should make their way to the sports area where Mrs Llewellyn will meet them.

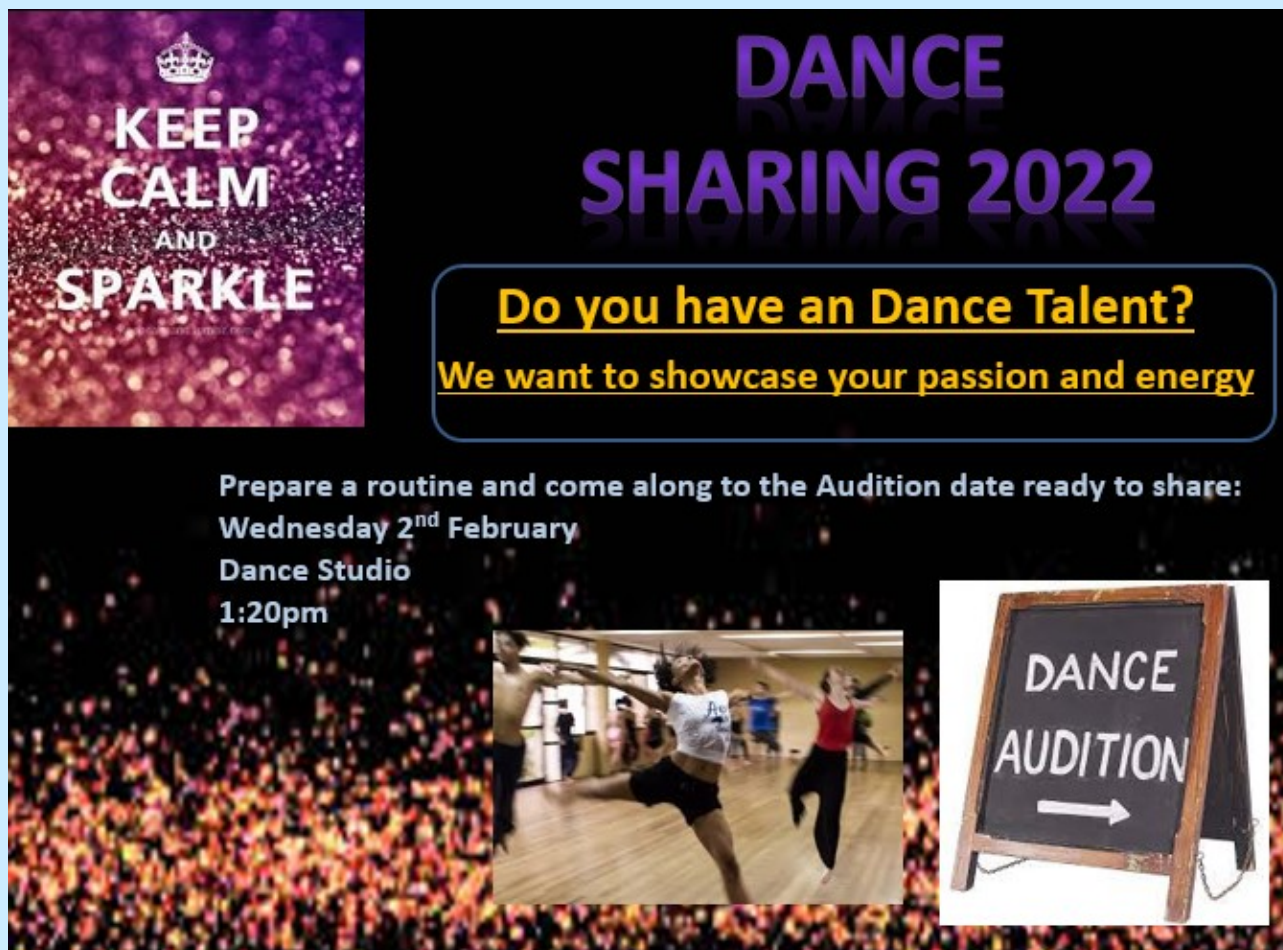
This term, we will be working towards a small dance sharing, which will take place on Tuesday 15 March.

Tuesdays Lunch 1:25

Thursday Lunch 1:25

Mrs Rebecca Llewellyn

Head of Dance



KEEP CALM AND SPARKLE

DANCE SHARING 2022

Do you have an Dance Talent?
We want to showcase your passion and energy

Prepare a routine and come along to the Audition date ready to share:
Wednesday 2nd February
Dance Studio
1:20pm

DANCE AUDITION →

COVID – 19

The Community and School Age Immunisation Service will be in school again on Tuesday 1 February to administer COVID-19 vaccines, either for a first or second dose. There are details, including a link to the online consent form, in this letter <https://thenobelschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Letter-to-Parents-Immunisations-COVID-Feb22.pdf> which has already been sent out to parents.

Mr Nik Thomas

School Business Manager

Dates for your Diary

Ongoing until Friday 4 February - Year 11 Options Interviews

Wednesday 2 February - Year 13 Parents' Consultation Evening

Wednesday 9 February - Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening

Monday 14 - Friday 18 February - Half-term break

