

Nobel News

16 December 2022
Edition 11.06



From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

As we prepare for holidays and looking back on the past term, the school remains in a strong position. This contrasts with the country, which is struggling with a cost-of-living crisis. Certainly, my spirits are always raised when I drive to Nobel every morning.

We are aware that some of our families will find Christmas a struggle, but we really hope that everyone manages to spend time with people they love. There is much commercialisation at this time of year, but that is not really what it is about.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank families for their support and encouragement. Our support staff do a fantastic job, and our teachers are dedicated and hardworking, I am very grateful to them. Finally, I would like pay tribute to our wonderful students.

I wish all Nobelians a great holiday and a happy New Year.

Just a reminder that we return to school on Monday 9 January.

Kind regards

Martyn Henson

Nobel's Got Talent

On Thursday 24 November, we held the first ever 'Nobel's Got Talent'. The night consisted of a range of amazing acts, from sassy singers to mystical magicians. It began with a short welcome by two Sixth Formers, who then proceeded to introduce each individual act.

Between each act we had a little tease into the judges' opinions about the previous act whilst they decided on their final score. At the end we crowned the winners, Claudia, Rose and Kayleigh, and gifted them a £30 amazon gift voucher. All the acts were amazing and we can't wait to see who joins in next year!

All in all, we raised a total of £262.29 for the charity Muslim Hands, student fund. They do things like helping to provide classroom resources, school meals, clothes and shoes, transport to and from school, psycho-social support and teacher training programs, etc.

The night would not have progressed as well as it did without our Year 12 volunteers, so a huge thank you to Zafeerah Rehman, Maame Ofori, Natasha Urrehman, Ama Adade, Jason Ching, Mya Desewu, Ella Latimer, Ellie Browne, Chloe Simmonds, Noor Mahmood, Toni Ntiedu-Duko, Izzy Sparrow, and Daisy Fennelow.

Natasha Urrehman - 12 BLO



A' Level Product Design

On Thursday 17 November, as part of their course, Year 12 Product Design students travelled to London. They had the chance to experience cultural exhibits at the Victoria & Albert Museum to provide inspiration for their designs. This was followed by a trip to the Design Museum, which houses 'iconic' designs by a range of well-known designers, highlighted by the awarding body. The final visit was to Harrods, where students were able to witness marketing techniques, such as 'loss-leaders', and a host of other strategies used by the store.

"It was an amazing visit, I enjoyed the V&A, where we got to see many different artifacts from different countries and cultures, and how they incorporate colours and patterns into their designs. After this, the Design Museum showed us how design has evolved over the years, which helped us think about what to incorporate into our own future designs. The best part of this trip was going to Harrods. As soon as you walk in you are overwhelmed with this sense of luxury and wealth. The sales team are highly skilled, and it was fascinating watching them in action."



Madison Turner



Rebecca Kappler



"The V&A Museum was filled with antique objects and artefacts from across the world. The visit to Harrods was a unique experience and a fascinating example of how the use of clever marketing and layout can entice a customer to purchase very expensive products."

Vinay Dholakia

"When we visited the V&A museum, it was incredible to see so many artifacts from different cultures and religions around the world. It was great to take inspiration from different periods of time, that could be incorporated into designs that we do in school. I especially liked an old Japanese style of painting pottery. This incorporated complex patterns and drawings in blue paint on a white background and was later seen in other cultures, like Chinese. I thought it was beautiful"

After this, we attended The Design Museum and saw some of the most iconic designs, both old and modern. It was great to see products we had learnt about in class, for example, Philippe Stark's Juicy Salif, which brought a better understanding to anthropometrics and how humans can use them.

Finally, we visited Harrods to experience high-end marketing. Seeing how the marketing was set up to encourage people to buy products was fascinating. We witnessed products being customised by designers to fit the buyer's needs. It was very different to Ikea, so it was great to see these differences .

Overall, It was a great experience to get inspiration for future designs and to see how marketing works in the real world."



Halloween Spooky Story Competition 2022

KS3 students were invited to take part in the English department's spooky story competition, showcasing their creativity and craft in producing some spine-tingling Halloween tales.

Congratulations to the winners, Freya Chumbley (8MPO) and Roberta Chastell (8EPS), pictured opposite.

Well done to our runners up too:

Sophie Gear
Saeed Zuraara
Summer Gore
Jessica Ferreira
Josie Clarke

And to all who entered.



Mr Sam Paul
English Teacher

Supporting the World Cup for Charity

On Monday 21 November, we took the opportunity to raise money for a local charity by combining this with our Sixth Form's love for football. We asked for a small donation and, in return, students could wear a national team's football shirt. We raised roughly £60, which went towards a charity called 'People For People', which works within Stevenage to support vulnerable families, especially around Christmas time.

The charity was extremely thankful for our support, and students were also extremely happy with the result!

Millie Waite - 12RKI



Crafty Cactus Eco Club

Proudly presenting our newest display in the Art Department, "**Crafty Cactus**" By Eco Art Club.

Students have been working very hard on their model cacti with Ms Sears, Mrs Swendell and Sixth Form volunteer, Charlotte Hooper, after school on a Monday. The cacti have been made using off-cuts and repurposed material from the department.



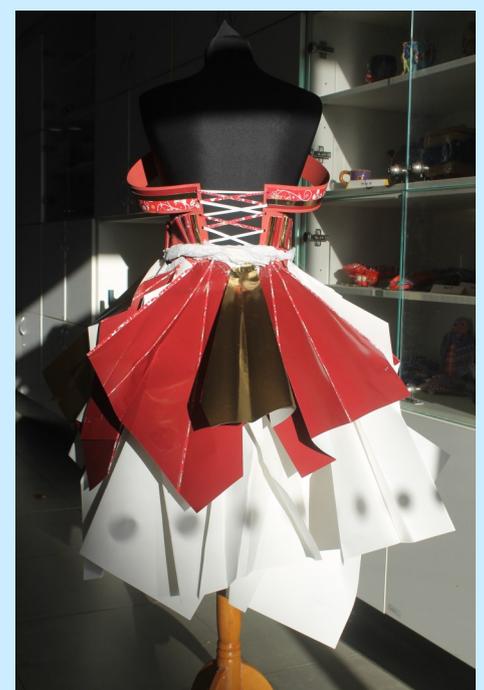
Miss Emily Millhouse
Art Technician

Paper Structures



Year 12 have produced incredible Christmas themed dresses, inspired by the work for their project "Paper Structures".

We are delighted to share the two designs, which are on display in school.



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE ART DEPARTMENT

MFL Christmas Card Competition



1st place - Emma Randall 9E TBT



2nd place - Roberta Chastell 8M EJS



3rd place - Emmie Fennelw 10T KPR

Annual Art Department Christmas Card Competition

Meanwhile, we are very pleased to announce the winners of the Art Department's annual Christmas card competition.

All the entries were exceptionally good and Mr Henson found it impossible to select only one winner so, this year, there are three. These cards have been professionally printed and will be sent out to all the individual's on the school's Christmas card list.

Very well done to Evie Dillnutt - 7T KQY, Oscar Wickham - 7T EES, and Isabelle Harvey - 7C AMY.



Oscar Wickham



Evie Dillnutt



Isabelle Harvey

Nobel Network Connecting Former Students and Staff

Earlier this term, former Nobel student, Jack Davidson, kindly agreed to come into school to speak to our current year 9 students, about his journey to become a Paramedic for the NHS.

He explained to students the route he took through Nobel to achieve his GCSEs and AS levels before moving onto an apprenticeship in year 13. Jack then talked about the process he had to undertake to get into a paramedic degree at Lincoln University, and he also talked about the different experiences he has had as a fully qualified paramedic over the past 18 months.

Jack's presentation was both very interesting and inspirational to the students, who were totally engaged and asked lots of excellent questions at the end of the session.

Thank you to Jack and to the Nobel Network, who facilitated this visit.

Mr Stephen Howells
Head of Enrichment



Inspire Curriculum

As I have mentioned many times before, we have used network members exclusively in smaller events for the Inspire Curriculum since the network started. This term was no different, except we had a mix of online speakers and speakers on site at Nobel. With Year 9 option talks currently taking place, it is always great to have alumni available to help motivate and inspire. This time we were joined by:

- ◆ Sasha Reed – Civil Servant, Government Economist
- ◆ Simon Bull – British Airways Pilot
- ◆ Elana Dance – Quantity Surveyor
- ◆ Tim Busfield – Data Scientist
- ◆ Guy Norton – Civil Servant, Head of Delivery, Trade Negotiations

In each case, the students really had an amazing afternoon and asked lots of interesting questions.

Mr Barry Burningham
Nobel Network

Chemistree

This very effective festive arrangement, with a science theme, was created by lab technician, Chloe Birchenhall.



Stevenage School Games Rowing Competition

On Thursday 1 December, the Nobel School rowing teams travelled to Barnwell School for the return of the annual Stevenage School Games Rowing Competition, led by the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team. Nobel entered teams for every age category from Year 7 right up to Year 11.

For the competition, there are four students within each team. The students had to row 2000m on the indoor rowers within their team of 4. Therefore, each student completed a 500m row before changing over to the next person. It is a physically demanding competition and all of the students had to show a high level of physical fitness to excel. A particular moment, which must be highlighted, is the way all of the students supported and cheered each other on, regardless of their year groups.

It was incredibly pleasing to see every Nobel team win a medal.

Well done to all of the following students:

- ♦ **U12 Boys:** Joel Brakohiapa, Sam Antigha, Archie Bray, Charlie Rember (**Silver Medals**)
- ♦ **U12 Girls:** Lucie Pickett, Lily Jones, Isla Stone, Erin Kassie (**Bronze Medals**)
- ♦ **U14 Boys:** Oliver Lazarou, Aubrey Murray, Maloney Glover, Jayden Sarangeta (**Silver Medals**)
- ♦ **U14 Girls:** Elise Kennedy, Jess Tolmie, Zara Barringer, Amani Grundy (**Gold Medals**)
- ♦ **U16 Boys:** Ervinas Kiele, Sam Moore, Edward Smith, Sam Huttleston (**Silver Medals**)
- ♦ **U16 Girls:** Zara Enghmann, Ellie Walker, Rebecca Bell, Livvie Milton (**Bronze Medals**)

Special mentions must go to the following teams:

- ♦ The U12 boys started in fourth place and worked incredibly hard to finish in second place, with Charlie working superbly in the third leg.
- ♦ The U12 girls supported each other through smooth changes and missed out on the silver medals by just a single metre!
- ♦ The U14 girls utilised their strong preparation and warm up to ensure they had smooth changeovers and maintained their excellent technique throughout to win comfortably by over 50 metres!

All of the students showed incredible teamwork, resilience, support of each other, sportsmanship and effort. Well done to all of the students who represented Nobel, the PE Department are incredibly proud of you all.



Year 10 Basketball v King James Academy

On Tuesday 29 November, the Year 10 Basketball team welcomed King James Academy to Nobel for their first district basketball fixture of the academic year.

As soon as the game tipped off, it was clear that this was going to be a fantastic and competitive game of basketball. The game was end to end with the score close throughout. Initially, Nobel found themselves losing the first two quarters of the game, despite a strong performance.

The team refocused and turned it around in the second half of the game. This was achieved through excellent teamwork, communication and individual performances of prowess! It was brilliant to be able to watch the team's growing confidence to be creative, with several 3 point shots, lay ups and moving the ball around quickly.

Approaching the last minute of the final quarter, the team found themselves 23-20 up, with King James Academy increasing the pressure and attacking well. With 40 seconds to go, King James Academy scored another basket, taking the score to 23-22, which led to a nervy finish.

The atmosphere in the hall was electric and the team held out for an impressive 23-22 victory, which they worked incredibly hard for throughout the game. A special mention must go to the Year 11 students who coached the team throughout the game.

A huge well done to all of the students who took part – the PE Department look forward to seeing you play in your upcoming fixtures. If you would like to see the upcoming fixtures, please check the noticeboards in the PE Department

Mr Regan Carolan
PE Teacher



Severe Weather Warning

In the event of severe winter weather, we will attempt to keep the school open wherever possible. If there is serious disruption to travel, we may delay the start of the school day until 9:30 am to give staff sufficient time to get to work.

In either case, we will contact parents by text message and place a notice on the school's website. Please assume that school is open as normal unless you hear otherwise.



Mr Nik Thomas
School Business Manager

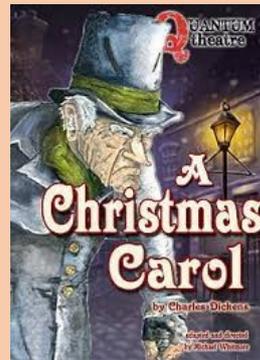
A Christmas Carol

On Monday 5 December, Year 7 were lucky enough to watch a performance of *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens in the school Auditorium. We were joined by a theatre company who presented the plot and characters from the famous story.

It was a fantastic opportunity to watch a live production of the play and discover more about life in the Victorian era. There were three actors who played many roles between them (one played an incredible 38 roles!), with lots of quick costume changes needed throughout. The company brought the very realistic set with them, which transformed the stage into a Victorian street. This was accompanied by excellent sound effects and music, which added to the mood of the play. One student said: *'overall, I enjoyed it because the characters and story were clear and informative'*. The whole year enjoyed the production and look forward to studying Victorian literature later in the year and hopefully experiencing live theatre again soon!

For the Year 11 students who have been taught 'A Christmas Carol' for their 19th century text, it was a brilliant opportunity to see the text come alive. In particular, I found it really interesting hearing what the actor who played Scrooge believed to be the key events that changed Scrooge's outlook and attitude to Christmas and giving.

Next month we are welcoming Quantum Theatre back to Nobel for all of Year 11 to see 'Macbeth' live. As GCSE students are required to explore stagecraft within their literary essays, it's an important step in their revision program.

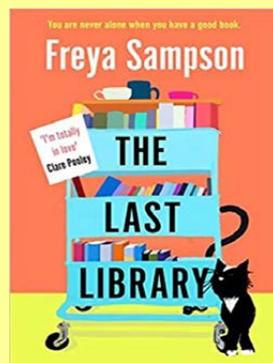


Miss Lisa Steele
English Teacher

NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

Next meeting will be held in the Library,
6:30pm, Tuesday 17 January 2023

The books to read are:



Read all or part of the books, and discuss them in a friendly informal group

Contact: Rosalind Essakhi:

01438 222600 or email:

library@nobel.herts.sch.uk



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- 4) Create a username and password

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Running Club

Well done to everyone who has attended running club in the autumn term. We have had some excellent achievements with students improving their running skills.

Certificates for this term will be given out in assemblies.

If you would like to sign up for the spring term, please re-sign up.

Any questions please ask the running leaders Mrs Pearson, Mrs Savo, Mr Mesher, Mr Bell

Mrs Amy Pearson
Head of Science



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Bronze training for the expedition section of the Award is progressing nicely. Students in Year 10 have recently formed expedition groups, and set out to achieve a series of group tasks (including building freestanding marshmallow and spaghetti towers, which turned out to be actually rather tricky), and learnt how to pack a rucksack. Students are now attending a series of lessons and learning the basics in first aid including DRABC, the recovery position and CPR. They are now in the final stages of completing their two three month sections; currently Year 10 Bronze students have completed over 750 volunteering hours since September - a phenomenal contribution from our Bronze Award holders. With one in four Year 10 students aiming to complete the Award this year, it's amazing hearing so many success stories as they work towards learning new skills and becoming more physically active. I am sure all the families who have a Bronze student cooking family meals as their skill are enjoying the Award too!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the DofE Prefects who are also supporting the Bronze students through their training. Thank you to James and Emma Girdwood, Lewis McGuire, Milie Meehan and thank you to Head DofE Prefect, Jenna Lewan.



Miss Lisa Steele
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

Nobel Network Sponsored Awards

Community Champion 2022

The Younge Award for Academic Achievement



This is awarded to a pupil premium student who has demonstrated academic excellence at Nobel throughout years 7-11. It is intended that the award will support this student to maintain excellent outcomes through post-16 education and secure a post-18 trajectory into quality higher education or training. Each recipient must have demonstrated excellent progress at GCSE as well as the character expected of all Nobelians. The recipient of the award this year is **Shadab Ali**, who is hoping to study medicine after A levels.



Reem Al-Himyari

The Community Champion award is given each year to the departing Y13 student who has shown a real focus on others in school and the wider community generally. Reem is a student who was new to Nobel, joining year 12 in September 2020. She quickly established herself as a person always willing to help others. When she left, she donated all of her text books and resources to the school for other students to benefit. Reem is currently studying at Warwick University.

Mr Barry Burningham

Nobel Network

Year 13 Mock Exams

Very well done to all of our Year 13 students who have just finished their mock exams.

Their conduct throughout has been mature and exemplary, all arriving on time, following the exam rules and respecting each other, even taking Monday's snow day in their stride. This will stand them in good stead for the external public exams in the summer, and for life beyond Nobel.

Mrs Saville, Head of Year 13, said:

'You have all worked extremely hard and we know that you will continue to do so, but please allow yourself to have a break over the Christmas holiday for some well-deserved rest and relaxation.'

I am very proud of you.'

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 21 December - Last day of term, school closes at lunchtime

Monday 9 January 2023 - Spring term commences for all students

Super Curriculum Success

The following students have achieved their bronze super curriculum award for completing at least 10 super curriculum tasks:

Abid, Dania	7E BPX
Ahmed, Nazish	7M EHO
Ahmed, Shafay	9C AGT
Chastell, Roberta	8M EJS
Chumbley, Freya	8E MPO
Hadley, Lenny	7M JDТ
Laws, Leo	7M JDТ
O'Neill, Keira-Leigh	8E MPO
Thomas, Alex	7E BPX
Singh, Amandeep	7E ARD

The two students below have also achieved their silver super curriculum award for completing at least 25 super curriculum tasks.

Ahmed, Nazish	7M EHO
Ahmed, Shafay	9C AGT

A big congratulations to all!

SAM Learning - correction

In the last Nobel News (25 November) we included an article on SAM Learning. Unfortunately, there was an error relating to the login details, for which we apologise. The correct information is below:

In order to log in, students will need to go to www.samlearning.com. The login bar is in the top right hand corner of the screen. Here they should enter the following details:

Centre ID SG2NS2

User ID: School email address

Password: School email address

Mental Health Support for Children & Young People

If your child or teenager is feeling low, anxious, or generally struggling, there are lots of services available to help them all year round. Please always encourage them to talk and ask for help if they need it.

The services listed on Just Talk's webpage are all free and don't need a professional referral, so they can be contacted directly by young people and/or their parents/carers. Services listed include Hertfordshire's new With YOUTH Digital Wellbeing Service for ages 5-18, parents and carers and many more, so please take a look:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mentalhealthsupportforhertsyoungeople



JUST TALK

If you're young and feeling a bit low, or worried, find the help you need in Herts.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mentalhealthsupportforhertsyoungeople



TALK

Find advice and help if your child is feeling low, anxious or generally struggling

www.justtalkherts.org

Staying safe at Nobel

Keep your child safe on WhatsApp



What are the risks?

- ◆ Bullying, particularly in group chats
- ◆ Seeing content of a sexual nature, or showing violence and hatred
- ◆ Settings that allow messages to disappear after 24 hours or 7 days. This could make it harder to track bullying, and your child might share things they wouldn't otherwise because it'll disappear
- ◆ Sharing their live location, particularly with people they don't know in person
- ◆ Spam or hoax messages
- ◆ Being exposed to strangers through group chats

WhatsApp says the **minimum age** to use it is **16**, but younger children can still use it easily.

6 steps to help your child use WhatsApp safely

1. Keep their personal information and location private

By default, WhatsApp shows profile photos, status and when you last used it to all users.

Encourage your child to only share this information with their contacts, and be careful about who they talk to on the app, as anyone could pretend to be a child online.

To check and change these settings:

- ◆ On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp (the cog icon), then Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to
- ◆ On **Android**, tap the 3 dots in the top-right of the home screen, then > Settings > Account > Privacy. Tap the setting you want to change, then choose who it should be visible to

WhatsApp also has a feature that you can use to share your 'live location' with others. Tell your child to keep this turned off, or to only share their location with people they trust.

To check this:

- ◆ On an **iPhone**, go to phone Settings (the cog icon) > WhatsApp > Location, and tap to change if you need to
- ◆ On **Android**, go to privacy settings as above, then scroll down to 'Live location', and tap to change if you need to

2. Remind your child to be careful about what they share

It's easy to forward messages, photos and videos to others on WhatsApp. Even if your child sets a message to automatically disappear or deletes it after sharing it, the person they send it to could still screenshot it, forward it to someone else, or save it.

So before they share anything, tell them to ask themselves: "Would I want others to see what I'm about to send?"

3. Remind your child they can leave group chats

If they see something they're not comfortable with in a group chat, or are in a chat with someone they don't know and are uncomfortable with, they should leave the group. To do this:

- ◆ On an **iPhone**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit group
- ◆ On **Android**, go into the group chat, tap the group subject, then > Exit group > Exit

4. Make sure your child knows how to report and block people

When they first receive a message from an unknown number, they'll have the option to report it.

If someone in your child's contacts is upsetting them or making them uncomfortable, they can report or block them at any point (WhatsApp won't tell the user they've been blocked/reported).

To do this:

- ◆ On an **iPhone**, open settings in WhatsApp, go to Account > Privacy > Blocked > Add New..., then find the contact they want to block, and tap the contact
- ◆ On **Android**, tap the 3 dots icon, then Settings, then tap Account > Privacy > Blocked contacts, tap the icon in the top right showing a person and a plus sign, search for the contact they want to block, then tap the contact to block them

To report issues like offensive or abusive content or spam:

- ◆ On an **iPhone**, open the chat with the user you want to report, tap the contact then then tap Report Contact > Report And Block
- ◆ On **Android**, open the chat with the user you want to report, then tap the 3 dots icon, then > More > Report

5. Encourage your child to watch out for spam and hoax messages

These can appear to come from contacts, as well as people they don't know. Tell your child to watch out for messages that:

- ◆ Ask them to tap on a link, or specifically to click on a link to activate a new feature
- ◆ Ask them to share personal information like bank account details, date of birth or passwords
- ◆ Ask them to forward the message
- ◆ Say they have to pay to use WhatsApp
- ◆ Have spelling or grammar errors

6. Tell our school about any bullying they experience

Look for signs they your child may be being bullied, like being afraid or reluctant to go to school, feeling nervous, losing confidence or becoming distressed and withdrawn, or losing sleep.

Sources used in this factsheet

> [Bullying and cyberbullying, NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/)

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/>

> [Help Centre, WhatsApp](https://faq.whatsapp.com/?locale=en_US)

https://faq.whatsapp.com/?locale=en_US

This factsheet was produced by [The Key Safeguarding](https://thekeysupport.com/safeguarding): thekeysupport.com/safeguarding

Social media age restrictions UK

The COPPA law or Children's Online Privacy Protection Act states that any organisations or people operating online services (including social media services) are not allowed to collect the personal information of anyone under the age of 13 without parental permission.

Facebook	at least 13 years old	Twitter	at least 13 years old
Instagram	at least 13 years old	Bereal	at least 13 years old
Whatsapp	at least 16 years old	Discord	at least 13 years old
Tik Tok	13+	Pinterest	at least 13 years old
Snapchat	at least 13 years old	YouTube	at least 13 years old