

From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers

We had a successful Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday. It was great to see so many Nobelians and their parents, as well as students from other schools in the town and elsewhere. The reason for this is quite simple, our Sixth Form is outstanding. With an average of a B grade across twenty-five A level subjects, and a highly successful vocational programme, our students move on to very impressive futures in higher level apprenticeships or going up to university. Furthermore, our students go up to some of the top universities in the country, 112 students went to university, 27% to Russell Group and, last year, four Nobelians gained places at Cambridge. We are proud of all our sixth form leavers, and we will mark their achievements at our annual celebration evening on Monday 18 December.

GCSE results went public on Thursday 19 October, and you will be pleased to know that we gained our best GCSE results. Our students gained results that are almost half a grade higher than students from the average school in England. Suffice to say, it has been an excellent year for results and our students should be congratulated on their hard work and diligence. Furthermore, our teachers have also worked incredibly hard to help our students achieve

The move to closer collaboration with Lodge Farm is moving forward, but there is still much to do. It would be a huge mistake to rush the process, I will continue to report on progress as the year progresses. However, in the short term, we do need to consider the wisdom of both school finishing at 3:15pm. Currently, Mobbsbury Way is over-crowded with both schools finishing their days at the same time. Therefore from Monday October 30 we will shorten our lunchtime by 10 minutes so that we will finish at 3:05pm, there will still be time for lunch and a 20-minute club, and no curriculum time will be lost, in addition children will be getting home in good daylight as the winter draws in and the clocks go back at the end of half term. We will email this information to all parents as well.

Thank you, as always, for your support; have a great half term holiday.

Kind regards

Martyn Henson

Student Sporting Successes - Girls' Rugby

Congratulations to Jessica Tolmie (10M SPL), Zara Baringer (10T MGT) and Bethany Allardyce (10T MGT) who have recently celebrated success with their rugby club, Welwyn RC U16s, at the Hertfordshire County Cup Rugby Festival.

The tournament took place on Sunday 1 October 2023 at Fullarians Rugby Club, with the girls recording several outstanding results across the competition:

- ♦ WRFC 17 - 0 DHW
(Dunstable, Harpenden, Watford)
- ♦ WRFC 24 - 0 OA (Old Albanian)
- ♦ WRFC 29 - 0 Hertford
- ♦ WRFC 26 - 5 Hitchin
- ♦ WRFC 20 - 5 Fullarians
- ♦ WRFC 37 - 0 Datchworth

All three Nobel girls made significant contributions to their team: Jessica powering through the middle of the field and scoring her 1st try for Welwyn, Bethany tracking back and making a number of try-saving tackles and Zara with her kicking and on-field leadership, which helped Welwyn to go on to win the trophy.

Well done to Zara, Jessica and Bethany, we are incredibly proud of you all!

Mr Regan Carolan
Teacher of PE



Halloween Movie Night

It is not too late to join us for our Halloween Movie Night, which is taking place this evening (Friday 20 October) in the school hall, commencing at 4.45pm.

We will be showing two films: Hotel Transylvania and Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children. Both films are age rated 12 so our movie night is aimed at years 7-9, but students of any age, and their families, can come along.

We are asking for an optional donation of £2.50 per person, which you pay on the door. Snacks and drinks will be available too.

Proceeds from this event, will help to support our World Challenge trip to Borneo, next July.

We hope to see many of you this evening and thank you in advance for your support.

Hannah Creighton (10T MGT)
Phoebe Chiwambo (10C RGY)

PE Club Spotlight - Netball Club

Day: Monday
Time: Afterschool, 3:05-4:05pm
Location: MUGA or Sports Hall
in the event of bad weather.
Club lead: Mr Carolan and Mrs Hill

Across the academic year, the PE Department will 'spotlight' their extra-curricular clubs to provide you with further details about what the club is about, to encourage students to sign up and get involved.

As we return to the winter sports, students are able to join Netball club on a Monday after school.

Netball is a ball sport played on a rectangular court by two teams of seven players. The primary objective is to shoot a ball through the defender's goal hoop while preventing the opposing team from shooting through their own goal hoop. Students will be participating in netball within PE lessons across the autumn and spring terms.

Across the duration of the autumn and spring terms, there are plenty of opportunities to represent Nobel at Netball fixtures where we will play the local schools within the district.

Here are some of the student voice comments from those who attended the club:

- ♦ *"Teamwork is so important in netball, and I love playing with my friends."*
- ♦ *"I like coming up against my friends from other schools and representing Nobel at netball games."*
- ♦ *"I have always loved netball and even play for a team outside of school too!"*

To sign up for a PE club, please visit the Arbor Parent Portal or email

Regan.Carolan@nobel.herts.sch.uk

If you have any further questions, please speak to the PE Department.

Mr Regan Carolan
Teacher of PE



PE Fixtures Spotlight - past 3 weeks

Going forward, in each newsletter, the PE Department will spotlight some of the highlight extra-curricular fixtures since the previous edition.

Date	Team and Sport	Opposition	Result
Wednesday 27 September	Year 8 Girls' Football	Hitchin Girls	1-0 Win
Wednesday 27 September	Year 8 Girls' Football	Thomas Alleyne Academy	1-0 Win
Wednesday 27 September	Year 10 Netball	Hitchin Girls School	7-14 Loss
Monday 2 October	Year 7 Boys' Football	Thomas Alleyne Academy	3-4 Win
Tuesday 3 October	Seniors Boys' Football	St Christopher School	2-0 Win
Wednesday 4 October	Year 9 Boys' Football	Thomas Alleyne Academy	4-1 Win
Monday 9 October	Seniors Boys' Football	Thomas Alleyne Academy	4-1 Win
Monday 9 October	Year 8 Boys' Football	Barclay Academy	1-2 Win
Tuesday 10 October	Year 10 Basketball	St Christopher School	21-21 Draw 23-25 Loss AET
Thursday 12 October	School Games Girls' U14 Badminton Competition	Various local schools	2 nd place – Silver Medals
Thursday 12 October	School Games Girls' U16 Badminton Competition	Various local schools	2 nd place – Silver Medals

Well done to all the students who have represented Nobel over the past couple of weeks. You have made the PE Department proud showing true Nobelian spirit. Every student who represents the school and PE Department at extra-curricular fixtures are awarded ABC points for each and every attendance.

A huge thank you to all the parents, carers and guardians who have taken the time to cheer from the sidelines for our teams, both home and away. This doesn't go unnoticed and is a big support for our students.

To find details of extra-curricular clubs and detailed match information, please visit the Fixtures Noticeboard in the PE Department which features upcoming fixtures, results, players of the match and team sheets for each sport.

Mr Regan Carolan
Teacher of PE



Developing Character

From 02/10 - 13/10 our fortnightly character focus is on the Nobelian character virtue of being

AMBITIOUS. Please make sure you are discussing this with students within your lessons.

In addition, the Character Conundrum for discussion in form and at home is detailed below:

Character Conundrum 3

Julia was in year 9 and her two best friends were Wendy and Erin. Erin was the most popular girl in the class and all the girls saw her as the leader. One morning Julia arrived at school and Erin was acting weird. When Julia said “Hi” to her, she did not respond. She just looked away and smiled at a group of girls in the corner of the classroom. It did not take long for Julia to figure out that Erin had turned most of the girls against her. But she did not know why! She went to Wendy and asked her why Erin was mad at her. Wendy acted nervous and said that all she knew was that Erin told her that if she hung out with Julia, none of the rest of the girls would talk to her anymore. The rest of that day lasted forever. Whenever the teacher was looking everyone was nice to Julia. But, when her back was to the class, Erin or another girl would throw pieces of paper toward Julia or whisper to each other and look in her direction. Julia thought Wendy would help her, but Wendy just pretended nothing was happening.

That night Julia talked to her parents, and they told her to wait and see if tomorrow was better. If not, they said, perhaps they could help Julia talk to Erin and work through the problem. Julia felt like that would make her look stupid if everyone found out that her mum and dad had to get involved. She knew that sometimes the class would pick on someone, but she never thought her friends would turn against her and do the same thing to her. She felt like she did not have any friends, and nobody liked her. The next day was even worse, and it continued all week. No one wanted to hang out with her at break and she had to sit by herself at lunch.

Here was her dilemma. What should she do now? If she told the teacher about Erin and the girls ganging up on her she would look like a ‘snitch’, and who knows what the kids would do to her after that?

Support

Even as adults, we can conjure up memories of being the object of peer cruelty. That fact can help when we talk with students about issues like this one. There is nothing more important than social relationships at this age. To underestimate or minimise conflicts that students have around this issue is a sure way to lose connection with them.

Many students will read this and feel sorry for Julia but will also say that nothing THAT bad happens at their school. It is easy for them to relate and empathise with Julia’s case and connect it to their own experiences, yet they feel safely distant because it is such a blatant case of unkindness. However, after a few minutes of discussion students often begin to challenge the idea that cliques and unkindness are not a serious issue at their school. They begin to recognise that Julia’s situation is more common than they like to think, even if the unkindness comes out in different ways.

It gets students talking about the differences of how boys and girls act toward one another. The indirect actions that girls often use is fairly alien to the more obvious actions that boys seem to prefer. It is helpful to have a case like this which gives all genders permission to talk frankly about why and how this phenomenon plays out in their social lives.

Developing Character

Questions

- Can you identify the moral dilemma in this situation?
- What do you think Julia should do now?
- Why do you think Wendy did not stick up for Julia?
- Has this sort of thing happen ever happened to you or to someone you know?
- Have you ever been in Wendy's position? Erin's?
- How do you think this situation would be different if the case involved boys instead of girls?
- Why do you think people pick on others, and why do others join in?
- What do you do when you see or hear someone in your class making fun of someone? Do you join in? Speak up for the person? Say nothing? Why do you think you react that way?
- Have you ever felt that a good friend turned his or her back on you? What happened and what did it feel like?

Mr Nick Brown
Assistant Headteacher

Science Ambassadors for 2023/24

Congratulations to the following Year 12 students who have been appointed as this year's subject ambassadors for Science. These students will be invaluable in helping with science clubs and supporting and mentoring younger students, as well as a range of other science-related activities and initiatives.

The lead science ambassadors for this year are Haseeb and Amelie. Very well done to you all.

Mrs Amy Pearson
Head of Science

Mia Fraser 12 SFY	Laga Gogognon 12 SFY
Safah Zahid 12 SFY	Kisaka Suamina 12 RBD
Gauden Kagimu 12 UBT	Sophia Jami 12 SFY
Olivia Kempster 12 RBD	Ana Maria Gavriiuc 12 GBE
Muhammad Imran 12 SSS	Lucy Shackell 12 NCT
Haseeb Ahmed 12 JSO	Anesu Chifamba 12 UBT
Mahi Parmar 12 RBD	Saira Asad 12 CML
Amelie Powell 12 JSO	Ioana Turlea 12 CML
Giovanni Udom 12 NCT	



Nobel Network Supporting Learning

On Tuesday 10 October, one of our Nobel alumni, Claire Sutton, came into Nobel to speak to our Year 7 students about her role of chief marketing director for the Bahlsen GMBH & Co KG. Claire explained what is involved in marketing a product so that it will sell well to the public or, in some instances, modifying a product to enhance performance. An example being the original glass tomato ketchup bottle, which made it difficult to get all the tomato sauce out, so the bottle was changed to a squeezable plastic one which could go upside down and allow gravity to do its work.

Claire traced her career through school, outlining the GCSEs and A'levels she took before doing a degree in business at Sheffield university. After taking a year out to travel around the world, Claire returned and secured a position in FMCG (Fast moving consumer goods) Marketing. Since then, she has been chief marketer for Bahlsen GMBH & Co KG, where she has designed many a product for companies including Jordans and Ryvita, amongst others.





At the end of the Presentation the students asked Claire many challenging questions about her career to date and what interpersonal skills are required to be a chief marketer.

We would like to thank Claire very much for taking the time to come into Nobel and engaging our year 7 students. Thanks also to Barry Burningham, Nobel Network Co-ordinator for facilitating this opportunity.

Mr Stephen Howells

Head of Enrichment

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
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



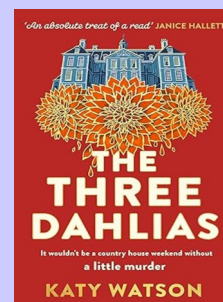
 **GCSEPOD.COM** **INFO@GCSEPOD.COM** **0191 338 7830**

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NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

The next meeting will be held in the Library, 6:30pm, on Tuesday 31 October 2023

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

'Mental health is a universal human right'

The 10th of October is World Mental Health Day

- Mental health is a universal human right
- It's about raising awareness for our mental health
- Driving positivity to improve everyone's mental health & wellbeing
- The importance of connecting with each other and taking

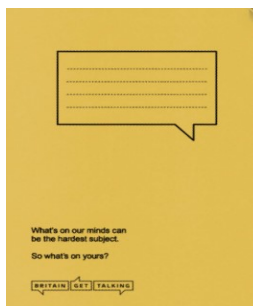


Being curious of yours and others mental health – Get talking and connect

ITV & Ant & Dec are asking the nation to get talking

We are setting a whole school (including parents) homework to simply get talking:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7401lp4a7A>



Well done for doing your homework ☆

Talking is often the first step in helping us feel better. And it's always easier over a shared activity, whether that's doing homework, cooking dinner together, or even walking the dog.

World Mental Health Day is a great excuse to have a chat, but talking is a tool we can use at any time to improve our mental wellness.

If you need any more advice, information or support, you can visit [itv.com/BritainGetTalking](https://www.britaingettalking.com).

And remember - talk to your GP if you're ever seriously concerned.

Supported by:



What's on our minds can be the hardest subject.

So what's on yours?



STOP PRESS - Our school uniform supplier, SWI Schoolwear, is offering 20% off everything between 16 and 22 October. Use the code **DEAL20**. www.swischoolwear.co.uk

Egg-cellent Year 11 Triple Experiment

Our triple science class recently delved into physics and the world of forces; with the year 11 students carrying out the egg drop!

By doing this, we investigated the logic behind the art of resultant forces. We carried out the task of having an egg, and taking the responsibility of creating a makeshift protection, and put it to the test, dropping it off a ledge. In this case, we found that the eggs dropped with less protection, were more likely to crack since the air resistance from the parachute was lower, and the egg wasn't slowed down enough.

Whilst many did crack, students were able to establish how forces act upon the object, which was the egg.

Gracie Saunders and Ria Mehan (Year 11)



Social Justice Art, Poetry and Song Club

Got a fire in your belly? If you would be interested in discussing how artists and writers of poetry, rap and song express their anger, fears and concerns about social injustice, join Mrs Di Gregorio and Mr Swift on Mondays from 13.20 – 13.45 in 407.

Open to years 9 to 13.



Duke of Edinburgh News

This year has started strongly for our Bronze, Silver and Gold students as well as our Student Leader Team.

Year 10 Bronze students have started their expedition training, formulated groups and been completing a variety of team building activities.



Year 11 students were able to celebrate their success at a recent breakfast where they received their Bronze Award certificates and badges, detailing their successes.



Year 11 and 12 students have also begun working towards their Silver and Gold Awards.



Year 12 students met with their parents to have a celebration lunch with key Duke of Edinburgh staff, and received their Silver certificates and badges.

Year 12 and 13 students are also proving to be excellent role models as part of the Student Leadership Team for DofE, and are supporting the Award in a variety of activities including mentoring some of our Bronze students, participating in Young Leader training and training to become Duke of Edinburgh Assessors, which is an outdoor qualification and will support them if the chose to work in the outdoor industry or the education sector in the future.

Well done to all!

Miss Lisa Steele
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

Years 8 and 9 Netball vs Marriotts and Barclay

On Tuesday 16 October, the Year 8 and 9 netball teams welcomed both Marriotts School and Barclay Academy to Nobel for their first fixtures of the season.

The results for the 4 games were as follows:

Nobel Team	Opposition	Result	Player of the Match
Year 8 Netball	Marriotts School	8-7 WIN	Maja S
Year 8 Netball	Barclay Academy	6-4 WIN	Phoebe P
Year 9 Netball	Barclay Academy	19-1 WIN	Sophie B
Year 9 Netball	Marriotts School	7-2 WIN	Mackenzie Z



As outlined above and in the student reports below, it is fantastic to see that the students have transferred what they have learnt in PE lessons and netball practices to competitive fixtures to outwit the opposition. Due to their hard work, commitment and effort, on and off the court, the team deserved to achieve this fantastic set of results.

Well done to the following students who were part of the teams:

Year 8: Sydney, Sofia, Zofia, Lucie, Phoebe, Isla, Maja, Jade, Brianna and Charlotte

Year 9: Maleah, Sebeal, Faria, Sophie, Claudia, Lucy, Sofia, Mackenzie, Aminata and Tanvi

Mr Regan Carolan
Teacher of PE

Student report – Tanvi Ballachanda - 9M EJS

Both games we played were very successful and we were at an advantage being at home. I believe our team played very well, beating both Barclay and Marriotts using good communication and fast passes.

In the first game against Barclay, we showed our fast footwork and strategic passing. The defenders made good interceptions and the attackers showed amazing passing skills. This is not to mention our clinical shooting, scoring 19 points.

In our second game we scored 7 points focusing on our fast movement. At the start of the game, we struggled slightly but, in the second half, we improved with the defenders making sure we marked players, therefore bringing our team to a deserved victory.

We couldn't ask for a better start to the season!

Student report – Zofia Paszket - 8E ARD

When I first joined Year 7 and started going to the netball club I was terrified as it was something new to me. I was worried that I would make lots of mistakes too, but this was not the case. In my opinion, netball club is one of the best clubs you can attend. You can have good relationships with your teachers and improve your skills within the game; especially when doing netball in PE lessons too.

My experiences have been amazing, and I have made many friends, which has enhanced my enjoyment of the game. The netball club and tournaments are so much fun. Even if you lose against the other team, the teachers still support you and give you lots of help and encouragement to continually improve, and be the best you can be. Each week, we do different exercises and activities, which always makes it fun and means we can learn new skills.

So, it was amazing to get two wins against two of our local schools. The Year 8 team all worked together in different positions to attack and defend as a team and score lots of points. I loved the competitiveness of the games and we felt we worked really hard to claim our two victories.

Well done Year 8!



Years 8 Boys' Rugby Tournament - Nobel Success

On Wednesday 11 October, the Year 8 Rugby team travelled to Letchworth Rugby Club for the school's first rugby fixture of the new academic year.

As Leo outlines in his report, the team did fantastically well against strong opposition. It was an outstanding opening fixture for them, and all of the individuals within the team should be proud of their efforts and subsequent achievement.

It was pleasing to have members of Letchworth Rugby Club in attendance, speaking to some of our students about joining their club as they were so impressed by their performance.

Well done to the following students who were part of the team:

Year 8: Leo, Charlie, Rhys, Alex, Samuel, Archie, Malakai, Nathanael, Lenny, Ethan, Callum, Ronnie, Edward and Sidney



Mr Regan Carolan
Teacher of PE

Student report – Leo Blake - 8M JDT

Well done boys we did great; I knew we were ready as soon as we stepped on the bus, to head to Letchworth.

The team played brilliantly together and battled through hard, not just altogether but individually too. A huge thank you to the coaches, Mrs Hill and Mr Fitzpatrick, for the support through practice and the games we played. The team were outstanding and we came out on top not just once but three times.

Well played all. I look forward to our future games.

These were the games that we played with scores:

5-4 Win vs Hitchin Boys' School

6-1 Win vs Knights Templar School

4-1 Win vs St Christopher School

We were delighted with some amazing results against really good schools. As shown above, we won all of our games, maintaining a 100% winning record.

School Games - Girls Badminton Competition

On Thursday 12 October, a small group of year 11 girls were put forward to represent the Nobel school in an U16 Girls' Badminton Competition.

The girls, Katie, Isobel, Rebecca and Gracie-Mae played exceptionally well, competing against various schools around Stevenage.

As well as this, Nobel entered an U14 team, made up of Rebecca, Mackenzie, Sofia and Claudia.

During an exciting day full of lots of single and double badminton matches, both of the girls' teams were able to secure a 2nd place result in the competition winning them a silver medal as a reward.

They presented perfect Nobel values, remaining ready, respectful and safe, all whilst demonstrating key skills such as, teamwork, communication and work ethic, consistently throughout the day.

Well done Nobel!

Katie Harrington-Pike - 11E RLN



Year 7 Teambuilding Festival

On Wednesday 4 October, Nobel hosted the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team (SSFT) Inspire and Engage Year 7 Teambuilding Festival, with students from across Stevenage secondary schools invited to take part.

Nobel were proud to host the first secondary event of the academic year, which was the second time this featured in an SSFT events calendar, following its successful launch in the previous academic year.

Students took part in a range of activities which focused on developing key skills such as teamwork, communication, collaboration and problem solving. It was pleasing to hear positive feedback from the Stevenage Sporting Futures staffing team on the way in which the students supported each other to achieve the goal of the activity.

Students commented, *“it was so much fun”, “I wish this event happened every year” and “it was good to work with different people from across the school.”*

Well done to Year 7 Nobelians, Jared A, Kiera B, Mia B, Tori B, Isabella C, Davina D, Riley E, Aaron G, Ali Muhammed, Veda K, Christopher K, Kacie L, Leon M, Sean O, Olivia Q, Hannah S, Kailey S, Polly S, Jasmine S, Tyler S, Lance T, Ronnie T, Oliver W and Kelsie W, who showed excellent effort and engagement with the festival, working well together in a team to complete activities such as minefield, paper plate chase and pass the hoop. They did Nobel proud!

Mr Regan Carolan
Teacher of PE



Dates for your Diary

Week Commencing Monday 23 October - Half term

Monday 30 October - School resumes for second half of autumn term

Wednesday 22 November - Meet the form tutor day

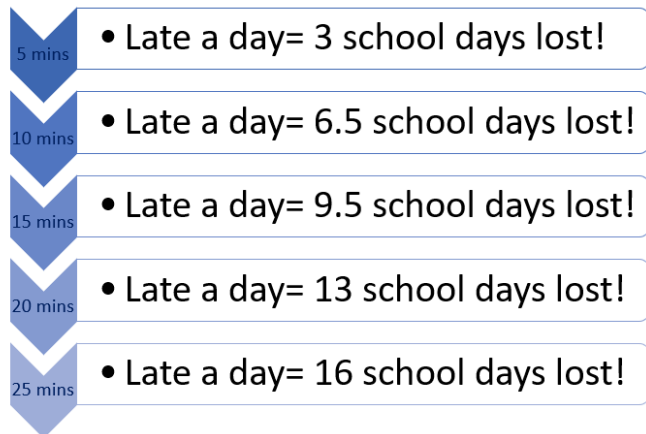
Friday 24 November - Occasional day, school closed



Dear Parents/Carers

As part of any occupation, universities or apprenticeships, being on time is a trait that they all view with importance. At The Nobel School we feel the same, especially when it comes to students being on time for lessons. Lessons are planned by our teachers to maximise the time with students, teaching them the content to enable them to be as successful as they can be when sitting their Key Stage 3 and GCSE exams.

Over the first half term we have seen an increase in students being late to their lessons. Whilst we can empathise with students who might be a minute or two late as the corridors were busy or they had to make it from one side of the school to another, to be 5+ minutes late is not acceptable. As you can see from the diagram, late to lessons add up over an academic year equalling invaluable learning time lost, thus putting students at a disadvantage in their exams.



Therefore, from Monday 30 October, if students are consistently late across the school day, they will be collected and will serve a 1-hour detention that afternoon.

We thank you in advance for your continued support in this matter.

Kind regards

The Pastoral team