

## From the Headteacher

Dear parents and carers

For all education professionals, the tragic death of Ruth Perry is a poignant reminder that external accountability has lost control of itself. As you will have read, the inquest into her death was unequivocally damning of the role that the inspection of Caversham Primary School played, and that the inspection of her previously 'outstanding' school lacked 'fairness, respect, and sensitivity'. I find it unfathomable that qualities that we are expected to show children and families, are the very ones that Ofsted were unable to show to Mrs Perry and her hardworking colleagues. Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Mrs Perry this Christmas.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the school panto last week, due to another commitment, but I hear, from my senior colleagues, it was brilliant. The performance was full of laughs, and the audience was full of future Nobelians, all having a great night. The amount of work that goes into these things cannot be overstated, and Mrs Parsley and her team worked tirelessly to get the students ready. Ryan Julier's cool dwarf was spot on, and Chloe Smith shone, as a bumbling kitchen hand. I would also like to give a special mention to Tyler Reade who played the role of the King, and you could see, when he took the applause, he felt like one too.

Thank you to all the students and staff involved.

On Monday evening, we welcomed back over 100 of last year's Y13s. It was lovely to hear about their first experiences at university and in the world of work.

In September we saw 108 students go off to university, with 29 students at Russell Group Universities, including four students going to Cambridge. We also had 17 students begin apprenticeships, at places such as the RAF, MBDA and the Foreign Office.

I wish all our parents, carers, and young people a great Christmas holiday and a Happy New Year.

Very best wishes to you all

Martyn Henson

A reminder that Spring term will start at 11:15am for all students, on Monday 8 January 2024

# Spotlight on Careers Education

Students in Years 8, 10 and 12, and their parents will, by now, have received an information pack regarding next summer's Work Experience Week from 1 – 5 July, and Work Shadowing Day (year 8) on Friday 5 July 2024.

Whilst students are encouraged to research and secure their own placements, as part of the broader real-life experience of the world of work, we do appreciate that, sometimes, this can be challenging. With that in mind, the careers team at Nobel works tirelessly with local employers to get them on board and maintain a bank of work placements for students to access if they are struggling to find a suitable placement of their own.

Although it is not always possible, ideally, each student will have an experience of work that matches their interests/future career aspirations, while the employer gets someone who is engaged and eager to learn, demonstrating their employability skills; a win-win situation. This is absolutely the best-case scenario, providing a truly meaningful experience for both employer and employee.

Some of the employers we have spoken to, have specified particular criteria that the candidate we put forward must possess and, below, we have listed the first of these niche roles. These are exclusively for **Year 10 students** so, if you think you may be a good fit for any of the roles below, please email Mrs Speirs, Assistant Careers Co-ordinator – [christine.speirs@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:christine.speirs@nobel.herts.sch.uk) – please state your name, your form and which role you are interested in. A couple of lines indicating why you think you are the right person for the job would also be useful in helping us allocate, should we be oversubscribed.

More information about Careers Education at Nobel School is available on the school website:

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

If students or parents have any queries, please speak to your form tutor in the first instance.

Mrs Christine Speirs  
Assistant Careers Co-ordinator

## Year 10 Work Placement Opportunities

Company	Role	Specific Requirements	Number of placements
Stevenage Sporting Futures	Sports Assistant	Students interested in a career in sport	2
Junction 7 Creatives	Promoting Art	Must have a creative flair	1 or 2
Lodge Farm Primary School	Classroom Assistant	Students interested in a career in education	Up to 6
The Leys Primary & Infant School	Classroom Assistant	Ex-Leys pupils and those with an interest in a career in education	Up to 6
Identity Dance	Dance Coach	Must have experience of dance	1
Lister Tennis Club	Tennis Coach	Must be able to play tennis to a good standard	1
Stephanie Rose Florist	Florist Assistant	Must have a creative flair	1
Bedwell Primary School	Classroom Assistant	Only available to an ex-Bedwell pupil	1

## Midwifery Insight

On Wednesday 6 December, Year 12 and 13 Health & Social Care students had a fantastic opportunity to have a university lesson from Holly Ingram, an ex Nobelian. Holly, is a lecturer of midwifery and a clinical midwife at Anglia Ruskin University.

Holly taught an interactive and insightful lesson all about the birth process, which compliments one of the units we teach at Nobel's sixth form.

Students had an opportunity to not only be taught by a lecturer from a university, but to ask valuable questions to support their learning. We particularly enjoyed the practical element of the course, which included ping pong balls and balloons!

Miss Jemma Savo  
Health & Social Care Teacher



## BFI London

On Thursday 30 November, Year 13 Film Studies students attended a day dedicated to studying Silent Film at the British Film Institute on London's South Bank.

After travelling independently into London on the train, the students met with Ms Kirk and Miss Pizan, the A-Level Film Studies teachers, and walked along the beautiful South Bank towards the BFI building.

The study day was lead by Matthew Daintry-Hall, who had flown in from Kenya to offer insights into the aesthetics of different silent film movements, including German expressionism, Soviet montage, constructivism and surrealism.



After a quick lunch where the students were able to sample some of the treats from the Christmas market outside the Southbank Centre, they enjoyed a screening of 'Sunrise', with live improvised piano accompaniment by Neil Brand. This was followed by a Question-and-Answer session, where the two specialists were able to discuss the impact of various silent film movements on early Hollywood cinema, as well as explore the significance of the ironic topic of the use of sound in silent film.

Ms Katy Kirk  
Head of Film and Media



# Duke of Edinburgh Gold Celebration Evening

Our Year 13 Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award holders, Gold volunteers and staff were treated to a festive three course meal to celebrate their progress through their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards at Nobel School.

The next event the group will be attending will be a reception at Buckingham Palace to receive their Gold Award.

Congratulations to:

Hywell Evans	Emma Girdwood
James Girdwood	Rebecca Kappler
Lewis McGuire	Millie Mehan
Ethan Taylor	Charlotte Telfer
Samuel Wright	

I'd like to use this opportunity to thank, ex-Nobelian, Jenna, who is now a volunteer DofE Assessor, Vaughan, Bob, Mr Thomas, Mr Dutt and Mrs Field, who have all supported this group through their Gold journey.

Miss Lisa Steele

Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator



## Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 20 December** - Last day of term

**Monday 8 January** - Students return to school at 11:20am

**Monday 8 - Friday 19 January** - External exams

**Wednesday 10 January** - Y13 Parents' Consultation Evening

**Wednesday 31 January** - Y11 Parents' Consultation Evening





## Sir Stephen Wall Visits Nobel

On Tuesday 5 December, our Year 12 students were very lucky to have the opportunity to hear from a very prominent former Ambassador for the UK, Political Expert and Historian, who came into Nobel to talk about his amazing career.

Sir Stephen Wall was, for 35 years, a member of the British Diplomatic Service. He was private secretary to five British Foreign Secretaries, a press officer for Prime Minister, Jim Callaghan, and foreign policy adviser to Prime Minister, John Major.

His European experience includes five years as Head of the Foreign Office's European Department, two years as Britain's Ambassador to Portugal; five years as UK permanent representative to the EU and four years as EU adviser to Prime Minister Tony Blair and Head of European Secretariat in the Cabinet Office.

Sir Stephen has written a book on Britain's EU policy: *A Stranger in Europe*, published in 2008. He has also written the *Official History of Britain and the European Community, 1963 - 1975*, published in July 2012. The successor volume, *The Tiger Unleashed*, was published in November 2018. Stephen is also an activist for LGBT rights and has, in the past, chaired the Kaleidoscope Trust, which campaigns for the decriminalisation of same sex identity and relationships in commonwealth countries.

The Year 12 students listened very intently and, at the end of the presentation, asked some very well thought out questions. Several students showed a real interest in pursuing a career in the civil service and Sir Stephen really did enthuse them with his life story.

We would like to thank Sir Stephen for an excellent presentation, which took us on a very interesting journey through his life and career to date.

Mr Steve Howells  
Head of Enrichment



## Win an Exercise Bike and help FONS with Fundraising

The Friends of Nobel School (FONS) have this used exercise bike to auction off to support fundraising. The school has reorganised the gym area and this is surplus to requirements. This is a 'blind bid' type approach, where the item will go to the highest single bid. Bids close on 8 January 2024 and the item can be collected in the week beginning 15 January 2024.

Please use this link to make a bid. Thank you for your support. Open to all members of our Nobel community.



Or <https://forms.office.com/e/xwnRLjMXfy>

# School Games Rowing Competition

The School Games Rowing Competition took place on Tuesday 28 November at Barnwell School, and was led by the Stevenage Sporting Futures Team. Having been reintroduced to the events calendar during the previous academic year, it is now being made an annual event. This was welcome news as our students love competing!

Nobel entered teams from Years 7, 9 and 10, with a total of 23 students competing.

British Rowing have developed a new competition platform for schools. The competition takes place on indoor rowing machines and students work within a team and individually to row a set distance within the fastest time. For the team event, a group of 4 students needed to row 2000 metres, 500 metres each, and for the individual event, students rowed for 200 metres.

Students participated in a practice session before the event to prepare themselves for the competition. For the team event, pacing is key as well as the transition from one teammate moving off the rower and another teammate moving on. For the individual event, the key was working as hard as you can to complete the 200 metres as quickly as possible.

A highly competitive event led to fantastic Nobelian results, as follows:

- ◆ Year 7 Boys - 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- ◆ Year 10 Boys - 2<sup>nd</sup> place – despite being a team member down, the students worked incredibly hard to take the silver medals. A special mention to Aubrey who rowed 1000 metres on his own!
- ◆ Year 10 Girls - 1<sup>st</sup> place and district champions
- ◆ Year 7 Boys Individual: Euan – 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- ◆ Year 9 Boys Individual; Tom – 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- ◆ Year 10 Boys Individual: Maloney – 1<sup>st</sup> place and district champion
- ◆ Year 10 Girls Individual: Elise – 1<sup>st</sup> place and district champion
- ◆ Year 10 Girls Individual: Zara – 3<sup>rd</sup> place



Well done to the following students:

**Year 7:** Jasmine S, Isla B, Ayla K, Lucy B, Jack P, Euan P, David N, Max K

**Year 9:** Tomas P, Joshua S, Jack W-G, Freddie B, Sophie B, Aminata M, Maleah B, Claudia H

**Year 10:** Zara B, Jessica T, Amani G, Elise K, Aubrey M, Maloney G, Filip M

You showed true Nobelian qualities throughout and did yourselves and the PE Department proud.



Mr Regan Carolan  
Teacher of PE





# Year 9 Visit to Cologne

At the end of November, a group of MFL students across Years 9, 10 and 13 visited Cologne. Below is an account of their visit from two Year 9 students, Freya Chumbley and Julia Wilczynska, both from 9E MPO:

**Day 1:** We arrived in Aachen, Germany, and went round the village with the tour guide in our teacher groups. It was very interesting. We tasted a German gingerbread cake; it was delicious. After the tour we got back on the coach and headed to Cologne where we were going to be staying for the next couple of days. When we arrived, we went straight down for dinner. The dinner was okay. The accommodation was cosy and warm.

**Day 2:** After a good breakfast we walked to Cologne cathedral, it was very tall. We explored inside the cathedral, including the treasury. The stained-glass windows were stunning. We then went to the Christmas market, which was next to the Cathedral. It was awesome and very big; you could get lost. After this main Christmas market we walked to another, where there was a lot of people. We then joined our boat for the cruise on the river Rhine. The boat was very fancy and had singing and dancing on board. We met St Nicholas and, after the boat trip, we walked back to the accommodation for dinner.

**Day 3:** When we woke up, we were sad that we were leaving today as we were having so much fun. After breakfast we walked to the Lindt chocolate factory and it started to snow, which we were all happy about. When we arrived at the factory, we were able to walk around with our friends and had some free chocolate, which was delicious. Once we had finished, we had time to go to the shop. Then we got back on the coach and headed back to school.

**What we enjoyed the most:** One thing we really enjoyed was going to the Christmas market and trying new foods and buying gifts for friends and family. We also enjoyed the singing on the coach. We all really enjoyed the river cruise as well as the Lindt chocolate factory.





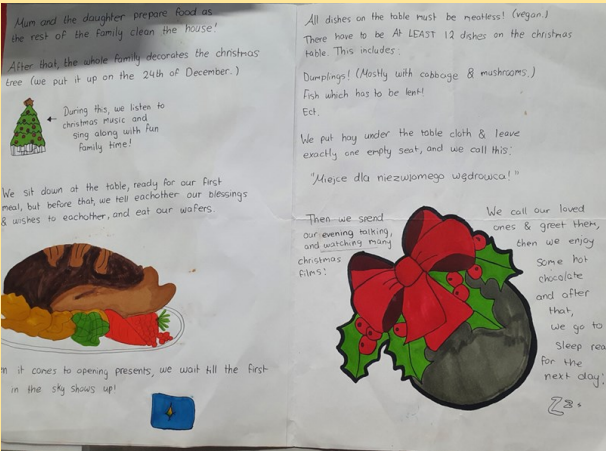
# MFL Christmas Card Competition

This year the MFL department proudly launched their second Christmas card competition. Students were able to submit a handmade design to us in any language that was not English, and we were delighted to receive many wonderful entries across all year groups in a variety of languages.

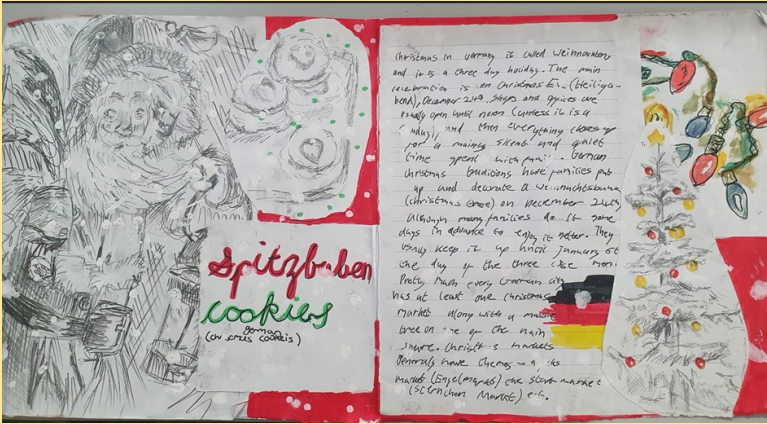
Students all received multiple ABC points for their fantastic efforts. Many of the students who produced cards in community languages were also extremely proud to describe Christmas traditions from their culture, which we enjoyed hearing about.

We are delighted to announce the following winners of the competition:

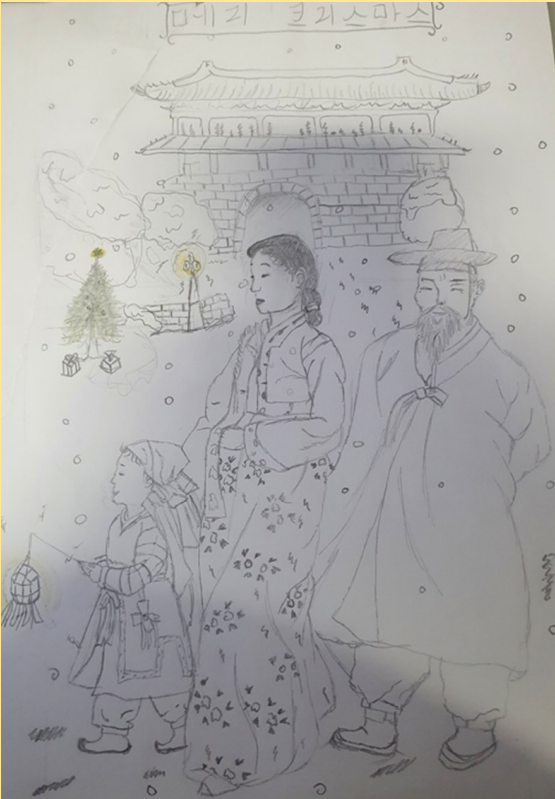
Miss Michelle Perez-Lotcho  
MFL TEACHER



2nd Place (above) - Maya Behrendt 7M



1st Place (above) - Izzy Currell 7E LPY



3rd Place (right) - Charlotte Spooner 8E ARD



## End of Term Treat for Year 12

On Friday 8 December, Year 12 hit the ice rink in Letchworth for an end of term treat.

With over 80 students travelling up the A1 by coach, the Christmas music was already on and festive songs were being sang. Once we arrived the students put their ice skates on with their Santa hats and Christmas jumpers and, for some of them, holding the side of the rink very tightly. Eventually most of the students were holding hands and skating like true professionals, laughing, having fun, and enjoying the time with their year group. Lots of photos were taken, including a few with a Santa in his onesie.

After a most enjoyable afternoon, students arrived back at Nobel, wanting to do it all over again next year.

Thank you, Year 12, for a wonderful afternoon of fun, and a big thank you also to Mrs Hornett for organising the event.

On 8 December, the Year 12s went to Letchworth ice skating rink. It was a fun event, and most students wore Christmas jumpers and hats, with Edward Smith wearing a 'fabulous and festive' full on Santa costume! Everyone who went had such an incredible time, even if there were many falls and bumps along the way, and the afternoon was filled with a lot of laughter and enjoyment.

Mikki Heppelthwaite 12 NCT



Mrs Jackie Saville  
Head of Year 12





# Quantitative Chemistry Experiment

This term, Year 10 are studying quantitative chemistry. This is a challenging topic, and the students must use their curiosity and ambition to get to grips with it.

On Wednesday, students in 10Ar made up solutions of copper sulphate at varying concentrations. I made a saturated solution at the front using a magnetic stirrer and then the students measured specific volumes of the solution and added water to dilute it. The blue colour of the copper sulphate allowed us to physically see the range of concentrations making an abstract concept more concrete and allowing students to make links between the macro scale observations, the sub-microscopic scale and the symbolic particle model explanation (for more information search '3 levels of chemistry'). You may notice that the solutions are slightly cloudy, this is probably due to the use of tap water rather than distilled water.

This activity allowed students to practice the essential skills of measuring volume and following a method, their results show that they did this with great skill.



The students enjoyed the practical activity, offering praise and advice to their peers and were very pleased with their results. The students of 10Ar are Lisbon, Marie, Cameron, Harley, Toby, Annabelle, Logan, Lily, Shamora and Ajay.

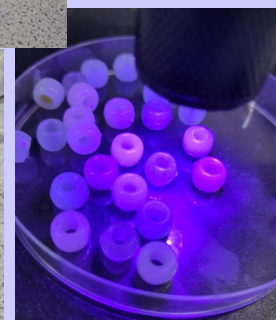
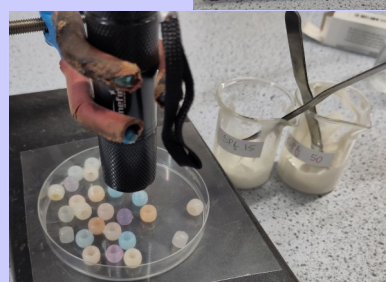
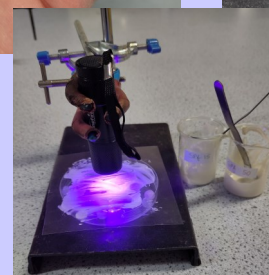
Ms Anna Redmond

## The Chemistry of Sunscreen

In other news, Year 9 have been studying nanoparticles. Nanoparticles can be used in sunscreen to absorb harmful UV radiation from the sun and prevent your skin from being burned.

To investigate the use of nanoparticles in sunscreen, we used a UV torch and some beads which change colour in UV light. Mr Morley was particularly intrigued by this when he visited us in 9xCs.

The students clamped the torch 1cm above the beads and timed how long it took for the beads to change colour. They then spread some sunscreen on a plastic sheet, placed it between the beads and the torch and timed the colour change again. We found that the higher the 'sun protection factor' (SPF) of the sunscreen, the longer it took the beads to change colour. In fact, the time taken for the colour change was equal to the time taken with no sunscreen, multiplied by the SPF of the sunscreen. This helped the students to make a link between what they are learning in science and their everyday lives.





# Developing Character

Due to the timing of the Christmas edition of Nobel News, the character focus for the two weeks prior to publication, together with Character Conundrum 6, have not been circulated so, as this is the last newsletter until the middle of January, we are publishing Character Conundrum 6 (04/12/23 - 15/12/23) and Character Conundrum 7 (08/01/24 - 19/01/24).

Within school, for the final two weeks of the autumn term, the character focus is on the Nobelian virtue of being **Honest** and, for the first two weeks of the spring term, the character focus is on the Nobelian virtue of being **Considerate**.

Please can you take some time during this period to read through the two Character Conundrums with your child and discuss what the right moral choice would be.

Mr Nick Brown  
Assistant Head

## Character Conundrum 6

Sam knew something was weird the second he got to class on Tuesday morning. He saw kids whispering and pointing at him. Some were looking at him funny. He sat down next to his best friend and picked up the graded report that the teacher, Mr Crosby, had marked over the weekend. Sam looked at the "A-" and forgot about the rest of the class for a minute. He had worked hard at that report and was thrilled it had paid off. He looked up and saw a bunch of kids staring at him. While the teacher cleaned up the white board, Sam whispered to Dylan, "What's going on?" Dylan, looked down and said quietly, "Conner told everyone you copied your report from the internet." "But, that's a lie!" Sam said. "I never cheat, and everyone knows it." He was hurt and angry. He couldn't focus the rest of the morning in class.

At break, he went up to Conner and asked him if he had really told everyone he had cheated. "It's no big deal," Conner scoffed. "I only told a few people. Lighten up. It was just a joke." Sam turned and walked away. He wanted to yell at Conner, he just wanted to make Conner feel as bad as Conner had made him feel.

For the next two days, Sam avoided Conner, but Sam and Dylan made up as many lies as they could think of about Conner to get back at him, but it was not helping. Sam was still just as mad at Conner. In fact, all he thought about now was Conner and what he had done.

On Friday, Mr Crosby had all three boys stay to talk with him during break. He told them they had until the end of break to work out whatever it was that was going on between them. If they had not all forgiven each other by the end of break, they had to go to the Headteacher's office. Then Mr Crosby left the classroom. The three boys stared angrily at each other waiting for someone to say something. Sam did not know what to say. All he knew was that he was tired of being mad and hurt. What could he do to make it stop? And what did Mr Crosby mean by *all forgive each other*?

## Support

The idea of forgiveness is a tricky one for all young people, but especially young kids. They do not have sufficient experience to understand how forgiving someone can actually make YOU feel better. The act of letting go of negative thoughts and actions is a challenge for young kids and teens because the drama and emotion truly suck them in, and they lose perspective. Once that happens, pride locks them in. Often, they see no real way out. They need help understanding and discussing the concept of forgiveness. They need help to see that they have the power within themselves to achieve peace again, not the person who hurt them.

# Developing Character

## Questions

- Can you identify the moral dilemma in this situation?
- Do you think all three boys need to apologize? Why or why not?
- Who do you think is the most guilty of doing wrong? Why?
- Do you think it will improve their friendship if Sam forgives Conner?
- Have you ever been in a position like this? What happened? Would you make the same choices if you were in the position again?
- Is there someone in your life right now that you might need to forgive for something
- What does it feel like to forgive someone? Why do you think that is?

## Character Conundrum 7

Maria was worried about her good friend Pam. Pam was always talking about how fat she was and what she was trying to do about it. But the truth was that Pam was not at all fat. In fact, she was downright skinny. Since year 7 Pam had lost at least 15 pounds. Now, they were in year 9 and Maria was afraid that Pam had an eating disorder. Maria was also getting frustrated. Where were all the grown-ups? Who was watching out for Pam besides Maria and her friends? Maria knew that someone from their school had talked to Pam's parents last year, and that Pam's mum had got angry about the school poking its nose into family business. Pam's mum claimed that Pam had a dancer's body and a high metabolism. That was last year. Now things were worse, and Maria felt like she was literally watching her friend disappear.

Finally, one Monday afternoon Maria had had enough. As she watched Pam eat just four grapes for lunch, she decided she had to do something. As helpless and scared as she felt now, how would it compare to how she would feel if Pam actually ended up in the hospital...or worse? Pam would be furious if she found out that Maria had talked to someone behind her back. So, Maria had two problems – should she tell someone how bad things were, and if so, whom should she go to?

## Support

The issue of divided loyalty never gets old for young people. No matter how clear things might seem to us about when to speak up about a friend's welfare, it is NEVER that clear to the friend involved. This is a classic example of divided loyalty between one's primary identity group and the group one seeks out for authority and moral leadership. Here, it is so important to validate Maria's plight. It is crucial to tell her clearly that she is, indeed, in what seems like an impossible position. And yet, any real friend does not have a choice here. Maria must tell someone immediately about Pamela's situation. It may be helpful to have a short conversation about what the various consequences would really look like when played out.

This case also provides another opportunity to emphasise the importance of finding an adult that one trusts in a young person's community or school. Finally, young people cannot hear enough about what their role is regarding responsible behaviour. Pamela's well-being is NOT Maria's responsibility. Her only responsibility is to pass on what she knows or is concerned about to an adult. That is it! Often, our kids feel overwhelmed by this sort of issue because they feel they need to own the entire situation.

## Questions

- Can you identify the moral dilemma in this situation?
- Do you agree with Maria? Do you think she should tell someone about Pam?
- If so, who do you think she should tell?
- What do you think Maria should say if Pam asks her if she told someone?
- Have you ever been in a position like this? What happened? Would you make the same choices if you were in that position again?
- What could the potential consequences be if Maria does not confide in someone?



# Christmas Card Competition

Well done to Lauren Taylor, 9TLLE, who was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place (from more than 40 entries) in the recent competition run by Stevenage Borough Council, to design a Christmas card for the Youth Mayor of Stevenage to send out across the town. Her winning design is featured below (main picture), as well as some of the other entries from Nobel.





# Rugby Christmas Challenge

On Thursday 14 December, students from Nobel competed in the rugby Christmas challenge, the first of it's kind, and a great success!

The students competed in groups of five, against each other, many with mixed year groups.

There were many different challenges ranging from how many conversion kicks can be scored in 5 minutes, how fast they could tackle large tackle sausages as a group (our fastest being our year 7 group completing it in 1 minute 42 seconds)!



The students then moved on to how many (very) high ball catches they could catch in a row, our highest being 15.

Students then completed a relay rugby ball carry round a course designed by Santa himself and finally ending with find the rugby balls which, unfortunately, dropped out of Santa's sleigh during a test flight!

All students showed courage, teamwork and consideration for other competitors and their own team. In the true Nobelian way, they conquered the challenges and enjoyed every minute!

Mrs Chloe Hill  
Pe Teacher



## Year 7/8 Girls' Football

On Wednesday 29 November, Nobel went to Marriotts for an exciting mini football festival. We played some Year 7 students up into the Year 8 team which was a great experience for them and they did so well.

Nobel 4    Marriotts 2

Nobel 3    Barclay 3

(Nobel just scored as the whistle went to make it 4-3 to Nobel but ref decided no goal)

Outstanding goals from Lucie Pickett throughout both of the games, exceptional defending by Sophie Teague. Phoebe Probyn scored her first goal for Nobel and a great one at that! Lacey Haggerty came in as the Year 7 Goal Keeper to make some outstanding saves and Evie-Jane Cherry just didn't stop running throughout both games causing the other team problems.



*Lucie Pickett, Phoebe Probyn, Sophie Teague, Lucy Webb, Ruby Whitby, Lacey Haggerty, Evie-Jane Cherry, Mia Deller and Rose Anderson*

Overall a wonderful afternoon of football even though a bit chilly, so thank you to all the parents for your support.

Mrs Jackie Saville

PE Teacher

## Student Sporting Successes: Taekwondo

Following on from Eden Brown's (7C DAN) international taekwondo success, we are delighted to share with you some of Eden's further achievements within the sport.

Taekwondo is a Korean martial art involving punching and kicking techniques. It is a highly skilled sport requiring a high level of fitness.

Eden participated in a grading at Taekwondo Chungdokwan Great Britain (TCGB) and has successfully received his black belt. Even more impressively, the President of TCGB said Eden was the best performance of the day and showed bravery and the spirit of Taekwondo.

Well done Eden, we are incredibly proud of you!

The PE Department are keen to celebrate students who compete in a range of different sports outside of school. If your child achieves any out of school sporting successes, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Carolan with a small report, which includes a photograph, which can be featured in the school newsletter: [Regan.Carolan@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Regan.Carolan@nobel.herts.sch.uk)



Pictured left, Eden with the Grand Master, Lindsay Lawrence of TCGB Taekwondo



Pictured right, Eden with his coach, Toulou, at T-TKD



## PE Fixtures Spotlight: 20/11/23 - 12/12/23

Please see below some of the sporting fixtures that Nobel have taken part in over the past few weeks, up to and including Tuesday 12 December.

Whilst we have spotlighted several results, it would be impossible to list all of the fixtures that have taken place over the past few weeks.

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, is awarded with 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.

On the next page, you can see pictures of some of our winning teams.

To find details of extra-curricular clubs and fixtures, 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

Date	Team and Sport	Opposition	Result Player of the Match
Monday 20/11	Year 7 Boys' Football	John Henry Newman	2-2 Draw Euan P
Monday 27/11	Year 7 Basketball	TAA	WIN Jack M-R
Wednesday 29/11	Year 7/8 Girls' Football	Marriotts	4-2 WIN Evie-Jane C
		Barclay	3-3 Draw Lucie P and Sophie T
Wednesday 29/11	Year 8/9 Girls Football	Marriotts	2-2 Draw Lily J
		Barclay	3-0 WIN Emily G
Thursday 30/11	Year 7 Girls' Football	Hitchin Girls <i>as part of the district tournament</i>	WIN Evie-Jane C
Tuesday 5/12	Year 9 Netball	Hitchin Girls B	8-13 WIN Lucy P
Tuesday 5/12	Year 9 Basketball	Knights Templar	28-37 WIN Zane B-H
Thursday 7/12	Year 10 Basketball	TAA	20-25 WIN John L
Thursday 7/12	Year 8 Netball	Barnwell	8-7 Loss Sofia H
Tuesday 12/12	Year 7 Basketball	Barnwell	15-19 WIN Breeze N-T



## PE Fixtures Spotlight: 20/11/23 - 12/12/23



## Nobel Network Supports the School with more Speakers

One of our recent speakers said to students, “Future leaders stand among us today”. We believe that this is true, and it’s why the Nobel Network is working hard to provide inspirational speakers for all of the Speakers@Nobel sessions.

On Friday 8 December, students in Year 8 were treated to talks from speakers linked to the Nobel Network, the school’s alumni association.

This time the speakers were:

- ◆ Nicholas Eaton – BrilliantIN Recruitment
- ◆ Gamma Basra – Head of Computer Graphics (Architecture)
- ◆ Steph Moore – Critical Care Nursing
- ◆ Rob Fuller - Educational Consultant, Former Headteacher.

All of our lovely speakers shared details of their career history, their challenges and the successes and they underlined the message that, ‘It’s not failure that matters, it’s what you do next that makes the difference’. All of the talks were very well received.

If you feel you might be able to help the Speakers@Nobel programme, please email [nobelnetwork@nobel.herts.sch.uk](mailto:nobelnetwork@nobel.herts.sch.uk)



Mr Barry Burningham  
Nobel Network Co-ordinator





## Snow White Entertains - Oh yes it does!!!

It's panto time again at The Nobel School, where the Year 10 GCSE drama students presented the pantomime classic 'Snow White' to packed houses of primary school students from all over Stevenage. Following the classic pantomime style there were plenty of villains to 'boo' and heroes to 'cheer', messy slapstick as well as songs and dances.

Performing five times in two days, the energy and enthusiasm shown by the Year 10 drama students was incredible. They wowed everyone with their fabulous performances, fully involving the young audiences and making sure that everybody had a fantastic time and were firmly in the festive spirit – Oh yes they did!!

Well done to all the students, you are a total credit to the performing arts faculty.

MS Wendy Parsley

Head of Performing Arts

And, the cast loved it too:

*"The joy you experience when you hear the beckoning little voices of the audience, is overwhelming and erupts an indescribable, elated feeling that mirrors no other emotion that I have ever experienced. The panto has been incredible and a time in which I have met amazing people and had an opportunity which was unforgettable."*

*"The audience interaction was amazing to watch and to be part of. I will never forget this experience, my favourite part was having the audience shouting and booing at us when walking on."*

*"Panto is amazing, it was such a wonderful experience and seeing the audiences faces light up is brilliant. My favourite part was the slapstick; despite the mess, it was so much fun, and seeing the audience laughing and having fun is the best"*

*"I loved doing the panto because it gave me the experience of performing but, also, we got to see the enjoyment on the children's faces, and make people laugh."*



*"Panto, for me, was a wonderful and exciting experience! It was amazing to perform in front of the audiences, and has been amazing to work with everyone involved. This was the highlight of it all, as they are all brilliant, amazing and kind people."*





## Nobel's Panto Star

Being part of the Stevenage Panto this year has been a great experience, from the audition to performing on stage - I am having the best time.

I went to the audition with my friends for a bit of fun, there were so many people there. I was really excited to get offered a part in the young ensemble on the Green Team.

Because there are so many shows each week, there are three teams of children. The adult dancers and principal cast are all really fun and lovely to work with. Wardrobe and the backstage crew work really hard to make the show amazing every time.

Rehearsals were hard work and long hours, but all the children were learning the show together, which was amazing. Costume fitting was a great experience and I love my costumes - even the quick changes.

I am now 8 shows through my run of 31 and having the most fun. If you are coming to see the Panto, I hope you enjoy it as much as I do!

Sophie Philpott, 7M JTL



## NOBEL SCHOOL PARENTS, STAFF and COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

The next meeting will be held in the Library, 6:30pm, on Tuesday 16 January 2024

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

Premier partner  
**ASCL**  
Association  
of School and  
College Leaders

**gcsepod**  
Education on Demand

### SUPPORT YOUR CHILD ON THE PATH TO SUCCESS

Your child's school has invested in the award winning resource, GCSEPod, to help your child reach their goals! Join the thousands of parents encouraging their children to use GCSEPod to support learning, homework and revision.

"I found GCSEPod especially useful to compliment my knowledge and I'm certain it helped me secure the grades that I have been so happy to receive."

Student

"The correlation between success and failure was made almost 100% clear by the use of GCSEPod."

Vateley School

"My daughter used GCSEPod for her GCSEs and was very successful with her results, she absolutely loved your Pods and this style of revising."

Parent

- Proven to increase results
- 19 exam mapped subjects
- Available online and offline
- Audio visual content
- Builds confidence
- Use on the go, anytime, anywhere



For more information please visit [www.gcsepod.com/parent](http://www.gcsepod.com/parent)

#### HOW TO LOGIN:

- 1) Go to [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) and click LOGIN
- 2) Click NEW HERE? GET STARTED!
- 3) Enter your child's details and confirm the name of the school they attend
- 4) Create a username and password

[GCSEPOD.COM](http://GCSEPOD.COM)

[INFO@GCSEPOD.COM](mailto:INFO@GCSEPOD.COM)

0191 338 7830

# Women's Super League at The Emirates Stadium

On Sunday 10 December, 40 Nobel students and Mr Carolan, Mrs Jones, Mrs Hill and Mrs Waites travelled to The Emirates Stadium to watch the Arsenal Ladies vs Chelsea Ladies in the next instalment of the Women's Super League. This was an incredible opportunity for our students to watch a professional game of women's football, watching some of the best international players including some of our Lionesses.

When we arrived at the stadium, we were greeted by the Arsenal band performing classic tunes, which the students and staff were delighted to dance to. We then moved to our seats in the North Stand, situated behind one of the goals. The students were overwhelmed with a fantastic view of the full pitch. As the game was televised on the BBC, there were several commentators and cameras ready to watch the action unfold.

Right from the 12:30pm kick off, the home team were the dominant side, with several chances. It didn't take long for Arsenal to take the lead through Beth Mead, smashing the ball into the roof of the net following a scuffle in the box. A Chelsea reply followed 5 minutes later with Johanna Rytting Kaneryd equalising in the end where we were seated. The atmosphere in the stadium was electric and our students were keen to get involved with the songs and chants throughout the game.

By half time, Arsenal found themselves 3-1 up. In the 74<sup>th</sup> minute, another England international, Alessio Russo, scored from the penalty spot to make it 4-1 and claim an honourable result for her Arsenal team. The quality of football on show was world class and the number of fans as well as the atmosphere within the stadium truly showed how far the women's game has come.

It was an absolute honour to watch this exciting match at The Emirates Stadium, which saw 59,042 spectators in the crowd, setting a new record attendance at any Women's Super League game.

Throughout the trip, both in the stadium and travelling to London, the students showed exemplary behaviour, demonstrating true Nobelian qualities. It was an absolute pleasure to take the students to this event, which, for some, was their first time in London, let alone watching a professional women's football game.

Mr Regan Carolan  
Teacher of PE

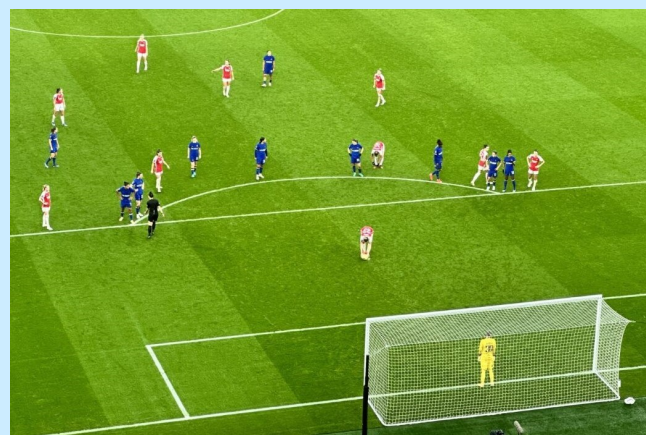
## Student Report

On the morning of Sunday 10 December, Nobel students travelled to the Arsenal Ladies vs Chelsea Ladies game at the Emirates Stadium. We had a great time being able to experience a massive stadium and the Arsenal supporters' band playing their trumpets in the stands and at the side of the pitch. Everyone enjoyed this, especially the teachers, who started dancing!

All of the Nobel students enjoyed themselves, with the majority cheering on Arsenal. Everyone enjoyed the half time refreshments, and we were able to witness a fantastic game, which included some of the players who played in the recent Women's World Cup. At the end of the trip, everyone had a happy and safe journey home.

Thank you to Mr Carolan, Mrs Jones, Mrs Hill and Mrs Waites for taking us on this trip.

Isabel Lay - 7T CHL





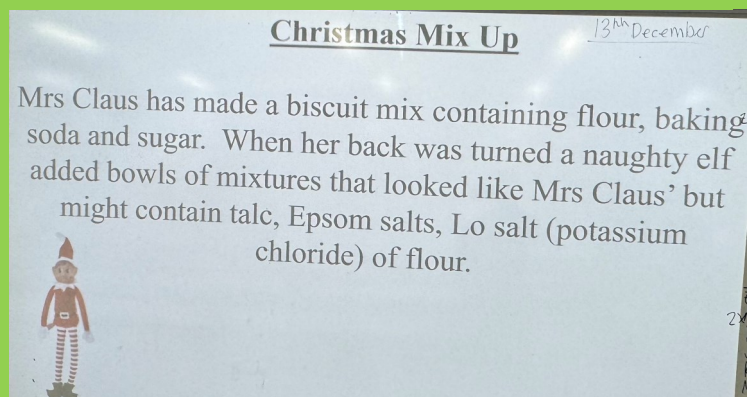
## Science Club

Science club takes place every week on a Wednesday lunchtime. This week, on 13 of December, the students took part in a fun experiment where they found out what ingredients Santa's helpers stole from the cookie mix.

We used flame tests and chemical tests to identify the different components of the cookies such as: sodium bicarbonate, flour and sugar. The students successfully found from the different samples A,B,C,D and E, which was the right ingredient to make the cookies; sodium - orange flame, potassium iodide - lilac flame. Then we used the iodine test and benedicts solution to identify which sample was flour (test for starch) and sugar.

The students were very surprised to see the science behind this and were dazzled by the different coloured flames as well as the colours produced from the chemical tests.

Science Club has many students participating and enjoying themselves, as there is a different experiment each week for them to always learn something new and spark their interest.



Ana Gavriluc 12 GBE



*Why not infuse this festive season with joy, by embracing the 5 ways to wellbeing into your celebrations, for a richer more meaningful experience?*



### Get Active:

Having a quiet 30 minutes during a busy day can help us to reflect. Finding time to go for a walk on your own, with a friend, or family member can be a great way to do this!



### Take Notice:

It's important we appreciate what's happening now! Practicing mindfulness can help to de-stress and train our brain to be in the moment.



### Learn:

Learning can increase confidence as well as being fun! Why not read a book or sign up for a class in the New Year?



### Give:

Volunteering for a cause you feel passionate about can be rewarding. Acts of kindness can boost your wellbeing this festive season.



### Stay Connected:

For some, the holidays can be a lonely time. Staying in touch with friends & family, even if it's just having a chat over a cuppa can be a great comfort.

## Super Curriculum

This term, Nobel Students have shown a great dedication to their learning by completing the tasks available on the Nobel Super curriculum. Over the course of this term 195 wonderful students have completed an amazing 467 tasks across all year groups! This is outstanding and staff are very proud of the efforts that the students have put in and the beautiful pieces of work that they have produced. A huge well done to all students involved

### Top 15

Keira-Leigh O'Neill (9E MPO) – 25  
Letty Smith (9T JKY) – 22  
Hugo Dziemiach (7C DAN) – 16  
Shafay Ahmed (10C RSR) – 14  
Roberta Chastell (9M EJS) – 13  
Sofia Perez-Moore (7E LPY) – 12  
Jacob Anifowoshe (8M EHO) – 12  
Jaydon Allen (8E ARD) – 10  
Leo Laws (8M JDT) – 9  
Anna Sashalmi-Cseke (7C RCN) – 9  
Benjamin Dang (9M EJS) – 7  
Christiana Stoyanova (8M JDT) – 7  
Amelie Mackenzie (7C RCN) – 7  
Sorin Margarit (7C RCN) – 7  
Zachary Walker (7C RCN) – 7

## Super Curriculum Reward

How many tasks can you complete?

The top 30 students who gain the most Nobel Super Curriculum ABC points will be invited to a special pizza party celebration at the end of the Summer term!



Enjoy tasks. Receive ABC points. Be proud.  
Celebrate. Eat pizza.

