

CONNECT03

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NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

PUTRAJAYA

Whole School

We wish everyone a Happy Malaysia Day and look forward to seeing the learners on Tuesday rested and refreshed.

CCA News

We have had a busy week of CCA, with many of you opting to participate in most days. In 2 hours, upon opening up the CCA System, we have had more signups than the whole of last term! However, we still find many Learners staying in school even though they have not selected a CCA. This is especially a concern for Primary Learners.

Please be reminded that Primary Learners are not allowed to be in school if they are not doing CCA (which is now offered from Mondays to Thursdays). Secondary Learners are also required to either go home, or study / read in the Library.

It is still not too late to join a CCA now. The system is opened until the 28th of Sep., and you are allowed to enroll or reselect a CCA. Here is the web-page where you can enroll, or click [Here](#) to check on our full year CCA calendar.

You will probably notice that there is no CCA next week (16th to 19th Sep). This means that Learners are released at 3:05pm on Tuesday & Thursday next week. Please make your transport arrangement accordingly (if they are not on the school bus). If you have any further question on CCA, please write to cca.enquiry@nexus.edu.my



School Hours, CCA & School Bus

Days	Arrival & Supervision	Physical Exercise	Lesson Starts	School Finishes	CCA Days	School Bus Pick Up	Remarks
Monday Wednesday	8.00am - 8.45am	8.35am - 8.45am	8.45am	3.15pm	3.15 - 4.30pm	3.15pm	The school bus leaves at 3.25pm. If your child is doing a CCA and takes the school bus, you are required to arrange your own transport to fetch your child at 4.30pm.
Tuesday Thursday				3.05pm	3.05 - 4.10pm	4.10pm	The school bus leaves at 4.20pm. If your child is not doing a CCA and takes the school bus, you are required to make arrangements to fetch your child at 3.10pm.
Friday (No CCA)				3.15pm	No CCA	3.15pm	No CCA. The school bus leaves at 3.25pm.

** School Buses/Vans will wait until 10 minutes after school finishes. Any children not at the bus within this time, will miss the bus and we will call the parents to collect.

Music News

We have had a fantastic instrumental recruitment period this year and have over doubled the number of learners having instrumental lessons at Nexus. Over over 200 learners, (a third of the school) have signed up for instrumental lessons in school. Music Lesson invoices will be sent out in the next couple of weeks for Term 1.

It is still not too late to sign your son or daughter up for instrumental lessons. We still have 5 saxophones, 3 clarinets, 2 flutes and 3 violins that we can let you borrow free of charge. [Sign up here!](#) Also, here is the [Link](#) to an interesting read about “**Music Making Children Nicer**”

Performing Arts Calendar

The new Performing Arts Calendar can be found [Here](#) with the concert and show dates for the whole academic year ahead.

Primary

“Friends and Families” Entry Point in Early Years

On Wednesday afternoon the learners invited their families in to school to share pictures, food and clothes from their home countries. Everyone was treated to delicious food from all around world including cheese from France, nougat from Iran, curry from India and pasties from England. The learners tried many different foods and everyone had full stomachs by 3pm. The learners met each other’s families and could see pictures of places in home countries. We had brothers, sisters, aunties, grandmas, a great grandmother and some mums who will soon have new babies! It was a great start to our learning in this new topic.



Year 6 Residential Trip

Last week, year 6 went on a field trip to Sedili Besar. We went there to learn about rivers for our new IPC unit, ‘Go with the Flow’.



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It was a long journey to camp but we stopped at Kota Tinggi waterfall to do some geographical studies and got very wet standing in a river in the middle of a monsoon! At the resort groups of three and five learners shared a room and a bathroom. The teachers woke us up, got us to sleep and looked after us well. We had great fun cooking Ondeh Ondeh, which is a sweet dish made with sugar, rice flour and coconut, climbing the rocky shores, playing on the sandy beach and more! We were split into groups and each group was led and taught by a biologist from Eco Field Trips.

As a new learner at Nexus it was a really good experience to meet new friends and find out more about each other as well as learning about new things together.

By Conor Hay (Year 6)

Meet and Greet Mornings

All of the primary meet and greet coffee mornings have now been held and we hope they act as a good introduction to a fulfilling relationship between parents and teachers. Please note that if you would like to contact any teachers then you are welcome to make appointments by email. Teachers will usually reply within 24 hours.

International Mindedness

Thanks to all the parents who have contributed their thoughts to what it means to be Internationally Minded. We will be able to consolidate all the ideas soon and create a Nexus definition. Watch this space.

ipc
**INTERNATIONAL
PRIMARY
CURRICULUM**

IPC Parents Group

In order to help with our forthcoming accreditation, we have a small group of parents representing Nexus to the IPC team when they visit in November.

If you would like to be a part of this team please contact griffiths.d@nexus.edu.my

Pre-accreditation Visit

Next Thursday (19th) we will host two visitors from the IPC who will visit classrooms and meet with the parents group as a pre-accreditation visit.

Primary PE

The Primary skills website has finally arrived. There are 12 skills and 6 ability ranges within that skill. Every learner has been catered for and they can now practice their balance, coordination and agility skills through an easy to follow and exciting new skills programme. Everything is linked to IPC learning goals and what we do in lessons so all learners can practice their skills for homework or just for fun anywhere in the world!

Here are the two links for the new Primary PE Skills (linked to IPC) **You Tube** 

Beginning (**Yellow** | **Green**) Developing (**Red** | **Blue**) Mastering (**Pink** | **Black**)

Thanks to Mr. Harvey and Mr. Jared for their work on putting this together.

Languages Other Than English

Please note that learners will only be permitted to change their language choice after today, with special permission from the head of languages. Parents who wish for their child to change should first write in to Martyn Nayman at nayman.m@nexus.edu.my

Spotlight on Learning Year 6 Mapping Skills

This week we have been talking to some hardworking Year 6 learners who have been incredibly busy using their mapping skills to locate rivers around the world.



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It was clear to see that concentration, the ability to use a key and to be able to plot rivers on their own maps were all skills essential for this learning. Some geographical knowledge such as knowing what a continent is and how to find the continent you want in an Atlas was also necessary. The learners also showed a good understanding of their expectations selecting the resource most suited for the task (in this case Atlas's worked better than Google Earth).

This was new learning and so the learners had to use their resilience. **"I'm resilient because I don't quit when rivers are hard to find!"** Shinthly (5E)

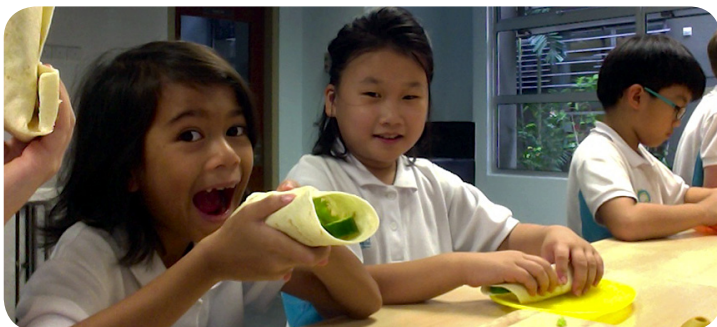
When asked what they had enjoyed or found interesting about today's task the learners all said they had enjoyed it. **"I liked the challenge and the opportunity to explore new places and find rivers I didn't know existed. Next I would like to use the internet to do more research about some of the rivers that I found."** Sabrina (5E)

Learners were asked how they would use this learning in the real world. They were eager to share their plans to use these skills when traveling and visiting new places. It was clear that the learners appreciated the relevance of this learning and so they were motivated and successful in achieving their goals.

Well done Year 6, fantastic mapping skills. You are awesome!

CCA Spotlight

Our CCA program is now underway and the variety and depth of learning is great to see. Here are some photos from the Primary Cooking CCA.



Secondary

Nexus Education Forum (NEF)

As you may know, the Nexus Education Forum (NEF) was set up to promote discussion and understanding between parents and teachers around the learning experience in our school. This year, we hope to grow in membership and impact and for that reason we invite parents to apply for the position of Forum Ambassador.

This role would involve encouraging attendance at our events, as well as consulting with staff on the main concerns and questions that parents would like to discuss. It would not be onerous, but would greatly help our group to grow and reach more participants.

For further information on the forum, please go to <http://bit.ly/nefsite>

To express your interest or simply find out more please email eduforum@nexus.edu.my

Book List for Year 10 to 13

Please click on the link [Here](#) to see the compulsory list of books that need to be purchased for learners in Year 10,11,12 & 13.

These books can be purchased from the school bookshop next to the main office.



The Musical

**On 9th & 10th April 2014
in the Nexus Theatre**

It has been a frantic start to the term with Miss Rachel (the new Drama Co-ordinator), Mr. Jason (the new Film Co-ordinator) and myself auditioning for our next Musical, Bugsy Malone. We have now chosen the lead roles:

1. Bugsy - Pranav Nair (9N)
2. Fat Sam - Fadhli Zainal (12X)
3. Fizzy - Aiman Johanuddin (10E)
4. Detectives - Luqman Hatz (8N) & Aqil Mohd Azam (8N)
5. Blousey - Hallie Flaherty (9X)
6. Tallulah - Cicely Guilloute (9N)
7. Dandy Dan - Ercia Chang (9N)
8. Lena Marelli - Intan Idris (8E)

The synopsis and cast list for the show can be found [Here](#)

The Start of Our ‘Second Year’ of the IB Diploma Programme

The success of our IB Programme continues to generate interest both in Malaysia and abroad. There were many applications to join the new Year 12 cohort and so far we have enrolled 43 learners with another 5 learners joining us in the next few weeks – we have already met our Year 12 capacity. This represents a tremendous growth from our first group of 24 learners last year and is a tribute to all the hard work learners, teachers and admin have put in to making the IB at Nexus a quality product. We have introduced new courses in Sports, Exercise and Health Science and Film Studies and I am excited about the opportunities these will afford those studying them.

We are not resting on our laurels however and I am pleased to report that Mrs Abena has been appointed as IB Learning Advisor. We were fortunate to be selected by the IB organization to participate in a pilot project involving other international schools under the title Approaches to Teaching and Learning, which will look at how to implement the latest research on effective educational practice. This will help ensure that Nexus International School remains at the cutting edge of all that is new and exciting in the field of international education.

After a two day induction programme, which amongst other things involved dragon boat racing on Putrajaya Lake the year 12s have settled into their programme of study. A number switched subjects in the first few weeks and of course we will be monitoring their progress over the coming weeks and months to make sure they have adopted the most appropriate package. In order to assist learners, parents can access Managebac where all assignments they have to complete should be recorded. Every parent should have received log in details for Managebac but please let me know if this is not the case. We are also developing a Nexus IB site for parents: I will tell you a bit more about this in future as it is developed.

A word now about our Year 13s, who have emerged battered and bruised but still smiling after the first year of IB. This term will be one of the busiest for them as so many coursework deadlines start looming and they also have preparation for college applications. (Mr Joel Connor has been appointed as Higher Education Counsellor).

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Please treat them gently with lots of encouragement as they may be starting to feel the pressure and remind them that our counselor Malou Bromley is always available to speak to if they are feeling a bit overwhelmed.

When asked if the IB is an easy programme to complete I always reply no, but usually follow this up with the comment that nothing worthwhile in life is ever easy to achieve. Our learners can have the confidence that they are studying on the premier educational course for learners aged 16-18 in international schools today and that their qualification will open many doors for them in the future.

By John Lee (IB Co-ordinator)

Year 13 IA Gold Award

This week our Year 13 learners have been away in Lumut, completing their adventurous journey. The trip has been going very well and all the learners have been working hard, cooking for themselves, camping overnight, cycling and trekking. Next week's Connect will feature a reflection from the learners with more photos to follow.



Boarding House

Report on Trip to the KL Tower and KLCC

Last weekend the boarders went to the KL Tower. It took an hour to get there but we enjoyed the views from the top. When we came down we bought some corn in a cup to keep us going until lunch.

We then travelled to KLCC. Once we had arranged a meeting point, we were allowed to go and find a place for lunch. We also spent some time shopping. We found that KLCC was a very big shopping centre. We got back to boarding just in time for dinner.

Last week many of the boarders dressed in Malay traditional clothing to celebrate Hari Raya.

By Hafidz (Year 10)



ELL Information

Good readers are good learners Helping young readers at home

Reading out loud to someone every day is essential for beginning readers. Although fluency and accuracy are signs of a good reader, understanding what they have read is key. There are many ways that parents can help young readers. Here are just a few tips:

- **Use a ruler or card** under the sentence to help the reader track and focus on the words they are reading.

For fluency:

- Read aloud to your child, then get them to **match their voice to yours** and
- Reading their favourite books and poems over and **over again** will help their reading become smoother. Encourage reading with expression.

For understanding:

- Always discuss the **meaning of words** that are new to the reader.
- **Ask questions...** what happened? Why do you think she did that? etc

Most importantly... KEEP IT FUN

From The ELL Department

Pembaca yang baik ialah pelajar yang baik Bantulah anak-anak anda membaca di rumah

Membaca dengan kuat dan jelas kepada anak-anak adalah satu permulaan yang baik. Walaupun kelancaran dan ketepatan sesuatu perkataan seseorang itu dapat menunjukkan tahap bacaan namun pemahaman ialah kunci kepada apa yang mereka telah bacakan. Di sini terdapat beberapa tips kepada ibu bapa yang dapat menolong anak-anak mereka ialah:

- **Gunakan pembaris atad kad** di bawah ayat untuk membantu pembaca fokus kepada perkataan yang mereka baca itu.

Untuk kelancaran:

- Bacakan dengan kuat kepada anak-anak anda, kemudian suai **padankan suara mereka dengan suara anda** dan
- Bacakan buku atau puisi kegemaran mereka **berulang kali** dapat menjadikan pembacaan mereka lancar. Galakkan mereka membaca dengan sepenuh perasaan.

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Untuk pemahaman:

- Selalu berbincang maksud perkataan-perkataan yang baru kepada anak-anak. Always discuss the **meaning of words** that are new to the reader.
- **Tanyakan soalan...** Apakah yang berlaku? Kenapakah dia melakukan perkara tersebut? dan lain-lain.

Paling penting... PASTIKAN IA MENYERONOKKAN

Daripada jabatan ELL

**好的读者是好的学习者
帮助您的孩子在家阅读**

每天大声朗读给孩子听是必要的。虽然流畅和准确的阅读很重要，了解他们所读的是什么才是最关键的。家长可以用有很多不同的方法帮助年轻读者。这里提供的仅仅是几个小技巧：

- 使用直尺或卡放在句子的下面，帮助读者专注于所阅读的词语。

训练流利的阅读：

- 朗读给您的孩子听，然后让他们跟着您的发音。
- 阅读他们所喜爱的书籍和诗歌，一遍又一遍地重复将有助于他们的阅读变得更流畅。鼓励有情感地阅读。

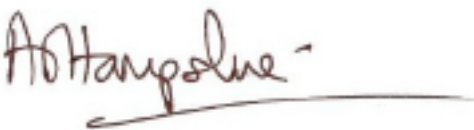
训练理解：

- 跟他们讨论新词语的意思。
- 提问。。。发生了什么？为什么你认为她这样做呢？等等

最重要的。。。使阅读充满趣味

ELL 部门启

Regards,



Alison Hampshire

Principal