

CONNECT05

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NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
— SCHOOL —

PUTRAJAYA

Primary

Assessment at Nexus Primary

We believe that in order for good learning to take place then it is important for us to know what children already know and understand, what they need further practice with and what their next steps should be.

Here in the Primary school we have two main forms of assessing children.

1. Assessment for Learning

This is where the teacher and the learner work together to establish what has been learnt and what needs to come next. We do this in a number of ways, using different tools that the school has devised and that are provided by the International Primary Curriculum.

Rubrics are steps for learning that explain the steps for learning required to acquire a new skill. Skill acquisition moves through a continuum of beginning to developing to mastering. Here is an example of a rubric to be used by the teacher:

Teacher Rubric	Pupil Rubric
<p>Beginning Learning Advice ⓘ</p> <p>The child describes a chosen place, country or geographical feature using some simple and relevant geographical terms. These may not always be used accurately. The child may require prompting.</p>	<p>Developing Learning Advice ⓘ</p> <p>The child independently uses geographical terms to describe a place, country or geographical feature. Although the terms are used appropriately they may concentrate on only one feature, such as climate, or they may describe a range of features but only in a simple way.</p>
	<p>Mastering</p> <p>The child can use a wide range of geographical terms when describing different features of a country, place or geographical feature – e.g. land use, landforms, population and settlement, etc. The geographical terms are used accurately.</p>

We also provide child rubrics so that children can fully understand what they are being assessed on. Here is an example:

Teacher Rubric	Pupil Rubric
<p>Beginning Learning Advice ⓘ</p> <p>My teacher says I use some good words to describe a country, place or geographical feature, but I need to learn more words and find out what they mean before I use them.</p>	<p>Developing Learning Advice ⓘ</p> <p>I usually work on my own at the beginning. My teacher says that the words I use are good but that I should try to describe places, countries and geographical features in more detail.</p>
	<p>Mastering</p> <p>I can work on my own. I can describe a place, country or geographical feature in two or three different ways. I can use a lot of geographical words and my teacher says I couldn't do any better.</p>

In addition to the steps for learning, we provide learning advice: What the learner needs to do to move along the different steps. Here is an example:

From Developing to Mastering:

Suggest the following to the children:

- Try to think of more than one way in which you might use geographical terms to describe a country, place or geographical feature
- Try to think of ways in which the country, place or geographical feature you are describing is similar or different to the host country. Think about the weather, landforms, people, etc. Make lists of words linked to these differences
- Work with a friend to develop your initial ideas together: then write about your ideas independently
- Use a thesaurus to find out new words – try them out with a partner

2. Assessment of Learning

This enables us to find out some information about what knowledge and skills the learner has acquired and also for us to compare this achievement with other standards. For this we use assessments from GL assessment group. At the beginning of a learner's time at Nexus (From Year 3 to Year 6) they take the Cognitive Ability Test (CAT), which gives us a forecast of how each learner may achieve. Nexus reports this as an age standardised score and for continuity with our IPC assessments we convert this into the following levels:

Beginning–Beginning/Developing–Developing– Developing/Mastering– Mastering

This is repeated at the beginning of Year 3 and Year 5 (and then Year 7 and 9 in the Secondary school. More information about the CATs can be found at: <http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/products/cat4-cognitive-abilities-test-fourth-edition>

At the end of each year (Y1 – Y6) learners take another two assessments online:

a. Progress in English (PIE):

<http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/products/progress-test-english>

b. Progress in Maths (PIM):

<http://www.gl-assessment.co.uk/products/progress-test-maths>

These assessments, also from GL give us an indication of how children achieve in each subject and, in year 3 and above, enable us to compare their forecast with their achieved level.

These summative assessments are used together with the on-going formative assessments to provide a holistic assessment package for learners but are only a part of the overall learning experience at the school.

If you would like some more information or have any questions you are welcome to come into school next Tuesday at 8.30am for a briefing in the multi-purpose room.

Nexus Learner Represents Malaysia at Golf



Adam Rohizam from Year 4 will be representing Malaysia (under 10 years old) in a four day golf championship ENJOY JAKARTA WORLD JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP 2015, the most prestigious junior competition in Asia. The competition will run from June 2nd to June 5th.

This is his first time participating in this competition which follows two years of hard work, a strict training discipline and other challenging competitions.

This year he has won four competitions in the SportExcel Junior and Club Junior Championships.

In Jakarta, he will be competing with golfers from over 20 countries. The event will be tele-cast throughout ASIA by ESPN/STARSPORT TV Channel.

We wish him the best of luck.



Asian Day of Languages

This Friday saw the return of the annual Asian day of Languages where we celebrated the diversity of Asian language and culture at Nexus.

During the day learning had an Asian theme to it. In PE learners played Sepak raga (Takraw) ocrav and in Music some learners learnt about the Gamelan as well as looking at other Asian music.

Throughout the day learners were able to have a go at Batik painting, played traditional Asian games, watched a selection of Asian movies, perused the Asian book stalls and much more.

It has been a fantastic day.

Secondary

Parent Forum on Secondary Progress Reports

On the 28th May at the ground floor of the boarding house 40 secondary parents attended a presentation on the format of the Secondary Progress Reports. To see the presentation of the information provided please click on the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1iA9xL3P0c3bxSoD-q3q89Z9lgE0Ons7buXjsrRGOsZc/edit?usp=sharing>

Book Orders For The New Academic Year

On the 9th June from 8:45am to 1pm we will have a visit from the University Book Store (M) Sdn Bhd.

They will provide information on how to order academic books for the new year starting in August. They will also take orders for any new academic books required by the learners.

This year all our academic books will be available online through this company, we will no longer sell new books from our book store at school. Books can be ordered online and then either delivered to school or to your home address.

The University Book Store has a list of the required books for all secondary learners.

Year 7 LOTE Collaborative Learning Morning

Friday say our year 7 learners team up with their Alice Smith counterparts for a fantastic collaborative learning experience here at Nexus. Learners took part in 6 activities including Salsa dancing, French boules, a treasure hunt using QR codes and 4 languages, Calligraphy, a languages quiz and a languages investigation.

The learners had a fantastic time and as well as using their language skills also learned how to work collaboratively in a team. We look forward to repeating the event next year.



END OF YEAR BALL

The Student Council of 2014-2015 is proud to present this year's End of Year Ball, with this year's theme: **"Time After Time"!**

The ball is open to learners from Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.

The details are as follows:

Day/Date: **Saturday, 13th June 2015**

Time: **7.00 pm to 11.00 pm**

Venue: **Swiss-Garden Hotel & Residences, Kuala Lumpur**

Tickets for early birds (**RM 130**) has commenced and will end on the coming **Monday, 18th May 2015**.

From 19th May 2015 to 1st June 2015, tickets will be sold at RM 150.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email the Student Council at student_council@nexus.edu.my

Language Perfect World Championships

Well it has been another amazing week for language learning at Nexus. The competition has finally ended and Nexus came 10th in the world out of 1200 schools which is a fantastic achievement. During the competition Nexus learners answered 1,284,000 questions and spent over 5000 hours revising and learning their vocabulary and grammar. A special mention must go to Isabelle Yap in year 9 who came 9th individually which is an amazing feat. Well done to all who took part and we're already looking forward to the Asian championships, which start in November.

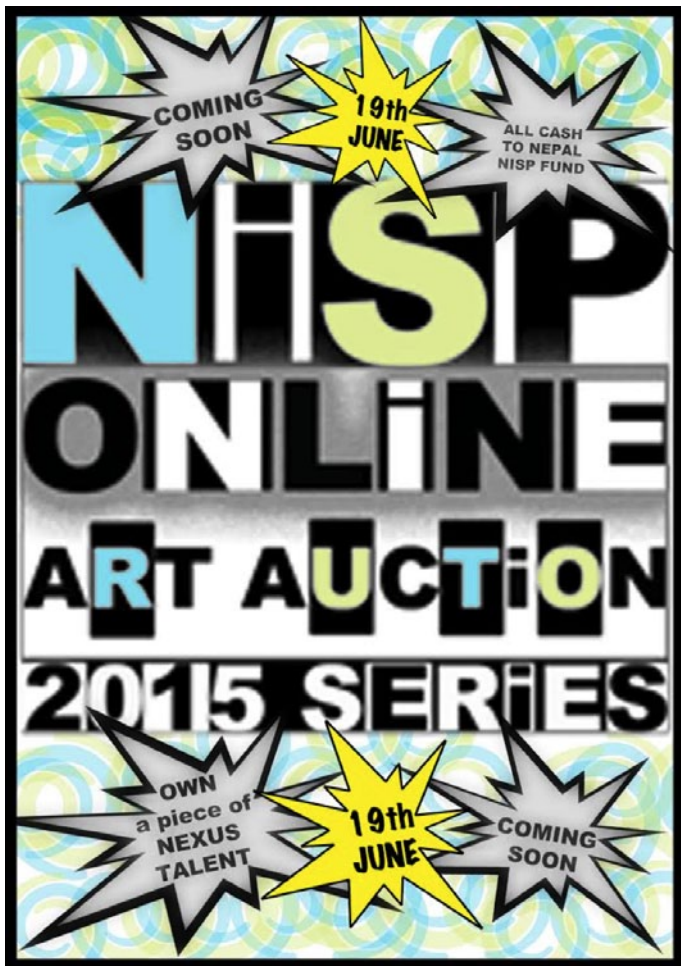
Language Perfect World Championships

Total questions answered:	1,283,899
Total points earned:	498,443 pts
Total hours spent learning:	5,013 hrs
Global ranking:	10th
Category ranking: (251-500 students)	3rd

5		Elite Awards (10,000 pts)
37		Gold Awards (3000 pts)
30		Silver Awards (2,000 pts)
107		Bronze Awards (1,000 pts)
58		Credit Awards (500 pts)

Competition Achievements

1st overall in Malaysia out of 5 schools
10th overall globally out of 1077 schools
3rd overall in the 251-500 students category out of 219 schools
1st in Malaysia for the 251-500 students category out of 3 schools
1st for Japanese in Malaysia out of 5 schools
2nd for French in Malaysia out of 5 schools
1st for Italian in Malaysia out of 5 schools
1st for Spanish in Malaysia out of 5 schools
1st for Chinese in Malaysia out of 5 schools
2nd for German in Malaysia out of 5 schools



International Award

<https://youtu.be/CtoPWxhHitI>

Our Bronze level International Award group have taken part in their Qualifying Expedition in Ulu Gombak, Selangor over the weekend of 16th & 17th May. Participants experienced a challenging two days of trekking, camping, camp craft and cooking their own meals out in the wild

If you are interested in the Award or would like to find out more about the program please contact our IA & CCA Coordinator James Harrison: harrison.j@nexus.edu.my or visit the official website: <http://www.intaward.org/about-the-award>

NISP ONLINE ART AUCTION

Hello Nexus Community,

The NISP 'ONLINE' ART AUCTION is happening soon - get ready to bid!

Various memorable, recent and past artworks, that have been exhibited about the school, will be up for auction BEGINNING, the 19th of June 2015 and ending noon on Thursday the 25th of June 2015.

Instructions on how to bid will be relayed to you when the auction and bidding opens on the 19th.

The bidding will be open to secondary learners, all admin and staff and all parents of the Nexus community.

This is your chance to forever own a piece of Nexus talent and hang it up on your wall at home, reminding you of all those good times!

All proceeds will be donated to the NISP EARTHQUAKE APPEAL in NEPAL.

If you have any questions about this then please contact:

Mauro Brooks

Head of Visual Arts

Nexus International School Putrajaya:

brooks.m@nexus.edu.my

Creativity Reflection: MUN



CAS Reflection by Helen Astra Lee

The conference was quite good. It was a good experience and although I didn't talk much I feel like I did do something. During the conference I made two speeches which was quite scary, the first one didn't go so well because I was nervous and didn't write down any notes about what I was going to say. I should have prepared a little better and known that being up in front of everyone would make me nervous so I would need notes to make sure I stay on topic and make sense (which I'm not that sure I did). My second speech was a little better and answered two POI's (questions) at the end, well I actually answered one, I told the person that asked the first question that I

would answer in note form, which I never did. When I was talking it was quite hard because I had to remember the way you're supposed to talk during these debates (formal and in third person) which I found weird and took awhile to get used to. The debates were quite interesting; my favourite topic was the one about child marriages. The other two were about the protection of ethnic minorities in conflict zones and the other was about the Internet being a human right and the proliferation of the Internet in LEDC's. I enjoyed the social night mostly because I got to spend it with people from Nexus (I was the only person from Nexus in my council) so it was nice to see familiar faces at the end of the day. I also made a few new friends so that was nice too.

YEAR 10 HISTORY WORK

Year 10 history students recently completed a 20th Century film research project on a film of their choice.

The twentieth century is the best documented century in world history mostly because so much of it has been captured or recreated on film. Much of what people think they know about the past has actually been shaped by the films and television they watch. This assignment encouraged students to choose a historically-themed film that focused on one prominent event or personality during the twentieth century, and to compare it to other historical sources. Students hopefully came away from this project with a greater sense of how film has shaped our commonly-held, and taken-for-granted beliefs about what has happened in the past. The assignment was designed to encourage students to think carefully about the media they consume and to develop critical viewing skills.

Additionally, it encouraged learners to actively engage the past, conduct some authentic historical research and develop their written documentation skills. In addition, they created a “pecha kucha” presentation (visual slides with minimal or no text and timed at 20 seconds per slide). Not surprisingly, the films chosen by the learners included a number of films about warfare: the Russian Civil War, the First and Second World Wars, the Holocaust, and the Vietnam War. However, films related to the civil rights movement in the USA in the 1960s, Idi Amin’s rule in Uganda in the 1970s, blood diamonds in Sierra Leone in the 1990s, and the events of 9/11 were also chosen. While the majority of the films were made in the US or Britain, films from Belgium, Norway, and Czechoslovakia were also picked by our learners. Johana Jarkulischova, for example, did an excellent job with her analysis of the Czech film “The Cremator” from 1969, which uses the setting of the Nazi German invasion of 1939 to examine the Warsaw Pact occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968. This rich historical context allowed Johana to dive into in-depth research of two key events from her country of

origin. The quality of her work and that from a number of her classmates made clear the value of this assignment, which while not being directly connected to the IGCSE syllabus, should nonetheless help to prepare Nexus learners for the rigours of the IB Diploma.

The Costumes

Behavior

Do the characters' dress and behavior match their time, situation and class?
Are gender relationships accurately rendered?

Czechoslovakia: Late 1930s

The Film

The mobilization of the German Army on the border

- 21:16: "Systém má malá a střední..."
"The village was forcing us to concessions."
- 33:28: "U pohraničí vyhlášený výměrový stav."
"They announced a special situation in the borderlands."
- 35:24: "U mobilizace, měla být tu a někdy poměrně silný ten charakter."
"Mobilization is happening, you should find someone to protect you."
- 40:15: "...a tu hranici štít Německá armáda."
"...and the German army stands at the borders."

The Costumes

PE Notices



Run for Nepal Tuesday 16th June

Due to the exceptional circumstances in Nepal recently we have taken the decision dedicate this run to help fundraise for Nepal.

The Run for Nepal will replace the Terry Fox Run which will be held on Tuesday 16th June at 8.45am until 10.20am. Please use this form (<https://goo.gl/tR8VhP>) to place your Run for Nepal T-Shirt order. The deadline is Friday 29th May. Any orders placed after then may not be met. If you require multiple shirts in the

same size then please tick the appropriate boxes.

Size samples of the T-shirt can be found at the student services shop. The T-Shirts are priced at Rm25 and all monies collected will go to a the wider collection organised by the student council and Miss Claire.

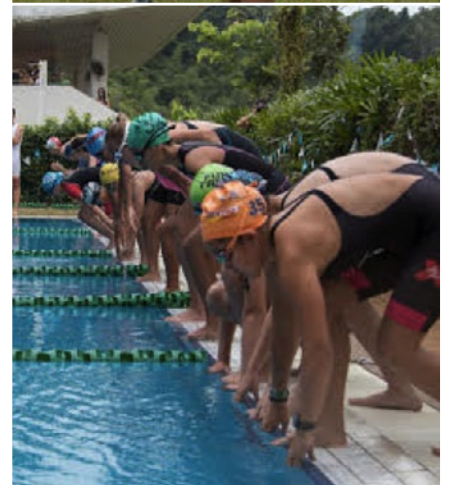
Payment should be made in full on or before Friday 29th May.

T-shirts can be collected from the student services shop from Friday 12th June. Many thanks for supporting this worthwhile cause.

Nexus Triathlon Sunday 24th May

Thank you to all the learners and staff who volunteered to help Marshall the various points of the course last Sunday. The day was a huge success with many participants commenting on

how impressed they were that all the volunteers were from Nexus and how much encouragement they gave they athletes as they passed them on the various routes.

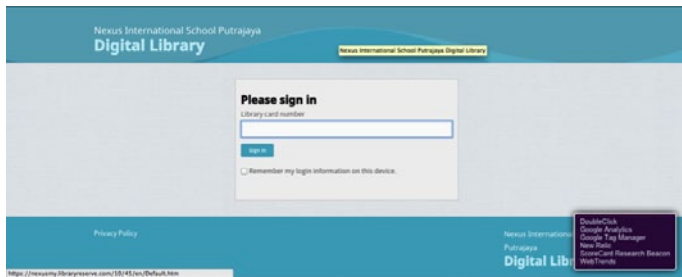


Library News

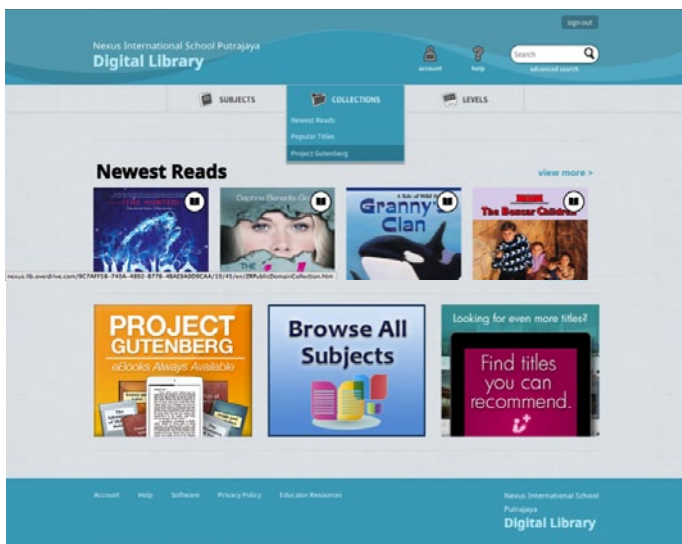
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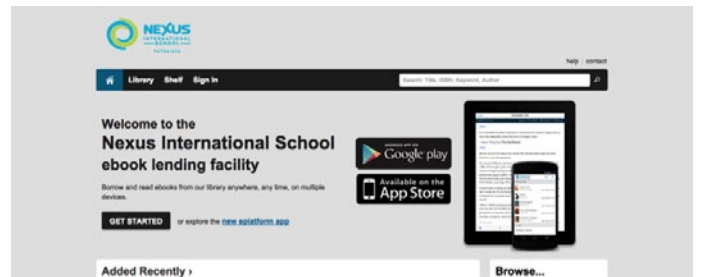
Once you login, following would be the screen that you would arrive at.



Simply choose the option "Find titles you can recommend" and start recommending titles for your library -

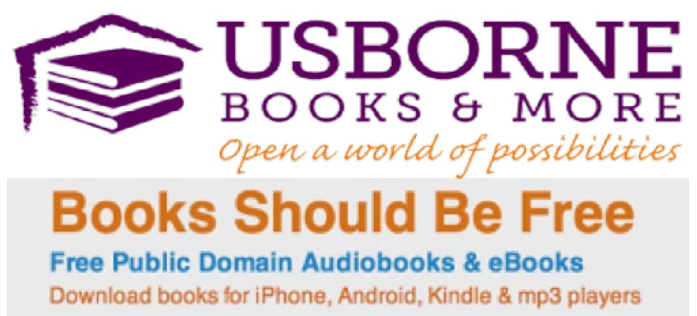


Wheelers have been the First E-Books subscribed at Nexus Library. Most of you are familiar. Here is the screenshot for your reference. Click on any of these icons or images and start reading your favourite ebooks. Download the Wheelers app on your mobile devices and you will be able to read books anywhere.



Only one borrower can read at a time.

For more updates about Library News, please visit these link:



EBooks: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JW6u_8KsdUgNrB9VdUeBBdRLVqFJsusmTa3SSySIIVQ/edit

Free Trials: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ghW7ff7BvGZw07BCYQ2obuh6kGo4aQ0aiu8pgB96qwA/edit>

MUSIC NEWS

3 Musicals In 3 Weeks - They Are Very Funny!

Year 7 learners have been working hard over the last few months in their Drama and Music lessons preparing for their upcoming performance of their class Musical. Each of the 3 classes in Year 7 have been working on producing their own Musical. They have learnt their lines, decided on staging, learnt their songs and words, helped with lighting/sound/back-stage (for other classes). All of their work comes to a close over the next 3 weeks with their final performances of the 3 Musicals.

- Wednesday 3rd June - **What A Knight** - Y7 Whole Class Musical - 7pm in the Theatre - Class 7E
- Wednesday 10th June - **Rocky Monster Show** - Y7 Whole Class Musical- 7pm in the Theatre - Class 7N
- Wednesday 17th June - **Ye-Ha!** - Y7 Whole Class Musical - 7pm in the Theatre - Class 7X

Tickets are on sale from Student Services for What A Night with the others being available next week and the week after. Tickets will also be available on the door.

We hope that you will all come along and enjoy the 3 different shows, it is no fun performing to an empty theatre - They only last for an hour and are very, very funny indeed!

Y10 & 12 Recital - Thursday 28th May - 1.20pm in the Dance Studio

Well done to all the Y10 GCSE and Y12 IB

learners for their wonderful performances at Thursday's recital. The hard work that you put in over the last year was certainly evident in your polished and expressive performances, Well Done!

Rock Concert 2015 - Thursday 25th June - 7pm in the Theatre

Preparations are well underway for the Music Department's end of year celebrations at the Rock Concert. More details nearer the time and tickets will be on sale in a couple of weeks time - buy them early as this concert always sells out.

More information nearer the time but put the date in your diary now!

Dates For Your Diaries

Wed 3 Jun	WHAT A KNIGH Y7 Whole Class Musical 7pm in the Theatre Class TBC
Wed 10 Jun	ROCKY MONSTER SHOW Y7 Whole Class Musica 7pm in the Theatre Class TBC
Wed 17 Jun	YE-HA! Y7 Whole Class Musical 7pm in the Theatre Class TBC
* Wed 24 Jun	ABRSM Music Practical Exam @ Nexus
* Thu 25 Jun	Rock Concert 7pm in the Theatre

Lunchtime Music Clubs - ALL WELCOME! No Invitation Needed! Just Come Along and have FUN!

Primary	
Mon	Recorder Group with Miss Ann
	String Group (Violins, Cellos) with Mr Mervin
	Guitar Group with Mr Afiq & Mr Hafiz
Tue	Brass Group with Mr Gerold
	Drumming Group with Mr Mr Faez & Ms Ann - STARTING IN AUGUST
Wed	Flute Group with Miss Yem Voon
	Ukulele Group with Ms Ann
	Clarinet Group for ALL Learners - with Miss Kit
Thu	String Group (Violins and Cellos) with Mr Mervin
Fri	Singing Group with Miss Ann & Miss Audrey
Secondary	
Mon	Drumming Group with Mr Faez & Mr Tim - STARTING IN AUGUST
Tue	Guitar Group with Mr Afiq
	Jazz Band with Mr Tim & Mr Steve
Wed	Flute Group with Miss Yem Voon
	Senior Choir (Acapella/ accompanied singing, 3/4 part singing) with Mr Steve & Mr Tim & Miss Audrey
	Guitar Groups with Mr Hafiz
	Clarinet Group for ALL Learners with Miss Kit
Thu	Senior String Group (Violins, Cellos) with Mr Mervin
Fri	String Orchestra with Mr Steve & Mr Mervin

Why Study Music?



Y3 Assembly May 13th 2015

Boarder Blog

I-CITY WATER PARK

Last weekend on Saturday, a few of the boarders went to the I-City water park. The ride I enjoyed the most was the Tornado. I liked it the best because it was the most thrilling ride in the park. We all had so much fun.

After spending almost 3 hours in the park, we decided to leave. While waiting for the bus to arrive, an icecream man came by, so we all had icecreams. We also went to KFC and 7Eleven. Overall it was a fun trip and we came back tired but with a happy face.

Dhruvi - Year 9

