# CONNECT05

**GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA** 

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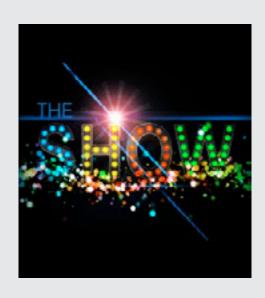


# **Primary**

#### **Milepost 2 Production**

On Thursday 13th February Milepost 2 will perform their production 'The Big Green Adventure'.

All parents are invited to come and watch the performance. We ask that everyone is seated in the theatre for 9am. If you are unable to attend on Thursday, you are welcome to come to the dress rehearsal on Wednesday 12th February at 9am. The performance will be recorded and parents will be sent a link to the video.



# Budding Young Actors

I am currently casting for a Netflix/Weinstein production about the story of Marco Polo.

We are casting for the two main kids for the show and was wondering if you would be able to post this on your bulletin board at school to help us spread the word and find our kid stars.

If there are a lot of kids at the school that fit the description below (mixed kids are also a possibility for these roles) it would be wonderful to arrange a casting at the school with our producers.

We are working with some of the top names in Hollywood, below are a few IMDB titles to give

you an idea:

http://www.imdb.com/title/ tt2189461/fullcredits?ref =ttrel sa 1

Below is what we were hoping to post:

Greetings from Marco Polo Productions. We are currently casting for the next biggest mini series by Netflix filming in Malaysia, the story of 'Marco Polo' in the court of the Kublai Khan.

We are looking for two child actors to star in our show.

It is an AMAZING opportunity

for them to work with top directors and producers in the film industry. We will be filming in Pinewood studios in Johor Bahru between May to August 2014. We will only need the kids for approximately 3-4 days each month. We will work around school schedules and arrange for private tuition for the selected children if they are to miss any days of school during the filming.

Below are the character breakdowns:

Zhao Xian (Boy Emperor) (looks around 5 years old, Chinese)

Heir to the throne, but completely unaware of the responsibility that power brings and the resentments of those around him. He likes to kill bugs, play hide and seek and dance with his playmates. The boy used as a pawn between the Empress Dowager and the Chancellor who are battling for control of the empire.

Ling Ling (looks around 7 years old, Chinese)

A daughter to the Emperor,
Ling is a stunning child who wants
to dance like her mother. When
her mother is sent as a spy to the
Khan's inner court, Ling becomes
an unwitting pawn in high stakes
game with her uncle the chancellor.
Ling is a caretaker of the Boy
Emperor and is a kind heart
living in a cruel world
(recurring).

If you would like to present any kids for these roles, please email us the following:

- Photographs (include a headshot & full length photo)
- 2. Measurements (height, shoes, shirt & pants size)
- 3. A list of any previous performances they may have done (this can be anything from school theatre to dance performances as well as any previous acting/modeling on camera they may have done)
- 4. A list of their hobbies and skills
- 5. A brief description of their personality
- 6. Contact Details

SEND TO: jessica.casting@gmail.com

The kids do NOT need to have previous acting experience.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like more details.

Thanks so much.

Jessica Lewis (Casting Department - Marco Polo)

Mobile: +6012-206-1994 Office: +607-560-1837

# **Spotlight on IPC**



This week we are speaking to Ethan and Aminah from 4N

#### What is your current IPC topic?

Active Planet - Volcanoes and Earthquakes

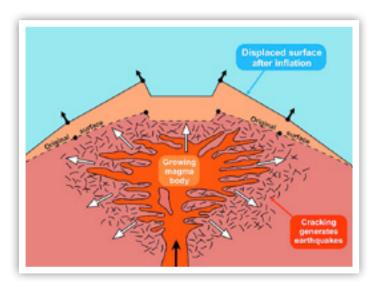
#### Why are you learning about that topic?

Ethan: Because we need to see that the planet we live on is not just a piece of rock and dust doing nothing it.

Aminah: So we understand why natural disasters happen. We would be better prepared for one.

#### What are you learning today?

We are learning about the structure of the earth and how it is made up of layers. We had to make a presentation to show our learning. We researched the structure of the earth as our home learning. Today we are sharing our learning with each other. We are asking each other questions about our learning.



#### Which personal goals are you using?

Aminah: We were rigorous because I did my best to make sure it was presented clearly and everyone could understand.

#### What are the next steps in your learning?

Ethan: Our next steps will be to find out how and why earthquakes happen and about natural disasters that we are interested in.

#### Are you enjoying what you are doing?

Ethan; Yes because I haven't played with clay like this for many years. I chose to make a model to show my learning.

Aminah: It was great fun because it challenged me. I found it difficult to find out information about each layer. I enjoy using art to share my learning.

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# Secondary

#### **Sports Day on Monday 17th February**

As you will all be aware from your PE lessons, the Athletics season is now upon us and to kick start this, our annual Secondary Sports day will be held earlier this year on the Monday 17th February. The timings of the day will be as follows:

	All students register at with their tutor (PSHE) class
8.40am	Meet on the field (in the stands)
1pm-1.30pm	Lunch
2.30pm	Theatre for trophy presentation

Sign-up forms will be emailed out to all learners this week. Spaces are limited to 2 entries per house/per year group so please complete and submit the form as soon as possible. The places will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please note that entries are limited to 4 per person maximum and I would like to see all learners attempt at least 1 event. If when you attempt to sign-up, the event of your choice is not there, it means you are too late and all the spaces in that race have been taken so please choose another option.



Parents/Guardians are invited to come and support and help create an incredible atmosphere for our learners to compete in at this years event. If you have any questions or queries please get in touch smith.a@nexus.edu.my

#### Practice Examinations Y11, Y13

The practice examinations start on the 10th February. Please ensure all learners arrive in school at the correct time and that learners arrive at the correct examination times throughout the day, earner who is late for an examination will not be given additional time

# Student Council Valentines Day on 14th February

The Secondary Student Council has charity arranged event for Valentines Day. All learners can wear non-uniform and make a small financial contribution the to student council charity. Also cakes and flowers will be on sale during break and lunch time.



## **CAS Reflection**

#### Chanda Lee

Since picking up piano again I have continued with my weekly lessons. Each lesson I either continue a song I previously learnt or I start something new.

This year has been a bit different because of the amount of work I have had to do outside of school. Attending my piano lessons has sometimes been a problem because of meetings scheduled at the same time with other teachers. Another problem I have faced this year is with my theory because since starting my piano lessons years ago I never really focused on the theory aspect as much as I do now. I spend the last ten minutes every lesson doing theory and though I don't usually enjoy this part of my lesson I do realise that it is useful in the long run. I have really enjoyed learning how to play "If Ain't got you" by Alicia Keys.

Outside of school I practise as much as I can regardless of the amount of school work I have. I enjoy playing the songs I learn in my lesson for my parents at home. I feel like I am constantly developing new skills because I am always learning new things quite often.

I feel really happy with myself because I think I have made so much progress as a reflection of my learning.

#### Parents of Year 9 Langkawi Trip

Your child if coming on the trip to Langkawi (Tues 11th- Fri 14th Feb), we are meeting outside McDonalds in KLIA at 9am on Tues 11th February. Please ensure that vour son/daughter arrives on time with the relevant documentation to fly.

If you have any queries regarding this upcoming trip, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Jason or myself. If you child is not attending this trip, there is no school for them during this period. Those in boarding will have work to complete but will not attend school.

Kind regards, Leilah Zahedi



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# IB News and Information

The New Year got off to a great start with our first set of results. Four learners took Malay B in the November examination session and between them managed to average 6.25. Bear in mind that the top mark is 7 so this is a tremendous achievement.

Most IB examinations are sat in May and it is these that our year 13 learners are now preparing for. Mock examinations take place from 10th to 14th February and these should give useful guidance learners as to what areas they need to focus on to prepare for their final examinations. Following the issuing of reports on 21st February, the year 13 parent teacher conference will take place on the 5th March. The majority of coursework should be completed by now.

The Year 12s enjoyed a week of teambuilding, community service and physical activity in Sabah during the first week back to school. The experience was useful for them and I have received very complimentary feedback about how they all bonded as group.

I think by now the year 12s have realized that the IB programme is a demanding one and that each learner is required to personally engage with every aspect of it to achieve success. I hope that parents

and learners have had the opportunity to reflect on the progress reports handed out at the end of last term and managed to attend the parent teacher conference on 29th January. In many cases the comment 'could do better' applies and since the IB is such an intensive course there is no way that learners can leave their effort until next year. I would like to remind both teachers and learners that we have a full-time learning assistant Ms. Peg Flaherty who is available to assist learners with their studies. Please feel free to make an appointment with her to discuss any study problem you may have.

We are also looking forward to next year and have already been making plans to introduce the IB to our year 11s. Following the mock examinations and the parent teacher conference on February 19th I will be interviewing all year 11 learners to discuss plans for next year. There will be an IB options evening on Tuesday the 4th March at which I am hoping to get 100% attendance from this year's learners and parents. This should provide an opportunity for all to see the courses we are offering next year and ask subject teachers any questions. In response to rising demand we are planning on increasing the number of places available to 60 for next year's new IB learners.

One final date to put in your diary is May 23rd. We are having our very first IB graduation on that day and have already been making plans. It promises to be a historic and enjoyable event in the development of the IB programme at Nexus International School.

Embracing Diversity, Challenging Minds

## **Music News**

#### **Instrumental Lessons**

Invoices for this terms Instrumental Lessons are ready and should have been sent out to you already. Can I please ask you to pay them promptly. Can I please ask you to pay them promptly. If you are new to the school or have been here for a while and just want to try out playing an instrument, then please ask your parents to fill in the application form below:

https://sites.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/music-department/sign-up-for-instrumental-lessons

We still have got the following instruments to Loan To You Free of Charge, which will save you money on the start-up costs of learning an instrument. We have the following instruments: Flutes, alto saxes, clarinets, violins, cellos, trumpets and trombones.

#### **Music Technology Club**

The Music Technology Club is going strong with the first professional CD recording of Rasha and Norlisa in Y8. The CD/Track will be available in a couple of weeks and will be placed on the Music Department Website.

We are starting a NEW round of training for any learners who would like to be trained in how to use the recording studio. Anyone who would like to learn how a professional recording studio works, can join Mr Suneel and Mr Tim on Thursday lunchtimes at 1.15pm in the Recording Studio, 4th Floor. Please send us an email showing your interest in the NEW sessions starting in two weeks.

#### **Spring Concert**

This term sees the return of the Spring Concert on 12th March. The Spring Concert is designed to showcase the talents of Nexus musicians of Grade 5 standard and above, including the GCSE learners. The auditions for the Spring Concert will be held on 19th February, so please start practising now. Learners who audition in groups will be looked on favourably.

If you would like an audition for the Spring Concert then please email me here: <a href="mailto:costello.t@nexus.edu.my">costello.t@nexus.edu.my</a>

#### **Instrumental Reports**

All of the Instrumental Reports have now been written. They have been given out last week just in time for the Instrumental Parents' Evening on 18th February. If you have not received the Instrumental Report yet then please ask your son/daughter's instrumental teacher or email me for a copy: <a href="mailto:costello.t@nexus.edu.my">costello.t@nexus.edu.my</a>

#### **Instrumental Parents' Evening**

The Music Department's 'Instrumental Parents' Evening' will be held on Tuesday 18th February from 4pm to 6pm in the MPR. Letters will be sent home this weeks with all learners who have instrumental lessons detailing the arrangements for the Parents' Evening. Please respond to the letter and request an appointment time with your son/daughter's instrumental teacher in the next week. If you have not recieved an invitation letter then please click here and return it to the Music Deaprtment ASAP: Click the link below for Invitation Letter to Instrumental Parents' Evening 2014

https://docs.google.com/document/d/156fKMq-KYzQ8IUJLI0Wisk8arHLrBEDis-SW5jImQOs/edit?pli=1

Hopefully you will have received their Instrumental Report beforehand and it will be an opportunity for you to discuss their progress with their teacher. If you have not received the Instrumental Report yet then please ask your son/daughter's instrumental teacher or email me for a copy: <a href="mailto:costello.top">costello.top</a> exus.edu.my

I will also be on hand for the whole Parents' Evening if you have any larger questions.

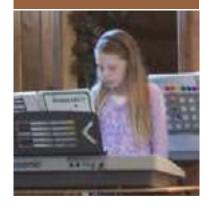
#### **Dates For Your Diaries**

3rd Feb	Instrumental Reports should be with all parents
18th Feb	Instrumental Parents' Evening - 4pm to 6pm in MPR
19th Feb	Auditions for Senior Spring Concert
20th Feb	KS4 & 5 Drama Production
12th March	Senior Spring Concert
9th & 10th April	Bugsy Malone - The Musical

#### Why Study Music?

Benefits of Music Education: 5 Reasons to Play a Musical Instrument:

http://musiced. about.com/od/ beginnersguide/a/ pinst.htm



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### **Drama News**

#### **IGCSE Drama / IBDP Theatre Showcase**



Rehearsals are getting intensive now as we enter the final two weeks of preparation for the Showcase. This is the highlight of our IGCSE / IBDP learners' performing lives - please come to support them! Learners aged 13 and above, and friends and family members, are invited to join us for an evening of scripted and devised pieces which are guaranteed to get people talking. It's an ideal chance for Year 9 learners who are about to make their Options choices to see first-hand what happens on our Drama course.

Travel to an unfamiliar Venice with a group of teenagers from the UK, witness the fallout of a crumbling South American dictatorship and a woman who will stop at nothing for revenge, discover what happens when a girl from the past gets caught up in the lives of everyday students, and try your hand at becoming a spect-actor in our Forum Theatre pieces...there's something for everyone!

Please note that due to the mature content and strong language used in some of the pieces, the Showcase is unsuitable for children below 13 years of age.

Tickets are available from Reception, priced RM10 for adults, RM5 for learners

#### **Bugsy Malone**

See the link below for the hilarious "production meeting" at which Ms Rach, ably assisted by her partners in crime Mr Tim, Mr Jason, Mr Paul and Mr Syahir, finally struck on the perfect splurging solution for 'Bugsy Malone'. It's all systems go! <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2X1pOAfFTuNTGhONWFZLWt3VjRwUjl2TVNFd3FKYnVLdjl3/edit?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2X1pOAfFTuNTGhONWFZLWt3VjRwUjl2TVNFd3FKYnVLdjl3/edit?usp=sharing</a>

We still assistance finding props and costumes - please take time to take a look at this list and let us know if you can help: <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/14nyvw00-OJoBGvGiahqQhwlJLobbbAqCCKjdb">https://docs.google.com/document/d/14nyvw00-OJoBGvGiahqQhwlJLobbbAqCCKjdb</a> DP A/edit?usp=sharing



CASTING

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR TWO CHILD ACTORS BETWEEN 4YRS-11YRS TO STAR IN OUR SHOW! THEY WILL BE PLAYING THE EMPERORS SON AND DAUGHTER IN THE STORY OF MARCO POLO IN THE COURTS OF KUBLAI KHAN!

CHANCE TO WORK WITH SOME OF THE TOP PRODUCERS & DIRECTORS IN HOLLYWOOD!

THE BIGGEST SHOW TO EVER BE FILMED IN MALAYSIA - DON'T MISS OUT!

WHERE: PINEWOOD STUDIOS JOHOR

WHEN: MAY - AUGUST 2014 (WE WILL ONLY NEED THEM 3-4 DAYS PER MONTH)

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT JESSICA +6012-206-1124 OR +607-560-1837 OR JESSICA.CASTING@GMAIL.COM OR VISIT JESSICA JOHOR ON FACEBOOK!