

# CONNECT 07

09 Oct Issue, Term 1 (2015-2016)

Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds.

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA



**NEXUS**  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL  
PUTRAJAYA



# Contents

## **Notices**

**03** Notices

## **Primary News**

- 05** Year 6 Water Cycle Stop Animation
- 06** Year 1, 2 and 3 Spanish assessment
- 07** Year 6 Parent Workshop

## **Secondary News**

- 09** Roots and Shoots for Year 9
- 10** CAS Reflection

## **Nexus Sports Teams News**

- 12** U15 Girls Volleyball @ ISKL Ampang  
U11 Girls Basketball @ IGB
- 13** U11 Boys Basketball @ IGB International School

## **Boarders'**

- 15** Boarders' Blog
- 

# Highlights

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## ▶ Notices:

**Next Week: HOLIDAY for half term.**

### **Week beginning 19.10.15**

#### **Tuesday**

Year 2 trip to the butterfly park

#### **Wednesday**

Primary Swimming Gala at AISM

### **Future Dates for your diary**

#### **Taylor's Games**

Thursday 5th November

### **Please note the dates for the Swimming Galas have changed:**

#### **MP1**

Monday 16th November - 8.30am until 11.30am

#### **MP2**

Wednesday 18th November - 8.30am until 11.30am

#### **MP3**

Thursday 19th November - 8.30am until 10.00am.

#### **EY**

Wednesday 25th November – 'Open' swimming lessons and fun session.



# Primary

# Year 6 Water Cycle Stop Animation

Bringing Learning to Life!



In Year 6 we have been learning all about the water cycle in our IPC lessons. We always like to try and make our learning feel more real and we always try to bring our learning to life! We observed evaporation (Mr. Tom using his hairdryer), condensation (Mr. Dave using a kettle and a cool surface) and transpiration (by putting a bag over a pot plant) in-real life situations.

Mr. Graeme came to Year 6 on Monday and Wednesday of this week to show us how to use stop animation on the iPads. This was a very effective way of showing how water moves around the water cycle. Thanks for all your time, Mr. Graeme!

During these lessons we learned all about the water cycle, including some very long science words like transpiration, condensation, evaporation and precipitation! Some of us used these words in our spelling lessons!

Cooperation was a VERY important part of learning during these days. Without being able to work as a team we couldn't have completed our videos because everyone had such an important role in the group.

What fun, rigorous and effective learning in Year 6!

**David Hinsley**  
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# Year 1, 2 and 3 Spanish assessment

## Singing numbers and colours



Years 1 , 2 and 3 Spanish learners have been doing their Spanish Assessment this week.

In order to assess the learner's knowledge of the numbers and colours they were ask to sing a song with the gestures indicating the meaning.

In the process of creating the assessments learners needed to collaborate with each other using their ipads to record each other. Related to ICT they recorded using camera and then they learned how to air drop their videos to me.

We had fun singing together while learning and preparing for the assessment!



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# Year 6 Parent Workshop

## Digital Responsibility

The school is currently working with a variety of schools in South East Asia to research the topic of Digital Responsibility. When, as a school, we talk about being responsible whilst using technology we are looking at:

- Privacy and Security
- Building a positive online presence
- Internet Safety
- Self image and identity
- Digital Distraction

As part of the school's ongoing research we ran a very successful workshop with the Year 6 Parents. We discussed the findings of our research, along with details of the lessons we will be teaching regarding digital responsibility. In addition to this we discussed how we use technology both at school and at home and the implications that this has on family life.

Some of the learners from Year 6 also helped with our research and you can view their insights in technology and how it is used at school and at home on the links below. A big thank you to the learners concerned for sharing their insights for the benefit of our community.

<https://goo.gl/wM70SH> - Video of Year 6 learners thoughts on Digital Distraction

<https://goo.gl/jbj6O8> - Copy of the Presentation used at the workshop for you to view.

[www.commonsemmedia.org](http://www.commonsemmedia.org) - As a school, we will be working with some of materials suggested at this site. This is also an excellent resource as a parent to get guidance on questions that you may have regarding technological use at home.



# Secondary



# Roots and Shoots for Year 9

## Endangered Animals

The Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoot Organisation recently devised a project to help conserve and protect the critically endangered Orangutans, Asian Elephants and the Green Turtles that inhabit across South East Asia. These animals are waning at a shocking rate due to deforestation and waste dumping. Part of the organisation's project was to spread awareness of the crucial importance of protecting critically endangered wildlife by holding an artwork exhibition featuring sculptures, paintings and drawings at Berjaya Times Square, in March 2016. These artworks will be created by students from 12 participating schools in Malaysia.

On Thursday, 1st of October, Year 9 had the opportunity to partake in a sculptural workshop hosted by The Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots Organisation with the help of Orangutan Appeal UK. This workshop was to show us ways to create sculptures of the targeted animals, made out of waste products and materials.

At the start of the workshop, artist, conservationist and the ambassador of Orangutan Appeal UK, Jacha Potgieter, and the Roots and Shoots Project Manager, Jyunichi Washizaki gave a sterling presentation about the importance of these critically endangered animals, the plight that the animals are in and also about deforestation, mainly focusing on the Orangutans. They showed us videos and documentaries about these animals and what is being done to help them.

We were then taught how to create sculptures using waste products such as plastic bottles, cardboard boxes, newspaper and much more. We were shown different ways to bind materials, as well as ways to build the internal framework of the sculpture so that it looked close to the animal. After that, we got into groups and started making our own animal sculptures.

Before the workshop ended, three of us decided to become journalists because we had an opportunity to interview Mr. Jacha Potgieter. We asked him his insights and what he believed would happen. Mr. Potgieter said: "I became a conservationist because of my love for animals. You have to start somewhere. I am also an optimistic person, so I believe that you students can be successful in saving and conserving our animals."

He also said:

"If these animals go extinct, the future generation will never be able to know what these animals looked like, they would not know how an orangutan behaved."

Mr. Potgieter also believes that a way to conserve and save these animals is to replant trees, and have sustainable palm oil fields which would lead to a better future.

Throughout the day, it was exciting, it taught the Year 9s the importance of these animals, it gave us a better understanding of these animals and their current plight. We learnt many new skills about sculpturing using waste materials. It was an extremely enjoyable workshop.

"You kids and students are the future, this will mainly affect your generation, but I believe you guys can do it, you guys can save the environment" -Jacha Potgieter

**Jing Hui, Yuan Sheng and Terence**  
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# CAS Reflection




Starting Nexus Community, I thought to myself, Nishi what are you doing? What are you putting yourself through? You hate kids, why do this? I convinced myself that providing a service towards these unprivileged Myanmar Learners, even though the thought of being able to get along with them was totally bizarre, was a good way to devote my time. This is a new role as I have never been in a position where I must be patient and engage with kids and actually genuinely get to know them. I have never really been a “kids person” as I did not have the patience, and so nexus community will hopefully allow me to become one. Also it is new because I must definitely consider the ethical implications of my actions around them, and provide a good example for them to follow so they can grow to be good individuals because right now they do not have their families to provide that example for them.

The first activity that I was lead was Just Dance, an interactive, minimal effort physical activity to be performed in a classroom. I personally enjoy dance and felt that it would satisfy the young learner’s energy frenzies. I had to consider each song I was subscribing to the activity as I needed to gauge on the response of the learners to certain types of music, ie: I knew The Rolling Stones would probably not strike the same chord as Taylor Swift. When the activity started, the learners were enchanted by the graphics and participated enthusiastically alongside flailing team mates (the boys less so than the girls admittedly). However, I

noticed the learners grew tired of the activity halfway through which reminded of the cons of short attention spans. This was coupled with technical issues faced with the equipment. From this, I learned to avoid dependency on technology as although attention-grabbing and instantly stimulating does not offer the same authentic interactions that other activities might.

An example of this would be an ill-organised day in the field. The session was supposedly dedicated to a game of Softball and Baseball but due to the overbearing language barrier, the instructions of the game was impossible to communicate to reach a level of proficiency in the game. Nonetheless, the session was spent well because we found the learners fully capable of entertaining themselves- they soon resorted to an excited session of flower-picking while the boys had one-on-one tackle sessions with some of my teammates. This session contrasted with the one I organised greatly because it relied on the energy of the present moment alone, it showed me how sometimes, it’s the simplest moments that amount to the most meaningful. This session was also significant to me because it was when I fully realised by attachment to one of the learners- Eliyana. We would have little conversations that ran on sign language and share laughter about the frequent silliness of the boys. It was surprising to me because I don’t usually get along with kids of that age and that was when I was suddenly aware of my progress of patience.

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# Sport News



# U15 Girls Volleyball @ ISKL Ampang

October 6th 2015

Our U15 Girls Volleyball team had their final matches of the tournament on Tuesday.

We went with a small team of 6 this week. The first match was against Sunway International School (SIS) and we started on a low, there was a little motivation and movement on court which lead to the girls losing in two games to SIS.

After a much needed talk, the girls started playing Volleyball, they listened and acted upon the advice, moving to meet the ball and supporting each other at every opportunity in the two matches that we had left. We played against ISKL Blue firstly, only just losing out in the third game 15-13, the pressure was too much, but the girls remained positive. A special mention to Dania for really motivating and helping the girls throughout the game. Isabel's attacking at the net was much improved, Stella and Suraya's setting at the net was superb. Emily and Intan showed great improvement throughout the afternoon supporting their team when help was called.



Overall, the girls played well showed clear progression as the matches went on and I hope that they can continue to do this when the KLISS competitions are in full swing.

Well done Girls!

**Miss Gemma**  
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Sport Fixtures Schedule  
PE Department Website  
Primary PE Website

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## U11 Girls Basketball @ IGB

Wednesday 7th October 2015



On Wednesday the U11 Girls Basketball team played in their first tournament of the season after the friendly game last week. The team played three separate games against KTJ, HELP and TISKL. The team showed excellent knowledge of the rules of the game, good teamwork and defence throughout. Special mention to Mya for some great shooting.

Well done to the following learners;  
Arianne  
Humayra  
Adilah  
Rinka  
Adeena  
Tirah  
Xuen  
Jeeahn  
Mya  
Aminah

The scores for the games were;

KTJ 4 - 16 Nexus  
Nexus 14 - 18 HELP  
Nexus 2 - 14 TISKL

**Miss Grace**  
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PE Department Website  
Primary PE Website



# U11 Boys Basketball @ IGB International School

October 7th 2015



Our U11 Boys had their first league game away at IGB International School this week, they had three games to play, ISP, Taylor's and KTJ.

The boys first game was against KTJ and the boys started very strong, marking well, snatching the ball, closing the attackers down and literally flying around the court. There were some great baskets scored, a rebound from Aidil, lay ups under control from Kasper and a three pointer from Aqeel. The game finished with Nexus winning 18-5.

Our second game was a much closer match throughout, equaling points almost all the way through, but as we tired in the last few minutes too many shooting fouls against Taylor's gave them the opportunity to move ahead and win the match 17-14.

The final game was against ISP and this is always a closely fought match, with ISP having some very talented young players. They went ahead 8-0 in the first 4 minutes of the match and this meant that we had to work harder, defend tighter, protect the ball and steal at every opportunity! The final score was 14-8.

A massive well done to all of the boys that took part.

What a great start to the Basketball season!!

**Miss Gemma**  
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**Sport Fixtures Schedule**  
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# Boards,





# Boarders' Blog

October 7th 2015



Last Saturday, the boarders went out to Jumpstreet and had loads of fun. All of us got at least a turn in participating in a variety of activities such as backflipping at the foam pit, bouncing at the high performance trampoline, playing dodgeball at the dodgeball trampoline and more! It was great fun to be able to spend quality time with each other whilst being able to enjoy the privilege of exercising at the same time. I think Jumpstreet was a great activity which allowed us to maintain our health with some exercise whilst having an awesome time.

**Dhrrithi Patel**  
Year 10

