

CONNECT 10

06 Nov Issue, Term 1 (2015-2016)

Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds.

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA



NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

PUTRAJAYA



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Primary

EY go shopping!



Last week, as part of our Entry point the EY parents joined us for a morning of shopping!

In preparation the learners used their imagination and developing phonic knowledge to write fruit related shopping lists.

In small groups, we worked on our understanding of money. Using magnifying glasses, categorising and making rubbings of coins.

While this was happening our MPR was transformed into a mini market by our wonderful EY parents.

The learners had a fantastic time looking for the items on their lists and finding the correct coins to pay. Our parents were great shop keepers and really challenged the learners with their questions.

Once all the items were sold our learners returned to class to make fruit kebabs and create their own roleplay supermarket in class.

We would like to thank all of the parents involved, this was a great learning experience for all involved.

Amy
Early Years
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Year 6 Art Jamming

Whole Day Entry Point for 'Artist's Impressions'

On Tuesday, Year 6 kicked-off their 'Artist's Impressions' IPC unit with a whole-day entry point about art! This was a fantastic opportunity to get even more excited about art than we already were!

We had three completely different artistic experiences including digital art, collage and Art Jamming! All of our masterpieces from the entry point and from throughout the unit will be displayed for all to see as part of our exit point in December.

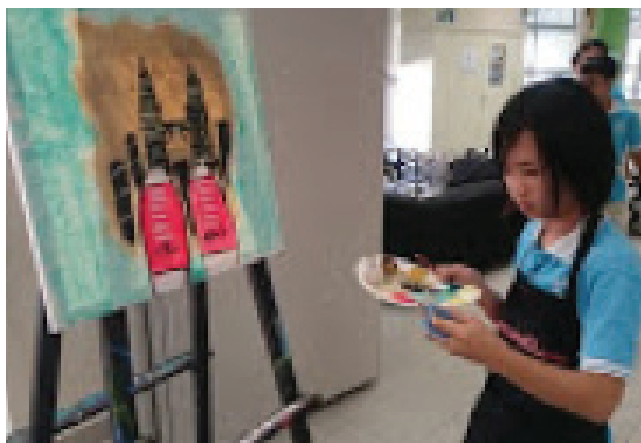
The 'Studio at KL' came to school to help us with Art Jamming! This was a chance for us to plan a piece of art and then create it using proper artist's materials such as a canvas, an easel, oil paints and brushes. This was a lot of fun and we learnt many new techniques that we can use in the future.

All of us are now very excited about the new unit and we can't wait to be creative!

Year 6 Teachers

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Secondary

Y13 Alien Design

Alien Ideas Wanted from the Nexus community please



Akila in Year 13 is a Visual Arts learner who is currently creating art work for her finals in 2016. Her topic is Science Fiction and as part of her coursework she has created a design for a sculpture of an Alien. You may all think that this is an easy thing to design and make, yet it is quite difficult because all of our ideas are connected to planet earth. To think of designing an original Alien from another planet is difficult because we automatically base it upon our own experiences and environment. This is why Akila would like to gather ideas from as many sentient beings (ie: you guys) as possible. This is like market research, where your ideas can help her to plan for a finer finish to her Alien.

Akila says, " This sculpture that I have produced is an Alien bust, based upon an Octopus. It's a piece for my subject in Visual Arts and my theme is on Science Fiction. Right now, the sculpture is 80% finished, but I need ideas from you all.....Help!! I would really appreciate it. X."

Please email, or chat to Akila about how she may finish her Alien Octopus design. You may come and see it in the secondary art studio, (room 122) where it will be waiting for you!

Many thanks in advance.

Mauro Brooks
Akila Ayatillah
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SMART PHONES OR NOT SO SMART PHONES

Bus and train trips, be they long or simply those infrequent ones to any airport, offer reprieve for reflection and introspection. On my recent trip to the airport in Bangkok, coming away from the EARCOS Leadership Conference, I found myself thinking back over the stirring discussion and fascinating research that had been presented by a number of speakers.

The workshops and lectures ran the gamut of topics from examples of practices on developing powerful Professional Learning Communities, Intercultural Mindedness, Quality Assessment and Review, Induction Programmes and Student Mobility.

There was a speaker, however, to whom my thoughts frequently returned. Her presentation related to the Digital Age and Globalisation; more specifically how our neurology is affected through our use of technology and, more profoundly, how this in turn impacts on our psychological well being and sociology.

Dr Catherine Steiner-Adair is Clinical instructor in the Dept. of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and an Associate Psychologist at McLean Hospital. As keynote speaker at this year's EARCOS Conference, she certainly reinforced what many of us have suspected about our addiction to technology.

Do you, for example, find yourself constantly checking if your handphone is ringing, mistaking someone else's phone ring for yours and reach for it? Or have it in your hand when you walk around the house? Or take an iPad to the toilet? Do you ask family or friends you may be physically speaking with to "just hang on a minute" when your phone interrupts conversation at dinner? In restaurants? At meetings?

Parental 'disconnect' due to digital distractions, Steiner-Adair suggests, can have a lasting effect on their children. Texting, she suggested, is now the number one means of communication between parents and their teens!

Our children too have not only embraced the technological age, but frequently out-master many adults with their prowess. Doubtless you may recall asking your son or daughter for assistance when your laptop doesn't work properly. Similarly you will know the difficulty, or even recall futile attempts, to interrupt your child/teen's own texting, updating social media, X-box sessions, Minecrafting, or other such uses of technology.

Steiner-Adair's research proves that we are now seeing the emergence of behaviour that mimics the patterns other addictions manifest in the brain. Digital connections often take priority in our lives. When you find yourself disabled or 'disconnected' without your phone your brain builds and reinforces neurological pathways that are akin to addictions. A battle between the amygdala and pre-frontal cortex takes place which then leads to anxiety, stress and ultimately to dysfunction.

Language too is hijacked; LOL, YOLO, THX, BTW, and the prevalent emojis are so succinct and offer rapidity of "conversations". More potently, they eschew unnecessary nuances of tone or colour and it is this, Steiner-Adair warns, that is the "slippery slope" to the loss of emotional and social intelligences. Our confidence and ability to socialize face-to-face is becoming increasingly difficult. "Addicted" children often have difficulty explaining their ideas fully, struggle holding conversations of depth and length, or even maintaining eye contact with others. Our connectedness is becoming increasingly superficial and our humanity has become the victim.

In school and at home we need to be more attentive and ensure that digital communications do not overtake personal communications. We need to ensure that the spin-offs and advantages of technology are weighed carefully when we design learning at school or decide how we will use those technologies in our families.

What can you take from this and apply to your family life and your own interactions? Perhaps you already use a no-phone rule at family dinners? Is there an age below which you would not let your child have a smart-phone? Do you talk with your child more by email, text, WhatsApp, WeChat or face-to-face? The message is simple: children need human connections in order thrive.

by Denise Hilliger

CAS REFLECTION

From this activity, I learnt how to be more organised and understand the role of a librarian. This is the very first time I have ever become a library volunteer and I think this activity is one of the activities I am most proud of due to being punctual and finishing my tasks in time. I learnt that there are a lot of background work because for years now, I always thought that the library would get books only if people give them but it turns out, there is a process of coding/listing the books down, making sure all of the books are in order.

So far from this activity, I feel that I have gained a new skill especially in terms of organization and gained a lot of patience. As someone who somewhat has trouble in organizing herself in general, learning to organize the books, contributing to finding out the codes of what books and listing books down really gave me a new experience. I was always curious about what librarians would do in the library other than scan the books but there are actually a lot more tasks to be done other than scanning them.

I joined this activity because I wanted to contribute to arranging books and also learn how a librarian works. I haven't done much with arranging the books but I 'did' help with coding the books. Which was quite time consuming but then I gained a new skill which was searching the books online and finding the codes and plugging it into a document.

I did this to help my supervisor who is a librarian and from this, it helps her add more books to the library by ordering it online. The coding has to be completely right and the steps needs to be crucial because one wrong number could affect the type of book that is needed to be ordered. Most of the books that I found are more for teenagers which I think encourages the students from secondary to the higher years to read more, and since the books are of new titles, they made attract the students' attention.

The learning outcomes for me are show perseverance and commitment, which I did by spending so many hours on coding and arranging some books. Another learning outcome is develop new skills and this comes from the coding I did that helps Ms Rashmi (my supervisor/librarian) figure out which books to order.

Today, the 7th of January which is the first day of school after the winter break, I've continued to do my library cas activity again and this has been awhile since I've done my last session because of how hectic or busy I was. Instead of looking for books and marking them electronically for Ms Rashmi, this time I've only arranged some books for an hour.



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Halloween Dance



HANNA MOHD RIZAL, YEAR 10 (secretary of the Events Council)

The Halloween Dance was considered a success with the cooperation from PTA and the Fundraising Council. Thoroughly planned, the members who stayed back started decorating right away to prepare for the dance during the night. The food committee ordered more than enough food for the guests and once it was decorated beautifully, it was time for the dance. After dinner, everyone went to the gym and thus the party has begun. After some Rihanna and other artists, it was time for the game. Two learners from Year 10 and Year 11 competed against each other in a donut eating game. Whoever eats the whole donut from the string wins. Aidan and Adlina versus Ash and Lakshman. It was an intense game with the Year 11's donut falling to the floor (yes, they still tried to eat it) but in the end, the Year 10s won.

Congratulations Aidan and Adlina!

It was time for one of the many activities that we looked forward to, the haunted house. Guests only had to pay RM5 and they could only go in 2 or 3 at a time. Let's just say that we heard some thrilling screams from the "manly" guys. The haunted house was a success and a wonderful contribution to the 24 Hour Run Charity Event.



By 10pm we played some childhood High School Musical songs and slow dance songs, thus ending the night.

Congratulations to Vicky from Year 11 for winning the Best Costume Prize!

AIMAN FIKRI, YEAR 12 (head of Events Council)

The Halloween Dance last Friday served as a time for the students in KS4 to unwind and have fun with their friends after long weeks of school. Our DJ played the latest tunes and watching the students sweat and dance, enjoying themselves was truly enlightening.

Little did they know about the work that was put into the whole project. Planning started weeks before the date of the actual event, and after a timely approval process, we only managed to proceed with our promotions and advertising a week prior to the dance. The event council's independent members worked hard and vigorously setting up decorations, designing games and competitions as well as organising foods and beverages on the day. Needless to say, the student community owe their thanks to these members.

Down by the multi purpose room, the fundraising council also set up a haunted house, as additional entertainment for the guests. The haunted house received rave reviews and it was clear that many students were scared witless!

In honour of Halloween,

The Events Council



Of Symphonies and Sighs

Mozart in Paris by the Malaysian Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (MPYO)

The appreciative applause from the audience echoed in my ears as the conductor took his bows again and again while the orchestra members grinned our heads off. The concert by the Malaysian Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (MPYO) was over. It was a success. And I was happy to have some of my teachers from Nexus sitting in the audience.

We had started rehearsing the repertoire 2 months prior every Saturday from 10am-3.30pm, which then culminated in a concert last Sunday, 1st of November, in Dewan Filharmonik Petronas.

When I walked into the practice room for the first rehearsal, I was met by a sea of new faces. Most of the members were new, myself included, having just passed the recent round of auditions. Unsure of what to do, we stood awkwardly near the doorway, some looking around nervously. The older members, who've been with the orchestra before - some for years, welcomed us with friendly smiles, putting us at ease immediately.

We were then given the repertoire for this concert - Sospiri by Edward Elgar, Symphony No.31 in D by Mozart, and Symphony No.6 in C by Schubert. The music looked daunting on the stands. Soon after, a svelte young man pranced into the room, his face all smiles. He greeted us with a smile, and introduced himself as Ciaran McAuley, our conductor. Our tutors were the members of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra. For the next 2 months, the conductor and tutors launched us into a world of musical wonders.

Despite having experienced playing in an orchestra before, it was my first time playing such big and lengthy symphonic works. Playing serious repertoire non-stop for 2 hours was also a new experience for me, and one that I slowly got used to over the weeks of practice.

During the weekly rehearsals, I got to make new friends with a similar love for music. I am happy and proud to be given an opportunity to train under the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra players. I am definitely looking forward to the camp in December, which will culminate in another concert, playing alongside the members of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra.

Ericia Chang

11N

www.nexus.edu.my



Grease the Musical - CHANGE OF DATES!



Sadly due to the haze days and the many school closures, we have missed too many important Grease rehearsals. As such, the Senior Management Team and the Performing Arts Team have made the hard decision that it is necessary to postpone the final performance of Grease until New Year as we will not put anything on stage that is not up to the high standards expected at Nexus.

As such here are the new Grease **performance dates**:

- **Wednesday 20th January - Opening Night - Performance 7pm Theatre**
- **Thursday 21st January - Performance 7pm Theatre**

Dates For Your Diaries

Wednesday 11th November
Tuesday 17th November
Wednesday 2nd December
Thursday 3rd December
Monday 14th December
Wednesday 20th January
Thursday 21st December
Wednesday 27th January
Thursday 28th January
Tuesday 16th February
Thursday 25th February
Wednesday 2nd March
Wednesday 23rd March


Y11 Drama Production - Lunctime in the Drama Studio
Y10 Drama Production - 11.40am in the Drama Studio
EY-Y2 Young Nexus' Got Talent
Nexus' Got Talent (Y3+) - 7pm in the Theatre
Primary Christmas Show
Grease the Musical - 7pm in the Theatre
Grease the Musical - 7pm in the Theatre
Y4 Primary Showcase
Y9 Drama Showcase – “The Container” by Clare Bayley - 7pm in the Theatre
KS4 & 5 Musical Recitals - 7pm in the Theatre
Y10 & 12 Drama Showcase - 7pm in the Theatre
Y3 Primary Showcase
Senior Spring Concert - 7pm in the Theatre

Why Study Music?

Jamming with your toddler: how music trumps reading for childhood development



<http://thespoke.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/jamming-with-your-toddler-how-music-trumps-reading-for-childhood-development/>



PE & Health

U11 Boys Basketball

31st October 2015

The boys had their final basketball tournament of the season at an invitational at ISKL School, Ampang.

It was a tough afternoon with some very good basketball being played. Our first game was against ISKL A team, the boys played really well as a team and had to work for longer than they were used to with 17 minute games. Both Kasper and Muhammad scored a basket each, ending the game ISKLA 8 - 4 Nexus.

Our second game was against KLASS B team, it was a very close game throughout, our defence had improved and the boys were communicating more with each other. After keeping the score at 4-4 for most of the game, KLASS B scored a basket in the final minute, finishing off at 6-4.

In order to get through to the semi-final stage, the boys needed to score at least 30 points in their final game against ELC, this was always going to be tough, but the boys really tried hard and improved their attack massively. Most of the team got a basket in before the end of the tournament, with Nexus beating ELC 18-6.

ISKL A 8 - 4 Nexus

KLASS B 6 - 4 Nexus

ELC 6 - 18 Nexus

A massive well done to all of the boys involved and also a big thank you to those parents that came to support our team!!

Miss Gemma

Year 6

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Sport Fixtures Schedule

PE Department Website

Primary PE Website



Primary Swim Gala

Inter House Swimming

Our annual Swim galas will be taking place in two weeks time, week beginning November 16th 2015.

All learners have signed up to their events in PE lessons, we have races to cater for all levels.

All parents and guardians are more than welcome to come along and support our learners in their Inter House Swimming gala.

Hopefully see you at the pool for a 9am start!

PE Team.

PE & Sport

Year 1-6

craker.g@nexus.edu.my

[Sport Fixtures Schedule](#)

[PE Department Website](#)

[Primary PE Website](#)

MP 1 : MONDAY 16TH NOVEMBER
MP2 : WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
MP3 : THURSDAY 19TH NOVEMBER



PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Nexus' Got Talent - Thursday 3rd December 2015 - 7pm in the Theatre



VERY YOUNG Nexus' Got Talent (for EY to Y2 Learners) - Wednesday 2nd December 2015 - 11.40am in the Theatre

On Wednesday 2nd December at 11.40am in the Nexus Theatre we will be hosting our Very Young Nexus' Got Talent for our Early Years to Year 2 learners. There will be no auditions as it is not a competition and we want all learners to take part.

Composer's Concert 26th November - 1.15pm in the Dance Studio on 4th Floor

On Thursday 26th November at 1.15pm our GCSE and IB Music learners will be performing the compositions that have been written over the last year. If you want to hear some amazing new works written by very talented young musicians then please pop in to listen.

No tickets are needed but please arrive at 1pm so that we can seat you before the start so as not to disturb the performances mid-flow.

WANTED! - Vespa motorbike to borrow for 8 days for Grease the Musical in January

If any has or has access to a very smart looking Vespa motorbike that we can borrow for 8 days in January to place on stage for our production of Grease the Musical. The bike will not be ridden and will be locked away at all times when not in use.

WANTED! - Old, Scrap motorbike to borrow for 8 days for Grease the Musical in January

If any has or has access to a very old looking, possibly scrap motorbike that we can borrow for 8 days in January to place on stage for our production of Grease the Musical. The bike will not be ridden and will be locked away at all times when not in use.

Sign-up for Instrumental/Voice Lessons for Term 2

Sign-Up on line here:

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

N.B. This is only for learners who want to start new lessons - All previous lessons will continue automatically unless we are advised with a 6 weeks notice period for cancellation.

The school will provide/loan, **free of charge**, the following instrument: Trumpets, Trombones, Flutes, Clarinets, Saxophones, Violins, Violas, Cellos and Double Bases.

Timetables for Instrumental Lessons

If you want to find out the time of your Instrumental/Vocal lessons then please look on the Music Department Website here:

<https://sites.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/music-department/instrumental-timetables>

U11 Girls Basketball

31st October 2015



On Saturday 31st October the U11 Girls Basketball team were up bright and early to play in their final tournament of the season at ISKL. This was an ISAC tournament against KLASS, ISKL and Mutiara School.

The first game was against KLASS A team. This was a tough game but the team persevered throughout, improving on their defence and communication as the game went on. The next two games were against ISKL B team and then Mutiara School. The girls really improved their game showing excellent teamwork and performed some fantastic shots throughout the games resulting in two wins for Nexus.

Nexus had two wins and one loss meaning they did not go straight through to the semi-finals. However, there was a wild card entry for one team from all four pools with the most points which went to Nexus. Nexus played two more games against the top teams and finished 4th overall out of 12 teams. A brilliant result for the team and well deserved.

The final scores were;

KLASS v Nexus - 20-4
ISKL v Nexus - 8-12
Nexus v Mutiara - 22-0

Congratulations to Saturday's team for all their hard work and commitment this term;

Mya
Xuen
Arianne
Humayra
Adilah
Jeeahn
Deena
Aminah

Miss Grace

Year 6

www.nexus.edu.my

Sport Fixtures Schedule

PE Department Website

Primary PE Website



U9 Girls Benchball

2nd November 2015



On Wednesday 2nd November the U9 Girls Benchball team played in their final tournament of the season. There were three games in total against BSKL, Tenby and TISKL.

There was some tough competition but the girls kept their spirits high and scored some brilliant goals. It was great to see the whole team improve from game to game, particularly the way they worked together and communicated with one another.

Special mention goes to Mina and Xiang Qin for some fantastic shots and passes. Nexus finished 4th overall out of 8 teams.

Well done to the following learners for all their hard work;

Farzana
Mina
Xuen
Huda
Anis
Xiang Qin
Rachel
Melissa
Alissa
Arissa
Dina

Miss Grace
Year 4
www.nexus.edu.my
Sport Fixtures Schedule
PE Department Website
Primary PE Website

U13 Football

2nd November

thank
you!

Another washout for the U13 boys and Girls football finals this week! Both teams travelled all the way to BSKL only to be greeted with booming thunder and sharp cracks of lightning.

It's been a frustrating term for this particular age group as they have seen the majority of their tournaments postponed due to inclement weather so I just wanted to say from the all of the PE team a big thank you for continuing to have faith.

The rescheduled finals are set for the 13th November at Nexus.

Mr Andy
Year 7 and 8
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Sport Fixtures Schedule
PE Department Website
Primary PE Website

Sports Fixtures Coming soon

9th November

With the Primary KLISS leagues and the majority of the secondary football completed for term 1 we have a quieter week ahead.

Wednesday 11th November

Primary Swim Gala at AISM - leave at 2pm

Thursday 12th November

U18 Boys Basketball at ISKL - leave at 2.30pm

Friday 13th November

U13 Boys Football Finals at Nexus - Kick-off 3.30pm

Please see the Sports Fixtures calendar below for up-to-date information regarding schedules, times and venues.

Mr Andy
Year 6, 7 and 8
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www.nexus.edu.my
Sport Fixtures Schedule
PE Department Website
Primary PE Website

KLISS X-Country Hosted by Nexus

Nexus are hosting the annual KLISS X-Country event on Saturday 28th November from 7am until 12pm.

As always this is a very inclusive event and should be seen as an opportunity for you to either try a new activity, have fun with friends, or push to improve your personal best. Whatever reason you decide ultimately you will be representing Nexus and gaining points for our team. Every learner that runs will gain at least one point for the Nexus XC team and so your participation is very much needed.

What to do next?

Miss Gemma will be handling the sign-ups for primary learners. She will speak to you during your lessons and register learners that way.

For secondary learners, I will shortly be sending round a google doc for you to add names onto. By adding your name to the doc you are committing yourself to attending the event.

Once you have signed-up you should come and see a member of the PE dept for a Parental consent form. Please get this signed and returned to Mr Andy ASAP.

Outline of the day

All the details of the event can be found here

If you have any questions or queries please contact me on the email below

PE Dept

Year 3 to Year 13

smith.a@nexus.edu.my

Sport Fixtures Schedule

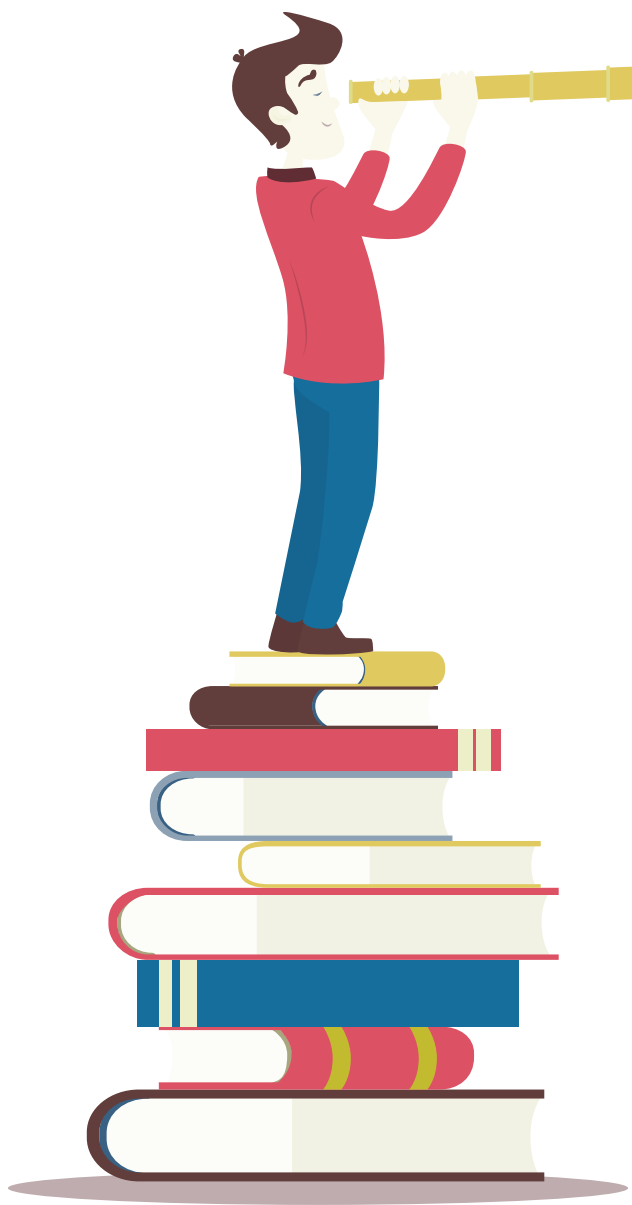
PE Department Website

Primary PE Website



Whole School





Book Covering **BLITZ**

Dear Parents,
Your help is needed to cover books.
please drop in anytime.

When: Tue 17 Nov

Anytime from 8.35am to 3.10pm

Where: Library @ Level 2

Himalayan Leadership & Adventure Camp

An amazing life changing opportunity
for Y7 -10 nexus learners

9 Days 8 Nights

**Thursday 24th March -
Saturday 1st April**

6650 RM Inclusive of all activities,
accommodation, transport, flights*
*at time of publication

Hiking
Wild Camping
Yoga
White water rafting
Leadership course
Cultural sites

More information:
<http://gg.gg/NexusIndiatripinfo>
<http://gg.gg/Himalayatrippromovideo>

**To register interest or for enquiries
please contact Miss Rachel in ICT
burtrand.r@nexus.edu.my**

Information parents meeting Thursday 12 November 8:30am & 3:30 pm MPR

Recycling News

Item	Kg
White paper	42.75
Colour paper (included magazine, newspaper, cardboard)	287.10
Clear plastic container	0.60
Colour plastic container	3.95
Clear plastic bag	1.85
Colour plastic bag	1.75
Aluminium can	0.35
Metal	2.8
TOTAL :	341.15

PLASTIC
includes #1-7 and thin-film plastics
please bundle plastic bags together when possible

ALUMINUM & TIN

PAPER
books, white/colored paper,
newspaper, magazines (Tape/staples OK)

GLASS

RECYCLE



Boards,

Boarders' Blog

6/11/15

Last Thursday we celebrated Halloween in the common room. We played two games, one was where we had to eat a donut hanging from a string without using hands and another one was making an Egyptian mummy out of toilet paper. Then we finished the night eating pizza.

Last Saturday we went to the aquarium near KLCC with Mr Alex. First we played a game and then we saw sharks, rays, piranhas, crabs, sea turtles and we also touched some fish.

On Wednesday three ladies came to boarding during prep to paint the hands of the girls. Some of the designs were amazing.

Jeffrey - Year 7

Movlamberdi - Year 8

