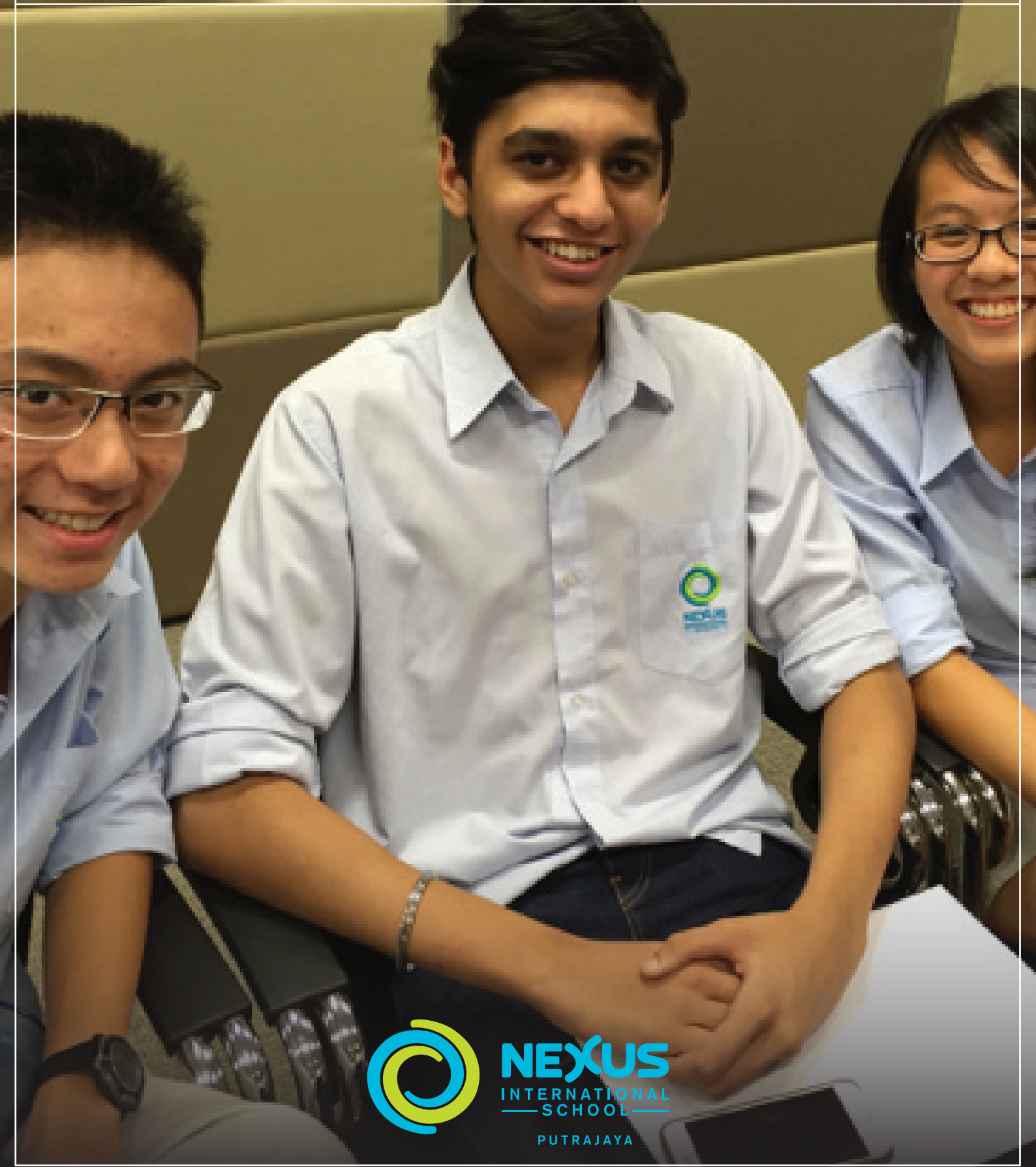


CONNECT 11

13 Nov Issue, Term 1 (2015-2016)

Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds.

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA



NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
PUTRAJAYA



Contents

Highlights

03 Coming up next week

Secondary News

05 Year 7 Shape to Form Still Life

06 Celebrating Effort

07 Creative Writing in Yr 9

08 Debate at SIS

09 Performing Arts News

PE & Health

13 Sports Fixtures Coming soon
KLISS U13 Girls Football - Cup Final

14 KLISS X-Country Hosted by NEXUS

15 Primary Swim Gala

Whole School

17 Library News

18 Girl Guides Bake Sale: Raising money for Mary



Highlights

▶ Coming up next week:

Sports

Monday 16th November

Secondary Swim Gala at SIS - leave at 2pm

Thursday 19th November

Primary Swim Gala at MKIS - leave at 2pm

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

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





Secondary

Year 7 Shape to Form Still Life

Painting techniques using grayscale

Year 7 learners are currently finishing their Shape and Form topics and have produced some interesting final responses. They were introduced to grayscale, and using their painting tools to create some interesting textures with their artwork.

A gray scale or value scale is a sequence of tones from light to dark that can be made between black and white (as the darkest and lightest tones respectively). A gray scale is a useful tool for learners to accurately judge the tone or value of the subject they're painting.

They later experimented using primary and secondary colours to create some creative monochromatic tones before planning their final responses for this topics.

Below are some of the learners final responses.

Artwork shared and created by Stella 7X, Andrea 7E, and Andrianna 7X.

Mauro Brooks and Saiful Ali Baki

Year 7

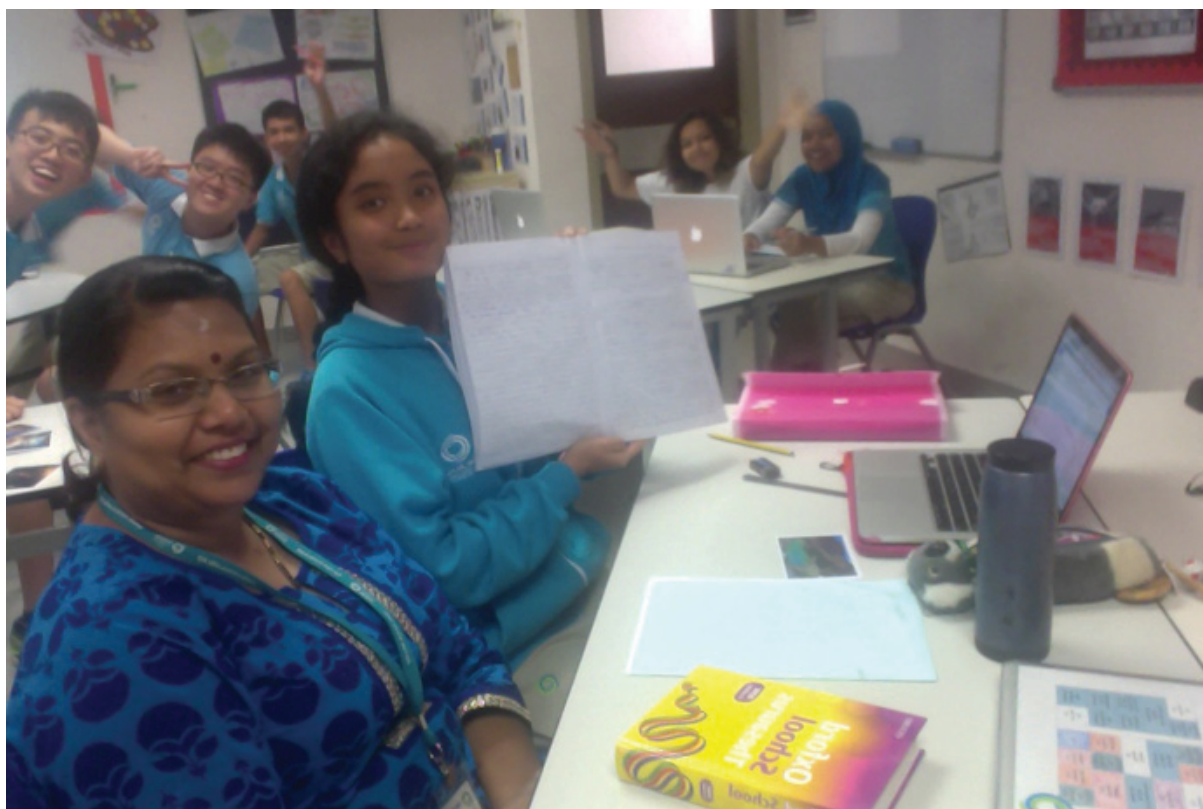
Alibaki.s@nexus.edu.my

www.nexus.edu.my



Celebrating Effort

What can 'effort' do for you?



As teachers, we are often amazed by what our learners can produce. Occasionally, we wish that they had made 'just that little bit more effort'. But, what do we mean by this elusive term, "effort"?

"Effort" can mean trying again. It can mean trying really hard the first time. It can mean doing something new. Depending on who you ask, "effort" adapts.

Recently, I set my Year 9 class the task of writing a comparative essay considering the use of plot type in two short stories – by any measure, an appropriately challenging task to push these learners into their ZPD (Zone of Proximal Development).

Whilst marking my Year 9 books this week, I was introduced to a whole new level of "effort". Aissa (from 9N) turned in a piece of work that sung "effort". The quiet pride in her face as I discussed her work with her revealed the enigmatic personal results of her effort. However, it was also the utterly beaming pride of Miss Seela – Aissa's PLA, that helped add another layer to my understanding of "effort". The support and collaboration had clearly paid off. The perseverance of Miss Seela and the willingness of Aissa (who will freely admit that writing isn't her 'favourite thing') revealed what can happen if we just make the "effort".

Aissa managed to produce four and a bit full A4 pages – the most she has ever written! Ever.

Unable to ignore this supreme display of effort, I now have to ask myself the following questions:

"Is 'effort' one of the answers when we get stuck?"

"What can 'effort' do for me?"

"Is this the same level of 'effort' that Aissa and Miss Seela showed?"

Kyle Milliner
Year 9
Milliner.k@nexus.edu.my
www.nexus.edu.my

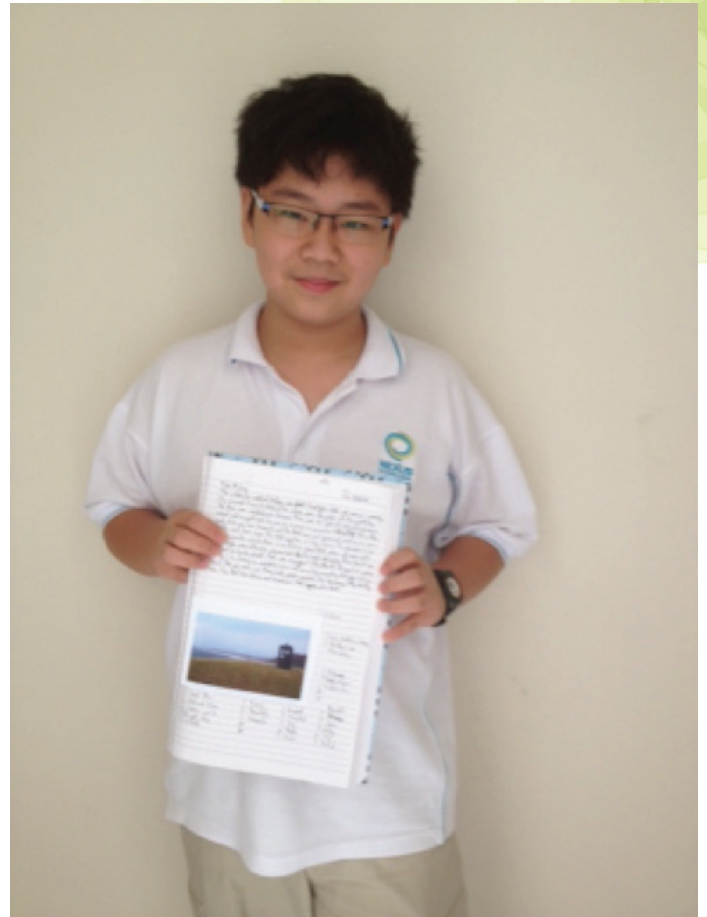
Creative Writing in Yr 9

This week in a Yr 9 E lesson, learners chose a picture of a scene from a selection offered to them. Under timed conditions they had to come up with a range of language inspired by their image - 5 adjectives, 5 verbs, 5 words linked to their senses, 3 adverbs and so forth. To extend them they also had to devise a simile and metaphor that described an aspect of their picture.

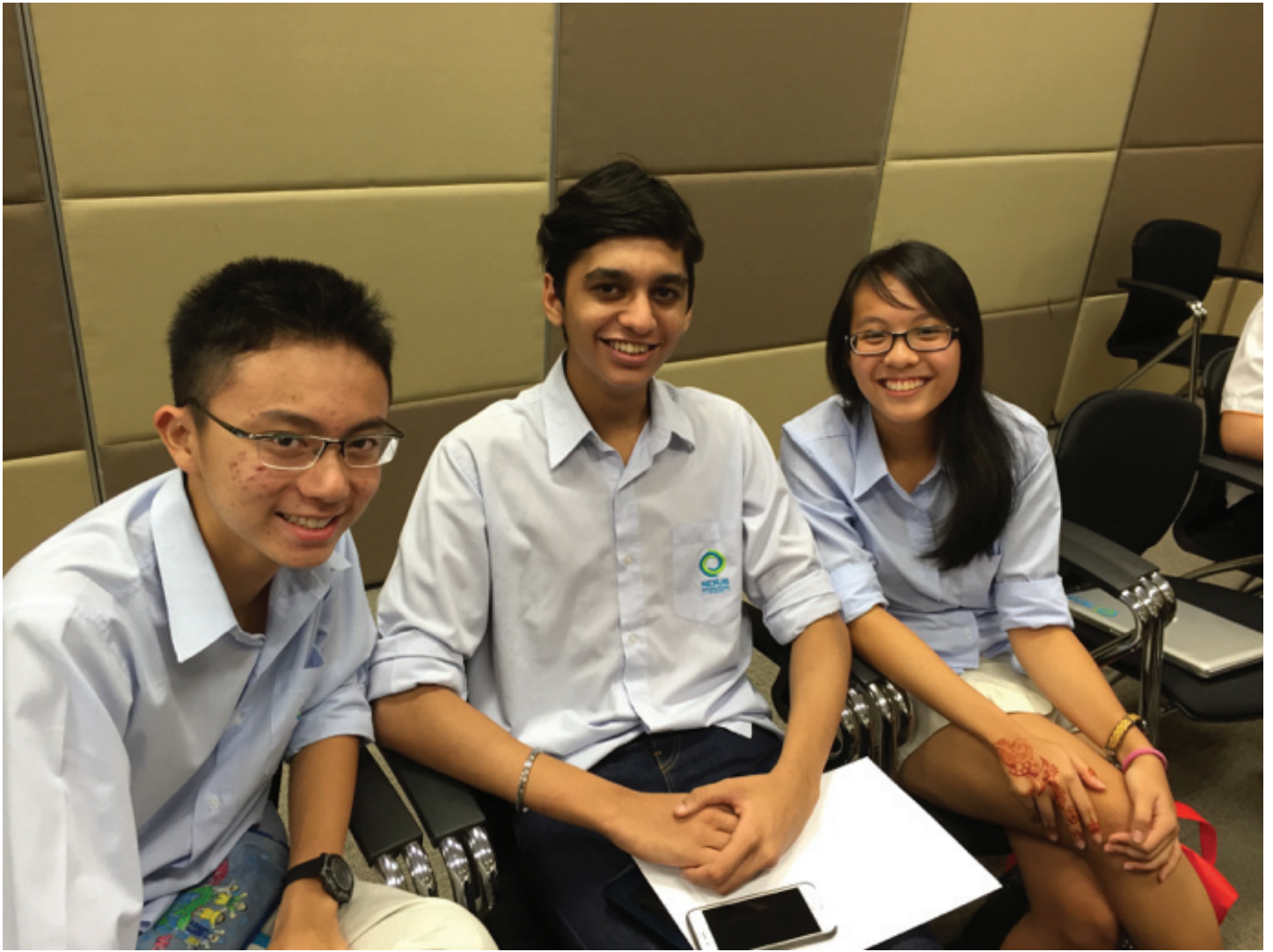
The paragraph below is a good example of creative writing that can be produced by hand in a short period of time.

The cool blue sky and the bright white clouds tranquilly floated above a deep blue-green ocean. The smell of freshly cut grass permeated my nose and the sound of the crashing waves strangely calmed me. The colours were almost too vivid to be real. The natural view was only interrupted by a Tardis, independently sitting by itself in the middle of a huge open meadow, on top of a hill. The peaceful autumn evening was perfect in every way and I could spend hours here doing nothing but playfully frolicking about. Hills stretch nearly forever, until they disappeared over the horizon. Over to the west, I watched the sun slowly set, as peacefully as a monk in meditation. The waves violently crashed against the sandy beach, throwing up a spray that smelt like salt, and creating a thick white foam.

Yuan Sheng Goh



Debate at SIS



On Friday 6th November Nexus senior learners Shailinder Singh Mann, Jerrell Ong and Sue Yen Chong attended a friendly debate at Sunway International School.

The topic of the debate was: "That This House Believes the *Voting Age in Malaysia Should be Reduced to Seventeen*. Arguments ran hot and the adjudicators from Kuala Lumpur Debating Society took their time reaching their decision.

In the end, it was Sunway who were deemed the winners, but not without a strong verbal onslaught from our three talented debaters who showed yet again, that words can win you new friends and warm regards beyond the shores of Putrajaya.

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

New Brass Teacher



From January we have a new brass teacher, Mr Mohd Mustaqim Bin Abdullah joining the Music Department.

Mustaqim is a very experienced brass player who has an Honours Degree in Music from MARA University of Technology, Selangor. He plays with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) and Selangor Symphony Orchestra (SSO) as well as conducting, arranging and repairing musical instruments. Mustaqim also teaches at other international schools in the area and comes with exceptional references.

We would all like to welcome Mustaqim to the Nexus Music Department and look forward to working with him from January.

Y11 Drama Production

On Wednesday 11th November Lunchtime in the Drama Studio in the Drama Studio Vicky Camia and Danish Syed Farizal Aminy put on a wonderful duet performance. Well done both of you for your mature and assured performances.

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

On Thursday 3rd December at 7pm in the Theatre we will be hosting Nexus' Got Talent 2015.

Auditions will be held on Tuesday 24th November - Applications by Friday 20th to Mr Tim

[SIGN UP FOR AN AUDITION HERE](#)



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>

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 - Lunchtime 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?

The Importance Of Music



<http://musicempowersfoundation.org/why-music/the-importance-of-music>



PE & Health

Sports Fixtures Coming soon

w/b 16th November

Monday 16th November

Secondary Swim Gala at SIS - leave at 2pm

Thursday 19th November

Primary Swim Gala at MKIS - leave at 2pm

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

Mr Andy

Year 6, 7 and 8

smith.a@nexus.edu.my

www.nexus.edu.my

Sport Fixtures Schedule

PE Department Website

Primary PE Website

KLISS U13 Girls Football - Cup Final

Another washout..

It looked like we might finally get to see the Girls U13 footballers complete their KLISS season on Thursday evening. Boots were tied, socks were pulled up but yet again the girls were thwarted by the lightning.

They did manage to play one full game before succumbing to the inclement weather. Through driving rain the girls showed resilience and perseverance against an impressive ISP team. The game was decided by a wonder strike in the final minutes from Xuen, securing all 4 points for the home team.

Well done girls...2 games let's try again next week. Date/Venue TBC

Mr Andy

Year 6 - 8

smith.a@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](#)



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



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

Girl Guides Bake Sale: Raising money for Mary

Girls Guides decided to have a bake sale to raise money for Mary from the Myanmar School. We are raising money for Mary because she is suffering from cancer and the reason why we are trying to raise money for her is to help her fund her treatment so that she can take care of the children from the Myanmar School.

On the Deepavali celebration we managed to sell everything for RM 1 to 2 in the secondary and primary canteen. Raising a total of RM 330.50!

Girl Guides (Shun Lin, Keisho, Syarah)
phoenix.s@nexus.edu.my
www.nexus.edu.my





**TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER
IS MANGROVE
AWARENESS DAY...**

**SAVE THE
MANGROVES!**