

CONNECT11

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA

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NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
— SCHOOL —

PUTRAJAYA

Whole School

CCA Programme

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your continued support of our CCA programme.

We are now already planning for Term 3. As a result, if you have not settled any outstanding CCA fees, please do so immediately.

On 12th April, you will be able to view the activities available for Term 3. On 14th April, at 10am, registration will commence, and will stay open till 18th May.

In the meantime, please help maintain your child's attendance for the remainder of this term.



What Is Earth Day?

“Earth day is when we embrace what earth has to offer us.”

“A day where we bring forward environmental awareness.”

“But it should not just be one day. Let's make it everyday.”

Why Is Earth Day Important?

- To be aware of what we are using and losing from the environment.
- To raise awareness of issues and concerns of the environment.
- To understand we only have one earth. If we damage the resources we have now, there will be none left for future generations.

Primary

Snow In Putrajaya?

That's just what we had at the end of our wonderful Milepost 1 performance of 'Penguins around The World' on Thursday this week. The story with a very important eco - message about looking after our World was beautifully told by our Milepost 1 learners – with some help from Early Years too.

A huge thank-you goes to everyone involved in the organisation of such a performance (no mean feat when you consider there are over 150 three to seven year olds!). Special thanks go to Ms Katrina for her hard work and dedication in directing the show.

A video of the performance, together with a gallery of photos, will be uploaded to our website soon.



**MP1
Production
2014: "Penguins
Save The World"**

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**For more photos and
some video clips,
Please find us on
Facebook**





Eco News

Eco Club CCA have been busy putting blue recycling bins around the campus.

They are for tetra pack drinks cartons, plastic drinks bottles and aluminium cans. But the problem is that people still are putting the wrong stuff at the wrong bins. So we put a necklace of things that go into each bin around it, to show what goes into each bin. It looks like this:



SO PLEASE PUT THE RIGHT THINGS IN THE RIGHT BIN!

Thank you,
Isaac Shah (3N) – Eco Club

KLISS Athletics

On Saturday 22nd March Nexus hosted the KL International School Sports, Primary Athletics competition.

Before this year's competition and after a huge effort from learners and teachers, in PE lessons and CCAs, Mr Harvey felt very confident that our team would be successful.

With strong opponents in the other school teams, the Nexus team had to work hard to earn the medals that they won for the school. Many learners won multiple medals and you could hear the sounds of metal clinking wherever they walked!

All this hard work and great achievement meant that Nexus finished 2nd overall in the team event, just 7 points behind the eventual winners. Mr Harvey is incredibly proud and humbled by the sheer scale of improvement made by our team and it was a full vindication of the PE & Sport that we provide at Nexus.

Mr Harvey would like to thank all the parents who came to show their support, the staff who gave up their time to do a great job in officiating the event and our secondary learners for showing equal effort and endeavour as officials. Final thanks though must go to the amazing Nexus Athletes who did themselves, their families and the school so proud. They are an inspiration to further develop every learner at Nexus enabling all to achieve their own personal success.

Learner Led Conferences

The Learner-led conferences (LLC) this year will take place on Tuesday 8th April from 8.00am – 3.00pm. The earlier start and finish times are due to CCAs, which will still happen on this day for those who wish to attend.

Most CCAs on Tuesdays have a minimal or no cost. If you would still like to join CCA then this is OK and I encourage you to make an appointment for the LLC towards the end of the day. Please note that the busses home will still be available for learners who wish to attend CCA.

Please do not send your children into school unaccompanied on this day.

All primary learners will only come into school, accompanied by a parent, for the duration of their LLC. The LLC will take approximately 40 minutes plus PE, Music and languages. Your child will be speaking with you about their learning achievements. The classroom sessions will begin strictly on time and we ask that you arrive at school with your child early to avoid missing out.

Appointment times can be booked online and details will be sent nearer the time.

Your child will also want to tell you about their learning in languages other than English, PE and Music classes. There will be no specific appointment times for these subjects but we would like to encourage your attendance either before or after your appointment time.

During the conferences, it is the learner who is in charge and the teachers will be facilitating

the discussions. They will be happy to make an appointment with you at a later date to discuss any particular issues that you have.

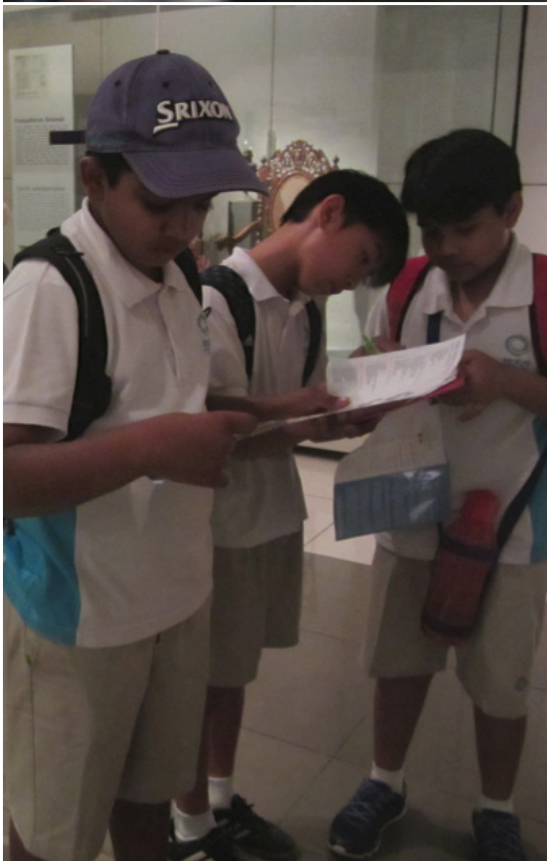
There will be more information given to parents about what a learner led conference is and how you can help to prepare for it. This will be on Wednesday 2nd April at 8.30am in the Multi Purpose Room.



Here is an interesting article that get's us to think about how much we are talking to our own children in these days of mobile phones, iPhones and longer working days.

Thanks to Greg from IT for sharing it:

<http://theconversation.com/were-not-talking-to-our-kids-are-we-causing-speech-delay-23585>



Year 6 School Trip

On Monday, Year 6 enjoyed a fantastic educational visit to Muzium Negara to extend the History learning in the Time Tunnels IPC Unit. Carrying on with their 'Time Detectives' theme, they were challenged to locate certain artefacts in each of the four Galleries; Early History, Malay Kingdoms, Colonial Era and Malaysia Today.

Learners used their enquiry skills to find out more facts, which they are now using in their classroom learning activities about timelines. After a quick lunch stop in the Sunny Lake Gardens, they returned to Muzium Negara to explore the other small museums, such as the Malaysian Ethnology Museum and the Orang Asli Museum, to find out even more about Malaysia.

Secondary

CAS Reflection - Isham, Syahirah



We haven't been doing any hands on activities during the start of Eco Club. However, we did start off by discussing the layout of the garden that we will be building on the fourth floor and also discussing what sort of things we can do to make our school eco friendly. We then consider the factors that contribute to pollution, global warming and etc. We also talked about ways we can make the students involved like the awareness of recycling, wasting food and many more. We were involved in the Eco Code Competition where anyone can create a set of codes for the school to use to create a better environment for everyone in the school.

Only then we started planting. I found this activity really interesting because I learnt about the rooting powder. We went around the school and cut out some plant shoots so that we can include them in our garden. I learned that the rooting powder is a hormone that tricks the cutting to grow roots. We then used recycled bottles to grow out the cuttings. After a week, we were able to see the roots that were growing out which was really intriguing for the kids and I because for me, I have never done this before. Last week, we started painting old tires, which will act as a pot for the plants to grow in.

University and Careers News

1. Y11-12 Parents- follow up information regarding "Morrisby Profiling": Please be aware that there is not a deadline for handing in the application. The test can be administered anytime in May/June, so if you are still interested in doing this, please hand in the form (there is no minimum number required for this). Click on the link <http://www.morrisby.com/> to the website (which is also on the original letter). If you would like a new letter please contact Mr Conner and we will send a new one out.

2. SAT preparation course (Testtakers). This is a final call for payment. If you would like your son/daughter to attend please make payment by Wednesday next week (April 2nd). We will need a minimum of 5 participants for this to run (at the minute we have 2).

3. Edinburgh University hosted a talk last Friday lunchtime, which was attended by Y12 learners. Thanks to Miss Peg for supervising the presentation.



Book Covering Blitz – Inviting Parent Volunteers

When: Anytime from 8.45 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on Wednesday 2 April 2014

Where: Library 2nd Floor

Mission: To help cover books

The library has purchased many new books and we would like to make them available to learners as soon as possible. As such, we will be holding a book covering blitz from 8.45 am to 5.00 pm on Wednesday 2 April. Parent volunteers please help us make this a success. You can come any time during the afore-mentioned times. It does not matter if you have half an hour or the whole day to spare, any help at all will be most appreciated. No experience is required, as training will be provided.

Organized by Parents – Marianne Chang and Jackie Foong.

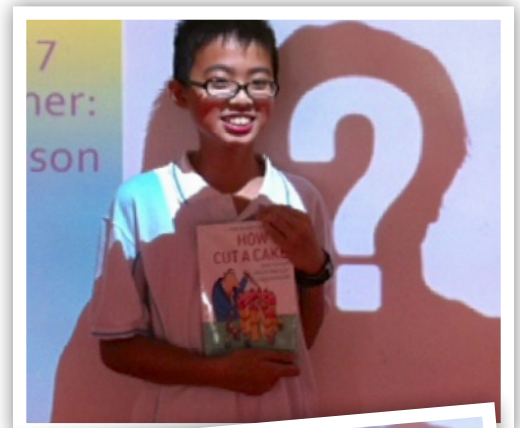
Maths Challenge Winners

Winners of 2014 WMD “Mystery Mathematician” competition

Y7 - Samson Lai

**Y8 - Xin Yi Lim, runner up
Audrey Mabelle.**

Well done and congratulation to the two winners above.





PE Notices

FIXTURES COMING-UP

Saturday 29th March

**KLISS Secondary Track and Field at ISP -
6.30am to 1.30pm**

After the Primary learners earned Silver at the Primary T+F event hosted here at Nexus last Saturday, it is the turn of our secondary learners to try and go one better this weekend. We have 40 learners running, jumping and throwing at ISP with the aim of finishing KLISS T+F champions. Good luck to all the Athletes involved. Transport leaves Nexus at 6.30am and will return by 1.30pm approx.

Thursday 27th March

U13 Girls and U15 Boys Basketball

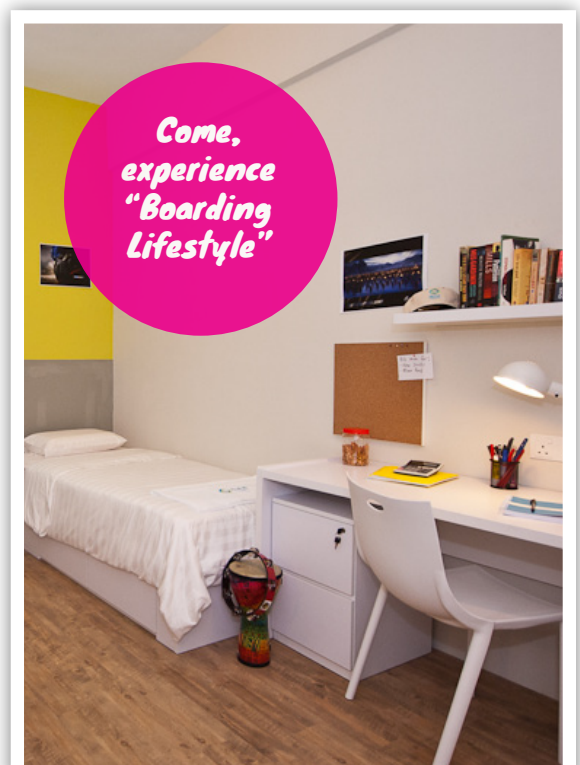
The boys and girls play their final tournament of the season and are both in good positions to win medals. The girls have overcome some heavy defeats and as a new team have been finding their feet this year. To remain in medal contention going into the final round of games is a testament to their resilience. Well done girls. The boys led by Mr Jonathon, lack quantity but certainly make up for it in quality. Eric tay will lead them out in the final round with high hopes of securing gold this week. Good luck to the boys.

A Taste of Boarding

Again this year there will be a chance for learners from Year 6 to Year 11 to have a chance to experience the boarding lifestyle. Two dates have been set aside for this experience:

- Mon March 31 - Wed April 2
- Mon April 7 - Wed 9

If you would like your child to experience living in boarding, please contact the Boarding Office to speak to Ms Lina or Ms Mun. You may also send an email to yusuf.m@nexus.edu.my to book your child in for one of the dates.



“The Importance Of Metacognitive Skills”

WHAT IS METACOGNITION?

Metacognition refers to learners’ awareness of their ability to comprehend what they have learnt, their prior knowledge in situations and their ability to manipulate and take control of the processes that happen within the brain.

1. Metamemory

Refers to the learners’ knowledge and awareness of their memory systems and strategies for using their memories effectively. It includes

- Awareness of different memory strategies,
- Knowledge of which strategy to use for a particular memory task,
- Knowledge of how to use a given memory strategy most effectively.

2. Metacomprehension

Refers to the learners’ ability to take control of the degree to which they understand

information they learn, to be aware of their lack of comprehension in certain situations, and to use alternative strategies to overcome the lack of comprehension. Learners who have more control over their metacomprehension often leave room to check for inconsistency, and undertake a corrective strategy, such as rereading, relating different parts of the passage to one another, looking for topic sentences or summary paragraphs, or relating the current information to prior knowledge. (See Harris et al., 1988). However, learners with poor metacomprehension skills often decode(read) passages without fully comprehending what they have read-”they read better than they understand”

3. Self-Regulation

Refers to the learners’ ability to make adjustments in their own learning processes in response to their perception of feedback regarding their current status of learning. It focuses is on the ability of the learners themselves to monitor their own learning and to maintain the attitudes necessary to use these strategies on their own.

WHY DO WE NEED TO LEARN METACOGNITIVELY USEFUL STRATEGIES?

Metacognitive skills are learnt more extensively when learners find a reason in knowing how to apply the processes what they have learnt. This helps establish a sense of motivation in them to comprehend the things they are learning. This motivation will encourage their focus and attention in situations as it helps draw their attention to what they perceive are “metacognitively useful”.

WHAT ARE THE STRATEGIES USED AT PRESENT?

Cooperative Learning And Peer Tutoring

Most metacognitive skills are learnt through through personal experiences and modelling. Students typically learn metacognitive skills while they are involved in learning something else. One of the strategies often encouraged by researchers to develop metacognitive skills are cooperative learning and peer tutoring. At the early stages of developing these higher order thinking skills, it is often useful to practice it with peers through group work and also feedback from peers. Scaffolding instructions and questions are also ways used by teachers to encourage the development of metacognitive skills.

Verbalising one's thoughts

Another strategy highlighted is the importance of self talk. Although speaking to others and bouncing ideas off each other may be good ways in enhancing learners' metacognitive skills, it is self talk that enables and encourage learners to comprehend and encode the process, practice the process, obtain feedback from self to make necessary changes regarding the effectiveness of a process and encouraging generalisation of a knowledge thought. As in the words of piaget (1964) himself, it is often the process of formulating thoughts in order to express them to others that leads to metacognitive development. Once these metacognitive skills are mastered, they automatically become a natural process that is almost done subconsciously.

1. Mastering prior knowledge

If a prerequisite knowledge has not been mastered to the sufficient level of automaticity, then the knowledge itself becomes overwhelming due to lack of comprehension. It is crucial that learners acquire sufficient knowledge of a subject being studied. This is to ensure that the working memory learner is able to comprehend smoothly and result in learners having time to metacognitively reflect on the subject matter.

2. Encourage learners to think for themselves

It is important to encourage and develop thinking skills in learners. This (as mentioned above) can be done through scaffolding of questions. We can sometimes aid the thinking process by guiding their thought processes (thinking with the learner). It is important to note that if thinking is done with the learner, they eventually become expert thinkers. In other words, it is often better to say, "What should you do next?" And then to prompt the children as necessary.

(Adapted from: education purduecal)



Music & Drama News

Spring Concert VIDEO - Now on School Website

The Spring Concert 2014 Video has been loaded onto the Music Department website for your to watch and download: <https://sites.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/music-department/recordings-performances>

A big thank you to Mr Jason and Mr Suneel and the Nexus TV Crew for making this video possible and so good! Well done to all the learners who took part in this great concert, you did Nexus and yourselves proud.

Dates For Your Diaries

9 & 10 April	Bugsy Malone - The Musical
7 May	Auditions for the Young Performers Concert
21 May	Young Performers Concert
4 June	Nexus' Got Talent
18 June	Dance in Action
19 June	Rock Concert

Why Study Music?

How to Learn to Play an Instrument

<http://www.wikihow.com/Learn-to-Play-an-Instrument>

Performing Arts Trip

Due to lack of interest, the Performing Arts trip to Singapore has been cancelled. Apologies to the learners who did sign up to go; we will look again to run a trip there next year.

'Bugsy Malone' Ticket Now On Sale

As you are probably aware by now, in 2 weeks' time we are putting on our very own version of the West End Musical, Bugsy Malone. The show will take place in the Theatre on 9th & 10th April 2014 at 7pm.

It is essential that all cast members and crew attend the remaining 4 rehearsals.

The 12 piece Bugsy orchestra along with the whole cast will be rehearsing on Saturday 5th April and 12th April ALL DAY.

N.B. Tickets are now on sale from the payment counter in the school reception. Get them early as we are expecting a 'sell-out'.

The actors have completed a full run of the script, the orchestra has tuned up, our lighting & sound, backstage, stage management and hair and make-up crews are on standby... it's nearly showtime, folks!

Tickets for this family show are now on sale, make sure you book yours early to enjoy an evening of 1920s razzmataz at Fat Sam's Speakeasy!

For more details and booking your seat, please visit: <http://www.nexus.edu.my/News-Events/Upcoming-Events/BUGSY-MALONE-THE-MUSICAL.aspx>



NEXUS PRESENTS

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NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
PUTRAJAYA



BUGSY MALONE

By arrangement with Warner/Chappell Music Limited administered by Boosey & Hawkes
Words and Music by Paul Williams; Script by Alan Parker

9TH & 10TH APRIL
7:00 PM

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FROM PAYMENT COUNTER

ADULT
RM 30

CONCESSION
RM 20

FAMILY
RM 100
2 ADULTS
3 CHILDREN



MP1
Production
2014: "Penguins
Save The World"

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For more photos and
some video clips,
Please find us on
Facebook