

CONNECT 12

20 Nov Issue, Term 1 (2015-2016)

Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds.

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA



NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

PUTRAJAYA

Highlights

▶ Coming up next week:

- Wednesday** - Year 5 learner showcase - 8.45 start.
- Thursday** - Year 6 parents talk about Residential - 8.30am
- Year 3 exit point - 2pm
- Friday** - Spotlight on Learning (Theatre) 2.30pm
- Saturday** - KLISS cross country at Nexus.



Secondary

Arena of Youth 2050 - Real Issues, Real City, Real Malaysia, Real Competition

Nexus are proud to have been selected to take part in the 'Arena of Youth' to design a future ready city for 2050. A Youth parliament competition demanding a team of 10 Nexus learners tackle real issues with sustainable solutions. With 10 schools confirmed and potentially another 20 from across Malaysia the competition is on!

The event is hosted by the Construction Industry Development Berhad Malaysia, running from January to mid April 2016 ending in a week of finals. Below is an extract from the CIDB 'Arena of Youth' handbook 2016.

"We like to believe that the youth of Malaysia represent the future of this country. The Arena of Youth (AoY) was developed as a platform for the youth of Malaysia to express their ideas. This competition will task the students with developing creative solutions to real-world problems, testing their knowledge and skills of construction and related disciplines to the fullest. The competition culminates in a grand finale where the teams will get to present their ideas to a panel of judges, to win prizes." **CIDB Malaysia Arena of youth handbook 2015**

Nexus learner first impressions of the 'Arena of Youth' opening ceremony:

"A different experience that was well worth the risk. From meeting new students from other schools to taking a selfie with the chairmen of CIDB. We started to think about the future of our city and how we can change it. We took a step towards the future and found ourselves being embraced by a liberating and exciting feeling." **Julian Goh Year 12**

"It was intense, but it couldn't be felt. It was formal, but it was informal. The opening ceremony felt lively and welcoming. But however, even though the real part of the competition hasn't started. I could already feel it." **Danish Baaden Year 10**

The opening event was covered by the Star online, please [click here](#) to view the article for further information



The opening ceremony - Chairman for CIDB Malaysia (Front center) and student representatives from schools across Malaysia, including Julian and Danish from Nexus, celebrate the start of the competition.

Year 8 Art Learners Design Scenes for Grease

Grease is the word!

This term, Year 8 are busy designing scenes for the school production of Grease, which will be performed on January the 20th and 21st 2016. The Visual Arts Department has injected a 'real life', work experience assignment into the curriculum, which allows the Year 8 learners to experience scenic design and production.

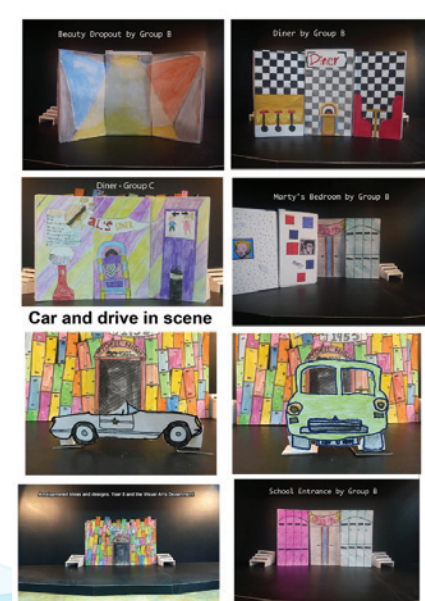
First the learners measured the school theatre for the purpose of building a scaled down model box in which to put their designs. Once they had researched the era of the 1950's, the learners worked in groups to design scaled scenes to fit into the theatre model box. They then photographed their work, see pictures below.

The next 'stage' in the project will be to paint the various backdrops onto scene flats, and onto 3 Periaktos. The learners have learnt that using the ancient Greek invention of 'Periaktoi' (a device used for displaying and rapidly changing theatre scenes), more different scenes can be painted and rotated on caster wheels.

Unfortunately, not all of the designs can be used. Some will be, whilst other designs are amalgamated into final designs, but the whole flavour of the design has a definite 'Year 8' feel to it!

Over the next few weeks the scenery will be painted by Year 8. They will have help from the props and scenery CCA club, yet all of Nexus is welcome to add their touch, and this can be done on Wednesdays from 3:15pm to 4:30pm. Please feel free to join in.

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CAS REFLECTION

Every Friday afternoon, I will be learning how to play the Guitar. This activity will be a new challenge for me as I have never learnt how to play one before. Thankfully i have found two learners who are willing to help me set the stepping stones for my journey of learning how to play the guitar. Keeping in mind this lesson only teaches at a rudimentary level.

In the first day i was taught three notes, which were A minor, C and E. I was given the most basic notes to start off as it would make more sense to learn. The biggest challenge when it comes to learning how to play the guitar for me is it takes a while to familiarise myself with the strings as well as the frets. It is certainly a new feeling and experience when it comes to holding the guitar in the first place. One of the crucial things i learnt when playing it is the user's hand must not be stiff, but smooth to reflect the music coming from the instrument.

It took quite a while to get used to placing my left hand on the frets, and moving along it. It certainly requires a ridiculous amount of skill and time when it comes to playing the guitar. Another challenging aspect for me is memorising the finger placements on the frets, as it felt very awkward to a beginner. One thing to notice about guitar is that it requires a lot of non-dominant hand movement, which requires a great amount of muscle memory.

This activity taught me how hard it is when it comes to playing the guitar, it also shows me how playing a guitar is even possible to begin with. Kudos to those who have mastered the spectacular instrument, i will continue on with my journey to learning the basics of a guitar, as it is only the beginning.

Mohamad Aniq Fahmi Md Jaafar

Year 13

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Year 8 Mangrove Fundraising



The Year 8 this year needed to raise money for the mangrove charity centre that we will be visiting in our upcoming Ipoh trip. So, as a year group we came up with tons and tons of ideas but we managed to gather a few ones that we seems to be the popular ones when we voted for our favourite event that we could hold to raise money on the 17th of November. We had a Tuck Shop, a Display about Mangroves and a Mufti Day that I am sure you have took part in . We split into groups according to which one you were the most interested in, some chose Tuck Shop ,some chose to help out with the Display about Mangroves and the others decided to help out with the Mufti Day preparation. People gave up their lunchtimes to put a proposal together to send to Mr Chris and to prepare for the events. During PD lessons , we also talked through this together, the Mufti Day Team decided to go with the colour scheme of blue, green and black as they are similar colours to mangroves. The Tuck Shop decided to sell fruits, traditional kuehs and drinks to cool the learners and teachers off in this hot weather of Malaysia . And the display team members helped set up the MPR with facts about Mangrove and why we are doing this.

On the day of the fundraising , everyone came to school in the colour scheme to support our fundraising events. Teachers and learners were also enthusiastically supporting the Tuck Shop. Overall, I was very proud of what we have achieved as a year group and have seen the spirit of teamwork and co-operation through this event. Everyone did their best to get people to donate and have been running up and down throughout the school to collect donations and to sell the food in order to raise money. I feel like there should be more of these events as it encourages us , the learners to work collaboratively as a group to accomplish a goal and it also teaches us more about stuff, in this case mangroves.

Hui Ern



PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

World Music Workshops - Thursday 19th November Lead by the world renowned ethnomusicologist, Andy Gleadhill



This week Nexus Music Department hosted 8 wonderful World Music Workshops lead by Andy Gleadhill, a world renowned ethnomusicologist from England. Our Y5, Y10 & 11 Music GCSE and Y12 & 13 Music IB learners took part on Thursday along with our teaching staff.



Composer's Concert 26th November - 1.00pm in the Dance Studio on 4th Floor - Audience Welcomed

On Thursday 26th November at 1.00pm 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. floor

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. Refreshments will be provided.

Lunchtime Composers Concert



TEN world premier performances of music written by NEXUS composers:

Alex O'Shea, Amira Nor Azam, Cicely Guillouet, Danial Shariat, Ilyssha Jasmine Shah, Irfan Azhar, Johana Jarkulischova, Michael Chan, Siti Nurhadzlin, Stephen Ong

**Thursday, 26th November, 2015, 1pm
Dance Studio, Nexus International School, Putrajaya
Refreshments Provided**

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

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

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! - From Student Services

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.

Please See Ms Ann to sign up for an act.

NO LONGER WANTED! - Vespa motorbike to borrow for 8 days for Grease the Musical in January

Thank you for all your responses! We have now secured one. Come to the show to see it!

STILL 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 does not need to work nor needs an engine, just a frame with handlebars and wheels and needs to look old and scruffy.

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>

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Grease the Musical



Grease performance dates:

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

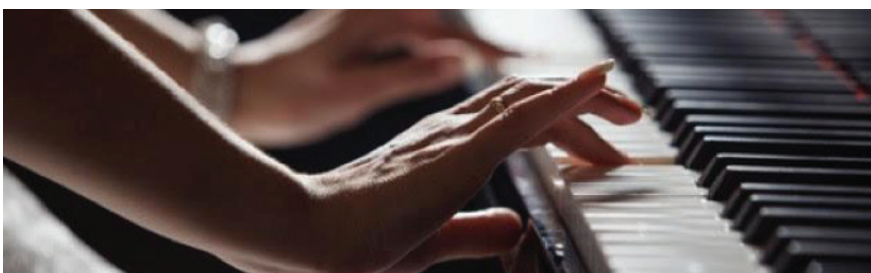
The Grease rehearsals are proceeding full steam ahead and the cast are working hard on their lines, songs, dancing. They will be rehearsing with the Grease Band/Orchestra on Sunday for the first time.

Photos from rehearsals:



Why Study Music?

Practising Music Improves The Symmetry Of Your Brain



<http://www.iflscience.com/brain/practising-music-improves-symmetry-your-brain>

PERFORMING ARTS NEWS

Dates For Your Diaries

Thursday 26th November
Wednesday 2nd December
Thursday 3rd December
Monday 14th December
Wednesday 20th January
Thursday 21st December
Wednesday 27th January
Thursday 28th January
Tuesday 2nd February
Tuesday 16th February
Thursday 25th February
Wednesday 2nd March
Wednesday 23rd March

GCSE & IB Music Composition Recital - 1pm in the Dance 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
ABRSM Making Music Together Concert - 7.30pm Eastin Hotel, KL
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

NEXUS GOT TALENT!
★ **2015** ★

3rd December (Thursday)
Venue: Theatre
Time: 7:00 PM

**Audience voting system means
YOU decide WHO WINS!**

Tickets AVAILABLE NOW @ Student Services
RM 15 Adult
RM 10 Learner/Child
RM 40 Family (2 Adults+2 Children)

Year10 Digital Literacy Photoshop project

Propaganda posters

Year 10 Digital Literacy Photoshop project: Propaganda posters

Year 10 recently developed their Photoshop knowledge, to include advanced layer and filter techniques, creating original propaganda posters as part of persuasive visual literacy skills.

The work below has been voted for by the learners as visually appealing with good use of Photoshop skills, we wanted to show-case their work and hope you like it, well done Y10.

Miss Rachel, Mr Jared, Mr Graeme and the Y10 Learners



Xin Yi Lim



Ahmad Syahmi Roswaidin



Primary

Nexus Neuron challenge in your first language!


The First language display board is changing

Thanks to all those parents and learners who contributed to the “Welcome in all our home languages” display board. Lots of greetings and welcoming messages have been exchanged. This time there will be another interactive activity to promote all of the languages spoken at Nexus families.

You will find a copy of the Nexus Neuron on the display board next to the Reading Hub downstairs. Please take a laminated paper strip (attached on the board), choose one or two personal goals and translate them into your first language. You can pin your flag next to the translation so it's clear where this language is from. Our aim is to slowly translate the Neuron into lots of languages spoken within Nexus families.

If parents or learners have any more ideas about how we could promote using and emphasizing the mother-tongue at school, please contact Ms. Andrea in Year 1E.

Andrea Kaprinayova
kaprinayova.a@nexus.edu.my
www.nexus.edu.my



PE & Health

Siti Nurhadzlin Sahari - Ice Skating Success

Siti travelled to Bandung recently to participate in Skate Bandung 2015.

Siti explains: "I participated in 3 categories and the three categories are; freestyle footwork, artistic and solo compulsory. I won gold for the footwork and solo compulsory and a bronze for the artistic category"

A huge well done to Siti.

Andy Smith
Sport and PE
smith.a@nexus.edu.my
Sport Fixtures Schedule
PE Department Website
www.nexus.edu.my



Primary Swim Galas

A big thank you to all the learners, staff and parents who supported the galas this week.

The atmosphere around the pool was full of positive energy and everyone seemed to be having fun, challenging themselves and supporting each other.

All swimmers should be extremely proud of themselves this week. The progression that learners have made over the last 12 months is a testament to how hard they have worked in PE lessons and away from school in their free time.

I'm looking forward to next year already!!!

Andy Smith
Primary
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Sport Fixtures Schedule
PE Department Website
Primary PE Site
www.nexus.edu.my



Swim Gala at MKIS

19th November 2015



What promised to be an exciting night of swimming at MKIS was curtailed by yet another lightning storm.

Only 6 races into the schedule the alarms sounded and our Nexus swimmers were out of the pool into the safety of the grandstand.

We did have to chance to witness a resilient 50m Butterfly from Luca Phoenix. A confident and very fast 50m Backstroke from Yi Xuen Lin and a 50m Freestyle from Rachel Ahn that would have graced any pool in the world.

The team is going from strength to strength...let's keep the momentum rolling onto the ISAC event on the 4th December.

Andy Smith
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Sport Fixtures Schedule
PE Department Website
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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](#)



24hr Run To Stop The Traffik

@IGIS on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th November



Last weekend, students from international schools across Malaysia had committed themselves to run for a total of 24 Hours in a marathon that aimed to end slavery. Three teams from Nexus International School had done exactly this. Pushing themselves to the limit; hurting so the victims of slavery no longer had to. From the boiling midday sun to the cool, airy night, we were the runners for the freedom of others.

There's nothing more I can stress than the willpower that it took to jog up that hill with its measly ten percent incline for the twentieth time, pushing to hand the baton over to the next runner, rinse and repeat. The amount of effort it took to run just a little faster so I could get out of the scorching heat that was slowly cooking my brain. All these basic problems, short term compared to the impact that we were making on the lives of those who have had their future stolen from them.

The cause that we were running for was a huge motivation for me. Knowing that every lap I ran would free an individual caught in the web of the dark side of humanity. A sex slave. A child forced into labour. Knowing that for every lap completed, it would be giving them what they should have had. For every kilometer covered, would be allowing them to ease back into society.

Sure, there was the bigger picture of things that kept many people going but what really kept our team afloat, was each other. A good leader and reliable friends who were in pain with you or supportive all the way. Nothing felt better than seeing everybody proud of each other, exceeding each other's expectations. It wasn't even about winning. It was about perseverance, resilience and the will to run for those who can't.

Rachel Low
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Sport Fixtures Schedule
PE Department Website
Primary PE Website

Whole School



Library News

This week we had a group of parents working in the library covering books. Everyone worked hard all day and 443 books were covered! Our parents also managed to get through a mountain of food and it has to be said that the normally quiet library was full of noise and laughter. The laughter grew louder as the formidable Miss Elly told off the poor librarian for eating in the library. It was a very enjoyable day and I would like to thank everyone involved for all their hard work.

Mr Peter
Teacher Librarian



Drama Department News

Year 12 Theatre Arts IB students have been working hard over the past few weeks creating directorial concepts in relation to Edward Albee's play Zoo Story.

The learners have completed extensive research into the social, historical, political and cultural context of the play in order to approach it from an interesting and relevant directorial view point. This week the learners have started to consolidate their ideas and have seen them come to life during theatre lessons. These will soon be filmed and will form part of their director's notebook.

Here is Jacob directing Tin and Hamidah.



In other news, the GCSE Drama learners have been very busy too. Vicky and Danish performed their Year 11 exam piece:



And Year 10 have been performing their monologues.

Here is Maziah:



Qatreen:



And Selma:



Girl Guides need your help!

1st Putrajaya (Nexus) Guides- Help required!

Nexus School has a popular Brownie unit for girls age 7-10 (Weds), and a Guide unit for girls aged 10-14 (Thurs). Sarah Phoenix who runs Guides is in urgent need of help to keep Guides running, otherwise it is a risk of folding at the end of this term. Sarah is happy to run meetings but she needs someone (or preferably a couple of people!) to help with the following:

Admin: maintaining our database and managing the accounts.

Help at meetings: a small group of parents who who be happy to help at meeting on a rota basis.

Help with shopping: for anything needed at meetings eg craft supplies or cooking ingredients

If you feel you could help in any way, however small, please do get in touch for a chat. Guiding is great fun, and the girls get so much out of it, it would be a great shame of nexus school lost its Guide unit.

Please contact Sarah (Guide leader) 1stnexusguides@gmail.com or Fiona (Malaysia Division Commissioner) bgifclualalumpur@gmail.com

Sarah Phoenix
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www.nexus.edu.my



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



ETA

Parent Teacher Association Announcements

Upcoming events:

28.11.2015 Nexus is hosting KLISS. Please contact Hilda if you are interested to help by making and/or selling food and drinks at the event: hilrora@gmail.com

30.11.2015 from 8.30am - 3pm help us to bake gingerbread for Christmas, contact Pavla for more details: pjkarkulka@gmail.com

4.12.2015 from 8.30am - 3pm whole school Christmas decoration. Please contact Tammy if you'd like to help: tammyetherington@gmail.com

14.12.2015 Christmas Celebrations in school, primary Christmas assembly

Dear parents,

- PTA is looking for a volunteer to fill the Events / Celebration position
- Y11 and Y5N/E are still looking for a class representative who could help us build better communication between parents, teachers and PTA and welcome new families in the classes

Please don't hesitate to contact us at: pta@nexus.edu.my



DEAR YEAR 2-6 LEARNERS!
ARE YOU FOOTBALL FANS?
WE WANT YOU FOR OUR FOOTBALL CLUB!

WHEN: EVERY TUESDAY MORNING 7.45-8.30am FROM JANUARY 12th 2016
THE CLUB WILL BE LED BY MR. CARL, ONE OF OUR
KIND NEXUS PARENTS

HOW TO REGISTER: THE SIGN UP IS
ON A FIRST COME - FIRST SERVE
BASIS, MAXIMUM 25 LEARNERS

PLEASE, REGISTER WITH MARLENE AT :
marlenelund1@gmail.com
0149975346
(WhatsApp only)

The image features a soccer ball on a grassy field. The Nexus International School logo is in the top right corner. The text is centered and uses bold, black fonts.