

15 Jan Issue, Term 2 (2015-2016)

CONNECT 18



NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
PUTRAJAYA

U11 Boys Basketball @ IGB International School

U11 Boys Basketball @ IGB International School

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you have enjoyed a relaxing Christmas holiday and that the new year brings with it much to be thankful for and happy about, as well as many blessings for you and your family.

With the Year 13 and Year 11 mock examinations in full swing, the new term has started with a bang in the Secondary School.

Here are two important notices you need to be aware of to keep you up-to-date with recent developments:

1. A CASHLESS SYSTEM

We are now ready to begin to introduce a completely cashless school system. All secondary learners will be required to use their Nexus One Card for all purchases from the cafeteria and canteen.

The Nexus One Card can be topped up online or in person at the Student Services desk. The card comes with an automatic RM10 'overdraft' facility in case learners may have forgotten to top up their card one day and they need to buy a meal. In addition, as a further safeguard, we will allow learners who have forgotten to top up their card a further day, to receive a loan from the school in the form of a meal ticket. This can be collected from the Academic Office, and comes with the expectation that the loan is repaid the very next day.

A cash till will remain in the cafeteria and the canteen during the change-over to our fully cashless system. However, it is important to note that these will be removed completely after the Chinese New Year break.

All secondary learners should make sure they bring their cards with them to school every day and also check that they are in credit. It should be noted that all learners should be using their cards anyway to swipe in to school for morning registration.

Should a learner lose their card, a replacement can be purchased at Student Services.

2. MONDAY REPLACEMENT DAYS

Due to the large number of public holidays that we will be enjoying this term that fall on a Monday, we have made a few adaptations to the timetable so that learners do not suffer missing so many lessons that may occur on Mondays. Therefore, on the dates below, we will replace that day's timetable with the Monday timetable. This will bring a more even spread for subject specialist time.

- Wednesday 27 January
- Tuesday 2 February
- Thursday 18 February

Please note that this change only affects timetable lessons. All normal CCAs and other activities such as music lessons that should be on that day will still take place.

Should you have any questions about these two items or any other concern, please send me an email: lynn.c@nexus.edu.my

CAS REFLECTION



On the 14th of November 2015, Nexus sent a total of three teams to the 24-Hour Race, a run aimed to spread awareness about human trafficking. I was a member of one of the teams, “Nexus BB”, together with seven other girls: Shafi, Rachel, Georgia, Priya, Luanne, Anis and Nishi. To be extremely honest, I wasn’t sure if I was prepared for the run; we didn’t get to have many training sessions due to the haze that lasted for almost two months.

The race officially started at 9 am, with Shafi being the first runner to represent our team. Each lap was approximately 900 m, and to my relief, the incline that we had to run wasn’t as horrendous as that of last year’s race. To my surprise, each lap wasn’t as tiring as I expected; I’m not sure if it was due to the lower level of incline, or the shorter distance of 900 m (in comparison to 1 km last year), or perhaps the few sessions of training. My first lap was (in my opinion) the lap with my best timing, with approximately 3 minutes for 900 m- if there was one thing I regretted, it was not timing myself each lap to see my performance throughout the race.

At around 3 pm, I (carelessly) took a short 15-minute nap before my next run, while sitting cross-legged with a slouched back. After the nap, running became considerably harder- I found my chest hurting, and breathing became increasingly difficult. At this point, I took slightly longer to finish each lap, and the temptation to walk my laps was strong. Nevertheless, I still forced myself to run throughout every lap, despite the pain in my chest getting worse after each round. Four hours later, I decided to ask the medics available if they could help me with the pain- apparently it was due to a chest cramp (which probably took place during my nap), as well as the lack of food throughout the day. Fortunately for me, the race had to come to a temporary halt due to the presence of lightning, so I used the time to get some food into my system.

During the early hours of the 15th of November, our group took a different approach. We were all split into three sub-groups, with each sub-group running for two-hour shifts while the other two sub-groups sleeping in the gymnasium. This way, all members were able to get at least 4 hours of sleep to endure the remaining hours of the race. I was honestly quite happy that I didn’t suffer any cramps or injuries (yet) at that point in time- unlike last year where I injured myself halfway through the race, adversely impacting my running performance.

At 9.00 am on the 15th of November 2015, the 24-Hour Race came to an end. I did not count the number of laps I ran, but it was approximately 27-30 laps- an improvement from last year’s race. What made the entire team surprised though was our overall performance- we were informed that as a group, we ran a total of 297 laps in 24 hours, making us the overall winner for the girls’ category. However, at that point, I think the feeling of exhaustion was overwhelming us; although we did feel happy, our main priority in our heads was to get home, get a proper shower, and get a proper rest. My performance in this year’s 24-Hour Race was definitely a step up from last year’s, however, I know that I can (and should) push myself further to improve my overall speed and stamina.

Xue Jing Ling (Fiona)
Year 13

Climbing with Nexus

Come for a morning climb on our bouldering wall!

NISP is holding two morning sessions of climbing on 20th February and 5th March, 9-11am. Learners, parents and staff are invited to join in. These sessions are designed to give you an introduction into the sport and how we use this fantastic facility with our learners. Main topics of the morning will be:

- Introduction to the wall and equipment.
- How we can use the wall for primary and secondary learners.
- Climbing techniques and training.

These sessions are ideal for parents who wish to get their child involved in a 'non-traditional' sport. Climbing not only encompasses full body movement but also improves skills such as goal setting, problem solving and social interaction with peers.

If you are interested in joining us for one of these mornings, please send your name and how many of you are wishing to attend to Mr Alex at orr.a@nexus.edu.my. There is only limited availability so please get in touch asap.

Mr Alex

Canadian University Fair

Monday 18th January 3pm-4pm, in the IB Common room

Year 10-13, PARENTS ARE WELCOME (and encouraged to attend)

U15 Girls Basketball @ KCLASS

Tuesday 12th January

Tuesday evening saw the first friendly game for the U15 Girls Basketball team this season. The team showed great improvement throughout the game, particularly in defence, but were unfortunately comfortably beaten by Alice Smith. Well done to all involved. The team included;

Nuha
Tina
Wen Wei
Fan Xin
Adlina
Jade
Dhrithi
Sorour

If you would like to be involved in the U13 or U15 Girls Basketball, please come along to training on Friday lunch times in the sports hall.

Grace Nichols
Year 9 & Year 10



Primary PE Swim Club

Trials

Our new Primary Swimming training programme has started. Please check out our new timetable, the first two weeks are open to everyone (Year 3 and above) for assessment, we will then advise which group your child should attend.

Miss Gemma
Year 3-6

Primary Swim Training Schedule
Years 3-6

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:45-8:25am	Swim Team Training		Swim Team Training	Swim Development	Swim Team Training
12:35-1:05pm				Swim Training	Swim Training
3:35-4:30pm	Swim Training	Swim Training			

Swim Team Training

Learners that can swim 50m unaided to a good level.

Swim Development

Learners that need extra help developing their strokes.

Swim Training

Learners that are able to swim 50m unaided.

If you are unsure which session will be best for your child, please speak with a member of the PE department.

The first two weeks in January will be used as assessment sessions to find which session your child should be attending.

Inter-house Athletics Days

Primary and Secondary



The following dates are now confirmed for this year's Inter-house Athletics days.

Wednesday 3rd February

All Secondary - 8.35am - 3.10pm

Wednesday 16th March

MP2/3 Combined - First Race 9am - 12.20pm

Thursday 17th March

EY - 9am until 10.20am

MP1 - 11am until 12.20pm

Primary learners - Miss Gemma will be giving you more information next week in lessons.

Secondary Learners - Please continue to sign-up using the links emailed to you.

The expectation that everybody signs-up to at least 1 event. Athletics is a very inclusive sport. It suits a wide range of body shapes, interests and talents and so there is literally something for everybody. Athletics is also a fantastic way to represent your house team and work collaboratively with others.

Athletics will be taught throughout the term within your PE lessons and is an ideal to practice and improve your technique and to also try out new events you might not have considered before.

Check your emails on Monday for more news!

PE Dept
All



Sport Clubs and Training Schedules

Check out the Schedule for Term 2

You have all been emailed the new Term 2 Schedule for club practices.

Please take a look at the clubs and practices that we offer and come along to as many as you can. These clubs are not exclusive (unless stated) and are there to provide you with an opportunity to try new sports, improve individual technique, relieve stress and anxiety and help us work more effectively as a team.

We look forward to seeing you there!

PE Dept
All

Sports Fixtures for January

Check out the who you are playing and when

Here are the Sports fixtures for January. For more detailed information, please go to the Sports fixtures calendar by clicking the link below.

Saturday 16th January
U18 Girls Netball - KLASS

Tuesday 19th January
U18 Boys Basketball - BSKL
U18 Girls Basketball - BSKL

Thursday 21st January
U13 Boys Basketball - BSKL
U13 Girls Basketball - Taylors

Saturday 23rd January
U15 Boys Basketball - ISKL
U15 Girls Basketball - ISKL

PE Dept
All

Nexus Staff Football

GISKL Tournament - Saturday 9th Jan

Nexus staff team took part in a mini football tournament at GISKL last weekend. Joining teams from Jakarta and across KL, 10 teams in total competed to win the trophy. When the dust finally settled, GISKL 'A' team were crowned champions for 2016 after a confident 4-2 victory in the final.

Nexus played 5 games. Winning one, Drawing two and losing two, in what was a very generous defensive display. Top goalscorer was won by Mr Scott Astle and goal of the day went to Mr Paul Beattie with a 20yard thunderbolt into the top corner.

A really good day was had by all.

PE Dept
All



YEAR 12 Visual Arts

MONOPRINTING



Year 12 Visual Arts learners are currently reaching the end of a printing assignment about 'mono' printing. Monoprinting they have discovered, is a form of printmaking that has images or lines that can only be made once, unlike most printmaking, where there are multiple originals. There are many techniques involved in the process of monoprinting, from simply applying ink to a surface manually, to etching marks or patterns onto the inky surface and printing a one off image from it. The technique is very difficult to master and has a certain degree of spontaneity attached to the process. It can take many trials and experiments to perfect as there is only one chance to get it right.

Learners insights:

Arissa: "Monoprinting is technically difficult and requires time, patience and concentration, but when you get it right it is worth it!"

Alice: "Monoprinting is different from painting and other printing techniques as there is only one chance!"

Sarah: "With Monoprinting I only get one chance to create a design, and even if I repeat the process, I will never get the same effect again!"

Kaylie: "Monoprinting is hard as you get only one chance to create a print yet the process involves a lot of repetition."

Jinn: "Monoprinting is like life. Sometimes it disappoints you and sometimes it surprises you, but if you try hard you get more surprises than disappointments!"

M. Brooks and Year 12 Visual Arts
Year 12

Grease the Musical

COMING TO NEXUS NEXT WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY



Book, Music and Lyrics By
JIM JACOBS and WARREN CASEY
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL

TICKETS ARE SELLING OUT FAST - Remaining Seating Can Be Found [HERE](#)

One of the most exciting musicals of all time. Singing, dancing, live band, you do not want to miss the best musicals that Nexus has ever staged.

Please view our 2 minute Promotional Video is **[HERE](#) - WELL WORTH A WATCH!**

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

Tickets now available from Student Services

Adult RM25

Concession RM15

Family Ticket (2 Adults and 2 Children) RM65

Concert by SESMA High Performers School - Terengganu

The Music Department has partnered up with SESMA High Performers School in Terengganu to provide extended opportunities for all our/their learners.

The SESMA Wind Band will be visiting Nexus on Friday 22nd January to perform a 40 minute concert to our learners (as well as including some of our learners in the performance).

The concert will be for our Year 4 to Year 9 learners and will take place 11.40am on Friday 22nd in the theatre.

It should be a great concert and hopefully a great start to a new and beneficial partnership for all.

Instrumental Parents' Evening & Instrumental Reports

The Music Department's annual Instrumental Parents' Evening will be held on Tuesday 23rd February from 3.30pm to 5pm in the MPR. Letters will be sent home in the next few weeks with all learners who have instrumental lessons detailing the arrangements for the parents' evening. Please respond to the letter and request an appointment time with your son/daughter's instrumental teacher. You will have received their Instrumental Report beforehand and it will be an opportunity for you to discuss their progress and report with the teacher.

FINAL CALL!!!! Sign-up for Instrumental/ Voice Lessons for Term 2 NOW

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 Basses.

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

Dates For Your Diaries

Wednesday 20th January	Grease the Musical - 7pm in the Theatre
Thursday 21st January	Grease the Musical - 7pm in the Theatre
Friday 22nd January	Concert by SESMA High Performers School - Terengganu
Wednesday 27th January	Y4 Primary Showcase
Tuesday 2nd February	ABRSM Making Music Together Concert - 7.30pm Eastin Hotel, KL
Tuesday 16th February	KS4 & 5 Musical Recitals - 7pm in the Theatre
Tuesday 23rd February	Instrumental Parents' Evening 3.30pm to 5pm in the MPR
Wednesday 2nd March	Y3 Primary Showcase
Wednesday 23rd March	Senior Spring Concert - 7pm in the Theatre

Why Study Music?

The Beginner's Guide to Practice



<http://www.musiccentralcardiff.co.uk/news/the-beginners-guide-to-practice/>

Year 1 Entry Point

“The BEST RESTAURANT”

We kicked off the new term with a new IPC topic “We are what we eat”.

Year 1 learners had an amazing time preparing, setting up and role-playing a restaurant for the Entry Point. The learners collectively decided to call it “The Best Restaurant” and used their rigorous learners skills to make it “the best!”.

Learners wrote menus, helped with cooking and setting up the restaurant and designed a poster for the sign. Later, learners took turns being waiters and customers. We had 2 special teacher customers and they complimented us on the tasty food and excellent service! Bearing in mind our International goals, we tried to include different types of food from our learners’ various home and Malaysia our host country.

Thank you parents for your great cooperation and the delicious meals! It was a great start to a new exciting topic! We hope to find out a lot of information about healthy diet, food groups and so much more!

Year 1 team
kaprinayova.a@nexus.edu.my



The Importance of an Exit Point

At Nexus International School Putrajaya the brain friendly elements of the IPC form the core of learning throughout each IPC unit. We have very exciting entry points, including trips, dress-up days and competitions. The knowledge harvest feeds into planning and is an ongoing process, being added to as each unit progresses. Explaining the theme highlights to learners exactly what they will learn and gives them the opportunity to ask their own questions.

An equally important aspect of the brain friendly elements is the idea of an exit point to tie everything together and provide an opportunity to show-off all the great learning that has taken place over the course of the unit.

Year 6 recently completed their 'The Way They See The World' unit. This unit generated a large amount of high-quality art work which learners displayed in the form of an art gallery. In language arts lessons they created leaflets using Google Slides which were handed out to visitors. The Year 6 learners acted as tour guides taking groups of visitors around the different exhibits which were organised by artistic style, for example Cubism, Impressionism etc. There was also a 3D sculpture which highlighted collaboration between learners and personified the personal goal of international mindedness. Over 200 people visited the gallery over the course of the morning including parents, learners, school visitors and school management. The whole event was a great success with visitors being hugely impressed by what they saw. Reviews were very positive and the learners were very proud of their achievements.

The art gallery showed how important an exit point is as part of the process of the IPC. It provides opportunities for the presentation of learning as well as parental involvement and is a great way of showing off learning at the school. All IPC units should conclude with an event that brings together the learning journey of the previous weeks.



Through the Early Years Looking Glass – Let's Pretend Scavenger Hunt and Dress Up Day

The sensational Entry Point to our new IPC Topic “Let's Pretend”

Welcome back to another exciting year of learning at Nexus International School, Putrajaya. In Early Years, we are kicking off the new term with our IPC topic “Let's Pretend”. This topic will introduce our young learners to the world of traditional fairy tales, as well as puppets from around the world. We will also learn how to make up our own stories, and have various opportunities to pretend to be someone or something else.

For our Let's Pretend Entry Point, we went on a Scavenger Hunt – looking for clues related to the traditional fairy tales of Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, and The Gigantic Turnip. This activity has tested us visually, audibly, and kinaesthetically – as we had to read the pictorial clues from the cards, listen to the instructions and hints, and do actual the physical act of searching for the cards!

Our Entry Point was made all the more exciting as not only did our learners dress up in costumes, but so did our teachers – pretending to be superheroes, princesses, fairies, pirates, and skeletons! Our learners felt proud to share with their siblings and friends from other year groups their idea of pretend by dressing up in their chosen costumes, and they thoroughly enjoyed being interviewed over their character choices by their peers and other teachers who noticed their eye-catching outfits.

Please stay tuned for our future learning adventures in Early Years. Below are some of the excitement of our Scavenger Hunt captured in photos.

Ms Ara
Early Years

