

CONNECT 20

29 Jan Issue, Term 2 (2015-2016)



NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
PUTRAJAYA

Lunar New Year in Korea

When I was a kid, I used to love Lunar New Year. And I had many thoughts in it. I actually thought I could only gain age by eating Rice Cake Soups(That is what we eat in the morning). I also loved the 'Sae-Bae' (where you have to bow to elders in respect and gain money. But when I started growing up I started learning new things. This is what I found out: Lunar New Year is one of the best national holidays in Korea. It's a famous national holiday.

How it's celebrated:

- 1) We have a meet as an entire family, we even go to our hometowns even if it's a long distance.
- 2) We usually eat rice-cake soups (which is appetizing if cooked right) and other tremendously delicious traditional foods. In that day, we eat the 'good-tasting' traditional foods that we would be full for the entire day. We also play a lot of traditional games, but those games are fading away from the culture because of the modern things we could do. One of the great games are 'Jage Cha Ge'. You have to kick up a thing which looks like a cheerleaders hold. But with a plastic cap on the head. You will have a foreboding feeling if it's about the fall.
- 3) Then we 'sae-bae' our elders and gain money from them.(WHICH IS MAGNIFICENT)

This is why I LOVE Korean Lunar New Year. Just because of the money :)

Sonny Ku 7N

LOTE notice

Graphic Designers Wanted

The LOTE department are looking for artistic or creative learners to help them come up with the concepts for a new Languages mural. Simply think up a concept which best captures 'Languages' and send them to me and we will get a professional graphic designer to design a mural with the best ideas submitted.

The closing date for this is Friday 5th February so get thinking.

Kart #138



On Sunday 24th January 2016 was the first big karting race for year 2016 in Malaysia. I haven't raced for almost four months since my last race in September 2015 and I was very excited to participate in the Junior category which is for drivers age 13 – 16 years old. Drivers from many parts of Asia and few drivers from Europe came to Sepang International Karting Circuit to race in the Rotax Invitational Race 2016. The event was divided into several races. The official Practice day was on Friday 22nd January and the Qualifying, Heat 1 and Heat 2 was on Saturday 23rd January. On Sunday was when all the most exciting races happened in Pre-Finals and Finals.

On Saturday, the races went well for me when I qualified 3rd out of 24 drivers with only missing out by a tenth for pole position. Heat 1 went smoothly as I moved up to 2nd position immediately after the start of the race and controlled it all through the race but unfortunately dropped to 3rd position on the 20th lap which was the last lap. I finished 4th in Heat 2 which means I could start 3rd position in Pre-Finals. During Pre-Finals on Sunday, I suffered engine problems which caused me to finish 5th position. I started 5th in the Finals and everything was going as planned as I climbed up to 2nd spot until my progress was hindered badly with an unlucky turn one incident which damaged my kart and costing a lot of precious time. I fought hard to catch up and recovered from the back of the field and caught up to 10th place before being involved in a second race incident and ended up finishing in 13th place for Finals. The top 3 finishers for Finals were from Singapore, Indonesia and China respectively.

Overall it was a fun and good weekend as this was the first time I raced with a new management team and used a different kart chassis. I usually race with my older brother Armand Johany 11N but he has to take a break from racing to focus on his studies for IGCSE. I am looking forward to more races this year. Thank you to all my teachers and friends for your support.

Arsh Johany 9X

Ed. – Good luck Arsh, we are so proud of you!

CAS REFLECTION

I have learned a lot from Nexus Community and I have also enjoyed it as well. After working with the Myanmar learners for more than 4 months, I am now more comfortable with them. We did a range of different activities together such as: karaoke, dancing, sports, cooking and a few other. Some of the activities were great to do with the Myanmar learners such as cooking as they were keen to know how to make food from other cultures but there are a few other activities which didn't really go well such as when we played "Just Dance" as the learners were uninterested in it and therefore were reluctant to do the activity which made the session slightly dull. That is one of the challenges that my group and I have to face every week because the learners have different interests and sometimes they disagree with each other's ideas. We can't always satisfy everyone in the group but we always try our best to come up with activities or ways to make all of the learners involved. Every week my team members and I take turns leading the group and I had to lead the first session. I decided to do Drama activities and team building games with the learners as I thought that would be a good start and I am glad that the activity went well. I also think that I can adjust my behaviour when I am around the learners now compared to the first few sessions I had with them. I think before I ask them any questions to make sure that I do not hurt their feelings or make them offended. I also realised that even though I am not working with the younger Myanmar learners, they still tend to follow the way I behave and the way I speak therefore I should always remember to not behave badly and to mind the language that I use. Nexus community has also given me the opportunity to be engaged with global issues such as education for all as it makes me realise how important it is for everyone to be educated as it is the main tool to make us successful in life and hopefully improve our position in society. I am looking forward to continue this activity as I have benefitted a lot from it. The amount of "Thank you" that I receive at the end of every session is priceless and it encourages me to continue to help others.



Amirah Adriana Ammar (Year 13)

Visual Arts Visit the National Art Gallery

Local Art with a French Connection



Nexus Visual Arts visited the Balai Seni Visual Negara (National Visual Arts Gallery) on Wednesday the 27th of January 2016 to find, and research contemporary and local artists to put into their projects. One of the exhibition areas was dedicated to Malaysian artists that had travelled to France to study art in Paris, beginning in the 1960's. It was interesting to see how these artists had returned to their homes with different ways of perceiving ideas as well as different processes about making artwork.

Here is a Year 10 comment about the trip:

"My art class had the privilege of attending the National Visual Art Gallery. I was intrigued by the amount of talent displayed by local artists, especially the sculptures. We were given the task to find an artist that specialises in perspective so that we can research about the artist later on. We witnessed multiple perspective artworks at the gallery. I specifically admired the "The Map of Jalan Petaling And Jalan Sultan" by Gan Sze Hooi. He used charcoal throughout his work and it took him only 19 days to complete the beautiful piece. Moreover, he consisted some pop art techniques in his work and he drew local people selling food on their kiosks. Overall, the art trip was really refreshing since i got to a lot of ideas and inspirations from the local artists. Adlina Year 10.

CCA Notice

There will be a two week break from CCA From January 29th, sessions will resume once more on Monday February 15th and continue uninterrupted until the end of term

During this period school buses will depart Nexus at 3:20 each day

Years 7 & 8 Learner-led Conference – Monday 14th March

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to let you know about an important change in our calendar for the Year 7 and Year 8 Learner-led Conference. This was originally due to take place on Monday 15th February, but has now been moved to later in the term and rescheduled for Monday 14th March.

Please adjust your diary now; be sure to keep that day free for coming in to school. More information will be coming out to you, in due course, regarding details of registration and what you can expect.

Kind regards

Chris Lynn

PRIMARY MUSIC NEWS

Congratulations to Year 4 for their wonderful enthusiastic singing during Wednesday's Year 4 Showcase Assembly. Well done!

Miss Ann



ABRSM Making Music Together Concert - Tuesday 2nd February at Eastin Hotel, PJ, 7.30pm



The Music Department is taking 19 learners to join lots of other international school in a massed concert organised by the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music (ABRSM). We will be rehearsing at Garden International School on Saturday 30th January and the concert will be at the Eastin Hotel in PJ on Tuesday 2nd February, 7.30pm.

Tickets for the concert are available from the Music Office priced RM40 (Adults) and RM25 (Child).

We look forward to working with some of the top musicians from other international schools from around Malaysia.

GCSE and IB Music Recital

On Tuesday 16th February the Y11 GCSE and Y13 IB learners will be performing their final examination pieces at 7pm in the Theatre.

The concert will be free and no tickets are needed - please put the date in your diary as it is going to be an evening of high class music by our examination learners.

Instrumental Parents' Evening

The Music Department's annual Instrumental Parents' Evening will be held on Tuesday 23rd February from 3.30pm to 5.30pm in the MPR. Letters will be sent home this week via all of the 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.

If you have not received your invitation letter, then can be found [HERE](#)

or here:



(Please note this parents' evening is only for parents of learners who have separate Instrumental/Vocal Lessons at school)

Instrumental Reports

Instrumental Report have been given out this week, if you have not received one yet then please email myself costello.t@nexus.edu.my to receive an electronic copy. The Instrumental Parents' Evening above will be an opportunity for you to discuss the learner's progress and report with the teacher.

The New Groves Dictionary of Music and Musicians

The Music Department is now in possession of 29 volumes of The New Groves Dictionary of Music and Musicians. The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians is an encyclopedic dictionary of music and musicians and it is one of the largest and most comprehensive reference works in the world on Western music. It will be a great asset to have in the Music Department especially for the IB and GCSE learners' research projects and it will also benefit learners further down the school.

Learners are welcome to help themselves to the books but please use them carefully. Do not take any of the books out of the Music Department as they are reference books only and please put them back where you got them from when you have finished using them.



Dates For Your Diaries

Tuesday 2nd February
 Tuesday 16th February
 Tuesday 23rd February
 Wednesday 2nd March
 Wednesday 23rd March

ABRSM Making Music Together Concert - 7.30pm Eastin Hotel, KL
 KS4 & 5 Musical Recitals - 7pm in the Theatre
 Instrumental Parents' Evening 3.30pm to 5pm in the MPR
 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://theconversation.com/jamming-with-your-toddler-how-music-trumps-reading-for-childhood-development-49660>

Magic Spells in Early Years!!!

Our IPC unit 'Let's pretend' has given our learners the opportunity to listen traditional tales and learn many new words and phrases, such as, 'lggety, ziggety, zaggety zoom!' and 'Is there room on the broom for a frog like me?' from our story of the week. Craft activities have included making magic potions, sock puppets and painting their favourite characters.

As the unit progresses learners will learn that traditional tales are often about different times and cultures. Learners will also become aware that these stories are enjoyed around the world with slight variations.

We have observed with interest at how the learners have used stories to develop their imagination as dramatic and symbolic play have been key features in this unit.

Don't be surprised if any of our learners cast a spell on you!



Visitor from the Stone Age in Year 1

IPC: We are What we eat: History task



The learners have been comparing their current diet to the food of the Early man. At first, it was quite difficult for the children to understand that there were no kitchens, no fridges, and most of all – no supermarkets such long time ago. We spent some time thinking of questions about the prehistoric man's food. Learners wrote them down during Literacy. And then...! The Year 1 classes had a very interesting visitor this week. They had a chance to present their questions in an interview! Our special guest was Mr. Caveman from the Stone age. Luckily, he spoke English. And in addition, he was very knowledgeable. So he told us all about how him and his tribe follow animals, how they hunt and catch them and sometimes eat them raw. He showed us what kind of weapons they make and how they use them. He explained how they live in caves and how they make fire. He was even able describe how they make clothes out of animal's skin. He admitted life in Stone age is really tough and you must be strong and resilient, because there are no hospitals or medication. We found out that prehistoric people use a lot of communication to complete different tasks. They always work as a team or they could not survive in the wild. After all, it was a great way to find out lots of information about the past in this enquiring way!

We are very thankful for the opportunity to meet Mr. Caveman and we learnt a lot from him!

Ms. Andrea

Welcome Coffee

We were glad to have welcomed new families at the PTA Welcome Coffee Morning last Tue Jan 26th where Ms. Alison gave an overview of what Nexus stands for as well as practical information to further ease the settling in process. Mr. David spoke in more detail about IPC and emphasized the importance for us as parents to understand how our learners learn at Nexus. An IPC steering committee has been established.

PTA committee members introduced themselves as well as some class reps and connected with and welcomed the new families and look forward to a great 2016 together.

Tue morning football

The weekly morning football has kicked off successfully (no pun intended!) with coach Carl. If learners are still interested to join, very welcome! Please contact Marlene through WhatsApp on: 014-997-5346

Nearly New @ Nexus PTA

Thank you parents for making our used uniform recycling campaign a success. Keep 'em coming and keep buying pre-loved uniforms in great condition!



SALE

Nearly New Uniforms

Great condition for as low as RM5, come check it out at PTA!

Thank you all parents for making our used uniform recycling campaign a success. Please keep them coming!



Nearly New @ Nexus PTA
A RECYCLE PROJECT BY PTA ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Volunteers needed

If you have time, interest and want to put your skills to good use please see how you can get involved and be part of a vibrant and growing PTA. We would love to hear from you!

We need volunteers for:

- Transportation (if your child takes the school bus), Celebrations, and ICT sub-committees
- Class representatives for year 11 and Y5 5E and 5N
- Advertising steering group to work together with Marketing on their advertising plans

Please email: pta@nexus.edu.my



新年快乐 xīn nián kuài lè “Happy Lunar New Year” or “Happy Chinese New Year”

As preparations for Lunar New Year are already well underway at Nexus, please note that the Lunar New Year Curriculum Day will be on Thursday 4th February NOT Friday 5th February as previously calendared.

We are extending the joy of the celebration as our Korean parents and learners are celebrating together for the Lunar New Year. (The Chinese New Year, or Lunar New Year is an annual celebration marking the start of the year according to the lunar calendar.) Teachers and learners may dress-up in traditional Chinese/Korean/Japanese/Vietnamese/Baba Nyonya costumes or any red or yellow clothing.

1. There will be learning activities and displays in the Main Library/LOTE Foyer on Thursday, 4th February.
2. The PTA is organising a Vegetarian Yee Sang Tossing and Food Tasting at the boarding cafeteria at 10am. The secondary snack time on 4th Feb will be at the boarding cafeteria.
3. In order to promote the spirit of going green, the Student Council has organised the “Bring your own container Campaign” for LNY Food Tasting on Thursday, learners and teachers are encouraged to bring your own container, cutlery and cup for the LNY Food Tasting.
4. We will be having the Lion Dance Performance at the Early Years play area at 1.30pm.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Secondary Athletics Day

Wednesday 3rd February - 8.40am until 3.10pm

With the Secondary Athletics day only a few short days away, the PE Dept are busy putting the final preparations in place for what promises to be an exciting day of track and field action.

Parents - You are all invited and encouraged to come along and support the event. It would be great to see you on the field cheering on our young athletes. I know they would appreciate it.

Learners - Please remember to arrive at school wearing your house colours and register with your P1 teacher.

Timings for the day are as follows:

8.40am - Register with P1 teacher

9.00am - First events begin

1.00pm - Lunchtime

2.00pm - Relays begin

3.00pm - EMU Parade and trophy presentation

3.10pm - Day ends

Click on the link to see [the schedule](#) for the day.

It is important to know what events you are entered into. Please check the information shared with you through Google drive and make sure you arrive at your event in good time.

Should you have any questions/queries please contact Mr Andy at smith.a@nexus.edu.my

PE Dept

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,

We look forward to seeing you there!

PE Dept

Sports Fixtures coming-up

Please come along and support.

Below is a list of confirmed fixtures for February:

Tuesday 2nd February

U11 Girls Football at Nexus Vs KLASS
U11 Boys Football at Nexus Vs KLASS

Wednesday 3rd February

U11 KLISS Girls Football at Nexus
U11 KLISS Boys Football at Nexus

Thursday 4th February

U15 ISAC Boys Basketball Finals at ISKL
U15 ISAC Girls Basketball Finals at Sunway



Saturday 13th February

U13 Boys Basketball at ISKL
U13 Girls Basketball at ISKL

Wednesday 17th February

U9 KLISS Boys Football at BSKL
U9 KLISS Girls Football at BSKL

Thursday 18th February

U15 KLISS Girls Basketball at BSKL
U15 KLISS Boys Basketball at KTJ

Saturday 20th February

U13 ISAC Boys Football at Nexus

Sunday 21st February

U13 ISAC Girls Football at Nexus

Tuesday 23rd February

U18 Girls Basketball at BSKL

Wednesday 24th February

U11 KLISS Girls Football Finals at TBC
U11 KLISS Boys Football Finals at TBC

Thursday 25th February

U16 Mixed Volleyball at UCSI Vs UCSI

Friday 26th February

ISAC Primary Track and Field - 7am until 12.30pm
ISAC Secondary Track and Field - 11am until 7pm

Sunday 28th February

U18 ISAC Boys and Girls Team Badminton at Setia Academy



Please note: The above information is liable to change at short notice. Check out the Sports calendar linked below for up to the minute information.

Go Wolves!

Mr Andy

Secondary Boys and Girls Basketball

We are Nexus and committed.

Last Saturday both the boys and girls basketball teams competed at ISKL in a series of friendly games.

Unfortunately the girls lost three games. One of the star players Tina sadly suffered a knee injury which prevented her playing in the last two games.

The boys team won 2 games against BSKL and Taylors and lost one game against KLASS. The boy all played well with the MVP award going to Syed

PE Dept

