

CONNECT04

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA

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NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
— SCHOOL —

PUTRAJAYA

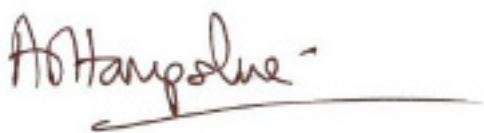
Whole School

Chinese New Year Curriculum Day

Gong Xi Fa Chai

Thank you to all parents, learners and staff who organised and took part in the Chinese New Year Curriculum Day. The day was an excellent learning experience and an opportunity for all learners to take part in traditional Chinese celebrations. Learners experienced tasting different foods and tea, as well as learning about Chinese culture in their lessons. The day started with some Chinese style dancing and ended with the traditional lion dance performed by students from a local Chinese school.

Regards,



Alison Hampshire
Principal



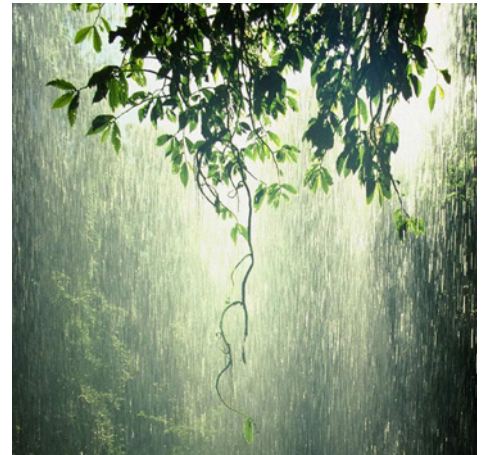
Primary

KL Primary Maths Challenge on the 23rd & 24th of January 2013

Last week twelve Year 6 learners took part in the KL Primary Maths Challenge hosted at the Alice Smith Primary Campus. Twelve teams from five schools took part and Nexus competed against GIS, BSKL, and DPC, as well as the hosts.

Over two days the teams completed a maths trail around KLCC park, three individual challenges in written maths, 2D shape drawing on iPads, and Mathletics. There were team challenges involving construction, the 4's challenge (details below) and coordinates.

All of the tasks were challenging and while the three Nexus teams finished ninth, tenth and twelfth all the team scores were extremely close. Ju Young from 6E finished fifth in the individual challenge, securing a well-deserved medal.



Year 3 Trip

Year 3 will be visiting FRIM on Thursday as part of their Rainforest topic.



Secondary

Old Newspapers Collection

The Secondary Art department would like to appeal for Newspapers as we are starting a paper mache project with the Year 9's, and to cover the table while painting. We also recycle the Newspapers for paper making and printing activities. Please send them to the Secondary Art room (122 or 123) anytime during school hours. All contributions are highly appreciated.

Exams Y9, Y10 & Y11

The IGCSE and IB Mock examinations start Friday 7th February with Year 9 & 10 classes sitting Bahasa Malaysia at 10.30 in the MPR, the Art candidates for Y11 will be doing their mock from 10.20am in the Art Room and those in Years 10 and 11 sitting the Maths Paper in the MPR at 1.30pm. All learners need to be there 15 minutes beforehand.

It will not be possible for exam candidates to attend Friday prayers for the two Fridays of the exams. If anyone is late for exams, they will not be awarded extra time. Please check exam timetables carefully for start times.

Year 9 Options Eve

All learners and parents in Year 9 should attend the IGCSE Options Evening held on the 6th February starting at 6pm in the Theatre. This is an important event, as subject teachers will provide valuable information about the course options for Year 10. It will also be an opportunity to discuss face-to-face subject choices with each teacher.



HMS Daring

21 learners from Year 9 were lucky enough to be able to visit the British warship, HMS Daring, docked in Port Klang on Thursday 23rd Jan. The visit started with us boarding the ship and seeing a Search and Rescue Helicopter. There were four mechanics working on the engine, but the most surprising part was that there were two torpedoes next to the helicopter; we were then greeted by Glenn, the chef, and a soldier. The operations centre is where they control the weapons and radars of the ship. The SCC is the ship's control centre, is where they can switch off anything on the ship. The people there control and make sure everything in the ship is working right. We found out lots of interesting information relating to the weapons the ship carried and were awed by their size and cost. All of the Radars on the ship were made by Samsung.





CAS Reflection Tan, Emy

Today I taught them a new stroke, which they were very excited to learn. At the start of the session, I asked them what stroke they wanted to learn today, and since the butterfly stroke has that aesthetic beauty to it while swimming, it was their number one choice.

I needed patience when teaching them butterfly because the strikes and techniques can be quite demanding in terms of strength and it can be hard to comprehend and remember the many body co-ordinations that seems to move all at once. I did try my hardest to be patient with my swimmers to cultivate their interest in swimming and not 'scare' them away. To do that, I remembered back the past times where I learned butterfly and the times where I learned something new and remembered being afraid of getting it wrong and the fears of being embarrassed - not being able to do it when others could...

I believe I did quite a good job in coaching/ polishing their butterfly strokes as at the end of the day they could at least swim the butterfly stroke for 50m.

After the session was supposed to end, I took the initiative to ask a swimmer in my class whether he would like stay back for an extra time and further polish his strokes as he seemed really interested in getting his strokes right. I swam underwater while he swam the butterfly stroke to pick out his mistakes and correct them. He got better and better which was a satisfying accomplishment for me.

J-NISPMUN

After months of planning and organising, the NISPMUN team's effort finally culminated last Friday in the form of J-NISPMUN. This being the third conference that we have organised in the entirety of our MUN lifetime, we used what we have learnt from the last few sessions to create a beginner-friendly yet challenging experience for the delegates. While boasting a relatively modest number, the delegates of International School @ Desa Park City and Nexus International School never ceased to amaze us with the quality debate and discussion they put up.

Handling the controversial topic of death penalty for drug offenses, the delegates managed to handle relevant issues maturely whilst showing a deep understanding of the country they're representing. Although most delegates were young and inexperienced, they impressed all present with their confident speaking, serious attitude and creative solutions. There were, of course, some bizarre (but interesting nonetheless) ideas ranging from concentration camps for drug offenders and substitution of the capital punishment with decapitation (and permanent disfigurement) but in the end, everyone (inclusive of the delegates and ourselves) has learnt from each other and that is our proudest achievement of this conference. It was, all in all, an enriching conference for both the delegates and organisers. Hopefully, this will mark the start of a new bond between the people of Nexus International School and International School @ Desa Park City. If you want to see a video of the conferences, head over to the NISPMUN Page on Facebook!

**You Zhen and Jerrell,
The Secretary-Generals of J-NISPMUN
2014**

The Silver IA Trip Was Great

When we first arrived in Langkawi we went to the logistics centre and had a briefing about what we would be doing on the trip. Later we planned out our meals, played an icebreaker game (where we learnt new things about each other) went shopping and packed what we would need for the next few days. That afternoon, we started our kayaking journey, which wasn't THAT tiring, but we found it hard to stick together as a group as some people were way ahead of others. We reached the campsite and set up our tents, washed up a little, and started making dinner. Surprisingly the dinner wasn't bad, it was actually pretty decent (thanks to Danny). Cleaning up after dinner took quite a while so there wasn't much time to do much else, so we all went to sleep early as it had been a long day.

The next day, we spend most of the day kayaking to our second campsite. When lunchtime approached, we dragged our kayaks onto a beach that was opposite of our second and final campsite. We then prepared and ate lunch, and afterwards we kayaked our way across the river. We then had to drag our kayaks through a mangrove environment for roughly 30 meters. We arrived at the campsite and then we had to do our usual stuff like setting up the tent, sorting ourselves out and preparing for dinner. This time, dinner was made by Ryan (group 2's leader) alongside with other team members. After dinner, we set up a campfire and went around in a circle and said what we liked and what we hated about that day. Later on, one of the guides taught us about stars. The stars there were amazing.

On the last day we packed our tents and jumped on our kayaks ready to kayak to our last destination, which was the main island and where we started our kayaking journey. After we arrived (what seemed like hours and hours) we ate lunch and headed back to the logistics centre. We then had some washing and cleaning up to do before we were able to shower and pack our bags. And finally, we flew back to Kuala Lumpur.

Although the trip was tiring at times, it was a pretty good trip, and it was nice spending time with each other.



University Preparation

Summer Schools With Kingdom Education

Last week the CEO of Kingdom Education met with learners from Y12 to talk about their summer school programs. They are running during the summer holiday in the UK, USA, Australia and New Zealand. They are aimed at university preparation for a number of disciplines including Medicine, Engineering, Economics and more.

For more information ask Mr Conner for details and see the application forms here in Connect.

Secondary Art Request

Secondary Art would like to request these items below for the Year 11 to use for their Art Mock exam on the 7th February 2014

1. Old bleached bones
2. Unwanted jars of preserves.
3. Old maps

Please send them to the Secondary Art room (122 or 123) anytime during school hours. All contributions are highly appreciated. Secondary Art also would like to take this opportunity to wish "Gong Xi Fa Chai" and happy holiday to all at Nexus International School. Thanks in advance, Mauro Brooks, Head of Visual Art.

Year 7 Humanities Field Trip on the 27th of January

Year 7 students went on a trip to discover more about Putrajaya, to discover if it's unique and to see how it plays into the 9 factors of location.

We got on the bus and drove to the Taman Wetlands, and we were divided into groups. My particular group went with Miss Suzy, and we all headed to the Lookout Tower first. Our group climbed all the way to the top, and I started getting this jelly kind of feeling in my legs so I grabbed a friend and held on tight, because we were getting really high up. Or not that high at all, but looking down was scary.

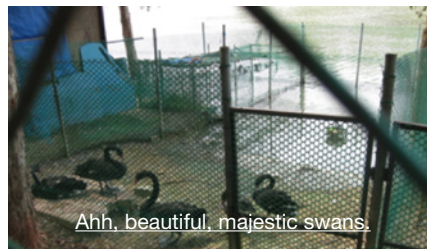
We were given booklets in the morning before we got to the wetlands, so we got them out and answered the questions. We had to sketch the skyline from different sides of the Lookout Tower. Mine turned out pretty bad, but in my defence I had nothing to hold my paper on and it was really windy.



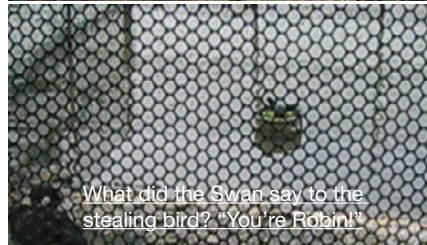
A View from Lookout Tower

After the Lookout Tower, we got down and selected two leaders. We were not supposed to walk in front of them, and they were to lead the way to the next destination; in this case, Swan Lake. One of the leaders got us a little lost, but we got to the Swan Lake in the end. There were many ducks and

one pure black swan in cages. My friends and I also saw a truly scandalous act - the pigeons stole the food of the swans! We caught this act on film!



Ahh, beautiful, majestic swans.



What did the Swan say to the stealing bird? "You're Robin!"

Then we went to the Flamingo Pond. At first I was confused because the flamingos were white, but then I noticed under their wings they had a very bright pink colour. We saw mandarin ducks too, and some of them buried their heads in their feathers, and one even walked around like that!



Flamingo Pond at Taman Wetland

We went to see the start of the actual wetlands. We learnt about mangrove trees, and how they protected Malaysia against the floods. Natural and resourceful! We got back in the bus and went to Putrajaya where we waited to get on a cruise. We got on the boat and the tour guide started explaining

about all the bridges and these buildings. After the tour guide let us on the front of the boat and the top. My friends and I went to the top and started re-enacting the famous Titanic scene.



My heart will go oooooon...



Cruise /silk boat tour of Putrajaya

After that, we bought ice-cream, and (again) went on the bus and drove to the PLCC. We answered the rest of the questions in our booklet and took a group photo. I took a photo of the view we had to sketch.



At the Putrajaya International Convention Centre



View of Putrajaya from the PICC

By Jasmin Nabila Mahathir

Music News

Jamhub



The new “JamHub” in the reception area of the Music Department is proving a great success with lots of learners using it a break and lunchtimes and also in their classroom lessons. The JamHub is a silent band rehearsal system that allows a whole rock band to rehearse in silence, but still be able to hear each other performing. All learners are welcome to use the JamHub at break and lunchtimes to rehearse their rock bands using it. You do not need to ask for permission to use it.

Instrumental Lessons

Invoices for this term's Instrumental Lessons are ready and will be sent out to you this week. Can I please ask you to pay them promptly. If you are new to the school or have been here for a while and just want to try out playing an instrument, then please ask your parents to fill in the application form here: <https://sites.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/music-department/sign-up-for-instrumental-lessons>

We still have got the following

instruments to Loan To You Free of Charge, which will save you money on the start-up costs of learning an instrument. We have the following instruments:

Flutes, alto saxes, clarinets, violins, cellos, trumpets and trombones.

Music Technology Club

The Music Technology Club is going strong with the first professional CD recording of Rasha and Norlisa in Y8. The CD/Track will be available in a couple of weeks and will be placed on the Music Department Website.

Vocal Group

The Vocal Group is going well on Wednesday lunchtimes with Mr Tim. Any secondary learners and staff are welcome to come along. We will be performing in the Spring Concert in the Theatre on 12th March.

Spring Concert

This term sees the return of the Spring Concert on 12th March. The Spring Concert is designed to showcase the talents of Nexus musicians of Grade 5 standard and above, including the GCSE learners. The auditions for the Spring Concert will be held on 19th February, so please start practising now. Learners who audition in groups will be looked on favourably.

Recorder Club Wednesday for Y3 & 4

Miss Ann's Recorder Club is up and running again this term. Any Y3 and

4 learners who wish to take part can come along at lunchtimes on Wednesdays in the Primary Music Room.

String Group on Tuesday for Secondary Learners

Mr Mervin is running his String Group on Monday lunchtimes for all secondary learners. Please come along if you play violin, viola or 'cello. The String Group will be performing in the Spring Concert in March. You will need to commit to rehearsals in order to take part in the concert.

Rock Band Club on Tuesday for Secondary Learners

Mr Suneel is running the Rock Band Club on Tuesday lunchtimes. He is also running a Rock Band Club CCA on Tuesdays after school if you would like to be involved. Any band that attends the lunchtime club or Tuesday CCA WILL be included in the Rock Concert in June.

If you just want to come along as a guitarist, singer, bass player, drummer, keyboard player, etc., we will place you in a band/group appropriate for you.

Instrumental Reports

All of the Instrumental Reports have now been written. They will be given out this week just in time for the Instrumental Parents' Evening on 18th February.

Primary Choir for Y3-6 on Friday Lunchtime

Miss Ann is running her Primary Choir on Friday lunchtimes. If you are in Year 3 to 6, then please come along and have some fun singing. You will also get the opportunity to take part in our Young Performers' Concert in May.

Instrumental Parents' Evening

The Music Department's 'Instrumental Parents' Evening' will be held on Tuesday 18th February from 4pm to 6pm in the MPR. Letters will be sent home this 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 in the next week. Hopefully you will have received their Instrumental Report beforehand and it will be an opportunity for you to discuss their progress with their teacher. If you have not received the Instrumental Report yet then please ask your son/daughter's instrumental teacher. I will also be on hand for the whole Parents' Evening if you have any larger questions.

Dates For Your Diaries

3rd Feb	Instrumental Reports should be with all parents
18th Feb	Instrumental Parents' Evening - 4pm to 6pm in MPR
19th Feb	Auditions for Senior Spring Concert
20th Feb	KS4 & 5 Drama Production
12th March	Senior Spring Concert
9th & 10th April	Bugsy Malone - The Musical

Why Study Music?



More 'Practice Tips' for learners and parents:

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/deceptivecadence/2013/09/03/216906386/10-easy-ways-to-optimize-your-music-practice>



Visit to the Malaysian National Planetarium

Saturday 25/1/14

This was my first time going to a National Planetarium. We watched two shows. The first show was about the great gods and the constellations and the second show was about stars. It was a very interesting show. I learnt a lot about the formation of stars and our solar system.

At school on Tuesday we celebrated Chinese New Year. Many of the boarders dressed up in their Chinese clothes. We ate a lot of tasty Chinese food and at lunchtime we were entertained by a lion dance.

Dhrrithi Patel - Year 8

PE News

The under 13 boys and girls competed at a friendly fixture at GIS on Tuesday both teams performed very well despite being defeated. Ashraf was the boys man of the match and Qutreen for the girls.

The under 9 and under 11 girls played their first competitive game at home against GIS and represented Nexus with real pride.

The under 9 and 11 boys team performed excellently at Tenby on Monday and Wednesday and won all of their games.

The Under 12 Girls came in fourth place at a football tournament at LFKL on Sunday.

Well done to both our under 15 basketball teams who performed extremely well at a basketball game at ISKL on Saturday.

The Under 15 boys won the tournament at LFKL on Sunday with some great performances. Special thanks to Martin Redmond for leading the team to glory and for clarifying his position as the most successful football coach in Nexus history.





Kingdom Education

Programme Schedule, 2014

The United Kingdom (July and August)

2 weeks: Oxford

OX3	University, Over 18	Thu, Jul 10	-	Thu, Jul 24	£ 2,450
OX6	High school, 14-16	Thu, Jul 24	-	Thu, Aug 7	£ 2,450
OX8	High school, 16-18	Thu, Jul 31	-	Thu, Aug 14	£ 2,450

2 weeks, 2-centre: Oxford, York

OX1 / YK1	High school, 16-18	Thu, Jul 3	-	Thu, Jul 17	£ 2,550
OX9 / YK6	High school, 16-18	Thu, Aug 7	-	Thu, Aug 21	£ 2,550

3 weeks, 3-centre: Oxford, St. Andrews, York

OX2 / SA1 / YK2	High school, 16-18	Thu, Jul 3	-	Thu, Jul 24	£ 3,750
OX4 / SA2 / YK3	University, Over 18	Thu, Jul 10	-	Thu, Jul 31	£ 3,750
OX5 / SA3 / YK4	University, Over 18	Thu, Jul 17	-	Thu, Aug 7	£ 3,750
OX7 / SA4 / YK5	High school, 16-18	Thu, Jul 24	-	Thu, Aug 14	£ 3,750

2 weeks: Cambridge

CB1	University, Over 18	Sat, Jul 19	-	Sat, Aug 2	£ 2,650
CB2	University, Over 18	Sat, Aug 9	-	Sat, Aug 23	£ 2,650

The United States - East Coast (July and August)

2 weeks: Massachusetts for Boston and New York

AM1	High school, 15-18	Mon, Jul 14	-	Mon, Jul 28	US\$ 3,850
AM3	University, Over 18	Mon, Jul 28	-	Mon, Aug 11	US\$ 3,850

3 weeks, 2-centre: Massachusetts for Boston and New York, Virginia for Washington DC

AM2 / DC2	High school, 15-18	Wed, Jul 16	-	Wed, Aug 6	US\$ 5,400
DC1 / AM4	University, Over 18	Wed, Jul 16	-	Wed, Aug 6	US\$ 5,400

The United States - California (July and August)

3 weeks, 2-centre: San Francisco, Los Angeles

LA1 / SF2	High school, 15-18	Sun, Jul 6	-	Sun, Jul 27	US\$ 6,450
SF1 / LA2	University, Over 18	Sun, Jul 6	-	Sun, Jul 27	US\$ 6,450

2 weeks: San Francisco

SF3	High school, 15-18	Sun, Jul 27	-	Sun, Aug 10	US\$ 4,100
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Australia (December 2014 - February 2015)

3-week university tour

High School, 15-18	To be advised, early 2014	AUS\$ to be advised
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New Zealand (December 2014 - February 2015)

2-week university tour

High School, 15-18	To be advised, early 2014	NZ\$ to be advised
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*Fees include, as specified on the Kingdom Education website or in other publicity materials: tuition, activities, accommodation, most meals, airport transfers, transfers between centres on 2-centre or 3-centre programmes or tours, insurance, domestic taxes.

*Fees do not include: international flights, or domestic flights to reach the programme's starting point or to leave at the end.

All information subject to change.



Kingdom Education



THE KINGDOM EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Educational • Cultural • Inspirational

2014 PROGRAMMES

Premium-quality summer programmes in the United Kingdom, the USA, Australia and New Zealand.



Our mission is to provide ambitious young minds with the foundations for success in a global context. To this end, we offer life-changing experiences at centres of academic excellence across the English-speaking world, together with guidance on applying to top universities or on pursuing top careers.

Our philosophy is that success depends not just on the ability to memorise and prepare for examinations, but also on critical and independent thought, on commitment and passion, on creativity and imagination, on teamwork and debate.