

CONNECT06

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA

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"Rainforest"

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NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
— SCHOOL —

PUTRAJAYA

Primary

Milepost 2 Production

On Thursday 13th February, Milepost 2 (year 3 and 4) put on a wonderful performance with their show 'A Big Green Adventure'.

Our stage was transformed into a gorgeous rainforest with the help of a giant LED screen, kindly loaned to us by a year 4 parent. Our learners took us through a tale of an environment in peril. We learnt about deforestation, pollution, litter, traffic congestion, recycling, animal welfare and much more. Milepost 2 performers expertly demonstrated the way these issues and more have a direct effect on the environment we live in today and leave for tomorrow's generation.

We enjoyed a spectacle of acting, singing, dancing and jokes. Well done Milepost 2 for putting on a fantastic show. Many thanks to all the staff and parents for all their hard work.



Year 3 Entry Point to the “Rainforest Theme”



Last week the learners of Year 3 visited FRIM (Forest Reserve Institute Malaysia) as the entry point for their new IPC topic ‘Saving The World’. Some of the learners wrote a report of their trip.

As soon as we got on the bus, everyone was very nervous and excited. We didn’t know what to expect from our trip to the rainforest. We had a long trip ahead of us but we didn’t mind because we were playing games and talking to each other. The air con was very cold, like it was snowing on the bus!

Firstly, when we arrived, we had snack and then we had to face the most “challenging” bathroom but we tried to be adaptable and not complain about it. Some of us just didn’t go at all. After that we visited a pond and saw huge eels. We had not expected that one would be male and one would be female. They were long, about 2 metres and were good swimmers. Next we went to the gallery. We saw products made from the rainforest trees and learnt that a whole tree can make a dinner table.

Finally, we went hiking in the rainforest. We were surprised by the loud sounds of the forest made by animals and insects. We were amazed by how tall the trees were. The guide gave us all different kinds of leaves to smell. One leaf smelt like garlic, another one smelt like tea! The sizes of some of the leaves were gigantic, bigger than a year 3 learner. The roots made a lovely set of stairs to climb up and down on the trail, that was a surprise for us. We saw a tree that looked like a fossil and pretty patterned leaves. It was interesting that the trees were not touching each other.

In conclusion, Year 3 learners are very excited as we start our IPC learning about the rainforest. It was fun to see the different places in the forest and we were sad to go home. The trip was exhausting, hot, sweaty and we got a lot of mosquito bites BUT we’d love to go back again tomorrow!





The Primary school is having a 'dance-a-thon' with primary learners on Friday 21st Feb (last day of half-term) and the learners have had sponsor sheets home.

They should come in PE kit on that day - the event is aimed at raising funds for small outdoor play equipment to be used by learners during play and lunch time.

Pick Up At End of School Day

Please note that parents/drivers must collect their primary aged children from the cafeteria. There have been some occasions recently where learners have been asked to meet their parents at the gate or the guardhouse. In the interests of safety we will not allow learners to leave the cafeteria unaccompanied at the end of the school day. Thank you for your co-operation.



National Planetarium

Trips Next Week

Tuesday	Year 5 will visit the National Planetarium
Thursday	Year 2 will visit the National Museum

Please see the year group websites for more details.



National Museum

Secondary

Important Information for Sports Day on Monday 17th February

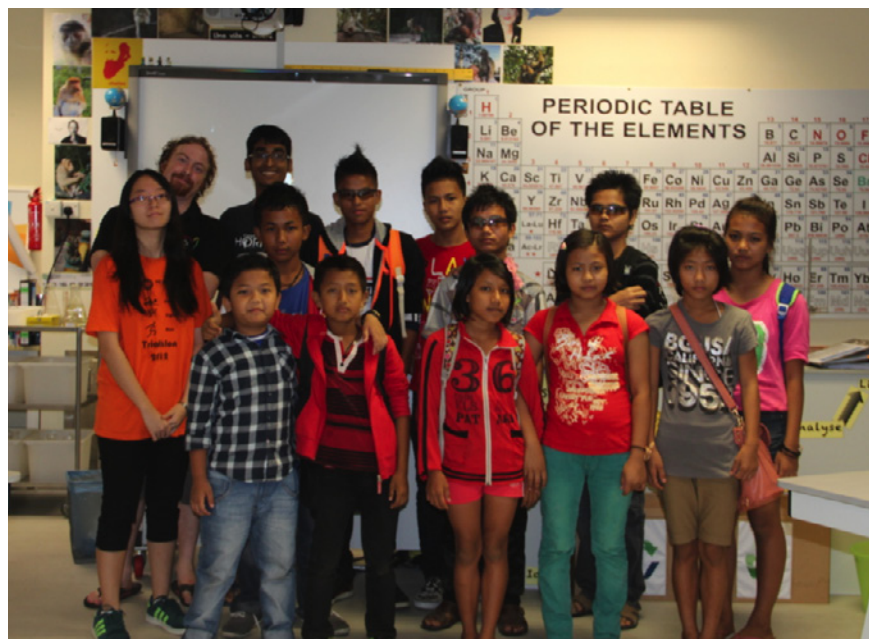
Thank you to everyone who has signed-up to compete in events on Monday. The majority of events are now full, meaning it should be an exciting atmosphere and an extremely close competition.

If you would still like to sign-up to an event, please check the event lists on the day and if you see a spare place, please approach the official in charge of that event.

Please note the following:

1. Make sure you know where and at what time your event is taking place. (details are on the PE notice board by the changing rooms)
2. Register with your tutor at 8.35am in your PSHE room.
3. Wear your PE Shorts + trainers, along with an appropriately coloured T-Shirt (house colours, No football shirts).
4. If you have a clash of events, eg you are scheduled to run the 100m and compete in the high Jump at the same time, make sure you register with your field event first by telling the member of staff in charge that you intend to return and then compete in the track event. Failure to register your attendance with the member of staff will mean that you may miss your event. **TRACK EVENTS TAKE PRIORITY**
5. The PTA are selling healthy snacks and drinks so please bring some money.
6. Do not forget to bring a hat, a water bottle and sunscreen with a high SPF. The forecast is clear skies and 35 degrees so please look after yourselves.
7. Please make sure you show commitment on the day and do not back out of events. Everybody who competes in an event wins points for their respective house team, which means it is important you complete your event as last year only a few points separated many of the house teams.





Myanmar Refugee Community Day

On Saturday, the 8th of February, Nexus Learners who participated in Nexus community as well as a number of boarders participated in an event where Myanmar refugee students from four schools visited our school.

From 9.30 to 12.40 the students learned science; taught by Mr.Jimi and Mr.Chris, Cooking; taught by Ms. Jenny and Mr. Martyn and Art taught by Mr.Brooks and Mr. Saiful. Both the Nexus Learners and the students enjoyed the day quite a bit and afterwards we headed off to eat some lunch and have a bite of the tasty pizza we had made in cooking class. After our break, we separated into various groups and had some fun with the kids, with them we played football and swimming and also had a lot of fun in the playground.



CIS Survey Summary

In the 1st Term we invited Parents, Learners, Teachers and the Board to complete the CIS (Council of International Schools) Survey.

A summary of the results can be seen here, please click on the link below:

<http://www.nexus.edu.my/getattachment/About-Nexus/Accreditations/NexusCISSelfStudySurveyResults.pdf.aspx>

The school has started the process of CIS accreditation and the survey provides a foundation for the school to look at areas of development and areas of strength.

Nexus now has 12 months to develop the areas identified in the survey to further improve the school.

We will soon be asking for a group of Parents to contribute to this process of development.



CAS Reflection

Charles Mok, Siti Hasmah

After 10 weeks of running 5km every week, I have achieved my goal of decreasing my running time. This was all done by increasing my awareness of my strengths and areas of growth; by finding areas that I needed to improve on. My running time has been decreased from 1 hour to 30-20 minutes. Also, I have successfully committed myself by enforcing a strict running routine for myself that continued for a duration of 10 weeks.

Moreover, I managed to show perseverance throughout the my running routine by continuing in order to complete a running time of 5km even though it was challenging. Throughout this entire activity, I've definitely developed several new skills. One would be skills that enhance running speed and decrease stopping time, for example, placing your foot a certain way when your foot touches the ground while running. Also, finding a breathing pattern that suits me best and maintaining it throughout the 5km run. Another set of skills that I managed to develop throughout the activity would be maintaining perseverance. One of the main goals was to increase stamina and this has been achieved. I can run for longer and at a faster speed compared to when I first started this activity and compared to before I started this activity.

The activity has been a learning curve for me, not only physically but also mentally. The perseverance that I've showed were both physically and mentally. I managed to keep a strict routine for myself regardless of whether or not I wanted to. I also managed to develop running skills that I have been able to use in daily life and sporting events. For example, breathing and running techniques. This was due to my awareness of my strengths and areas of growth, without a doubt, I learned something new every time I went for a run.

Finally, this activity has been very beneficial for me personally and the increase in stamina will help me with future action activities.

Music News

Instrumental Lessons

Invoices for this terms Instrumental Lessons are ready and should have been sent out to you already. 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 below:

<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 saxophones, 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.

We are starting a NEW round of training for any learners who would like to be trained in how to use the recording studio. Anyone who would like to learn how a professional recording studio works, can join Mr Suneel and Mr Tim on Thursday lunchtimes at 1.15pm in the Recording Studio, 4th Floor. Please send us an email showing your interest in the NEW sessions starting in TWO weeks or SIGN UP BELOW:

<https://docs.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/document/d/1To6zZx4qsJVmzaAr-H-Ttc6cRU9aErz5Y9FT0DNhx64/edit>

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.

If you would like an audition for the Spring Concert then please email me here: costello.t@nexus.edu.my or add

your name to the Audition List below:

<https://docs.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/document/d/1kGwUAAydjMbBI9OmkaImIteNHkGRG3hkgJwAa2vdLWc/edit>

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. If you have not recieved an invitation letter then please click here and return it to the Music Deaprtment ASAP: Click the link below for Invitation Letter:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/156fKMq-KYzQ8lUJLI0Wisk8arHLrBEDis-SW5jlmQOs/edit?pli=1>

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 or email me for a copy: costello.t@nexus.edu.my

I will also be on hand for the whole Parents' Evening if you have any larger questions.

Why Study Music?

How Many Hours a Day Should You Practice?

<http://www.bulletproofmusician.com/how-many-hours-a-day-should-you-practice/>

Dates For Your Diaries

18th February	Instrumental Parents' Evening - 4pm to 6pm in MPR * Please return the form to the Music Department ASAP
19th February	Auditions for Senior Spring Concert
20th February	KS4 & 5 Drama Production
12th March	Senior Spring Concert
9th & 10th April	Bugsy Malone - The Musical

Drama News

IGCSE Drama / IBDP Theatre Showcase



Showcase tickets are now on sale!

This is the highlight of our IGCSE / IBDP learners' performing lives - please come to support them. Learners aged 13 and above, and friends and family members, are invited to join us for an evening of scripted and devised pieces which are guaranteed to get people talking. It's an ideal chance for Year 9 learners who are about to make their Options choices to see first-hand what happens on our Drama course.

Travel to an unfamiliar Venice with a group of teenagers from the UK, witness the fallout of a crumbling South American dictatorship and a woman who will stop at nothing for revenge, discover what happens when a girl from the past gets caught up in the lives of everyday students, and try your hand at becoming a spect-actor in our Forum Theatre pieces...there's something for everyone!

Please note that due to the mature content and strong language used in some of the pieces, the Showcase is unsuitable for children below 13 years of age.

Tickets are available from Reception, priced RM10 for adults, RM5 for learners.

Performing Arts Trip to Singapore



We're delighted to offer Y9, 10 and 12 learners the opportunity to experience a trip to Singapore on May 9th - 11th.

We'll be seeing an open-air performance of Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice', including a backstage tour and talk with the actors & director, taking a behind-the-scenes tour of film sets at 'Universal Studios', and watching the West End musical hit 'Grease'.

This is a brilliant opportunity for you to see English Literature in action and experience live performance and filming.

A letter will be sent out soon to parents, please see Ms Rach if you have any questions.

Bugsy Malone



We still need assistance finding props and costumes, men's suits in particular - please take time to take a look at this list and let us know if you can help.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/14nyvwO0-OJoBGvGiahqQhwIJJLobbbAqCCKjdb_DP_A/edit?usp=sharing

KIDS WANTED FOR A NETFLIX INTERNATIONAL MINI SERIES CASTING CALL

NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR TWO CHILD ACTORS
BETWEEN 4YRS-11YRS TO STAR IN OUR SHOW!
THEY WILL BE PLAYING THE EMPERORS SON AND
DAUGHTER IN THE STORY OF MARCO POLO IN
THE COURTS OF KUBLAI KHAN!

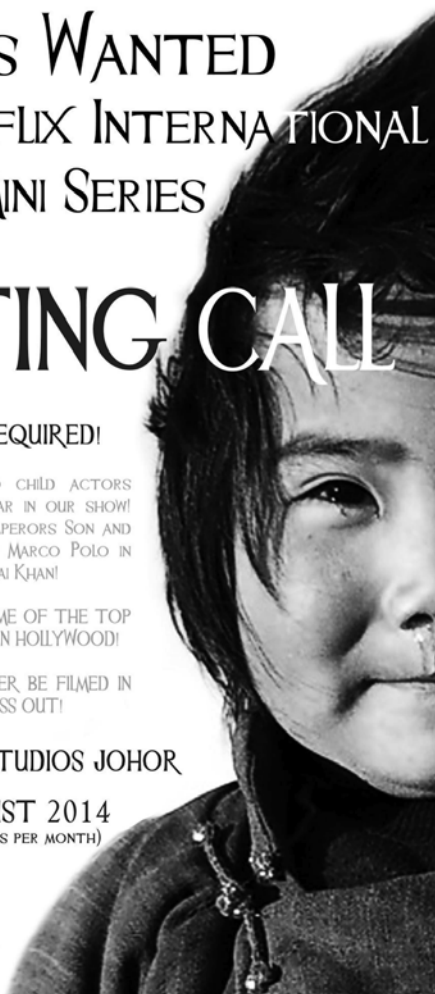
CHANCE TO WORK WITH SOME OF THE TOP
PRODUCERS & DIRECTORS IN HOLLYWOOD!

THE BIGGEST SHOW TO EVER BE FILMED IN
MALAYSIA - DON'T MISS OUT!

WHERE: PINWOOD STUDIOS JOHOR

WHEN: MAY - AUGUST 2014
(WE WILL ONLY NEED THEM 3-4 DAYS PER MONTH)

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT
JESSICA +6012-206-1124 OR
+607-560-1837 OR
JESSICA.CASTING@GMAIL.COM OR VISIT
JESSICA JOHOR ON FACEBOOK!



Boaders Blog

On Saturday, the 8th of February, Nexus Learners who participated in Nexus community as well as a number of boarders participated in an event where Myanmar refugee students from four schools visited our school.

From 9.30 to 12.40 the students learned science; taught by Mr. Jimi and Mr. Chris, Cooking; taught by Ms. Jenny and Mr. Martyn and Art taught by Mr. Brooks and Mr. Saiful. Both the Nexus Learners and the students enjoyed the day quite a bit and afterwards we headed off to eat some lunch and have a bite of the tasty pizza we had made in cooking class.

After our break, we separated into various groups and had some fun with the kids. We played football and went swimming. We also had a lot of fun in the playground.

On the 9th of February, Sunday, a number of boarders went to Megamall Midvalley to enjoy some Laser tag at 'Galaxy Laser'. Our boarders performed fairly well and enjoyed the event. We had two games and it was extremely fun. During the break between two games, the boarders enjoyed an eventful time in the adjacent arcade and after the second game they had an hour to shop and explore the shopping mall.

Mohamed Ahsam Ali - Year 12



ELL Information

Soon the results from the mock exams will be released. This is a good time for learners and parents to reflect on the study habits of the learners and make any indicated improvements. For parents of younger children, you can start helping your children develop good study habits now.

Study Tips & Study Skills

Students with better study methods and strategies score higher on their exams.

1. Everyone is different. Different methods work for different people; the following are only suggestions on improving upon your current studying techniques.
2. It is best to review the material right after class when it's still fresh in your memory.
3. Don't try to do all your studying the night before the test. Instead space out your studying, review class materials at least several times a week, focusing on one topic at a time.
4. Have all of your study material in front of you: lecture notes, course textbooks, study guides and any other relevant material.
5. Find a comfortable and quiet place to study with good lighting and little distractions (try avoiding your own bed; it is very tempting to just lie down and take a nap).
6. Start out by studying the most important information.
7. Learn the general concepts first, don't worry about learning the details until you have learned the main ideas.
8. Take notes and write down a summary of the important ideas as you read through your study material.
9. Take short breaks frequently. Your memory retains the information that you study at the beginning and the end better than what you study in the middle.
10. Space out your studying, you'll learn more by studying a little every day instead of waiting to cram at the last minute. By studying every day, the material will stay in your long-term memory but if you try to study at the last moment, the material will only reside in your short-term memory that you'll easily forget.
11. Make sure that you understand the material well, don't just read through the material and try to memorize everything.
12. If you choose to study in a group, only study with others who are serious about the test.
13. Test yourself or have someone test you on the material to find out what your weak and strong areas are. You can use the review questions at the end of each chapter, practice tests that the teacher may give out or other pertinent materials.
14. Listening to relaxing music such as classical or jazz on a low volume can relieve some of the boredom of studying.
15. Don't study later than the time you usually go to sleep, you may fall asleep or be tempted to go to sleep, instead try studying in the afternoon or early evening. If you are a morning person try studying in the morning.

Additional information can be obtained from the website that provided the about study tips and study skills at <http://www.testtakingtips.com>

IGCSE/IBDP Drama Showcase

7.30pm Thursday
20/2/2014

"Travel to an unfamiliar Venice with a group of teenagers from the UK, witness the fallout of a crumbling South American dictatorship and a woman who will stop at nothing for revenge, discover what happens when a girl from the past gets caught up in the lives of everyday students, and try your hand at becoming a spect-actor in our Forum Theatre pieces... there's something for everyone!"

Lunch in Venice

**Tickets are available
from Reception**



**RM10 / Adult
RM5 / Learner**

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ms Rach
Drama Coordinator

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