

# CONNECT07

GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA

WHOLE SCHOOL (2)

## **Nexus Book Week** **3-7 March**

PRIMARY (3-5)

**The Great Book Swap Event**

LASCO Maths Challenge

**Year 6 & 3 Collaborate**

Fun & Learning @ Planetarium Negara

SECONDARY (6-11)

**Year 10 Option Choices**

Year 13 Parent Teacher Conference

**Sports Day 17/3 Review**

Parental Portal

## **CAS Reflection**

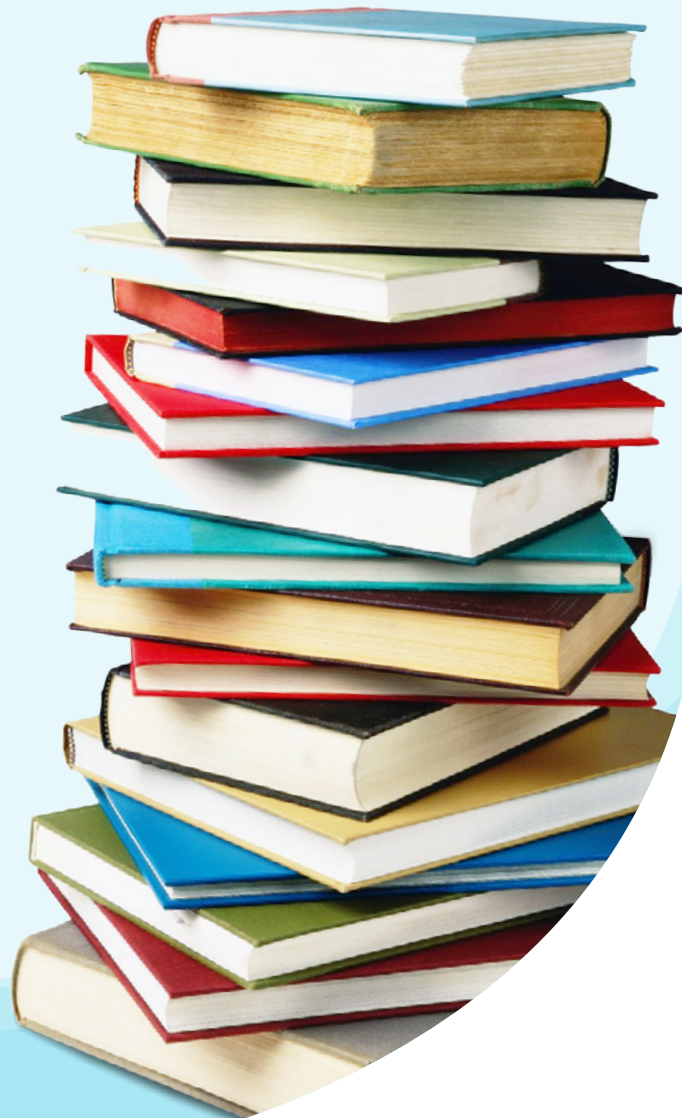
**"Sports Day by Ryan Kam"**

Langkawi Diary

**Year 12 Chinese Learners**

Saturday Rock Climbing

MUSIC & DRAMA NEWS (14-15)



**NEXUS**  
INTERNATIONAL  
— SCHOOL —

PUTRAJAYA

# Whole School

## “HEROES & VILLAINS”

### Welcome to Nexus Book Week 3-7 March

Dear Parents and Learners,

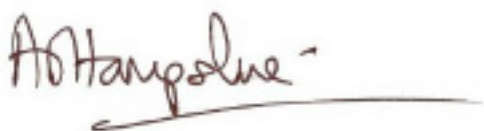
Just to make everyone aware, in case you haven't already marked it off in your calendar, that the week after half term (3-7 March) is Book Week. The theme for this year is 'Heroes and Villains'. Both Primary and Secondary will be running competitions and events throughout the week and we would love it if everyone could participate and get into the spirit of the week as much as possible.

Details of the events, competitions and some ideas for incorporating book week into your lessons for both Primary and Secondary can be found on the Book Week 2014 googlesite below:

<https://sites.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/book-week-2014/>

If you could take a look at this and encourage learners to check it out that would be grand.

Regards,



**Alison Hampshire**  
Principal



# Primary

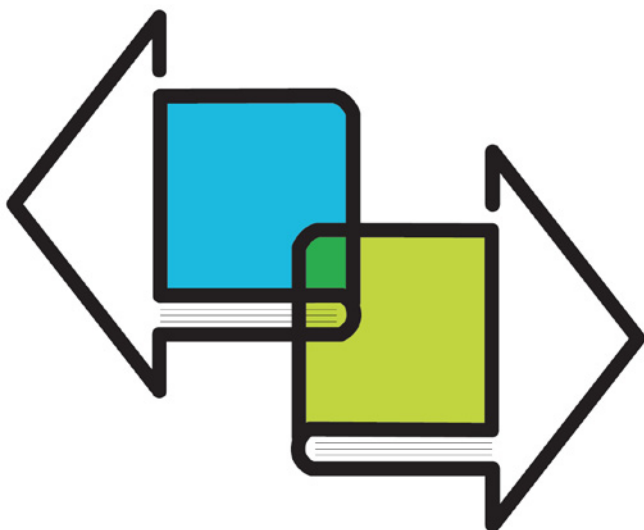
## The Great Book Swap Event

As part of Nexus Book Week 2014 (3 - 7 March) we will be organising an event called 'The Great Book Swap' for all primary learners.

Learners are encouraged to bring in a book (or more) that they no longer want to swap with other learners. We would like you to assist your child over the mid term break, by looking through their book collections and help them choose.

We would like them to bring in the book(s) to school on Monday 3 March so we can organise a display outside the Main Library. In exchange they will be given a token(s). During lunch breaks throughout the week they can come, with the token(s), to see the display and select the book(s) they would like in return.

For further details please contact [stiff.n@nexus.edu.my](mailto:stiff.n@nexus.edu.my)



On 10th February 2014 learners in Years 4,5 and 6 took part in the LASCO Maths Challenge.

LASCO stands for the Latin American Street Children Organisation and it is a charity that was made to help homeless children who live on the street.

The children live on the streets, sleep on the streets and have to go to work just to be able to eat.

Each year LASCO runs a Maths Challenge to raise funds to help provide education and medical treatment for the children it supports.

The Challenge takes the form of a range of problem solving questions set for a range of year groups.

We have included a Year 5 question below for you to try!

Learners who took part were asked to bring in a donation and a total amount of RM723.30. This is more than we had hoped to raise and we are pleased to send this on to LASCO.

Can you solve this?

Benicio and Juan play dice on the street.

What is the product of the numbers on the bottom of the dice?



# Year 6 and Year 3 Collaborate

Year 6 enjoyed holding a Science Workshop with Year 3 learners in their 'Making New Materials Exit Point' on Wednesday afternoon. In groups, they set up examples of experiments, investigations and research they had conducted throughout the unit. Year 6 reflected on their own learning and thought carefully about how to share their learning effectively with the Year 3's.

"It's a good idea to share our learning and what we know about the topic, and have the chance to teach others what we know. It can also improve our own learning!" Nabil 6N

"I learnt that before you switch a light on, the electricity needs to go around the world really fast, 7 times! I have really enjoyed the muffin activity because they were really yummy! I learnt that they are made of flour, milk, eggs, butter and baking powder." Zhara







## Fun and Learning at Planetarium Negara

The Year 5 space cadets ended their 10-week Mission to Mars topic on Wednesday with an exit point trip that blasted them up amongst the stars at the Planetarium Negara.

The Planetarium was a fantastic resource to help them use their rigorous learning and enquiry skills, whilst finding out even more about Space, in lots of fun and brain friendly ways.

The antigravity room appeared to have the biggest pull with many cadets (and the odd teacher) not being able to keep away. Another popular spot was the observatory. Keegan from 5E explained that he liked going up, closer to the sky and seeing the views around KL.

During the visit the year 5's had the chance to visit the Space theatre where they watched the movie 'Journey to the Stars.'

"The movie was my favourite part of the day because the theatre is like a dome and you feel like you're actually there in space, it's so cool!" Ariane 5E.

After a busy, educational and fun filled day it was time to return to Earth, jump on the bus and travel back to Nexus. With heads filled with knowledge about space and Mars perhaps some of our learners are hoping to actually become astronauts one day!

# Secondary

## Year 10 Option Choices

This is a reminder that Year 10 options forms need to be handed in to me no later than Friday, March 7, 2014. Please bring the completed and signed form to my office. I am in the CCA office (next to the primary canteen). If you have any problems regarding your option choices or if you need some advice or help, please let me know or come and see me. Thanks – Mr. Louis

## Year 13 Parent Teacher Conference

The Year 13 PTC will be held in the MPR on Wednesday 5th March from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. Please make an appointment via your child. Year 13 Learners have been given a sign-up sheet. Learners are expected to make 5-minute appointments with each subject teacher as soon as possible.

## Parental Portal

Due to the increasing number of ICT systems being used in school, we have updated our parent portal so that you can access these sites from one page. The site is called [parentportal.nexus.edu.my](http://parentportal.nexus.edu.my)

On this site, you can find

1. A Link to the homework site (secondary only)
2. Links to department curriculum sites
3. A Link to the progress report system
4. Links to connect and the school website

This site is still being developed, so please check back regularly for updates. If you have any problems accessing this site, please contact [ict@nexus.edu.my](mailto:ict@nexus.edu.my)



Thank you to all the learners, staff and parents for their support and commitment to our secondary Sports day on Monday 17th. It was a tremendous day, which culminated in Riangan being crowned the 2014 Sports day champions for the first time in Nexus School history.

Many school records were broken in what was a close and fiercely contested event. A special mention goes out to Lotus (9 Golds), Skylar (6 Golds) and many other athletes who excelled on the day.

Due to some outstanding performances, 36 secondary learners have been selected to represent Nexus at the ISAC Track and Field event on Saturday 1st March, where they will be competing against GIS, ISKL, AISM, MKIS and Tenby at Stadium Sains Sukan, UM Arena.

Get plenty of rest over the half-term as when you come back we have KLISS Secondary Basketball to complete, Secondary Softball, Whole school KLISS and ISAC Badminton competitions and much more. See you all on the 3rd March! Mr Andy





# CAS Reflection

## Sports Day by Ryan Kam

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.









## Langkawi Diary on Year 9 Residential Trip

Last week saw the year 9 residential trip take off to Langkawi for 4 days of activities and education. The trip was organized by Ecofields and the learners quickly bonded together within each year group.

Day one: and they were playing fun team building games on the beach as well as taking time to explore their surroundings. Then back to the hotel for a cool dip in the swimming pool.



The learners participated in a variety of physical activities such as kayaking on the open sea and through the mangroves looking at the fascinating Eco system on the island. This day proved to be very challenging for some learners and the lunch and ice cream provided at the end of the journey was most appreciated!



There was a very interesting visit to Langkawi Padi fields gallery and museum, where the learners experienced what life might have been like for communities who relied on the land for food and survival. They tried their hand at cooking, catching catfish in the muddy ponds and leading a water buffalo through the mud to level out the land.

As ever the Nexus learners fully engaged in these activities and the experiences were challenging and rewarding. They then put their ideas and creative skills to the test with a competition to design their own kites.



The final day saw the learners visit a local orphanage on

the island. They were divided into groups and had a range of activities planned such as sports, drama games, music and arts and crafts. The young people mixed well with the children from the orphanage and this experience allowed them to reflect on the variety of challenges different people face on a daily basis.

I think it also gave the learners an interesting perspective on how other children live their lives and I'm sure they appreciated the things we sometimes take for granted.



As a new member of the teaching staff here at nexus I felt it was a privilege to take the learners on such an interesting and rewarding trip.

Mr. Jason



## Year 12 Chinese Learners

We are learning the topic of Cultural Diversity: Culinary Heritage in our IB Chinese B lesson. Today (20th February 2014), we the Year 12 Chinese Learners, decided to make our own dish of traditional Chinese cuisine. We divided ourselves into 4 groups, and each group came up with a different dish to make. Before we started cooking, we searched for the recipe online and went shopping for the ingredients. When we first started preparing the ingredients, some of us were a little flustered since this was something that we were not familiar with. However, despite a few hiccups here and there, things managed to turn out well and we were quite satisfied with the outcome. I'm glad that the IB Diploma and Nexus International School gave us the chance to expose and challenge ourselves to do things that are beyond our comfort zone. Overall, this is a really good learning experience and I'm positive that all of us had a whale of a time.

Victoria Hoo - 12N

今天早上, IB中文班進行了中華傳統食物的烹飪活動。班上的同學們各自精心準備了食材與食譜,打算伺機大展身手。大家準備的料理各有各的特色,也源自不同的國家。有“顧氏炒飯”,有賽螃蟹,有炒粿條,也有蔥油餅。經過一番折騰以後,看著香味四溢的菜餚一個接著一個離開炒盤,莫過於最大的滿足。在尋找食譜的過程,必定少不了閱讀料理的典故。這次活動最大的意義便是讓我們更進一層地認識自己的傳統文化。

Jasmine Tew - 12E





# Boaders Blog

## Saturday Rock Climbing

Fun, interesting and challenging were some of the words that could have described my experience at Camp 5 rock climbing. Although the bus driver took a wrong turn and made us late by an hour, it was a wonderful feeling to eventually get to our destination.

We spent a total of 1 hour and 15 minutes rock climbing and spent the rest of the time shopping at the world's 4th largest shopping mall, which is 1Utama. My experience there was fun but extremely scary while reaching the peak of the wall. It was a fun and unforgettable experience.

Mikail - Year 8







# Music News

## Instrumental Lessons

It is great to see that over a third of the school are learning instruments at Nexus! To help us manage this effectively, it would be much appreciated if Instrumental Lesson Invoices could be settled as soon as possible.

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 the following instruments to **Loan To You Free of Charge**, which will save you money on the start-up costs of learning an instrument: Flutes, alto saxophones, clarinets, violins, 'cellos, trumpets and trombones.

## Music Technology Club

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 Thursdaylunchtimes 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 HERE (You Do Not Need To Play An Instrument!):**

<https://docs.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/document/d/1To6zZx4qsJVMzaAr-H-Ttc6cRU9aErz5Y9FT0DNhx64/edit>

## Spring Concert

Tickets for the Spring Concert on 12th March

are now on sale from the Payment Counter priced RM15 for Adults and RM10 for children/concessions.

The auditions for the Spring Concert were very successful and you are all in for a magical evening of high quality music.

## Instrumental Parents' Evening

We held the Music Department's 'Instrumental Parents' Evening' this week and the turn out of parents was wonderful with over 80 learners represented, nearly half of those learning an instrument at school.

A big thank you to the Music Department's very dedicated teachers and for all of you who attended.

## Bugsy Malone - The Musical

As you are probably aware by now, in 5 weeks' time we are putting on our very own version of the West End Musical, **Bugsy Malone**. The show will take place in the Theatre on **9th & 10th April 2014**.

It is essential that all cast members and crew attend the remaining 10 rehearsals. The 12 piece orchestra will start rehearsing after the holiday and the tickets will go on sale in a few weeks' time, so get them early!

## Why Study Music?

Is Music the Key to Success?

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/13/opinion/sunday/is-music-the-key-to-success.html?pagewanted=all&r=3&>

## Dates For Your Diaries

12th March	Senior Spring Concert
9th & 10th April	Bugsy Malone - The Musical



# Drama News

## IGCSE Drama / IBDP Theatre Showcase



“You cannot be serious...”

Year 11 IGCSE Drama - Skylar, Ryan & Amirah in ‘Death and the Maiden’

Congratulations to the IGCSE Drama and IB Theatre Arts learners on their superb performances in the Showcase!

Nexus’ first ever Drama Showcase to be held in the Theatre was a great success. Thursday’s audience experienced everything from the desperate quest for revenge of an angst-ridden victim to the comical improvised exploits of the Year 12 Theatre Arts group in their Forum Theatre piece.

Many thanks to all the parents, staff and learners who supported us by coming to see the show. Huge thanks also to Mr Paul for producing a beautiful fountain for the set of ‘Lunch in Venice’, and to Mr Syahir, Mr Tim, Mr Jason, Mr Connor and Ms Ann for technical assistance and general support.

Here’s to our next show, ‘Bugsy Malone’!

NEXUS PRESENTS



**BUGSY**  
**MALONE**

9 & 10<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

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TICKETS ON SALE SOON

Please take a look at the props / costume list to see if you can help with this :

[https://docs.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/document/d/14nyvwO0-OJoBGvGiahqQhwIJJLobbbAqCCKjdb\\_DP\\_A/edit](https://docs.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/document/d/14nyvwO0-OJoBGvGiahqQhwIJJLobbbAqCCKjdb_DP_A/edit)

Grey or black trousers, and black shoes, would be especially welcome.

We still need lots of help with sourcing props or making costumes, please contact Ms Rach if you can spare a little time to assist us!





# *Spring Concert*

12/3/2014 @7PM in The THEATRE  
Adults RM 15 - Child/Concessions RM 10