# CONNECTO

**GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA** 

#### **PRIMARY (2-5)**

Book Week + Extreme Reading Photos

**Our Reputation Grows** 

The IPC in Year 6

**Athletics Days 10 & 11 March** Spotlight on the IPC in Year 4

#### **SECONDARY (6-10)**

**UK** Universities

**Year 13 Art Exhibition** 

Love Book?

SASMO Olympiads Maths News

## **History Bee & Bowl** Competition

PE Notices

**CAS Reflection "Mohamad Ali"** 

**MUSIC NEWS (11-12)** 





## **Primary**

#### **Book Week**

This week has also been book week of course and we will have a report next week of all the great things that have been going on. Here are some photos to whet your appetite!









#### **Our Reputation Grows**

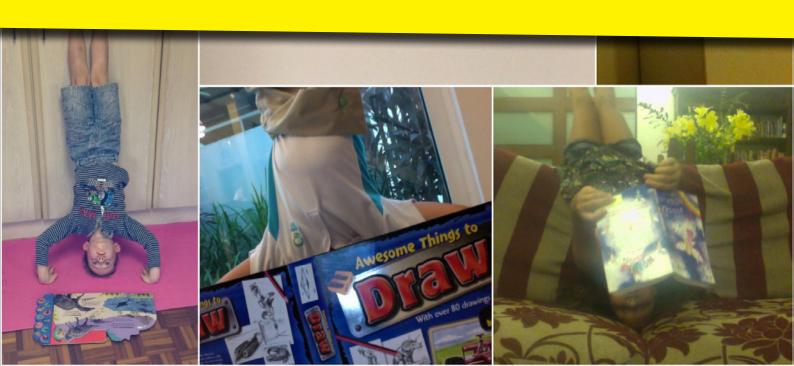
This week we have been the hosts of the 5th IPC South East Asia Regional Conference. One hundred and thirty educators from all over South East Asia and even a few groups from as far as Qatar and the UK attended the 3 day conference. As an IPC Mastering school, many of the delegates were interested to see what learning was like at Nexus and some of our teachers ran workshops for the delegates.

Seven Nexus teachers attended courses and the standard of Professional Learning was high.

At the opening ceremony Mr Griffiths was also presented with our 'Mastering' certificate by Sarah Brown (Director of the IPC) and Jane Denby (Head of accreditation).



# EXTREME READING



Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds.











### The IPC in Year 6

What fun we had being Time Detectives and searching the school for clues!

"Our new IPC topic is 'Time Tunnels' and it is based on history. In our Entry Point we did a little treasure hunt; we were looking for clues! Each clue showed us an historical event, some even asked us questions. There were 20 clues hidden around the whole school. There was some Maths involved in it too. Recently in Maths, we have been learning about co-ordinates. So to find the clues we had a map of the school and co-ordinates giving us the clue locations. Each group started with a set of them and each clue showed us the next clue's coordinates. We then used the iPads to scan the QR codes on each clue, which led us to a webpage with the information on. It was great fun; the best part of it for me was using our Maths knowledge to find the clues to then figure out what they meant."

By Conor





On Monday learners from MP2/3 will race, throw and jump against each other in a high energy and friendly environment. All learners have chosen their events they wish to enter and have trained intensely over the past few week in order to achieve their personal goals!

On Tuesday the EY/MP1 Athletics Day will be run for our younger learners. This will be an introduction to Athletics events and many of our younger learners who love to race and compete will be given the opportunity to do so!

Timing as follows:

Monday 10th 8.45-12.30 Tuesday 11th 8.45-11.30

Again, all parents are invited to attend and support our learners as some of them take their first steps upon such a stage.

# Spotlight on the IPC in Year 4

This week we are speaking to Ihsan and Darwisy from 4N

What is your current IPC topic?

**Active Planet** 

Why are you learning about that topic?

Ihsan: – because if there was a tsunami or natural disaster we would know what to do. It helps us understand about our earth.

What are you learning today?

Ihsan: We are learning about the tsunami that happened in Japan in 2011. The skill we are learning is to use different sources of information. We have used websites, information books and news stories to find out about the tsunami.

Which personal goals are you using?

Darwisy: We are using our enquiry skills to ask and answer our own questions about the tsunami.

What are the next steps in your learning?

Darwisy: We will be putting this information into a newspaper story. In Language Arts we have already learned about the features of a news report.

Are you enjoying what you are doing?

Ihsan: I really enjoyed using the websites to answer my questions about tsunamis. I am trying to answer all of my questions.



# Secondary

#### **UK Universities - Upcoming events**

1. At the weekend, March 8-9th, the British council are hosting a huge Educational fair at KLCC. It is seriously suggested that learners make the effort to attend if you are even thinking of applying to the UK in the future.

Here is the link for more details: http://www.britishcouncil. my/events/education-uk-exhibition-2014

On the Sunday UCAS will giving a seminar about the application process, which will be very helpful!

2. Next week we have three university presentations for learners from different institutions:

Monday 10th March	55pm	University College of the Arts
Wednesday 13th March	m-1.	University of Dundee (Scotland)
Friday 15th March	1.15p	Edinburgh University (Scotland)

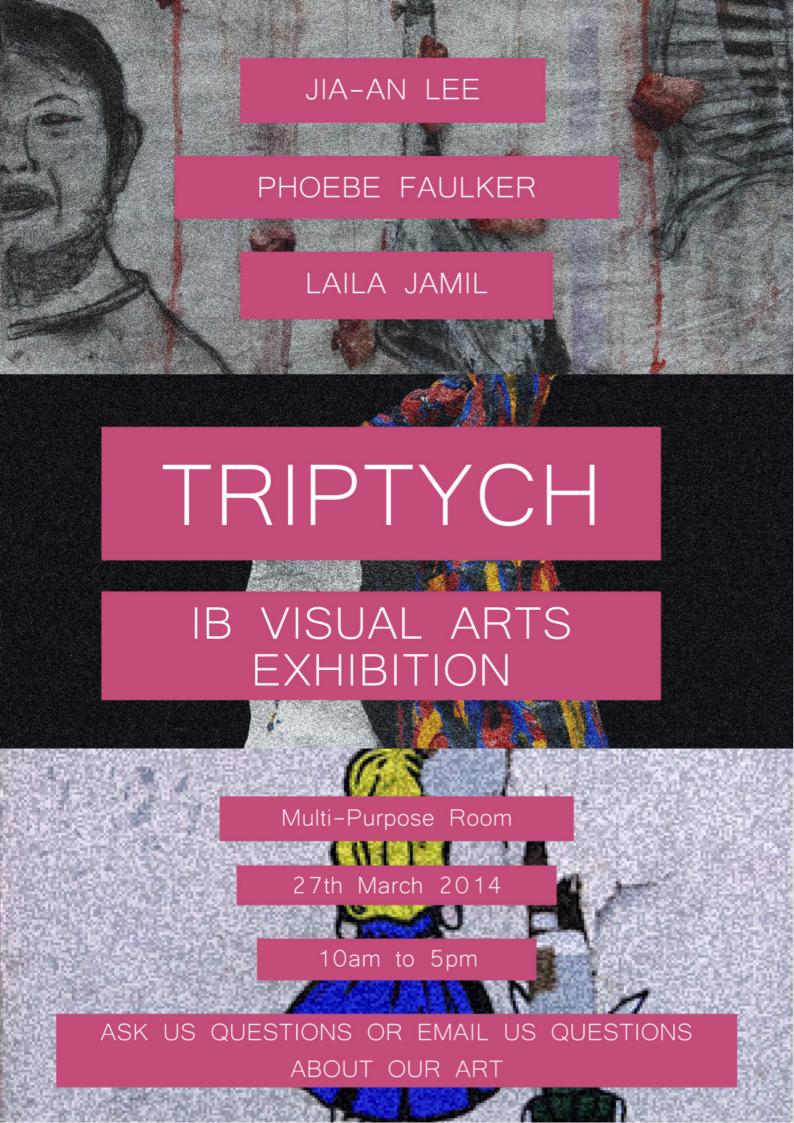
All of these will be held in the upstairs library. Learners, please make the effort to show your face and ask some questions.

#### Year 13 **Art Exhibition**

On Thursday, March the 27th. Nexus IB Visual Arts learners from Year 13, will be exhibiting their art work for the first time. This exhibition is part of their diploma examination, and they will need your help and support visiting the exhibition and talking to them about their artwork. The exhibition will run throughout the day from 10am to 5pm in the MPR. There will be light refreshments, and there will be a box full of questions that you may ask the artists to answer! Please see the poster in Connect, designed by the learners, for information or contact Mr. Brooks on brooks.m@ nexus.edu.my

The school library is looking for parent volunteers to assist with cataloguing new books. The school will provide some training and an enjoyable environment with snacks, tea and coffee. If you are interested in helping in the library please email or speak to the library manager, Ms. Rashmi moghe.r@nexus.edu.my





Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds.



#### Stingapore and ASEAN Schools Math Olympiads

"Asian countries outperform the rest of the world," according to the OECD with Shanghai, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea and Macau amongst the top performers in mathematics, reading and science.

http://www.oecd.org/pisa/keyfindings/PISA-2012-results-snapshot-Volume-I-ENG.pdf

Interestingly Malaysia is one of the few countries where girls score better than boys for mathematics.

This year our learners have the opportunity to compete with the very best by taking part in the Singapore and Asian Schools Math Olympiads. This Olympiad is open to learners from year 7 to 9 and registration will be RM38. Any learners who are interested should speak to their maths teacher who can provide some sample questions to look at. The final date for registration is Friday 21st March. The competition will be held during school on the 9.

#### **Maths News**

The maths department will be offering lunchtime IGCSE maths revision sessions on Tuesday (Mr Sonny's room) & Thursday (Mr Steve's room) until the end of this term. Tuesday is mainly for help with specific topics & Thursday is for exam questions revision. All IGCSE learners taking maths exams in May are welcome.

ItisWORLDMATHSDAY next Monday. There will be activities throughout the week, a problem solving Olympiad for year 6,7 & 8 learners. The Maths department is running a "Guess the mystery mathematician" competition next week. There will be posters throughout the secondary area. Competition is open for all learners and there will be a prize at each year level! Parent & staff are also welcome to enter. So look out for the posters around the school and get you entries to Mr Sonny by the end of lunchtime on Friday.

## **History Bee and Bowl Competition**

Sacrificing our last day of the half-term break, we set out early in the morning to participate in the International History Bee and Bowl, a history competition split into individual and team events. With 7 schools competing and 17 teams present (including ourselves) in total for both the junior varsity and varsity teams, it seemed like a tough challenge for us to overcome at the start. However, as the day progressed and we slowly began to get into the tournament, we started showing results with both the junior varsity and varsity team for our school gaining a 2 win 3 loss in the Bowl rounds (team event). This was not the highlight of the tournament though as in the Bee rounds (individual event), Jerrell and Danny managed to qualify for the semifinals in which Jerrell won the tournament with his superb performance of his History knowledge while Danny narrowly misses out the chance to enter the final stage. The other 3 of us (Ryan, Tim and myself) along with Jerrell and Danny managed to qualify for the Asian Championships which was a pretty good achievement considering the preparations we made for this tournament. Overall, it was a good, though extremely tiring day for us, which we had all (I think) enjoyed thoroughly. By Luanne Y11



### **PE Notices**

Well done to all our learners who competed at the 2014 ISAC Track and Field event on Saturday 1st March at Sukan Sains Stadium in Bangsar. It was a long, hot day but by the time it came to go home, we had witnessed Charmaine Limoanco taking joint 1st place in the U11 Girls Long Jump with an ISAC record breaking leap of 3.57m. Brenon Johnstone won Silver in the O15 Boys 1500m in a stunning time of 4.40mins while Ajay Dhadli comfortably won Silver in the U15 1500m event in a time of 5.20m. Imran Qabil who took 2 medals in last years event, narrowly missed out on a medal in the U15 100m by .1s, sprinting across the line in 12.63s.





#### **CAS** Reflection "Mohamad Ali"

Since the start of September 2013 I have been teaching three of our Nexus Learners how to swim. When they first showed up they had none or very little knowledge of swimming and in our last session (5th March 2014), One student can now swim freestyle and the other two students have almost got the hang of it. Although there has been a very large improvement over the few months we did have some trouble at the beginning due to stormy weather, lack of water confidence and on rare occasions we have had to stop early due to the pool being too cold.

Over the last few months I have been able to be more confident with teaching people and also I have become more organised in my planning session as to how to improve on each individual's ability and what is the best method for them to go forward. Also I had to work around some obstacles as the way people learn differ and in some cases I had to make minor adjustments to my teaching style and in some cases I've had to completely change my approach.

Nexus International School, Putrajaya The Global Citizens of Tomorrow

### **Music News**

#### **Spring Concert**

Rehearsals are being finalised for our big showcase concert next Wednesday night. The Spring Concert is designed to feature our most able musicians at Nexus, as such it will feature a high calibre of performances. The auditions for the concert this year were of a very high standard and the items chosen are fantastic.

The concert will see a mix of solo performance, a 120 learner strong mass choir, the amazing 4 part Vocal Group singing and Adele piece, a "Battle of the Pianos" and lots more. It will be an evening not to be missed!

Tickets for the Spring Concert next Wednesday 12th March at 7pm are now on sale from the Payment Counter priced RM15 for Adults and RM10 for children/concessions. The seats are numbers so the best seats are selling out quickly. The whole of Y7, 8 and 9 will be performing in the concert, as such the demand for tickets will be very high.

#### Why Study Music?

Are musicians better language learners?

http://www.theguardian.com/ education/2014/feb/27/musicians-betterlanguage-learners

#### **Dates For Your Diaries**

12th March	Senior Spring Concert
9th & 10th April	Bugsy Malone - The Musical
21st May	Young Performers Concert
4th June	Nexus' Got Talent

18th JuneDance in Action19th JuneRock Concert



As you are probably aware by now, in 4 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 at 7pm.

It is essential that all cast members and crew attend the remaining 8 rehearsals.

The 12 piece Bugsy orchestra will start rehearsing next weekend and the tickets will go on sale in a two weeks' time. Get them early as we are expecting a 'sell-out'.

