

# CONNECT11

**GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA**

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## **MUSIC NEWS (12-13)**

+ AIMS Young Musician Of The Year 2015



**NEXUS**  
INTERNATIONAL  
— SCHOOL —

PUTRAJAYA

# Whole School



## CIS Accrediting Team Visit

This week, an accrediting team has visited the school from the Council of International Schools (CIS).

The visiting team has spent the week observing lessons and speaking with Parents, Learners, Teaching Staff and Admin Staff. The visiting team are here to assist the school identify its strengths and future developments by making recommendations on what they have observed in the school this week. The Visiting Team members have shared many positive things about the school and have commended the whole school community.

We now have to wait for a couple of months for the official report to come from the Head Office of CIS in the Hague to let us know if we have become a full member of the Council of International Schools.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in this week's accreditation schedule.



## CCA News

Dear Parents, we intend to open the CCA portal for term 3 on Monday March 23rd at 9 am.

Please follow the link below to navigate to the home page and select CCA T3 2014/15 from the list of options:

[https://go.nexus.edu.my/fmi/iwp/res/iwp\\_home.html](https://go.nexus.edu.my/fmi/iwp/res/iwp_home.html)

This term we are offering several new activities that we hope will prove popular; Junior Scuba diving, CSI science workshops, Golf training at Cyberjaya driving range. We are also offering extra sessions of popular activities; Badminton on Fridays, Waterskiing on Tuesdays and Chess Academy on Wednesdays

If you are experiencing any issues please contact the CCA coordinator by email:

[cca.enquiry@nexus.edu.my](mailto:cca.enquiry@nexus.edu.my)

Thanks Mr Jim



# A YEAR 13 IB VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION



ALL OF THE NEXUS  
COMMUNITY ARE  
WELCOME.



LIGHT REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED.  
**LOCATION: MPR, NEXUS.**  
**DATE: MONDAY 30TH OF MARCH 2015**  
**TIME: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM**



# Primary

## Year 6 Science Carousel



Last week I had a fantastic day in school. I learned about the three main types of rock: Igneous rock, Sedimentary rock and Metamorphic rock.

All of year 6 we moved around three activities. In the 6X classroom we learned about three different types of rocks. I had to learn about Igneous rocks and we got to play a game called "Who wants to be a Millionaire" where all the questions were about rocks. We looked at different rock samples and tried to identify them by how they looked, felt and if they had a grain.

In 6N we looked at the properties of sedimentary rock by making our own, using different types of macaroni, glue and markers. We had to mix water with the macaroni to make it stick together. When we were done we had to wrap it in a piece of paper like a taco. We used different kinds and colours of macaroni so we could see the layers.

I was excited for the third part of the carousel which was in a Secondary Science Lab. I love science so I couldn't wait to go there. When I arrived the room smelled like roses and the

room was so clean. We had a box of crayons and I wondered what they were for. Ms Heather explained to us what a metamorphic rock was she explained it like this "Metamorphic rocks are rocks that start life as Igneous and then Sedimentary rocks". We had to grate our crayons into little pieces into a cupcake pan. We were so excited for what we had to do next because this part was very fun. Ms Heather informed us to be careful and try to stay in a safe distance and we had to take the cupcake pan and heat it. And something amazing happened - after a few seconds the crayons started to melt and became a rainbow coloured liquid. This showed us that metamorphic rock is made by high pressure and heat changing sedimentary rock.

The carousel was the most fun I had in any school and I learnt a lot about rocks. I think that I showed that I am an enquiring learner because I asked questions to help my learning.

Written by Alyff, 6X.

## Learner Led Conferences

Please note that next Thursday (2nd April) is our Learner Led conferences day in the Primary school and we encourage all parents to sign up if you have not already done so.

<http://goo.gl/L730PE>





## Car Wash Fundraiser to Help Build an Art Centre at Nexus

The Primary School Council representatives on behalf of all the primary learners have committed to another amazing project this term. After much discussion, the learners have reached a consensus. They are going to organise an art centre! The art centre or project “Creativity” will allow more opportunities for self expression through art and will help to unleash children’s artistic potential at break time.



The Art Department at Nexus is very supportive of the idea. They will donate some of the equipment and resources. However,

The Primary School Council would still like to raise funds to be able to buy additional materials.

Therefore, everyday this week Primary School Council representatives and volunteers have been washing teachers’ cars for donations. The learners have really demonstrated their personal goals of being rigorous and resilient, and as expected, they had lots of fun.

## EXPLORE SAND & WATER



Our youngest learners are fully involved in their new topic. First, the children expressed various ideas of what they want to learn about. “I want to find out how electric eels sting people” said Reva. Fynn wants to learn about snowmen because snow is made of water. Qishona wants to find out about rain. The EY teaching team bring these ideas into planning and create activities that link with the child-initiated interests. Both focused tasks and Discovery time are packed with lots of opportunities to learn about Sand and Water. In the sensory area there are whales, sharks and dolphins swimming in jelly or soft fluffy snow to explore. Learners have made ice and watched it turn into water again. In the discovery area there is a desert island with some people trapped on it, surrounded with the wide ocean. Learners think about different ways of how to take the people back to mainland, safely. Swimming with the sharks might be a bit dangerous, but going across on a dolphin’s back sounds very exciting! In the mini-topic this week we are learning about living and non-living things.

On this occasion, the learners helped to set up and look after our very own fish tank, with terrapins and fish! Next, we are hoping to find some tadpoles and watch them grow.

## Y6 Experts Help Out in Y3



On Monday, Year 3 were visited by nine Water Cycle specialist. They came in and did a small group presentation about the water cycle discussing terms like evaporation, condensation, precipitation, run off and even transpiration. They had actions to explain each process and they shared their stop animation which brought the water cycle to life. These nine Year 6 specialist were very articulate explaining a complicated system in simple terms. Then they did a question and answer session. We in Year 3 are extremely grateful to Sonny, Nabil, David, Hazwani, Tiha, Stella, Arissa, Christie and Andrea. If you ever have a question about the water cycle, make sure you pop into Year 6 to ask the nine experts.



Amelina, Rachel, Hajna  
Nurul, Nadia, Hudda

## U9 Girls Football

The U9 Girls Football finally got to play their first games at BSKL on Wednesday night. Unfortunately, two of the girls in the team were unable to play, therefore they were down to only 6 players out of the 7.

They played 3 teams, BSKL, ISP and Taylors. Their first game was against Taylors, they were very evenly matched and the final score was 2-1 to Taylors with Amelina Stiff scoring their only match of the tournament. They lost to both ISP and BSKL, but persevered throughout and defended well. The girls are looking forward to their final round of the tournament next week at BSKL. A big well done to all of the learners that took part!



## Turn it Up: Sound and Light

We can't wait to learn lots more about Sound and Light. My favourite bit was when Mr Tim played the trombone and when I had to play a chord on the guitar for the whole of year 4. I am really excited about our new topic Turn it Up.



During our IPC topic of Sound and Light, we did a lot of Science. When we started our topic, we used Mindnode for our "Knowledge Harvest" by answering questions on the topic.



After the Knowledge Harvest, we went on to do "Explaining the Theme". This was easy at the start but at the end it was really tricky.

We then did some research about parts of the ear and with that information, we made a poster about the ear.

We made a model of the ear with the items that we were given, a balloon, cardboard roll and a funnel. Nearly everyone's ear model were the same.



We also made a human model of the outer ear with Ms Kerry. We pretended to be the "pinna", "ear canal", the "ear drum", the "nerve" and the "brain". This was very exciting.



During one of our Science investigation, we found out that sounds are made by vibrations. We used the

tuning fork and the bung, the guitar strings, the drum and our vocal chords to find out what sounds are made of. After doing that activity, we found a pattern in all of them, and that pattern was vibrations. I enjoyed doing it and it was very fun!



Now we are investigating how we can change sound to make it louder or change its pitch.



# Secondary

## Testakers On-Campus Prep Course for the SAT, April 13th-17th, 2015

### YOU CAN STILL SIGN UP THIS!

If you are interested in attending this workshop, please fill in the registration form and hand it, with Payment, into the administration office!

## IB DP VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

On Monday, the 30th of March 2015, the Year 13 Visual Arts learners would like to invite you to their diploma art exhibition.

The exhibition will be on from 08:30am in the morning, to 5:00pm in the late afternoon. This year's exhibitors are Anis, Angely, Lawrence and Zhakwan. For two years, they have been working on individual themes and concepts and are now ready to share their ideas with you in their exhibition. There will be a number of IB questions displayed at the entrance for you to ask our budding talented artists.

These questions are IB questions and will help them with their videoed interview, which will be filmed the following day, where they must talk about their work hopefully answering all of these IB example questions.

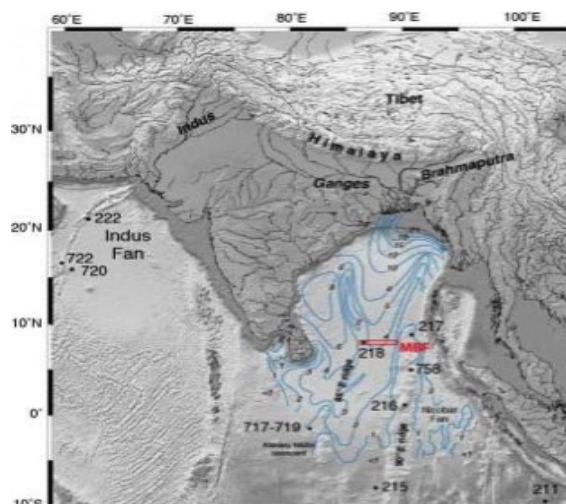
## University Visits & Events

April 2nd - 'University Applications Day' Y12 will be of timetable to attend various workshops related to Applications. Parents are also invited to attend these sessions.

## JOIDES RESOLUTION EXPEDITION



Last week Year 10 learners and teachers joined a live video broadcast from the Indian Ocean with a research ship called the Joides Resolution. We took a tour of some of the key places onboard, saw live sediment samples and then had a chance to talk to one of the scientists on board. One of the most exciting aspects of the tour was viewing a live sample of the ash deposits from the eruption of the super volcano Toba alongside understanding how scientist live and work in the field.





## Expedition Summary

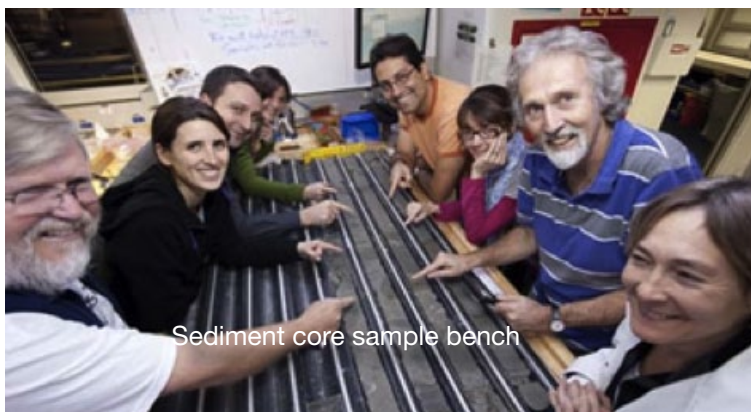
On this expedition we'll be exploring the connection between mountain formation and climate. The mountains we're studying are the highest on earth – the Himalaya. But we'll be studying them at the bottom of the ocean, in the Bay of Bengal, by looking at eroded sediment. These large and small bits of the mountains get washed into rivers and carried to the sea. The outflow of sediment into the Bay of Bengal is called the Bengal Fan. It's called a fan because the sediment fans out, and it looks a little like a ladies' fan. We'll drill sediment cores on a transect – six different sites in a line, across the middle of the Bengal Fan.

Check out our 2-minute [Expedition Trailer \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJ\\_9Vnc0y8c\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJ_9Vnc0y8c) – a video that will introduce you to our lead scientists and tell you more about our mission.

The video (with music!), [Aboard the JOIDES Resolution \(http://youtu.be/JxHWK64fbU\)](http://youtu.be/JxHWK64fbU), ponders the question: why come this far to sea?

Our most recent 6-minute video [Source to Sink \(https://youtu.be/ITbDjkaO-Q\)](https://youtu.be/ITbDjkaO-Q) features interviews with three of our scientists and explains why studying the Himalayas at the bottom of the Bay of Bengal is so important.

Source: <http://joidesresolution.org/node/3819>



Sediment core sample bench

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## CAS Reflection by Zainul Aris Zainul Azizan



On the 1st of March (Sunday), I received my official allocation from the secretary-general of Asia Pacific University, Eshaan Menon, which was the Russian Federation in the Human Rights Council. I immediately began my research on the following Monday as I really wanted an MUN award. So from observing other best delegates, I realized what I needed to do. This consisted of researching the declaration of Human Rights set out by the United Nations, reading through the stance of Russia on the topics at hand and also looking at constitutions that countries have signed prior to events. The topics of my committee (UNHRC) were:

- Ethical implications of State Censorship
- Methods to prevent the use of torture as an interrogation method

I decided to focus on the topic of the use of torture as an interrogation method because Russia is highly against it and also, I could possibly make a very controversial debate which could spice the committee up. I engaged with issues of global importance as I realized (after researching), how much torture is being used under the radar and sometimes even

openly. I really believe that I was truly involved in the discussions at hand because I was consistently raising up my placard, making speeches, making amendments and also giving points of information to other delegates. Since my committee was filled with first-timers, I wanted to use my experience to my advantage, as many of them were really shy and unconfident.

On the 3rd day, I decided that I spoke too much in the committee so I personally decided to stop attacking delegates to make them more confident. At this time, I was approached by the chairs of SPECPOL, Ina and Afiq, where they asked me to become the delegate of ISIS to make their crisis update a lot more fun. Of course, I couldn't reject this opportunity so I said yes. This then led on to me making a bunch of speeches against every other country in the world which really tested my ability to improvise logically.

As the 3rd day ended, we proceeded to the grand hall of Asia Pacific University and I was getting more anxious as I really wanted my award. When the beautiful chairs of the HRC (Sherine and Riana) walked up to the stage, they began reading out their speeches. Then they named the 'Most Diplomatic' delegate, which went to the delegate of Switzerland. But finally, the moment came when they read out the award for 'Best Speaker', which went to the delegate of the Russian Federation (that's me)!!

In conclusion to this long reflection, I'm really thankful for being a part of this conference as it really gave me the opportunity to make new friends and give me the opportunity to self-improve as I never thought I would get to this position at the start of my MUN experience. I will definitely not be stopping MUN anytime soon as I hope to climb up the ladder more and more.



# Boarder Blog

## Jungle Trek And A Canopy Walk



Last Saturday nine students went to FRIM to take part in a jungle trek followed by a canopy walk. We arrived around 11 o'clock and hiked for 30 minutes. This was particularly difficult as it was a steep uphill climb with a lot of stairs, though we could stop at benches along the way catch our breath take pictures, as well as our guide showing us different plants and animals.



My favorite part was when he showed us how the very top canopy formed its leaves, where the leaves of different trees never

touched, creating a turtle shell formation, it was beautiful.



There was a large pathway that lead up to the canopy walk, and just before that we got to rest at one of the three waterfalls we saw on the trip, and almost everyone took off their shoes and went into the cold relaxing water (as well as taking pictures) The canopy walk itself only lasted about 5 minutes unfortunately, but was very fun.

We then descended to the picnic area, this was quite nerve racking as the hill was quite steep with gravelly and sandy steps, that are easily slipped on, but we had ropes, and no one injured themselves. We also had the opportunity to see a monkey on the way down and saw two other waterfalls, all gorgeous. As we descended, the jungle faded away into an urban park where we sat in a gazebo and had lunch provided by boarding. We eventually left at about 3 pm, tired and educated.

# MUSIC NEWS

## AIMS Young Musician Of The Year 2015 (AIMS = Association of International Malaysian Schools)

On 23rd and 24th May there will be the first AIMS Young Musician of the Year 2015 competition. There are two age group categories (more to be added next year):

- 11 to 14 year old (age as of September 2015)
- Under 11 year old (age as of September 2015)

Each applicant will be required to prepare a piece of no more than 6 minutes in length. If you reach the final, then you may choose to perform the same piece again or play a different piece.

**Closing Date for Entries: 24th April 2015**

**Cost: FREE**

If you would like to take part then please see Mr Tim, Mr Steve or Ms Ann for details.

## Young Performers' Concert on Thursday 21 May

Advanced warning of our Young Performers' Concert on 21 May for our younger learners who are in Year 9 and below.

Get practising as the standard of the items included in our concerts is getting higher each year.

## Instrumental Lessons

Mr Gerold has kindly offered any learner who wishes to try to play a trumpet or trombone **free lessons** for one term. The music department will also provide you with a **free instrument**.

So, if you fancy trying to play Mr Tim's main instrument, the trumpet, or Mr Gerold's main instrument, the trombone, then please fill in the form below for a terms **free trial lessons**.

I had so much fun this week teaching the whole of Year 4 their Entry Point for Sound. If any of you guys would like to start playing an instrument then please also get your parents to fill in the form below and we will try to provide you with an instrument.

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:

### Sign Up for Instrumental Lessons Here:

<https://sites.google.com/a/nexus.edu.my/music-department/sign-up-for-instrumental-lessons>

Why not give it a try for a term - you are not signing up for life, just to see if you like it!

## Why Study Music?

*"Because reading music is EASY!"*

Quote: Mr Steve, Miss Ann and Mr Tim

Click this link to see how: <http://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-to-read-music-tim-hansen>



## Lunchtime Music Clubs - ALL WELCOME - No Invitation Needed! Just Come Along and have FUN!

Primary	
Mon	Recorder Group with Miss Ann
	String Group (Violins, Cellos) with Mr Mervin
	Guitar Group with Mr Afiq & Mr Hafiz
Tue	Drumming Group with Mr Jared
Wed	Flute Group with Miss Yem Voon
	Ukulele Group with Miss Ann
	(After School) Clarinet Group for ALL Learners with Miss Kit
Thu	Primary String Group (Violins and Cellos) with Mr Mervin
Fri	Primary Singing Group with Miss Ann & Miss Audrey

Secondary	
Mon	Drumming Group with Mr Jared & Mr Tim
Tue	Guitar Group with Mr Afiq
	Brass Group with Mr Gerold
	(CCA After School) Jazz Band with Mr Tim & Mr Steve
Wed	Flute Group with Miss Yem Voon
	Fun Vocal Group (Acapella/accompanied singing, 3/4 part singing) with Mr Steve & Mr Tim & Miss Audrey
	Guitar Groups with Mr Hafiz
	(After School) Clarinet Group for ALL Learners with Miss Kit
Thu	Senior String Group (Violins, Cellos) with Mr Mervin
	Jazz Band/Group with Mr Tim
	(CCA After School) Music & Theatre Technology Club with Mr Tim & Mr Tom
Fri	String Orchestra with Mr Steve & Mr Mervin

## Dates For Your Diaries N.B. Some Changes/ Additions\*

Mon 11 May	Trial for the Suitability of Pieces for the Young Performers' Concert
Thu 21 May	Young Performers' Concert - 7pm in the Theatre
* Wed 3 Jun	First Y7 Whole Class Musical - 7pm in the Theatre - Class TBC
* Wed 10 Jun	Second Y7 Whole Class Musical - 7pm in the Theatre - Class TBC
* Wed 17 Jun	Third Y7 Whole Class Musical - 7pm in the Theatre - Class TBC
Wed 24 Jun	Rock Concert 7pm in the Theatre