Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds.

11th April 2014

**GREETINGS FROM NEXUS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, PUTRAJAYA** 

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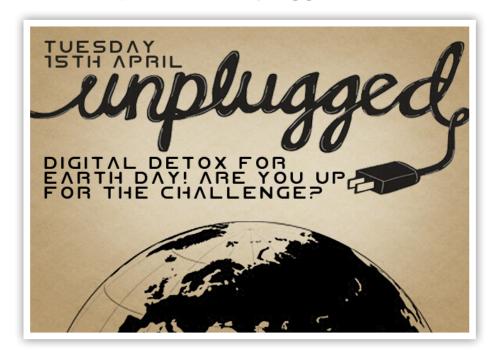
Model United Nations News (MUN)

**MUSIC NEWS (11)** 



# Whole School

### Earth Day - Nexus Unplugged



On Tuesday the 15th of April our school will be celebrating Earth Day to raise awareness and show our support for the environment.

The focus of the day will be 'Nexus Unplugged' which means we are encouraging the learners and teachers to put down the technology we normally use to teach and communicate.

#### Guidelines for the day:

- 1. Please refrain from bringing your laptops and personal devices on campus.
- 2. Ensure air conditioning and lights are turned off when not required.
- 3. As always try to reuse and reduce your waste or dispose of it in the appropriate recycle bins.
- 4. Learners to wear something blue, brown or green to show their support. In Secondary we would like to collect a RM3 donation for the Malaysian Nature Society (MNS)
- 5. If parents would like to donate to the MNS on the day please do so at the office payment counter.
- 6. Primary learners who eat packed snacks and lunches will be encouraged to bring a "no-waste packed lunch". For example, no aluminium foil, plastic cling wrap, individually packaged biscuits.
- 7. Learners are encouraged to bring drinks (e.g. water) in reusable drink bottles rather than disposable plastic bottles or drink cartons.

We would appreciate the support of the school community to use this as a launchpad for our sustainable future.

Thank you in advance for your support!

#### The Green Council

#### **CCA Enquiry**

Term 2 CCA has ended. Enrollment for Term 3 activities will start at 10am of 14th April (first-come-first-served basis), via the CCA System: <a href="https://go.nexus.edu.my/fmi/iwp/res/iwp">https://go.nexus.edu.my/fmi/iwp/res/iwp</a> auth.html

View access to the CCA system will be provided from this Friday evening. Please ensure you try logging in with the login details sent to your registered email address with the school, and contact <a href="mailto:madahar.s@nexus.edu.my">madahar.s@nexus.edu.my</a> or myself if you face any issue.

Please be also reminded that normal school buses will not run on Mondays and Wednesdays (after CCA). You will have to make a separate transport arrangement if you wish for your child to do CCA on those days, which end at 4:30pm. Primary Learners not doing CCA on those days are not allowed to stay unsupervised in school.

Term 3 CCA will start on 5th May, and end on 26th June (total of 8 sessions on each CCA days, except Tuesdays). Please make your choices early to avoid disappointment.



# **Primary**

### Personal Goals in Year 6



Year 6 have been having fun as news reporters from the Tang Dynasty this week.

"It was exciting to work with the green screen but it was tricky to work out where to stand when filming, and difficult to think where the picture would be in the background. So because of these things I think we developed our adaptability. We also had to be resilient because the editing in iMovie was more difficult than we thought it would be"



# From An Early Years Teacher

Here is an interesting article about the importance of music in early education and how you can help your children to learn about it.

http://www.barnesandnoble. com/u/jackie-silberg-importanceof-music/379002449/

# Learner Reports

Term 2 reports will be sent to parents on Monday 14th April.

If parents wish to discuss anything after receiving the report we ask that you make an appointment directly with your child's class teacher. You may do this by email.

This term report is from class the teacher only and does include not learner reflection as we have recently done the Learner Led Conferences. Written learner reflections are completed with the term 1 and 3 reports.



# NEXUS TODDLERS GROUP

- In Early Years Learning areas
- Thursdays 3.10 4.00 when CCAs are on.
- Open to prospective learners from 18 months to 3 years
- Toddlers must be accompanied by an adult
- Come and have fun learning and meeting new friends
- Limited places are available
- Email <u>huish.k@nexus.edu.my</u> to register a place



# Secondary

# **Arrangements For The Last Day Of Term 2**

On Thursday 17th April the Secondary school have their end of Term 2 achievement assembly; parents are welcome and encouraged to attend. The assembly will be in the theatre and starts at 1:45pm to 3pm. Term 3 commences as normal at 8:35am on Monday 5th May. We wish all our parents and learners an enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

#### **Lateness To School**

A reminder that all learners should arrive at school before 8:30am in the morning. This provides time to get ready for the first period of the day at 8:35am. At 8:35am all learners should be in their first class. It is important to arrive on time as learners may miss instructions at the beginning of the lesson, which could affect their learning; it is also disruptive to the other learners and the teacher in the class. If you feel that traffic is a problem on your journey to school, then please leave your home earlier in the morning, as traffic is a daily occurrence for everyone in this country.

### **Friday Prayer**

For health and safety issues and to ensure that all Secondary learners are accounted for in school, we ask parents to write to the school to give permission for your son/s to leave school to attend Friday Prayer. All transport to Friday Prayer and back to the school must be arranged by the parents. Please send letters of permission to Ms Premila the school secretary.



# **Year 9 Film Festivals**

On Wednesday 16th April, we are holding our 3rd Annual Film Festival for Year 9. It's an exciting event designed to showcase the entire year group's hard work and learning. Learners have had to collaborate with others to plan, storyboard, script, film and edit their own movies, learning about how to engage with an audience and produce entertaining texts along the way.

The Festival begins in the theatre at 6pm and will finish around 7.30pm. You can attend for free, but if you wish you may also make a voluntary donation on the door of RM5 to raise money for the Myanmar learners.





# CAS Reflection: "Jo Yee Loh"

In the 2nd academic term so far, Nexus IGCSE Tutoring has seen sporadic influxes and slow decline in the attendance of students. A few tutors have also left the club due to other commitments. The strongest attendance dated was during the Year 11's mock exams where a shortage of tutors even occurred. Some days, less than half a dozen students would come by.

Despite the ups and downs, a handful of tutors are still going strong and dedicate their time in helping others with passion. Besides opening up the sessions to Year 8's and 9's, we've also started a Facebook page to connect peers who use social media. This is also an effective method of advertising to those who are active on social platforms. However, we are still continuing with weekly reminders of the tutoring sessions via email to connect with learners regularly.

For more updates, check out our Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NISPtutoring">https://www.facebook.com/NISPtutoring</a>

# **PE Notices**

With many schools being on end of term break at the moment, many of our sports teams are taking a break from action until early May.

The U15 Badminton players are in action at ISKL on Monday 14th April. This fixture will be a good warm-up for the ISAC and KLISS seasons which are due to get underway in early May. Good luck to Coach William's team for this fixture and the season ahead.

Looking forward, Nexus will be hosting our annual Triathlon on May 18th. The event is run in conjunction with Nomad Adventure who will be organising and taking entries for what will be our 4th year of hosting.

If you would like more information regarding the event e.g Age cats, distances, registration etc, please visit <a href="https://www.tinyurl.com/nexustriathlon2014">www.tinyurl.com/nexustriathlon2014</a>



# **Trip to FINAS**

# (Year 10 BM Literature)

The excitement to know more about local filming in the specific language begins for Year 10 Bahasa Malaysia Literature students from 9am when they departed from school to Jalan Hulu Kelang. Last Wednesday - 2nd April 2014, the class members went on a trip to visit FINAS. FINAS, known as Perbadanan Kemajuan Filem Nasional Malaysia. They have their first experience of exploring more about the local film from the FINAS auditorium where they are explained about how the filming stages and processes were made successful other than knowing more about the organisation's functions (not to mention about some games on their acting skills conducted by one of the actors) before moving on to Finas Post where they are exposed to the equipment used for filming and types of theatres for different screening purposes.



Other than the Sound Stage Studio that surprised them with many simple planned props to audit the sound to be livelier, without the help from any computer or gadgets (that answers the learners why there is a water tub inside), they have also visited and given

a chance to enter the biggest theatre in the building to preview a trailer from a future film with an astonishing set of audio and sound system in an extra scaled theatre, guided by the Digital Mix Stage team. Sara, one of the students said "To be honest, I've never heard of FINAS before and was intrigued when we got there. There are many different buildings that have specific uses. For example: audio or camera effects. I've learned a lot about films now and the process they go through." From knowing just by name to knowing in almost to the detailed, all the students were satisfied with this trip - hoping they could visit the place again next time or the gallery in near future.

"The trip to FINAS was an interesting and meaningful trip because we had a tour around the whole facility and they showed us all the stuff they use to filter/edit the movies / drama before they are aired on TV. The most interesting is the audio voice over machine. It looks really interesting because it has all these buttons and controls which fascinated me because I have not had experience of going into all these studios before! After the tour, we had lunch prepared by them and was great too. Though everything only lasted for a day, I came back to school knowing more about the film industry in Malaysia." - Ammar.



"We looked at trailers & learned how they made sound effects in the studios. We learned about the audio room & audio techniques such as Foley. We learned about audio sweetening and dubbing. It was very fun for us and we enjoyed it. Overall, it was a very beneficial trip for us and it made us more aware of the film development in Malaysia and sparked our interests in the filming industry." – Zulaikha Arissa & Sue Yen.



# **ELL Information**

# Advantages of Knowing Two or More Languages

Two studies recently conducted at Pennsylvania State University in the United States of America have concluded that people who are bilingual have more mental flexibility than people who speak just one language. The researchers found that bilingual people have both languages active at all times and process booth languages simultaneously. They are able to switch between languages without interruption.

Mental flexibility is the ability to shift thoughts or actions according to the changing situation that is presented. People with mental flexibility

are able to see things from several different perspectives, solve problems in new ways, adapt to change, and learn from their mistakes.

Martyn Nayman, Head of LOTE (Languages Other Than English) at Nexus, reports that the benefits of bilingualism are life long. Mr. Martyn often tells the learners how people who use two languages in the workplace earn an average of 8% more than their monolingual co-workers. "Additionally," Mr. Martyn said, "Having a second language helps to protect the brain from the effects of ageing."

# **Boarder Blog: "My Dress"**

On the girls' floors we often have activities that make us a closer community. One of the most recent ones that I thoroughly enjoyed was a 30-minute time limit to get your model dressed up with recyclable products, like plastic bags. Aisyah helped me with my dress, we took the red laundry bags and inflated them to later duct tape them to the base dress of a big black trash bag we cut open and put on me.

Georgia Stephen - Year 10



Embracing Diversity. Challenging Minds

# MODEL UNITED NATIONS NEWS (MUN)

### KLMUN (7-9 March)

This term, Nexus sent 20 diplomatic well versed individuals to KLMUN organized in the Garden International School. Delegates debated and discussed through a large plethora of topics, which included territorial disputes in the South China Sea, militarizing the Arctic and the Rwandan genocide.

Nexus's delegation team proved to be a tour de force within each of their respective committees, with some of our delegates such as Farah Zakri, Jerell Ong and Ng Wi Kiat winning Most Passionate Delegate, Most Diplomatic Delegate and Best Delegate respectively. This conference showcased the diplomacy and global awareness that our learners possess and we eagerly await the next one!

#### **HELPMUN (28-30 March)**

HELPMUN was a first time conference for many of our delegates, but that didn't prevent them from having fun and solving world problems while they were at it! Ranging from topics such as a re-enactment of the Cuban Missile Crisis to the humanitarian issues in Syria, all delegates played their roles to a T, and Nexus managed to come away with three awards again: Arissa Rachel James as the

Most Diplomatic HSC delegate, Ng Wi Kiat as the Most Diplomatic SC delegate, and Jerrell Ong as the Best Delegate for DISEC.

This showed the sticking power of Nexus's MUN team and while form is temporary, class is permanent.

#### **NUMUN (4-6 April)**

The Nottingham MUN Conference 2014 was a refreshing experience for our Nexus delegates, as Harvard-style conferences aren't very common in Malaysia. After lots of research, attending preparation sessions in writing position papers and numerous run-throughs of the rules of procedure during our lunchtime sessions, our delegates were all set to go! Albeit sending only a small delegation of 6, the Nexus learners made their presence felt in the various committees of NUMUN, including the HRC, EU and SC.

After a challenging three days filled with heated debate and diplomatic lobbying sessions, 2 of our delegates were awarded Honorary Mentions - Jerrell Ong for the SC and Arissa James for the EU. Overall, Nexus delegates enjoyed this experience very much!





# **Music News**

#### **Piano and Flute Recital**

The Music Department is putting on an informal Piano and Flute Recital at 3.30pm on Monday 14th April in the Drama Studio.

It should only last around 40 mins, it would be great to see you there. Parents are providing a 'Pot Luck' buffet afterwards.

# **Bugsy Malone**

Well Done to all involved in the Bugsy Malone Musical - You did yourselves and Nexus proud!

Photos and the Bugsy Malone Video will be available soon on the Music Department website (found from the whole school website).

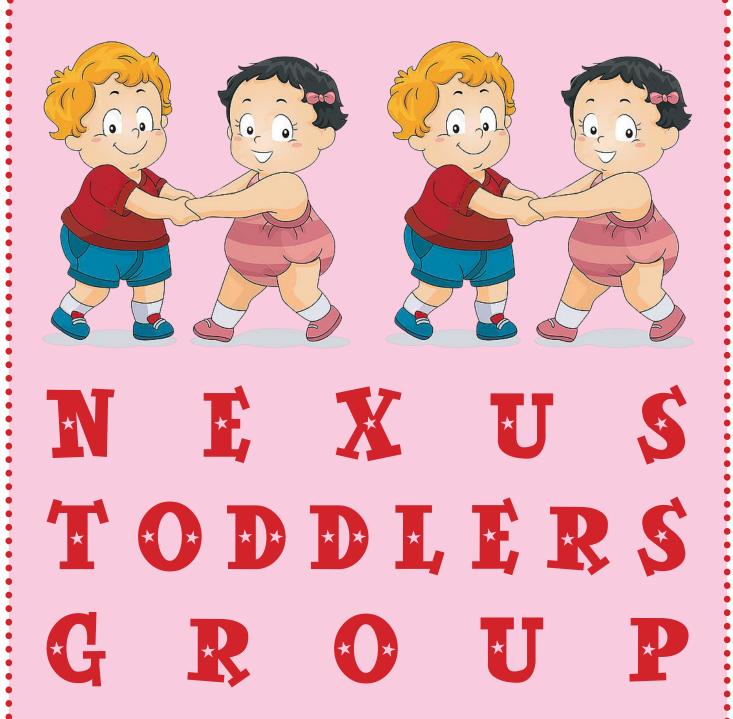
#### **Dates For Your Diaries**

14th April	Piano and Flute Recital
7 May	Auditions for the Young
	Performers Concert
21 May	Young Performers Concert
4 June	Nexus' Got Talent
18 June	Dance in Action
19 June	Rock Concert

# **Why Study Music?**

**6 Benefits of Music Lessons** 

http://www.parents.com/kids/ development/intellectual/benefits-ofmusic-lessons



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