

CONNECT 22

19 Feb Issue, Term 2



NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

PUTRAJAYA

Climbing with Nexus

Come for a morning climb on our bouldering wall!

NISP is holding a morning introduction to climbing on the 5th March, 9-11am. Learners, parents and staff are invited to join in. This session is designed to give you an introduction to the sport and how we use this fantastic facility with our learners. Main topics of the morning will be:

- Introduction to the wall and equipment.
- How we can use the wall for primary and secondary learners.
- Climbing techniques and training.

This session is ideal for parents who wish to get their child involved in a 'non-traditional' sport. Climbing not only encompasses full body movement but also improves skills such as goal setting, problem solving and social interaction with peers. If you are interested in joining us, please send your name and how many of you are wishing to attend to Mr Alex at orr.a@nexus.edu.my. There is only limited availability so please get in touch asap.

Mr Alex
CCA, Sports

Upcoming University Visits and exhibitions

There is another wave of University exhibitions happening in KL over the next few weeks. I seriously suggest that you invest some time and go along. Details are below:

20th February 2016: EducationUSA university Fair
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/educationusa-university-fair-2016-kuala-lumpur-tickets-19570586150>

The Istana Hotel, 2-6pm

27-28th February 2016: British Council, Study in the UK Exhibition
<https://www.britishcouncil.my/events/education-uk-exhibition-2016>

5th March 2016: World Class study in London
<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/world-class-study-in-london-kuala-lumpur-exhibition-tickets-18825248826>

The Mandarin Oriental Hotel, KL

2nd March 2016: The AEO Study USA tour
<http://www.aeotour.com/>

Le Meridian Hotel, KL

NISP school visits:

Friday 26th Feb: Exeter University (Medicine). 1-1.50pm in the library

Tuesday 1st March: University of the Arts, London. 1-1.50pm in the library

Wednesday 2nd March: The Royal Holloway and Goldsmiths University. 1-1.50pm in the senior canteen.

University Day

This Monday, the Y12 learners took part in 'University day'. Throughout the day they were introduced to the application systems for the UK, USA, Malaysia and Canada. They also had a chance to speak a number of representatives from a variety of professions (including a Dentist, Chemical Engineer, Lawyer, HR manager and Mental health councillor).



GCSE & IB Music Recital

On Tuesday 16th February, Nexus held a small Recital in the auditorium for the GCSE And IB music learners. For the GCSE learners, this was a practice to play their pieces before their real exam on Monday 22nd February. This showcased the amazing and talented GCSE and IB music learners as they each played a piece or several pieces. Even though I wasn't one of the GCSE or IB music learners, I came not only to support my sister, Cicely, but I also performed with her. It was an incredible opportunity and as I knew how important this was to her, I had the pressure of not messing up. It was a fun experience and it was nice to see the other learners perform. Overall, I found everyone who performed incredibly talented and I hope that the GCSE music learners do well for their exams on Monday!

Performances ranged from Chopin, Gershwin and Mozart on piano, Latin guitar, Bach on bass guitar, and a lively Russian folk melody.

Samantha (Year 8)

Silver International Award Trip – Langkawi

Our Silver Award learners left Nexus yesterday to head to Langkawi. This morning they were up bright and early to start their Adventurous Journey! We wish them luck and I'm sure there will be a full report in next week's newsletter.



The Container

Year 9 Drama Showcase – two reviews

On Wednesday evening, all Year 9 learners performed the play, *The Container*, which is the story about refugees trying to get to England. A large audience of learners, teachers and parents entered the drama studio, dark, barely lit and claustrophobically hot – this was deliberately done to simulate the inside of a truck container where the refugees lay hidden. Obviously, this is a very hot topic as it is one of the most serious global issues in the world today, especially in Europe. However, it is a widespread issue that affects many other parts of the world. This was an excellent opportunity to learn and feel what is actually happening in the lives of refugees. As an audience and an actor, I would like to say well done to everyone for the fantastic performance. It was amazing to see the learners had fully immersed in their roles and character. Much of the acting was a very high standard, but with some harsh dialogue and violence simmering on the surface, it was also a harrowing performance.

Well done to all the Year 9 learners, and thank you very much to our teachers for working very hard in preparing us for the play and also thanks to the audience for coming to watch.

Keigo (Year 9)

In the beginning of 2015, a huge dilemma has struck Europe by storm when a rising number of refugees and migrants fleeing away from their war torn countries try to smuggle themselves into Europe to seek asylum. Many are from Syria, Afghanistan and also Eritrea. Because this is a serious issue, we wanted to help educate others about this current issue by performing a short one-hour play that highlights Europe's Migrant Crisis. This is an excellent idea because it is a less preachy approach to raising awareness.

Described as “incredibly compelling” by the playwright, Clare Bayley's *The Container* is set in a 40ft freight container and tells the story of five migrants - two Afghans, two Somalis and a Turkish Kurd with many terrorizing nightmares of why they left their homelands as they try to reach England. Originally, *The Container* was performed in a real container with the audience inside. To recreate this setting, we used a small part of the drama studio with the audience surrounding the stage - this is called “thrust staging” to make the experience seem real claustrophobic and dark to captivate the audience.

My character, Fatima is a Somali woman in her forties who travels with her niece throughout the journey. Because my character is Somali, some of my lines were in Somali which is somewhat a challenge for me to learn along with the accent. Thankfully, it was transliterated and it was much easier. Learning lines can be difficult for some such as the agent who has a paragraph of lines which needed to be learnt by Christmas. Although the content of the play is very adult, it was a fantastic experience and we felt really honoured to have the opportunity to perform *The Container*. I would like to congratulate my fellow Year 9s for their excellent effort!

Marissa (Year 9)



Making Chocolate Rocks!



METAMORPHIC



SEDIMENTARY



IGNEOUS

Year 7 science learners were making the 3 different rock types (Sedimentary, Metamorphic and Igneous) from grated chocolate.....

Best part was eating the experiment!

Uk Mathematics Trust: Intermediate Maths Challenge

The Intermediate maths challenge was sat by a group of enthusiastic year 9, 10 and 11 learners just before Chinese New Year. Judging by our excellent results, this new lunar year is going to be very lucky!

The UKMT runs challenges for senior school students at Junior, Intermediate and Senior levels. Within each Challenge, the top 40% will receive bronze, silver and gold awards in the ratio 3:2:1. The top performers are invited to follow on rounds which lead to more prizes and opportunities. Despite being UK based, the challenge is sat by students all over the world, attracting over 600,000 competitors annually. The challenges are all puzzle-style questions with multiple choice answers, but if you get the harder questions wrong, you lose marks so you can't just guess!

Nexus has already had success at the Senior level with 5 gold and 4 silver awards, and the Intermediate Challenge has seen us bring home 24 awards! The brainy year 9, 10 and 11 learners are as follows:

GOLD: Samson Lai

SILVER: Lakshman Manny, Alex O'Shea, Lih Xiu Lieu, Kirsty Tay, Jia Ze Khoo, Stephen Ong, Cicely Guillouet, Xinyi Lim, Mikail Ranjit, Hui Xin Tan, Ahmad Roswaidin, Suffian Shahrir

BRONZE: Ericia Chang, Sophie Low, Zhariff Hazali, Lisa Hasnul, Priti Prabhu, Insyirah Muzafar Shah, Jing Yii Tan, Naieem Abdul Razak, Min Hsien Mak, Hanna Mohd Amirul Rizal, Jason Tay

Samson has not only won a gold award, but has also qualified for the Cayley Olympiad. This means that he scored in the top 500 entries for his year group! This challenge is different to the rest and is all about mathematical proof.

A huge "well done!" to all competitors, those who won awards and those who just missed out this time. Having the courage to attempt these tricky challenges is impressive in itself. If any year 7 and year 8 students would like to sign up to the Junior Challenge, they need to complete this google form by Wednesday: <https://goo.gl/NN7PLG>.

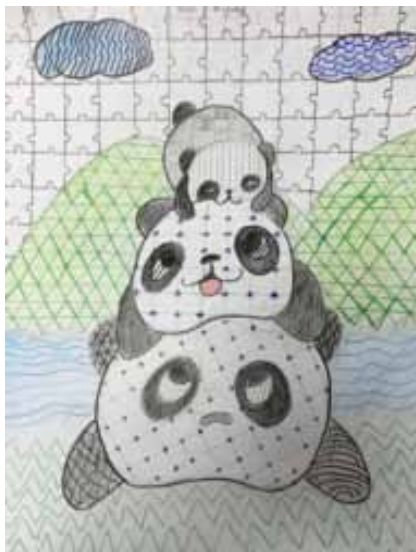


Year 8 Designs for a Printing Composition

Design for printing (line pattern)



Zaynab 8N



Nur Aliyana 8X



Pui Lam and Hanis 8N



Azmina and Elysia 8N



Aishah 8E



In'aam 8E

Some of the Year 8 learners are currently working on their printing topic and have produced some interesting line and shape pattern based on their research. They were introduced to line and pattern by researching Islamic and Moroccan design, and then creating a line pattern collage composition.

Monoprinting is a form of printmaking that has images or lines that can only be made once, unlike most printmaking, where there are multiple originals. There are many different techniques used to create monoprints, examples include lithography, woodcut, and etching.

Learners are currently making their own Islamic/ Moroccan designs in their sketchbooks, whilst experimenting with their monoprinting skills, before planning their final responses for this topic.

Some learners have been using Pop art collage to design a composition for their printing project. They have been investigating the British Pop artists Richard Hamilton. They have been creating their own digital versions of Hamilton's famous collage called, "Just what is it that makes today's homes so different, so appealing?" (1956).

Below are some of the learner line compositional experiments and Pop art experiments (in collage).

Artwork shared and created by Pui Lam and Hanis 8N, Zaynab 8N, Azmina and Elysia 8N, and Nur Aliyana 8X,

Saiful Ali Baki
Year 8

Form Photos

This week, the Yearbook Editorial Team has been organising the form photos with the kind help of Mr Tom.

Here is a selection of the best “alternative” shots.



PRIMARY MUSIC NEWS

Year 1 were having great fun this week with Ms Ann learning to keep the beat and stay in time with the music (Darth Vader's Imperial March), by using the very current and topical Star Wars Lightsabers:



Final Reminder - The Grease the Musical VIDEO is now available to watch and download



The VIDEO now available to watch and download [HERE](#)

A HUGE Thank You to Tom Dennison White and the learner video team for all their work on the filming and editing of this lifelong memory of the show.

Instrumental Parents' Evening - THIS WEEK - Tuesday 23rd February

The Music Department's annual Instrumental Parents' Evening will be held on Tuesday 23rd February from 3.30pm to 5.30pm in the MPR. Letters will be sent home this week via all of the 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.

If you have not received your invitation letter, then can be found [HERE](#) - Please email your completed forms back tocostello.t@nexus.edu.my ASAP so a time-slot can be allocated to you

or here:



(Please note this parents' evening is only for parents of learners who have separate Instrumental/Vocal Lessons at school)

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra Trip - Saturday 27th February

The Music Department will be taking 30 learners to see the MPO in concert on Saturday 27th February. The MPO will be using their 'supersound' to play the superheroic themes for Batman, Spiderman and Superman, as well as Super Mario and other video game legends. It will be a great opportunity for our younger learners in Y7 to reinforce their learning about 'The Orchestra' which they are currently studying in class.



Dates For Your Diaries

Tuesday 23rd February
Wednesday 2nd March
Wednesday 23rd March
Wednesday 27th April
Thursday 12th May
Wednesday 18th May
Thursday 26th May
Wednesday 8th June
Monday 27th June

Instrumental Parents' Evening 3.30pm to 5pm in the MPR
Y3 Primary Showcase
Senior Spring Concert - 7pm in the Theatre
Y2 Primary Showcase
Young Performers' Concert - 7pm in the Theatre
Y1 Primary Showcase
Rock Concert
Early Years Showcase
Very Young Performers' Concert

Why Study Music?

The Importance of Music



<http://www.spreadmusicnow.org/the-importance-of-music.html?platform=hootsuite>

GCSE and IB Music Recital - 7pm Tuesday 16th February

Last Tuesday 16th February all the Year 11 Music GCSE and Y13 Music IB learners took part in wonderful recital in the Theatre. All the performances were very of a very high standard and the learner's musicality shone through. The recordings and videos of the performances will now be sent off to the exam boards and used as part of their GCSE/IB Performance Assessment.



Book Week Coming Soon!

The week beginning 29th February 2016, Nexus will be celebrating Book Week. This coincides with World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March which is celebrated all across the world. The theme this year is Science Fiction and we will be focusing on storytelling. There will be lots of activities and competitions going on throughout the week. On Friday 4th March we will all be getting dressed up as our favourite book characters so start thinking about your costume now.

Check out our Book Week websites for information about what is happening in the week and what competitions you can take part in. If you're stuck for costume ideas, check out our Pinterest boards full of ideas for Science Fiction and book character costumes.

<https://sites.google.com/a/hexus.edu.my/book-week-2016/home>

<https://www.pinterest.com/bookweek/>

Year 1 school trip

IPC: We are what we eat: Have you ever eaten a rainbow?

Another interesting week and exciting learning about food! The Year 1 classes went on a school trip to celebrate their learning and find out more information about healthy food. We visited Ashley's restaurant in Bangsar, where the staff welcomed us and provided lots of opportunities to widen our knowledge. First, Ms. Isabelle introduced us to "Rainbow food". This means that we should have every colour of the rainbow on our plates. Learners took a quizz and sorted food into different colours, such as cheese for yellow, vegetables for green, blueberries for purple, etc. We also sorted food into the different food groups as we learnt before. Then we had a chance to try various tastes that came in little bowls and we had to guess what they were. Soya sauce seemed to be quite known, and the honey was very sweet, unlike the vinegar that was not too tasty!

After the introduction, learners chose their own ingredients for their healthy pizza. And while that was spreading its nice smell from the ovens, the children had an opportunity to make their own dessert. They learnt how to roll a sticky ball from dates and nuts and finally, topped it with delicious melted chocolate. Yummy!!!

Well done Year 1 learners for using your listening ears and your manners in the restaurant and thank you lovely ladies, mummy volunteers for helping us on the trip!

Ms. Andrea
Year 1



Through the Early Years Looking Glass – Celebrating diversity!

International mindedness in Early Year!



Learner tasting Chinese snacks.

Chinese lunar year celebrations gave Early Years learners the opportunities to celebrate cultural diversities and commonalities.

Dressed up in colourful outfits it was clear we have open-minded learners who are willing to experience a different culture while still having a sense of their own identity. The spectacular performances helped our learners achieve our EY outcome, 'Respect of different cultures and being open-minded'.

The learners learnt to make the Chinese hand sign as they said, "Gong Xi Fa Cai," a truly remarkable way of learning how to value other people and their ideas.

Ms Monica
Early Years



God of prosperity.



Learners saying "Gong Xi Fa Cai,"



Lion dance drummers – "It is so loud!" the learner said.



Learners wrote their names using Chinese characters.

EXPAT SUPPORT GROUP

Thank you for your earlier positive and supportive response to Rekindle's efforts to reach out to expats who are struggling. We have had a successful first meeting. Based on the feedback, we will be running Expat Support Group Meetings twice a month. The next two dates are Wed 17th February and Wed 9th March, both from 10am - 11:30am.

We have also created a brochure that can be used for the rest of 2016, and people interested in this resource may access the brochure at the following link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8GVRilJ7I6GTWZDWkN2RFN0dHM/view?usp=sharing>
The brochure is downloadable and the link is also shareable to the public.



Expat
Support Group

"Expat Stress: Finding A Safe Place To Talk"

		
WEDNESDAY 3rd Feb 2016 10am-11:30am	FREE-WILL Contribution *	15 PEOPLE ** (maximum)

Register Now!

Call: +603 6201 7488 (Ask for Jeremy Lim)
Email: trainings@rekindletherapy.com

* (RM50 suggested towards "pay-it-forward" scheme for Rekindle Academy)
** First come, first served. Adults only – childcare facilities not available

Centre for Systemic Therapy
Individuals, Couples & Families



2nd Floor, 40-2 Jalan 25/70A
Desa Sri Hartamas Kuala Lumpur

EXPAT SUPPORT GROUP

Have you experienced difficulty in your transition to life as an expatriate in Malaysia? Expat stress can be subtle and complex. If not understood or managed well, it can have a negative impact on couples and families. *Rekindle* is pioneering a support group which will provide a safe and confidential environment for expats to learn and to attain support and coping strategies – to make expat living as stress-free as possible!

The support group meeting will consist of a brief educational talk and facilitated group discussions. It is ideally suited for the "trailing expat spouse" but all expats are welcome. Bring your own favourite tea/coffee and come join us!



MARCEY HESCHEL

Licensed Professional Counsellor Intern
Clinical Intern – Rekindle Academy

A Canadian expatriate in Malaysia, Marcey graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and English. She completed her Masters degree in Counseling at the University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

Marcey lives in Kuala Lumpur with her husband and daughter, and balances her role as an expat spouse with the pursuit of clinical hours, through Rekindle Academy, needed to obtain full Texas Licensure as a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).

She is passionate about helping others realize and utilize their strengths and assisting them in building fulfilling lives and futures.

DR. JOHNBEN LOY

USA-Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist
Founder & Clinical Director
Rekindle Centre for Systemic Therapy

Over his many years of experience in the mental health field, Dr. Johnben Loy has worked with people from all walks of life, across different parts of the world. Dr. Loy has lived and worked in Malaysia, Singapore, England, Canada, and the United States. He received his MBA from Cambridge University, his MTS in Counseling from Tyndale Seminary (Toronto), and his PhD in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Minnesota, USA.

After five years of providing therapy services to expats through *Rekindle*, Dr. Loy felt the need to develop a support group – a safe place that is not quite therapy and not quite a networking event – for expats to share common issues and find friendships that are mutually supportive. He envisioned a support group which would generate funds that would go towards helping financially-challenged clients to receive financial support for therapy services.

Dr. Loy is married to a Caucasian Canadian wife and they have two bi-cultural teenage children.

Library News



Book Covering **BLITZ**

Dear Parents,
Please drop in the library to
help cover books.

No prior experience?
No problem,
as training will be provided.

When: Wed 24 Feb

Anytime from 8.35am to 3.10pm

Where: Library @ Level 2

U15 Girls Basketball Tournament

Thursday 4th February

On Thursday 11th February the U15 Girls Basketball team attended the ISAC finals tournament at Tenby International School. The team played three games in total against Tenby, Sunway and ISP. With only six players able to attend due to upcoming Chinese New Year holiday the team played exceptionally well. Excellent perseverance throughout and some fantastic defence in the final game. By the end of the three games the team were exhausted but pleased with the effort they had put in consistently throughout the tournament.

Well done to the following learners who played;

Dania
Sorour
Caylyn
Nuha
Fan Xin
Wen Wei

Miss Grace
PE & Sport
Year 9 & Year 10



U13 Girls Basketball Tournament

Saturday 13th February

On Saturday 13th February the U13 Girls Basketball team took part in the ISAC tournament hosted by ISKL. The girls were up against two incredible strong teams in their pool, ELC and ISKL Gold. Nexus played well throughout the morning, improving on their communication and defence and the games went on. Sadly due to the tough competitive, Nexus finished in 3rd place in the pool.

After lunch it was time for the play-offs where Nexus was up against ISKL White. With strong defence throughout and fantastic shots from Ayla Nexus won 24-0.

Well done to the following learners who played;

Caylyn
Chelsea
Azmina
Elysia
Karamina
Samantha
Ayla
Stella
Andrea
Emily

Miss Grace
PE & Sport
Year 7 & Year 8



U15 Girls Basketball Friendly

Tuesday 16th February

AISM hosted a friendly match this Tuesday 16th February against their U15 girls team. This was a great opportunity for our team to practice in preparation for their tournament on Thursday.

The game started well with Nexus consistently intercepting passes between AISM. The first shot was scored by AISM. However, it wasn't long before Nexus caught up with the score at 3-2 at the end of the first quarter after a fantastic penalty shot taken by Dhrrithi. As the game went on Nexus kept the lead with some good defence from Fan Xin and great shots from Sorour and Nuha.

Even though we had just six of the team available to play, the girls worked hard throughout and with determination came away with a 9-8 win.

Well done to the following players;

Nuha
Fan Xin
Sorour
Dhrrithi
Dania
Tina

Miss Grace
PE & Sport
Year 9 & Year 10

BoysGirls Basketball Tournament

Saturday 13th February

On Saturday the middle school boys basketball team played four teams winning two games and losing two. Star player was Denning Koh who was the MVP of the Nexus team. Some great scoring by Jason Tay. Well done to all the boys involved.

Michael
Luke
Shaq
Dickson
Sonny
Zaim
Denning
Jason
Hasif

Paul Beattie
PE & Sport
Year 7,8 and 9



Primary boys football

Great day for the youngsters

The primary boys U9 football team played three games at BSKL on Wednesday. The boys won one, drew one and lost one.

Sonny, Isaac and Charlie all scored their first ever goal for the school team.

Thank you to all the parents who came to support.

Paul Beattie
Sport
2,3 and 4



You don't need
to be super
bendy
to do



You do it
to become
more flexible



Find your true flow



one stretch at a time



Join me , Maria, every Friday for an hour of VeraFlow® contact number 0132933497

