

# CONNECT 25

11 March Issue, Term 2 (2015-2016)

NEXUS PERFORMING ARTS

· PRESENTS ·

## Senior Spring Concert

W E D N E S D A Y · M A R C H · 2 3

IN THE THEATRE

7 PM

ADULT - RM15

CHILD/CONCESSION - RM10

FAMILY TICKET

(2 ADULTS 3 CHILDREN) - RM50

THE SPRING CONCERT IS THE ANNUAL SHOWCASE  
CONCERT FOR THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT AT NEXUS



## Solar Eclipse at Nexus

On Wednesday, 9th March 2016, Nexus learners crowded to the tennis court to watch the partial solar eclipse happening. Pinhole cameras were given out to the excited students while the teachers set out equipment for the children to see the eclipse without hurting their eyes, using binoculars focused on screens. Not only that, there was also a full solar eclipse occurring at Palu, Indonesia which we watched live streaming on a large screen. When it was at 10 seconds all of the learners did a countdown for the full solar eclipse and there were cheers from the crowd when the total eclipse was reached.

Sofia, 6E.

On Wednesday morning around 8:25, a solar eclipse occurred! It was a very exciting time for everybody, everyone was crowding around the grandstand where you could use a pinhole camera which you could put in front of your eyes and point straight at the Sun. You could see a very little curved shape on the screen of the pinhole camera, it looked like the crescent moon but it was the Sun partially eclipsed by the Moon. Nobody expected it to be so tiny, everybody was surprised. When I looked into it, I wasn't really interested because it was very small. It was very small because of the tiny pinhole in the camera. The teachers had also set up some binoculars facing a screen, so you could see a bigger image of the eclipse. What I really enjoyed was watching the video stream from Indonesia because it was so very exciting and people were counting down, it was the total eclipse, and when I actually saw it, I thought it was beautiful. I thought it was amazing to see the glow around the Moon, it was the Sun. The Sun's corona (seen as glow around the blocked out sun) can only be seen during a total eclipse. It was a very nice morning and a good way to start the day.

Aminah, Year 6.

Year 5 and 6 have just completed their IPC theme "Space Explorers" during which they learnt about how light travels in straight lines and how an eclipse happens because light from the sun is blocked by the moon, since the moon is opaque. This was a fantastic opportunity to see real science in action and a natural phenomena that doesn't happen everyday!

Ms Kerry, Lead Teacher of Science in Primary.

Many thanks to Vincent Palombo, Head of Science in the Secondary School who set up the equipment to help us all see the eclipse so safely and clearly. Thanks also to the ICT Department who set up the live streaming video and Facilities who set up the canopy.

[Here's a website to find out more about the partial solar eclipse in Malaysia.](#)

[Here is a video of the total solar eclipse in Indonesia](#)

**Aminah and Sofia**

**Year 6**

## Timeless Tales of Malaysia

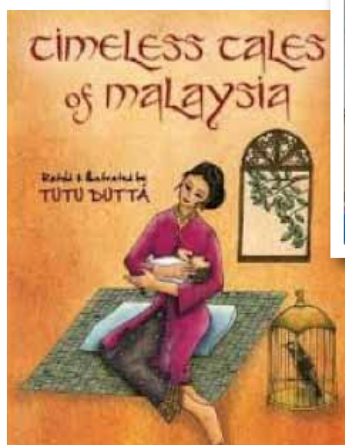
### Author Tutu Dutta Visits Year 6

Year 6 finished off book week with a very special treat. Kai Xin's Great Aunt, Vivian Low, came to read a Malaysian folktale to the whole year group. She was accompanied by Tutu Dutta, the book's author. The Year 6 learners thoroughly enjoyed the tale of a prince who saved a princess. The young princess was under the spell of a wicked witch who had turned her into a squirrel.

After listening to the story, Year 6 were full of enthusiasm, and Tutu Dutta answered many interesting questions about her research and life as an author.

**Kerry Stansfield**

**Year 6**

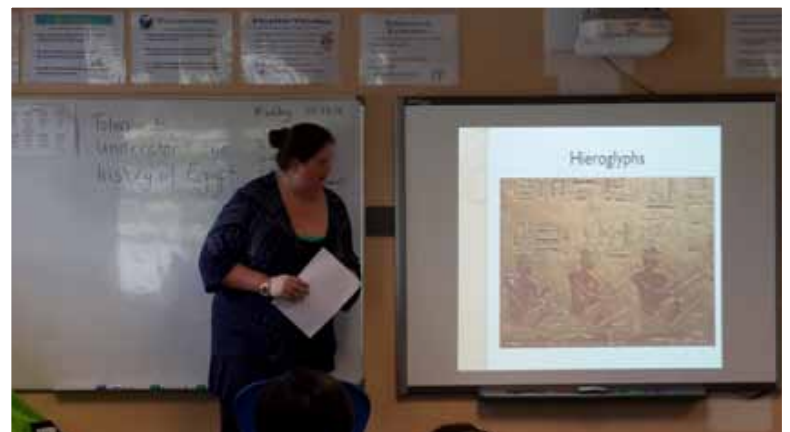


# Ask an Expert: Ancient Egypt

Ancient Egypt expert, Hayley Goddard visits Year 6 to share her knowledge of Ancient Egypt

On Monday 7th March, Ms. Hayley came into Year 6 so that she could explain about the history of Ancient Egypt. It was really helpful to us because Time Tunnel is our IPC topic at the moment. We got to learn about how there were good times, such as when the first pyramids were successfully built, and bad times, such as war and famine, during the past in Ancient Egypt. We used our listening skills and our Personal Goal "Respectful" while Ms. Hayley was presenting. We jotted what we found interesting and the new knowledge we found out, so we could use it as a source of information later. Many thanks to Ms. Hayley for sharing her knowledge!

**Aqeel, Y6**  
**Year 6**





# Music News

## Primary Music News

Year 5 had a fun week in their Music lessons playing Nexus' wonderful handmade Gamelan and was masterfully lead by Ms Ann:





# CAS Reflection



This was a CAS project outside of school CCA however the activity was done in Nexus. The aim of this project is to create a art piece made of quilling art for as part of creativity for CAS. This will be a new experience for me as it will be my first time as well as doing independent research on creating quilling art without the help of my supervisor. The learning outcomes that I will try to achieve is identifying own strength and develop areas for growth as well as demonstrate that challenges have been undertaken, developing new skills in the process.

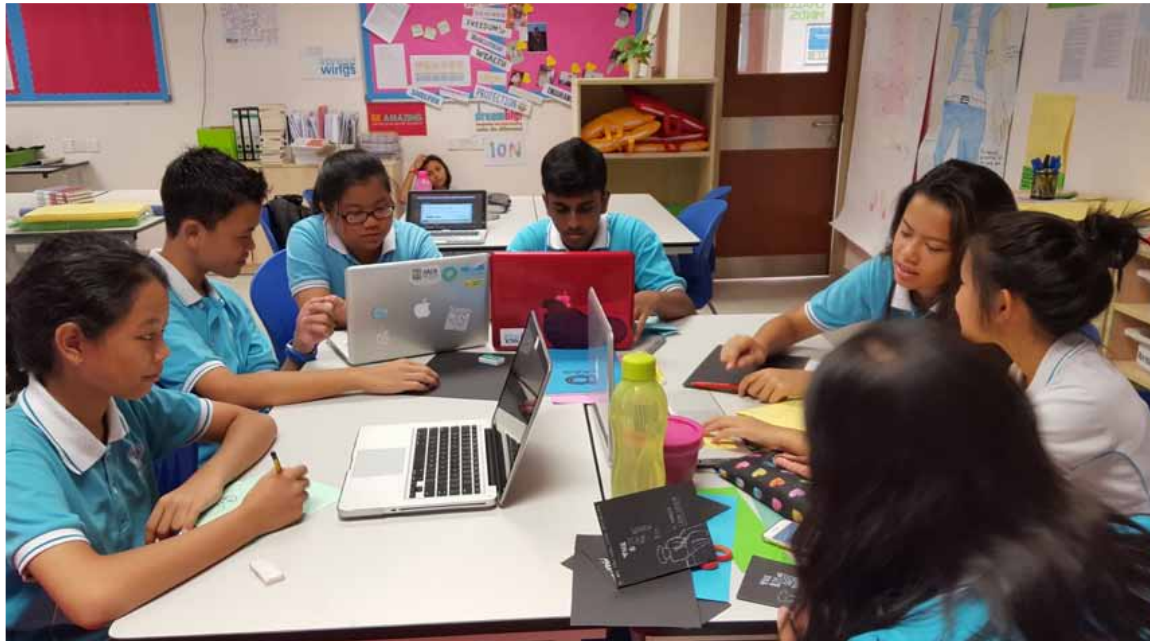
During the start of CAS, I researched techniques and ways to do quilling art on youtube. Then I sketched a design using floral inspiration and movements. At first, I experimented with the types of paper as I wanted to evaluate which paper is most effective at standing still. The thin papers were harder to glue as the surface was very thin, therefore I started to use cardboards paper which is thicker and easier to be stable. I then had to try and glue the paper onto a surface. It was very hard as my fingers were shaking and there was no space to place the paper properly. I then had the idea to use 'sate sticks' as an inspiration from when I was using it as chopstick for my lunch. I experimented using the stick to see if it worked, and it was successful. It was easy and convenient. Once I got the hang of it, I got better at it and found it very interesting and amusing.

For this CAS, I have learned many different techniques in quilling art using youtube tutorials and suggestions from my art teacher. It helped me to develop my creativity and it also broaden my learning skills in art. It was quite a challenge as the paper was thin, however I had a brilliant idea of using 'sate' sticks to hold the paper while it is being glued and it worked perfectly. The glue however was a problem as it required some time to dry therefore the time I spent on doing it took longer. I now know a new technique in art and I find it very useful for my art studies. I did many experiments before creating a design as I wanted to see how it would look like. Quilling art helped me in being more patience with my art work and I find it very useful. In art class, I'm now more patience and I can create an art piece without rushing it, completing my research and organising the layout more properly compared to last year where I didn't even consider the layouts as much.



# The Granny Project

Working in the hubs as a whole year group, we were given the task to interview and write a story about our grandmothers: their fond memories, childhood, most memorable times. Miss Stephanie wrote a story about her grandmother, what she enjoyed doing with her and what she liked about her. We collected information about our grandmother, put them into a timeline and lastly, wrote a biography about our grandmothers.



When we were collecting information I began to learn about her childhood, what she liked and what she dreamed to be one day. My fondest memory was spending time together with her and making traditional steamed cakes. When we were finished, we put all of our 'Granny Project' into a site and we brought cakes and biscuits in while we were showcasing our story to our peers and teachers. I personally have found out a lot things about my grandmother that I never knew before.



In addition, this was a challenging task as we had to find out a lot about our grandmother's past, which we knew nothing about since all of us weren't born yet during that era. We had to contact more than one person in order to find out more about our grandmothers, since some of ours have passed away or lived somewhere rather distant. Overall, it was an amazing project and we hope to do something like this again in the near future.

**By : Chelsea, Samantha and Hui Ern 8X**



# IGCSE Global Perspectives

In our IGCSE Global Perspectives lessons, we are working on a group project. We chose to focus on the issue of the learners' safety on social media.

Our aims are to educate people (young adults and teenagers, from 12 to 18) about the potential dangers of social media and to get  $\geq 50$  people to participate in the 'banner activity'. Our rationale for doing so is to educate enough people so that they know how to protect themselves from the dangers of social media.

We plan to do this an Online Safety Awareness Day next Friday 18th March, during lunchtime. We would like to do this following:

- 1) Location: outside the art room, near the secondary canteen where the secondary drop off is
- 2) Secondary learners are welcomed to read some information about the dangers of social media, to sign the banner where they can also write their opinions about how they can protect themselves online down. There is also an educational game based on personal safety on social media. To make sure more learners can participate in our outcome, we decided to print out QR codes that link them to the game website.
- 3) After the banner's signed and filled with learner's ideas on ways to protect themselves on social media, we're going to leave the banner at the secondary drop off for two days until Tuesday so others, when walking past, can read about it even when they couldn't join the activity.

**Hui Xin (Year 10)**





# Pi Day

Monday 14 March (3.14.16)

Monday is an extremely important and exciting day in the school year as it is Pi Day!

This is because the date 3/14 mirrors the first three digits of Pi.

Coincidentally, it also marks the beginning of Maths week at Nexus. There will be a host of activities, puzzles and challenges going on throughout the week, some mental, some physical but all Pi-tastic.

To celebrate Pi Day there will be:

- **Amazing Pi Memory Challenge!** How many digits of Pi can you memorise? See details attached- prizes for best in each year group.
- **Pi Dingbats!** Keep an eye out for these around school and in your emails. Prizes for high scores.
- **House of Pi Relay Race!** Join forces with other year groups in your house to complete a total of 3.1415km. Prizes for the winning team.
- **Pi Paper Chain!** Visit the front of school at any point during the day and add to the colourful, record-breaking attempt at a Pi paper chain



... you know you want to!



## Change of face in the Sports Council

The head of the Sports Council has left Nexus recently due to unforeseen circumstances. He left a hole not only in his friends' lives and the school, but also in the Student Council. As such, the Student Council decided that the vice-head and previous secretary of the Sports Council would be promoted to head and vice-head respectively and the position of secretary be opened.

We debated on opening the applications first to the independent members in the Sports Council, but we eventually decided to open it to the entire secondary school because we felt that it would only be fair, especially since there is a limit on how many independent members a council can have, and not all who wanted to be in the Sports Council were accepted due to the member cap.

There were applicants with varying levels of experience, both in student council roles and in general positions of leadership, but Jeff was by far the most qualified candidate with key leadership roles in sporting activities as well as several terms being the stand-in secretary of the sports council when they left for their IGCSE examinations. He showed passion and dedication to the sports council in his interview and proved that he truly was an outstanding candidate for the position and fully deserved to be chosen for this role.



## Who would be President?

Open letter from the President

Becoming the president of the student council is an invaluable opportunity for learners to work closely with not just members of staff at Nexus, but to also gain experience dealing with parents, other learners and external liaisons, and this means that a multitude of skills that will become essential in the working world can be ingrained at a relatively early age.

Learners who apply for and take on the presidential role are most commonly those in the upper secondary, meaning that they will have to balance a significant amount of schoolwork with the responsibilities of the student council. It can be difficult sometimes to stay on top of all one's commitments, but good time management is an exceptionally important attribute to have especially if one is interested in going on to do higher-level study.

In order to ensure that only the best of the best will be elected as the next president of the student council, the student council currently has in place a rigorous election process. Two years prior, the president and vice-president were determined solely by the learners' votes after their campaign period and speech, but we felt that this method of election had the potential to turn into a popularity contest and not something that was of overall benefit to the school as a whole.

We now utilise a "weighting system," where teachers' ratings (25%), an interview process (25%) and learner votes (50%) all contribute to a total point value that will determine the next student council president. We felt that this process was the most holistic method of election, which gives both learners and teachers the chance to have a say in who becomes the student leader of Nexus.

Student council presidential applications have opened for the academic year 2016-2017, and we strongly encourage appropriately-qualified learners to apply for this position.

Sincerely,  
Ong Ling Ann  
Student Council President

## Year 9 English: War Poetry

In English the Year 9s have been exploring war poetry from three different conflicts, WW1, The Vietnam War and The Gulf War. Through the poems, we are able to empathise and sympathise with those that experienced these horrible events. The poems serve as a window to how different people were affected by the wars. From the front line soldiers experiencing the hell like conditions to the families waiting with dread to hear of casualties of their loved ones, the poems serve as a poignant reminder of what war does to people. As a final activity, the learners were asked to compose an original poem based on the conflicts along with creating a collage which captured the conflict.



As well as creating original war poetry, 9E designed exhibitions for a War Museum. The displays were designed to capture the essence of the war and ranged from models of traps used in the Vietnamese Jungle to depictions of the battles in the Gulf War.





# Year 7 Field Trip to Putrajaya Reflection

by Jaden Pathmanathan, 7E

On Monday the 7th of March the whole of year 7 went to Putrajaya. We went because in Humanities we are learning about planned cities and we went on this trip to see how Putrajaya was planned and used for. We went to the silver and pink mosque and we also went to the Putrajaya Convention Center. We learnt the function of Putrajaya, we learnt what some of the bridges were inspired from others around the world, and we learnt that the river in Putrajaya only had fresh water fish. My favorite part of the trip was the river cruise, because I liked to see the whole of Putrajaya and see the river.



# Smoke

Smoke, Screaming of pain and many dead innocents  
That's what you see everyday as a soldier

What do we receive from combat? absolutely nothing  
what do we realize from combat? That were devils

The sun gleamed into my eyes as i freed my eyelids

The atmosphere, filled with smoke, and the smell of blood

The mind, possessed with sights that cannot be erased

The feeling of guilt and nostalgia

Finally realizing, for the past years... WHAT HAVE I DONE?

Killing the innocent? Destroying families?

But no one cares, soldiers fight for pride  
Soldiers fight to see enemies die

'But what no one knows, no matter how necessary,  
nor justified, war is not a crime'

**by Fathi Lukman 9N**

In the war topic, we researched about the lives and the conditions of soldiers during World War One. We took this research and combined it with our knowledge of poetry to produce a poem which had a hidden message about war in it. In my poem, I envisioned the miserable lives of the soldiers, how the conditions were in the trenches, and what soldiers might have thought of it. The poem also includes the idea that some soldiers didn't know why they were at war or, indeed, what they were fighting for; some soldiers fought 'blind'.





# CAR WASH for CHARITY

On Monday 14th and Thursday 17th of March, we are holding a charity car wash for an organisation called Shelter Home Malaysia. We want to raise money for this organisation to help them provide for the children that they give shelter too.

Here is their website if you want to check it out: <http://www.shelterhome.org/>

Where: Boarding Parking Lot

When: Monday 14th & Thursday 17th March

Time: 8:30am - 10:00 am

Please bring your car around to the boarding parking lot to have your car washed! There will be an allocated space in the parking lot where you can get your car wash done. Please come and help us with the cause! Thank you!



# NISPMUN

It is incredible to contemplate, in hindsight, what a team of 17 learners can achieve over six months of sweat and toil.

On the 4th of March, the third annual session of NISPMUN took off, welcoming 207 delegates for a total of around 230 people from all over the country to a three-day conference that has become the hallmark of Model United Nations at Nexus. The opening ceremony, symbolised by the memorable aesthetics which marked the conference, kicked off with inspiring addresses from Ms Alison and Mr Chris.

The atmosphere of academic discourse was palpable as one strolled between the 7 committees packed with delegates in suits and dresses, discussing global issues which affected not themselves but the lives of others. Debate in the Security Council was particularly heated given the high calibre of the participants arrayed around the conference room, with 13 pairs of eyes scrutinising the speaker carefully whenever a speech was being given.



Here is an account from the youngest Nexus delegate at NISPMUN, Muhammad Ilmam from Year 6:

"At NISPMUN I learned a lot about Austria and other countries too, as well as the topics we debated like the use of missiles. The best part was that I made lots of new friends and learned a lot from them. I even felt like I was in a real conference - I wish I could do this again next time we do another conference, but I will choose a different country."

While all the delegates, including the 15-strong delegation from Nexus with Danny Shariat winning Best Delegate in F-UNSCOP, did themselves proud over the three days, there were also heroes behind the scenes.

The Press Team of photographers and journalists snapped pictures and wrote thought-provoking articles of the conference while the Admin Team impressed with their flawless troubleshooting and logistical help in all the committees.

There would have been no NISPMUN, however, without the organisers from the Secretariat who were the true puppet-masters behind the conference. After many sleepless nights prior to NISPMUN, they still had to scramble to overcome an endless influx of problems such as a dearth of microphones, lack of capacity in the cafeteria, last-minute delegate additions, and of course, the plague of all MUN conferences: certificates. Guided by Ms Suzy, these 17 learners were truly worthy of being called Nexus learners in the way they made NISPMUN come true.

Thus, the day after NISPMUN, Ms Suzy Pugh, the director of Nexus MUN and mother of the Secretariat team, received a message from HELP International School which summed up how memorable NISPMUN had been for all those who attended it.

"Just wanted to drop you a note to say thanks for such a fantastic conference. Your Secretariat really did Nexus proud. I'm particularly grateful about how well suited the Chairs were; it allowed our beginners to really develop the confidence and the understanding to fully join in and they can't wait for the next opportunity now." - Ms. Catherine McDonough, MUN Director of HELP International School.

Please visit the NISPMUNC 2016 website (<http://nispunc.com/>) to read more about the organisation and live blog accounts from the conference.

## Secretariat

Y12 Jerrell Ong  
Y12 Shailinder Singh Mann  
Y13 Aris Zainul  
Y13 Ryan Lee  
Y13 Fiona Ling Xue Jing  
Y13 Luanne Lai  
Y12 Aiman Fikri  
Y13 Zhermaine Wong  
Y13 Priyalini Ai Bharath  
Y12 Chong Sue Yen  
Y12 Aaron Sim  
Y13 Zarif Zaiful Anuar  
Y13 Noura Tan  
Y12 Riana Adams  
Y12 Nina M Shukor  
Y12 Shafi Wan Zaidi

## Admin and Press

Y13 Salina Jamil  
Y12 Wei Young  
Y12 Saeed Gofur  
Y13 Johan  
Y13 Helen Astra Lee  
Y12 Afifah Roswaidin  
Y13 Nishi Ahmad Taher  
Y13 Jia Miao  
Y13 Amirah  
Y12 Sarah Yanto Isra  
Y12 Ong Ling Ann  
Y11 Jeff  
Y13 Nabilah  
Y13 Farah Hisamuddin  
Y12 Arissa  
Y11 Zhariff  
Y13 Irfan  
Y12 Leshen  
Y12 Kamilia  
Y12 Aisyah





# SPRING CONCERT - Wednesday 23rd March - 7pm in the Theatre - Tickets are now on sale from Student Services



Final preparations and rehearsals are happening for the Music Department's annual Spring Concert. The Spring Concert is the Music Department's 'Showcase' Concert featuring our most advanced musicians and featuring all of our music ensembles including some very special items this year:

- Y7 & Y8 Mass Choir
- Y8 Samba Ensemble
- String Orchestra
- Y9 Mass Choir
- Double Violin Concerto with Orchestra
- Wind Band
- Sax Ensemble
- Lots of other high quality items

Please buy your tickets from Student Services, we have 200 learners involved in the concert so tickets will be going very quickly (ticket details on the poster).

Food and refreshment will be available from 6pm and during the interval.

## Dates For Your Diaries

Wednesday 23rd March  
 Wednesday 27th April  
 Thursday 12th May  
 Wednesday 18th May  
 Thursday 26th May  
 Wednesday 8th June  
 Monday 27th June

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?





# U13 Girls Basketball Plate Final

Thursday 3rd March 2016

Last Thursday the U13 Girls Basketball team participated in the plate final at IGB school. They were up against KTJ, ISP and IGB.

Their first game was against IGB. This was an incredibly close game with learners showing some great communication skills and strong defence. The final score was 12-10 to IGB. The second game against KTJ Nexus won with an fantastic score of 14-4. The third and final game was intense, neck and neck between ISP and Nexus throughout. Unfortunately ISP scored on free shots in the last few minutes of the game finishing 2 points ahead of Nexus at 10-8.

Overall Nexus came 3rd receiving bronze medals. The team has made so much progress over the term showing dedication and hard work in training which reflects their final positioning. Well done and huge congratulations to all involved;

Chelsea  
Ayla  
Karamina  
Samantha  
Azmina  
Elysia  
Emily

**Grace Nichols**



# ISAC Secondary Athletics

Friday 26th February 2016

Last Friday the Secondary Athletics team competed in the ISAC Athletics event at the Panasonic Stadium in Shah Alam.

Learners worked hard to secure points for Nexus and showed persistence throughout the afternoon (and evening). At the end of the day the boys team finished in 5th position and the girls in 9th. Overall Nexus came 7th out of 10 schools. Well done to everyone involved, a fantastic achievement.

This year we had 63 learners representing Nexus at this event. This is a record number of participants from Nexus and great to see so many people getting involved.

A number of these athletes will be taking part in the KLISS athletics event which will take place at Nexus this weekend. Best of luck to all who are taking part.

Go Wolves!

**Grace Nichols**

## Under 13 Boys basketball

### First victory

On Thursday the boys u13 basketball team won their first game of the season. The MVP was big Rasmus lund who dominated against IGB. Most improved player was Max Waller who scored a number of sensational baskets.

Well done to all the boys involved.

**Paul Beattie**



## Nexus Games

### Presented to you by the Sports Council.

For the past 2 weeks, Nexus Games has been taking place every lunchtime. Learners from each of the houses have been taking part in various competitive sports in order to win for their house team.

The sports included basketball, football, benchball, touch rugby, and dodgeball. Each house had submitted a full team for each sport beforehand, and everyone was raring to go by the 29th of February.

The semi finals were held on the first week of the Games, while the finals were on the second. In basketball, we saw a commanding display from Riang to secure the title against Kreatif, winning 26-9.

In the football finals, Cemerlang endured a drab first-half to emerge eventual winners over a bitterly disappointed Kreatif team 2-0. In benchball, it was a similar story for Riang who swept to the title, beating Cergas 12-2, 6-7, 11-7 to take home all the glory.

Finally, on the last day of action, Cergas would finally see themselves as champions in a sport as they triumphed over Riang with two games to one, as both teams drew the second game. Cemerlang would also win another title as the Touch Rugby champions after defeating an under-strength Riang team 2-1.

A huge shout out to the PE department and Mr Troy, who helped us referee and organize the games; as well as all the participants and spectators that made us organizing this event a huge success.

**Aaron Sim**





## This Week in Boarding

Last weekend some boarders visited the Mines Shopping Mall for a Sightseeing Cruise on the Mines Lake. Over one hundred years ago a Chinese immigrant Chan Wing discovered tin ore in a site abandoned by Europeans. This became the largest open cast tin mine in the world. Mining in the area left a gaping hole where gradual rain water began to fill the crevice and this was the humble beginning of the North and South Lakes that channel through the Mines Shopping Mall today. The boarders saw some wild birds and reptiles during the cruise however the highlight was undoubtedly feeding the various species of fish from baby bottles!



On Saturday, a few boarders were selected to represent Nexus in the KLISS athletics competition which our school hosted. Congratulations to Rachael, Mahalia and Nihan for winning medals. Also, well done to Elfaaz, Dening, Jason and Xing Yu who were members of the school badminton team who finished in second place at the Under 18 ISAC championships.

Dickson and Dev competed in the grand final of the Nexus Boarding Single's Pool Competition on Wednesday evening. In a best of three game final, Dickson played superbly to be awarded the title and be presented with an impressive trophy for this year.

