

CONNECT 29

22 April Issue, Term 3 (2015-2016)



NEXUS
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL
PUTRAJAYA

Year 6 Residential Trip to Sedili

It was an early start on the 11th April for a very excited group of Year 6 learners and their teachers. Bags were packed, snacks for the bus were readied - it was finally time for the Year 6 residential trip to Sedili!

Five hours on the bus flew by as we headed south for a week of adventure! When we arrived, some of us headed for our chalets and unpacked whilst others were straight into the action in the rainforest.

The trip was the entry point for our new IPC unit 'Extreme Survivors' and it sure got us excited about our learning.

Over the week we had hands-on learning in a rainforest, a rocky shore, a palm oil plantation, a kampung and a mangrove forest. We learned about environmental issues, adaptation, habitats and ecosystems as well as repairing fishing nets and cleaning a beach. Both groups were lucky enough to see some amazing creatures: giant ants, termites, dragonflies, wild boar, starfish, sea-cucumbers, sponges and hermit crabs to name just a few. We also learned teamwork skills and challenged ourselves physically on the low-ropes course. The final night saw us toasting marshmallows on a bonfire. Delicious! On the way home we stopped off at a school for refugee children and taught the children some games that we like to play.

It was great to be able to learn all of these things whilst actually standing in the habitats we were learning about. The Eco-Field Trip staff, who looked after us during the week, knew everything about life in this area and told us lots of interesting facts.

We had a great time on the trip, learnt a lot and even slept a little! We can't wait for next year's trip!



Music News

Primary Music News

Young Performers Concert Coming Up! Details Below

Year 2 have been busy preparing for their Learner Showcase being held on Wednesday morning 27 April in the theatre. 2E will be singing 'How Do You Get to School?' and 2N 'How Do You Travel?'

I'm really looking forward to hearing you all sing!

Ms Ann



2E Rehearsing 'How Do You Get to School?'



2N Rehearsing 'How Do You Travel?'

Young Performers' Concert - Trials

The Young Performers' Concert will be held on 12th May in the Theatre.

On Monday 25th April, the Music Department will be holding 'Suitability and Readiness of Piece Trials' for places in the Young Performers Concert.

Here is the link to the Timetable for Monday - Please arrive 5 minutes early with your instrument and your music.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/16bLAg1zgCSt0M8kcGMnNU3vx8ekt9ogJwoYY7NDeKdU/edit?usp=sharing>

Rock Concert - Auditions - Final Call For Items

Calling all popular music groups/bands from ALL year groups. The Rock Concert will be held on 26th May. The Guitar and Drum teachers are putting most of the programme together but there will still be space for a **FEW** other high quality items. We will be holding auditions for places in the concert in **NEXT WEEK** so please practise hard together with friends in your band.

If you would like a chance to take part in the Rock Concert 2016, then please sign up **HERE**:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LUQUOS0o5NzY-0S_5BxQWGqhsQyf9Xg9awM1HrLsIA8/edit?usp=sharing

Rock Concert - Poster Competition!!

If you would like your design to be on the **ROCK CONCERT '16 POSTER** then please email your design to Mr Tim by Monday 25th April.

Instrumental Lesson NEWS: New HARP Teacher

The Music Department would like to welcome Mr Bryan Lee, our new Harp Teacher. Bryan is a harpist for the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra and has lots of experience of teaching around Malaysia. Bryan performed a beautiful Harp demonstration to the Primary learners last week and we have had great interest and take-up for lessons. Bryan will start teaching at Nexus next Monday 25th April.



Bryan Lee

Harpist Bryan Lee Kit Meng is an active and ardent orchestral player; in addition to being one of the founding members of the Malaysian Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, he has played with the Penang Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestra of the Music Makers on their tour to Penang, the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory Orchestra, with which he played with renowned tenor Jose Carreras, and with the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre Orchestra and Choir. He was also selected to be a member of the 2010 Youth Olympics Games Orchestra.

Bryan is a frequent freelancer with professional ensembles such as the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Malaysia, the recent Petronas Performing Arts Group, and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra; he performed with the latter in their recent appearance at the 2011 Beijing Music Festival.

His recent performance of Bruch's Scottish Fantasy at Esplanade Concert Hall won him a review by Dr. Marc Rochester as "one of the brightest stars of the performance". The Straits Times (Singapore) also described his playing in the same concert as "warm and beautifully projected, bringing a much needed aura of gracefulness to the performance". The Edge (Malaysia) wrote that "Bryan Lee is so talented it is almost intimidating".

Bryan was a prize winner in the First Singapore-Malaysia Harp Competition. Besides orchestras, Bryan is also an enthusiastic chamber music player; he performs in several chamber ensembles, the most notable ones being Noel Trio, which won the 2nd Prize in the Open Division of the First Singapore Ensemble Competition 2011, and Sen 森 Trio, which held a successful recital at the Esplanade Recital Studio in 2014. Dr. Chan Tou Liang wrote in the Straits Times (Singapore) that "Lee's gentle demeanour belied the virtuosity... create(d) the dreamy, other-worldly soundscape".

Bryan is a holder of a Bachelors Degree (Honours) from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore with full scholarship under the tutelage of Gulnara Mashurova, Principal Harpist of the Singapore Symphony Orchestra. His previous mentors have included Sebastien Horrér, the former Principal Harpist of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, his wife Marianne Horrér, and Chu Yee Chern. He has also taken lessons with Xavier de Maistre, Prof. Florence Sitruk, who wrote that Bryan has "beautiful sound (and) flawless technique", Dan Yu, and Alice Giles.

Bryan's ambition is to make the harp more familiar and recognisable throughout Malaysia. He is a harp teacher privately, in various music schools in the Klang Valley, Penang, and Singapore, and in Tenby International School (Setia Eco Park). He also performs at various events such as weddings, product launches, openings, and ceremonies.

Bryan performs on a Lyon & Healy Style 23 Natural.

Instrumental Lesson Sign-Ups:

****NEWS FLASH****

A New Term is a great time to start to try playing a musical instrument (NEW INSTRUMENT ADDED - HARP! - please email Mr Tim if you would like to try out the Harp):

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!

Junior String Orchestra

For Term 3 Mr Steve is targeting all of the younger String players. Rehearsals started this week with a great turn out. If you play the Violin, Viola, Cello or Double Bass then please come along at 1.15pm in the Music Area. If you are a Primary School learner then please ask your class teacher if you can come along, Mr David is very keen for you to get involved.



Community Musical Opportunities:

OPERA FESTIVAL! @ Publika 7th & 8th May from 11am to 10pm

A celebration of Opera! The first ever Opera Festival in KL that consists of a weekend filled with talks, activities and performances by professional singers, musicians and opera choruses. Organised by Kuala Lumpur City Opera.

The 2016 Kuala Lumpur City Opera Festival will be the first opera festival featuring European classics in Malaysia and possibly in the South East Asian region with productive and entertaining operatic activities.

CHECK IT OUT HERE:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/956035011117802/>

and HERE:

<https://www.facebook.com/kcityopera/>



Dates For Your Diaries

Wednesday 27th April

Thursday 12th May

Wednesday 18th May

Thursday 26th May

Wednesday 8th June

Monday 27th June

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?

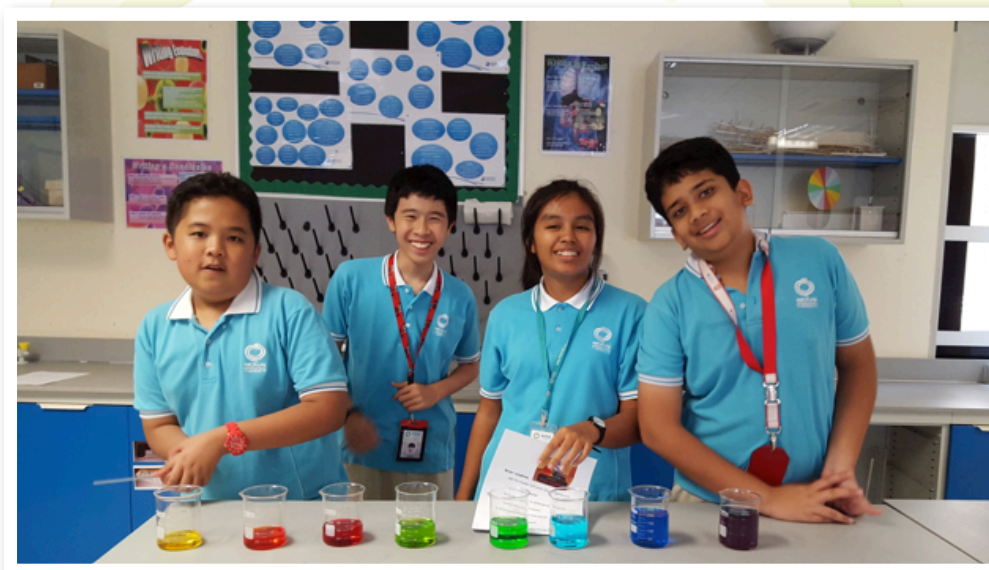
The importance of keeping a beat: Researchers link ability to keep a beat to reading, language skills.



<http://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-09-importance-link-ability-language-skills.html>

Making Music Together

Yr 7 Science learners made a water xylophone as part of their topic on SOUND. Daniel, Ming, Myra and Ajay working together.



Secondary Learners Unwind

It is heartening to see learners of all ages coming together to spend their lunchtimes enjoying a game with the giant chess pieces set up by the Maths Department. Mr John-Paul is hoping that this will spark more interest in the game.



Year 10 Drama Showcase

Way back in Term 2, on the 27th of January, we were assigned the task to devise a script as our IGCSE Drama coursework, based upon the stimulus that we had researched. At first, we were only given until February to finish the play, however due to the many holidays, we extended our deadline to the 14th of April. We got to choose our group members which made up the two groups.

Group One consisted of Maziah, Hui Xin, Qutreen and Thinees.

Group Two consisted of Intan, Priti, Siti, Rahma and myself.

Group One struggled a little at the start, as they were had a hard time trying to create a plot. However, once they overcame that obstacle, it was relatively easy for them to create the play that they would go on to perform in the near future.

The group I was in also struggled with writing the play. We kept changing the beginning and we couldn't decide on how to start our play. Eventually, we managed to overcome that particular obstacle and finished our scripts.

After finishing our scripts, we started rehearsing as much as we could. We would do a few run throughs of our plays, and we'd watch each other perform and give feedback.

After many lunchtimes and staying late after school, we finally got to the point where we felt confident in ourselves, our acting ability and our plays and were ready to perform in front of an actual live audience. Though not many people came to watch, we still felt quite nervous. We tripped up here and there, but all in all it still felt amazing to perform.



CAS reflection



This term, I've signed up for the badminton CCA as part of my activity for CAS. I have joined this CCA for the past 2 years and is led by Mr William, the badminton coach for Nexus and a few other international school. In this CCA, the coach helps us to develop and improve our badminton skills. This CCA also helps build our Nexus Badminton Team. We have a complete team with two singles and two doubles from each gender. As a team, we have entered competitions and tournaments which we have won in few.

The learning outcomes I have targeted was to 'identify own strengths and develop areas for growth'. I chose this because everything I come in for training on Wednesday, the coach expects us all to push ourselves and work until our limit, to do our best and to improve so that we can win competitions or tournaments in the future. I used to be a singles player but since my coach has paired me with another person to play doubles, which I am quite new to it, I will be develop my skills in playing doubles which communication plays a huge role in.

by Jia Cheng Thun

Year 9 Roots and Shoots Awards Ceremony

Wild About Arts

Some Year 9 Learners represented the school last Friday, the 15th of April 2016, in the 'Wild About Arts' exhibition, sponsored by the Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots organisation, that are working at saving endangered animals in Malaysia. The entries were from various local and international schools across Malaysia. The endangered animals selected for the awareness campaign were the Asian Elephant, the Orangu-tan and the Green turtle. There were many different styles and interpretations of artworks featuring these animals, the sculptures were made from recycled materials and so too were many of the paintings. The awards ceremony invited the media for the event and our learners received certificates of gratitude, signed by Jane Goodall and the organisers. The learners had a chance to mingle with other school learners as well as to see and learn how the different artworks on display were actually made and constructed.

Here are some of the learners comments on the day and some photographs about the event.

"It was great to see other schools have different ideas but have the same goal as us which was to save the endangered animals."

Hasifi Year 9

"The Roots and Shoots exhibition was extremely enjoyable. The exposure and experience gained from observing all these abstract and creative artworks were priceless. Thanks to Mr Mauro for giving me this learning opportunity."

Jing Hui Year 9

I enjoyed the experience of observing other people's artwork. They were brilliant and they must of put a lot of hard work into it. The place was small, and not what I expected, yet with the place held in the center of the mall where other people can see as they enter, they may join and now become aware of the endangered animals. Though I'm really not sure how we can helpstop the danger coming to these animals other than just being aware of it.

Tuan Aisya Fasihah Tuan Razali Year 9

I really enjoyed going to the Roots and Shoots exhibition. I think it was fun looking at different artwork made by people from other schools. I'm very proud that I was involved in a process that makes the plight of our endangered animals more aware to the public.

Iman Amalin Mohd Hadtamizi Year 9



Ayla Looms

Over the holiday period I entered the EAM Challenge Horse Show at Uniten Selangor Equestrian Centre. I was representing the KL Equestrian team in the preliminary dressage test. I was riding Latoya a warmblood gelding in what was my first dressage competition in Malaysia. I competed in an experienced field of thirteen other competitors. It was a nerve-wracking experience, particularly as I was the first participant to ride. In the end I had a great day and was pleased with my final results.



U18 Badminton at ISKL

Saturday 16th April

Huge congratulations to:

Jasmine Foong
Cicely Guillouet
Samantha Guillouet
Caylyn Pooler
Jia Cheng Thun
Jerrel Ong
Terence Lee
Rasmus Lund
Xing Yu Leong

For finishing in the bronze medal position at at last weekend's ISKL tournament. As you can see from some of the names listed above we had a very young team out and they performed fantastically well.

A big thanks also goes to Coach William for all his hours spent training the players.

Well done all.



Fixtures coming-up

Term 3 is time for Striking and fielding sports in Primary and a little more Volleyball for our Secondary learners. Here are the confirmed fixtures for April:

Thursday 21st April

U13 Boys Volleyball at Tenby
U13 Girls Volleyball at Taylors

Saturday 23rd April

U15 Badminton at ISKL

Sunday 23rd April

KLISS Secondary Swimming at KTJ

Thursday 28th April

U15 Boys Volleyball at Tenby
U15 Girls Volleyball at Taylors

As always please check the sports fixtures calendar for up to date information.

6th annual Nexus Triathlon

Saturday 14th May and Sunday 15th May

The Nexus Triathlon is back!

Livemore Events are once again organising this year's Nexus Triathlon. Sign-ups have exceeded all expectations and we now have over 300 entrants across the multiple categories.

Here is the schedule for the two days.

14th May, Saturday

Time	Event
6.30 am	Registration – U6, U8, U10, U12, Senior Mixed Relay Team
8.00 am	Under 6 Briefing
8.10 am	Under 6 Girls Start
8.20 am	Under 6 Boys Start
8.30 am	Under 8 Briefing
8.40 am	Under 8 Girls Start
8.55 am	Under 8 Boys Start
9.10 am	Under 10 Briefing
9.20 am	Under 10 Girls Start
9.40 am	Under 10 Boys Start
10.00 am	Under 12 Briefing
10.10 am	Under 12 Girls Start
10.30 am	Under 12 Boys Start
10.50 am	Senior Mixed Relay Team Briefing
11.00 am	Senior Mixed Relay Team Start
11.30 am	Awards Presentation
12.00 am	Event Finish

15th May, Sunday

Time	Event
6.30 am	Registration – U15, U18, Open, Junior Mixed Relay Team
8.00 am	Under 15 Briefing
8.15 am	Under 15 Girls Start
8.55 am	Under 15 Boys Start
9.35 am	Under 18 & Open Briefing
9.45 am	Under 18 & Open Female Start
10.25 am	Under 18 & Open Male Start
10.50 am	Junior Mixed Relay Team Briefing
11.00 am	Junior Mixed Relay Team Start
11.30 am	Awards Presentation
12.00 am	Event Finish

The smooth running of the event is dependant on the generous volunteers who give up their time to ensure that the athletes stay safe and on-course. As always we are looking for volunteers to help marshal/official for this year's event.

If you would like to volunteer then please get in touch with Andy Smith at smith.a@nexus.edu.my

Please visit <https://www.facebook.com/SchoolTriSeries/> for more information

or

Contact Elsa on Elsa@livemoreevents.com if you have any questions regarding the event.

EY swimming on Wednesday next week.

9:40am until 10:40am.

ALL PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME ALONG.

Boarding Blog

Sunway Lagoon

Last weekend twenty five boarders and staff visited Sunway Lagoon prepared for an action-packed day. For us who were visiting for the first time, on entering Sunway it seemed as though we were all in a completely different world, in a unique and isolated village of its own. We all had fun at the respective water, amusement and wildlife parks with some more than others, daring to take on the more adventurous and exhilarating rides and slides! We all did not want the day to end although everybody returned back to boarding with exhausted.

We all highly recommend families to visit Sunway Lagoon for a great day out with family and friends, especially the new Nickelodeon Lost Lagoon. The boarders (and staff) are already looking forward to our next visit!



Exam time!!

Our Year 11 and 13 boarders have been revising overtime in preparation for their all important upcoming exams. Study leave for these learners will commence from next Monday April 25th. Rules and expectations about study leave have been discussed with those boarders involved with exams.

Good luck to you all!

CCA

All boarders have enjoyed participating in various CCA's this week. With so many activities on offer, boarders must select at least two that they will commit to for the term. This provides the learners an opportunity to improve their skills or learn something new in their chosen sport or hobby. Teaching staff must be commended for volunteering their time to supervise these activities.

Boarders enjoy spending time together

