

# CONNECT 34

10 June Issue, Term 3 (2015-2016)



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**NEXUS**  
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PUTRAJAYA



# ISAC U15 Girls Badminton Finals Tournament

Saturday 28th May 2016

On Saturday 28th May the U15 Badminton team played in round two of the ISAC girls tournament. They were playing for 5, 6, 7 or 8th place.

The singles players were Suraya, Nisa and Sorour. Doubles players were Chelsea and Samantha and Stella and Caylyn. Our reserve player was Lillian Shin.

They all played really well throughout the day with some tough competition from the other schools. Special mention to Chelsea and Samantha for winning all their games on the day.

Once the points were counted Nexus finished second on the day, coming 6th overall in the tournament. Well done to all who were involved.

## Miss Grace



# U13 Girls Volleyball - 1st place!

Thursday 12th May



On Thursday afternoon the U13 Girls Volleyball played in the Cup Final tournament held at Taylor's International School in KL.

This event happened a few weeks ago, but sadly we did not have the medals and trophy. They have now been delivered to Nexus. Here is a photo of the winning team. Well done girls!

## Miss Grace



## Aaliyah is a record-breaker !

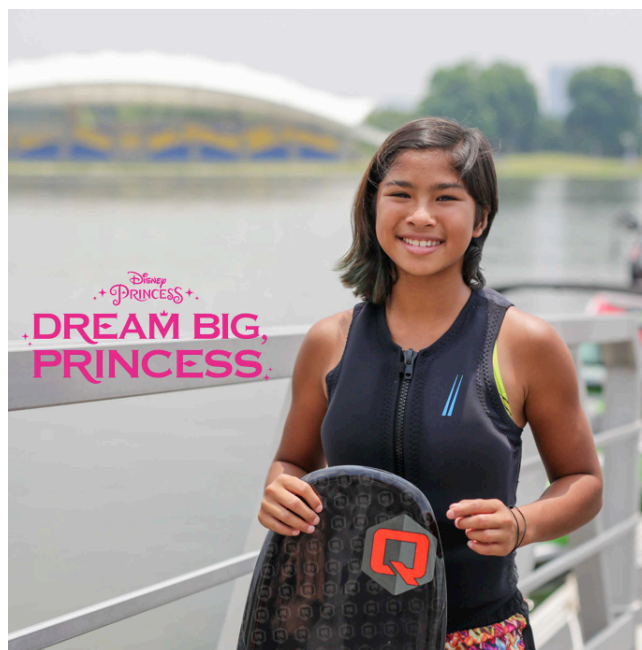


Aaliyah in Year 8 has returned from Sunset Lakes, Florida, USA where she competed in the US Masters Waterskiing Championships. We are so proud to report that she has achieved a new Asian record of 7110 points.

These are exciting times for Aaliyah as she had been contracted by Disney.

You can watch the video that was officially launched to all Asian media on Friday: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KCQRIRwLU8>

Following that, Aaliyah has an exciting follow up media program with Disney called “Dream Big, Princess”. Aaliyah is representing Malaysia for this global campaign.





## CAS Reflection



I recently played the character of 'Danny Zuko' in our school's rendition of Grease!. Every week, we covered a set amount of scenes and musical acts. I was singing, acting and dancing during these rehearsals as frequently as my role commands.

In order to perform this show, I had to work collaboratively and connect with our cast members, as a level of theatrical chemistry is needed in order to truly entertain the audience. By taking the stage, I also built upon my self confidence in these kind of public situations, and this experience would allow to better connect with large audiences in the future. During the duration of the 3 months, the rehearsals were very timely, and I needed to put in a lot of effort and time attending them. Though this, I demonstrated my commitment and perseverance to this project.

I hoped to take initiative by further developing my character, and adding my own personal touch on the performance. In addition, I worked collaboratively with other members of the cast.

I have been in performances before, however i have never taken a very significant role. With this project, it was a great experience for me to learn about the struggles and joy of playing the lead role.

This project will be my integrated project and will address the creativity strand of the CAS. As the integral aspects of being a part of a musical cast include the development of self initiative and collaboration, I believe this project has met the requirements of an integrated project. I also demonstrated my commitment and perseverance, as there was lots of hard work necessary in order for me to succeed in this role.

**Aiman Johanuddin**



# Year 9 Probability Fair

Year 9 have been looking at probability in maths lessons. They played some different games which involved both theoretical and experimental probability in order to calculate the chance of winning and then worked in groups to design their own game. Their games were then trialed with year 6, who used tokens to play the different games. These tokens were used to determine which games were the most popular and which games had a higher or lower chance of winning. To tell you more, here is an extract from Jing Hui's blog. You can read his full entry here: <https://goo.gl/DtSXuV>

## Introduction and Research

As a pre-lesson activity, we were introduced to probability and multiple games based on probability. In our first lesson, we had to play several probability games coined by the teachers. We had to work out the probability, the difficulty and give conjectures to making the game more biased.

## Red or Dead

In this game, we basically had to randomly pick a uniform counter from a bag. There are 2 red counters and 10 yellow counters. If we picked a red counter, we win while on the other hand, if we picked a yellow one, we lose. The approximate probability of winning is  $\frac{2}{12}$  as there were 2 red counters out of 12. To make the game biased and to change the probability further, we could add more yellow counters or take away a red counter, which would make the game harder to win.

## Get In

The ball game was one of the most educational games to me, as I had to debate with Mr JP about the probability of winning. Basically, you had to throw a ball into a bucket from a determined distance, if you do, you win. This game had an experimental probability behind it (which I did not know at first). I kept thinking in a theoretical way which was false. I thought that there is only 2 outcome, win or lose, but that was false. Mr JP corrected me and told me that these type of game (same with football and skillful games) had to be solved with experimental probability. The conclusion that Hafiz and I got from the game was that there was a  $\frac{1}{2}$  probability of winning. To make it more biased, we could increase the distance, change the ball weight and size and change the bucket size.

## Production

We chose to produce and further our Counter Drop idea as we felt that it would be appealing and interesting to the young consumers and to finding out the probability respectively. Like Plinko, it was a board game, where you dropped a counter into a slot and let the counter bounce its way down a maze of alternating array of matchsticks. The matchsticks would be placed directly in between the two matchsticks preceding it. To win, the counter had to drop out of two of eight outcomes that do not have an x marked on it. So the initial probability that we told the year 6s were  $\frac{2}{8}$  or 25%, but it goes beyond that.

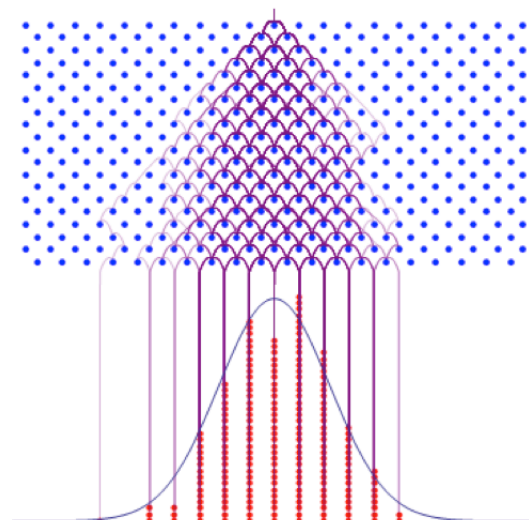
## Probability

In a game like Plinko, the probability of winning is much more comprehensive and complicated than it seems. The game also comes with a bit of skill on the placement of drop the counter. For example, if I were to drop the counter in the first slot, it is unlikely to come out of the last slot. So, depending on the slot you drop the counter in, the probability of winning changes.

As you can see, the probability goes up like a curve. We chose this game as we felt it was the most feasible and logistically possible to make and do. Also, I conjectured that it would be the most profitable as this game is fast and quick paced, we can earn more profit and not have a queue when we display our game to the year 6s.

## Fairground

Year 6 learners were invited to play our game in the hub. Our game was successful, we were one of the most profitable games due to the quick pace of our game and how addicting it was! A lot of learners liked our game and played a few times, which was more profit for us. The results we got were pretty similar to the Plinko probability table. The learners who frequently put the counter in the second spot had a much higher chance of winning.





## An open invitation

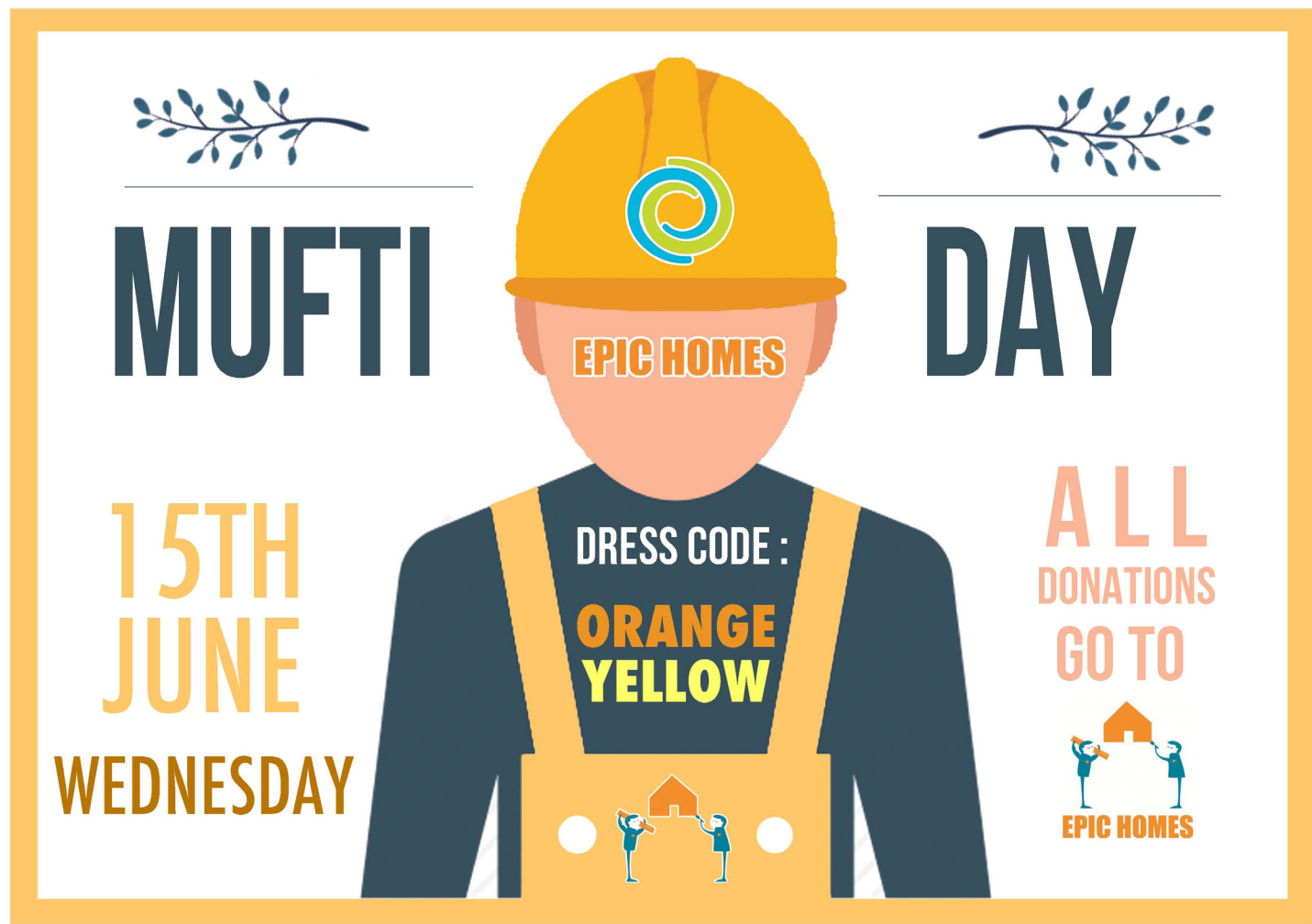
### FILM SCREENING EVENT

A celebration of student films from Year 9 and all the entries for the 90 second film competition.

All films will be screened in the Theatre and the winners will be announced on the night.

Thursday 16th June @ 6pm. Free admission

Mr Jason







**NEXUS ART**  
**EXHIBITION**  
© **in the NEXUS**  
**LIBRARY ON**  
**THURSDAY 23RD**  
**FRIDAY 24TH**  
**JUNE 2016**  
**TIME: 8:30am-4:30pm**

great artwork  
an auction  
a charity and  
refreshments  
available





# Commencement Speech



I was recently asked to describe the year 13's in one word. I replied, somewhat flippantly, "ambidextrous". This was the only thing I could think of that was applicable to such a diverse group of learners. In hindsight I realize that my answer, although true, could be improved upon (as most answers can). I began instead to think not of a word that would describe you, a task that is surely too difficult, perhaps impossible, but of the advice that I could give you as a group.

"work harder" was the first thing that came to mind but then I realized it would not apply to all of you (you know who you are). "relax, don't stress yourself so much" was second. Again, it didn't work for all of you. So, as with many things when my own intelligence fails me (rare, obviously), I decided to look to the wisdom of the internet to provide inspiration. "Be true to yourself" it told me, eughh, too bland. "Follow your dreams", oh dear, no don't just do that, try achieving more than you dreamt and let your dreams follow you. "Be the change you want to see"... (face plant mic).

It became apparent that platitudes will not suffice, that for a group of learners comprised of artists and scientists, engineers and film makers, economists and musicians, psychologists, mathematicians and even one or two philosophers an appeal to the internet for inspiration leaves little to actually inspire you.

Maybe then, better to accept that there is no advice that I can give you that will help all of you, you are too individual, too much yourselves to be discussed in the terms of generic description. There are 26 lives here, to be lived in 26 different ways...

Perhaps then I should just leave you with this, a quote from a little known French philosopher which I return to often, usually when I have made an error in judgement, as you all will in the future, or when I have achieved something I didn't think I could, which you all will too. Henri Bergson wrote this, "In action be a man of thought, and in thought, be a man of action" (apologies for the early 20th century sexism). These are not words to live by, nor words to adhere to. They are not a mantra to be repeated. They are words to reflect upon when we do the things that genuinely unite us, the things that we do all have in common, our successes and our failures. They are words that help us to prepare, that may guide us through the adventure of the unknown ahead of all of us.

And so, as we say goodbye I would say "Good luck", but too often luck is a fickle partner, not to be relied upon. Instead, graduating class of 2016, I will just remind you to keep your happy faces on.

**Jared Young**

# IB English News

This week Ms Maureen's IB English A class were tasked with finding a creative way in which to show how a dystopian world can become apocalyptic and ultimately post - apocalyptic as they begin a study of speculative literature. The learners could choose any means and text type to present their ideas. Thus, groups chose to share their learning using film, a role play and a poem - the text of which is included here. For when delivered in the classroom the poem received high commendation from the audience, demonstrating as it does skills in interpretation, understanding and creativity.



## From Mars It Came

### **Dystopian**

It began with a wave  
Of cheers that passed through the crowds of people.  
But it wasn't long before the sound of shots were fired,  
Just months after.  
But we were tired,  
Of their empty promises  
And their frozen hearts.  
Eventually it starts to seem more like a prison  
Than a safehaven..

No longer could you hear the sound of laughter and joy.  
We were nothing but their toy,  
Soldiers waging wars against those who would not agree,  
With their

"perfect world."

From Mars it came, wreaking havoc and terror.

Our hopes started to flicker like the flames of the candles in our dimly lit homes.  
And there is something about seeing your mother's feet collapse beneath her.  
When all you wanted to do,  
was be her.  
But she couldn't handle seeing the bullet through his skull when he stood up for us.

But now our hands were bound and we soon found that  
They controlled every aspect of our lives.  
From the food we eat,  
To the air we breathe,  
To the very words we spoke,  
Proud, that their new world thrives.

### **Apocalyptic**

#### **Boom.**

Those were the sounds of the bombs which had destroyed Everything.

#### **Boom,**

Tears which flowed down their faces.  
Tears which used to be so full of emotions.

#### **Boom,**

Tears... which were now dried.

Tired faces, dead bodies, haunting cries.  
I picked up my pace as I made my way down the path,  
As flames erupted, eating away those which had stood in their way.  
The glazed expression of the mother, clutching onto her child.  
The ghostly expression of the child who held onto the woman.

Tired faces, dead bodies, haunting cries.  
From Mars it came, power hungry and destructive.  
Why?  
Why now?  
Why us?  
The questions circled my mind as blackness started to envelop my head,  
And started eating away  
To nothingness.

### **Post-Apocalyptic**

I remember my mom.  
I remember dinner plates and cutlery  
And the dining room smelling like her rose scented perfume drifting and swirling and...

As I yank the burnt foot from the rabbit I forget.  
As I eat it I remember.  
Time to start a fire. Get out of the cold, the ashes.  
Start rebuilding.  
If possible.

I see an arm. Metal and cold like the rest of the world.  
From Mars it came, striking us with awe and fear.  
God! We thought  
God!  
We were stupid.

I fling the arm at a nearby trunk  
And watch it rebound only to fall  
deep into the snow.  
Buried.  
If only that was the world's problems.



# 2016 Nexus Art Auction on the 23rd and 24th of June 2016.

All Art Auction Proceeds go to Shelter Box.

This year for the Nexus Art Auction there are 10 fantastic bargains to be had. The majority of the art work has been donated by last year's IGCSE learners for the Shelter Box Charity. The art works are of excellent quality (as usual), because the learners were creating their best for their exams, and that means their best art making techniques, as well as the narrative that went behind each piece of artwork. Many of the pieces have great stories behind them as learners worked hard to finish the artworks to the point where they were happy with them. This year's art auction will be displayed along with the end of term art exhibition in the library. To make your bids this year, individual boxes will be placed beneath the art work for auction, where you can then write in a bid. More information about this will be released closer to the exhibition scheduled for the 23rd and 24th of June. If you have any questions please email me on: [brooks.m@nexus.edu.my](mailto:brooks.m@nexus.edu.my)

Below are pictures and information for you to browse about the art works up for auction. Please remember all proceeds go to the Shelter Box Charity.

**Mauro brooks**



**#1. Putrajaya by Sue Yen Chong**  
**Mixed Media. Size: A2**

This is a mixed media composition, created by Sue Yen, for her IGCSE exam in 2015. The composition shows a scene across a lake of some of the majestic buildings from Putrajaya. Sue Yen's idea was modified many times until she was content with a collaged piece in 3D. The piece emphasises the beautiful landscaping and architecture of Putrajaya.

This would make a stunning gift for someone wishing to remember Putrajaya.



**#2. 'Malay Instruments' by Sarah Yanto**  
**Mixed Media. Size A3**

This composition is a mixed media piece created for Sarah's IGCSE. Music was one of the questions set and Sarah decided to portray Malaysia musical instruments in bright vivid colours. She also contributed some symbols that were influenced by her research into Synaesthesia, showing us what the sounds from these instruments may look like.

A Wonderful gift for music lovers, cultural swingers and very nice people.





**#3. OCCUPY CENTRAL with LOVE and PEACE by Lawrence Li.**  
Ink Painting Size: A4

This is a gouache painting created by Lawrence for his IB exhibition and examination. Lawrence has a keen interest in Hong Kong, its people and its politics. He was far away from Hong Kong in 2014, but his feelings are expressed in this sensitive piece that shows the vulnerability of the protestors at that time.

This would make an absolutely awesome gift for all the humanitarians with umbrellas.



**#4. Landscape by Vickkie Kok**  
Acrylic and watercolour. Size A3

This is a hand painted landscape in watercolour. The composition was painted by, Vickkie in 2015 for a painting techniques assignment, where the success criteria was to complete a landscape composition using acrylics and watercolours.

This is a wonderful gift for any landscape enthusiasts, any hiking enthusiasts and also for any nature lovers.



**#5. Floating Cupcakes by Hamidah Abd Rahman**  
Acrylic on board Size: 42cm by 43.5cm

This composition is in acrylic on hardboard, and is Hamidah's response to the question, 'Food', set by the IGCSE examining board in 2015. Hamidah painted these wonderfully decorated cupcakes from above, as if from a bird's eye view. The cupcakes are floating upon a light blue sea, a background that enhances the designs on the cakes.

This is a truly scrumptious gift for all food lovers and fans of Mary Poppins!





**#6. iApples by Izz Shahaziq Helmi Johan**  
Acrylic. Size: A3

Haziq painted this still life of apples for his IGCSE exam in 2015. The composition was a visual response that investigated the title, 'Food'. Here Haziq has rendered the apples similar to Cezanne as well as the composition style, which tilts the plain (and plate) slightly towards the viewer for a more interesting effect.

A fantastic gift for those of us who love Apple!



**#7. 'Spirals' by Arissa Zaiful**  
Acrylic ink and watercolour. Size: A3

This was Arissa's response to the title, 'Spirals' set for her IGCSE exam last year. The composition is painted in acrylic inks and watercolour. Arissa has designed many of the spiral motifs and patterns.

A great colourful gift guaranteed to brighten up any room.



**#8. Still Life of IT by Irfan Mohamad Zaim**  
Digital print. Size: A3

Irfan, using photography and photoshop manipulation created this composition. Irfan wanted to create a modern still life that portrayed the items that we so value in today's society. He also wanted to create it using the items we so value in today's society. Here you can see how he has gathered certain IT equipment and has manipulated there surfaces so that they contrast with the wooden table top, yet begin to merge with the server's background.

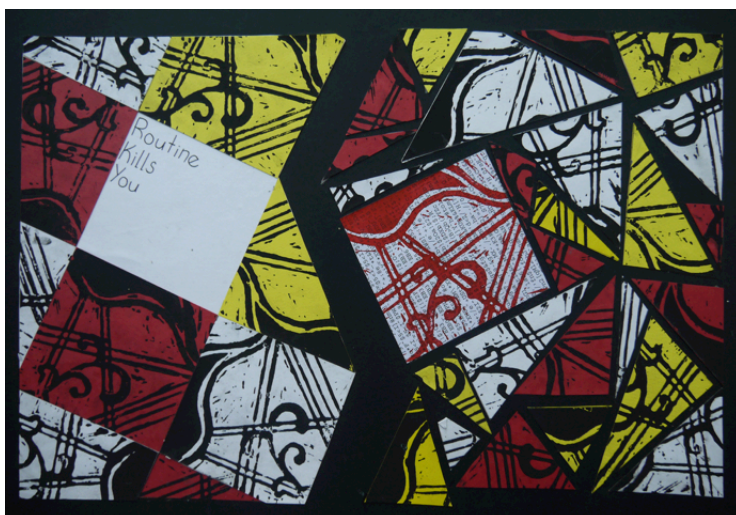
An absolute must for any tech savvy people wishing to document the IT in today's education.



**#9. ' Miro's Tree' by Afifah Roswaidin**  
**Mixed Media Size: A3**

This is Afifah's mixed media response to her IGCSE exam where she spent much time creating a very interesting textured background on which to paint her Miro tree. Joan Miro was a famous Spanish painter that replaced subject matter in favour of coloured shapes and patterns.

This is truly a delightful piece guaranteed to brighten any wall.



**#10. 'Routine Kills You' by Sue Yen Chong**  
**Mixed Media Size: A3**

This composition is a Lino print collage and paint by Sue Yen in response to her IGCSE exam last year. The theme was about order and disorder, where we see two different patterns in the composition. The phrase written by the artist is clearly pasted onto the more ordered side of the composition, denoting some, food for thought!

A fantastic offering and gift for those of us who occasionally tire of our routine!



# SPEECH FOR IB GRADUATION - NISP

26 MAY 2016

Good Afternoon.

To the graduating class of 2016 and to your parents, warmest congratulations as you complete your time at Nexus Putrajaya.

I understand from the school that you would like me share about what the future holds. Great, I have been sharing that same topic twice over the last week at the Launch of TISPC and also at the IB Graduation at Nexus Singapore on Monday.

I believe that we stand here at the dawn of a new era that is going to change the way we live, the way we work, the way we meet our future spouse; its going to change everything.

The last time this happened was when internal combustion engine, light bulb and printing press were invented and how that changed the world during the Industrial Revolution. Now whats before us is called the Digital Age.

We have moved from the time of the Industrial Revolution where kids from the country are trained to be blue collar workers to work with machines in factories, and then to being white collar workers where kids were prepared to sit in rows like machines in offices. What the world is looking for these days are black collar workers – entrepreneurs. Auserwald was the one who coined entrepreneurs as black collar workers; inspired by the late Steve Jobs and his black turtleneck.

You might think that we can't all be entrepreneurs because the first thing that comes to mind is that an entrepreneur is someone who runs or manages a business. There are many different definitions for entrepreneurship, but one that I feel captures the essence of the word was from the World Economic Forum. They defined entrepreneurship simply, as "an individual's ability to turn ideas into action". We certainly need more young people to be more entrepreneurial and to be more creative and self-confident in whatever they undertake. The entrepreneurial skills and mindsets are the new survival tool kit in the 21st century. Creativity, effective communication, curiosity and critical thinking skills coupled with a growth mind-set are some of the essentials for all in this new Digital Age we live in.

The fastest rising career today is no longer engineering or accounting; it is solo-entrepreneurship. Are our learners ready to face this flattened world where the ability to do global business is at their fingertips? This is already happening all around us. We have a graduate from Garden International School who just graduated in Law from Oxford but instead of joining her family's law firm, have decided to source and import clothings from China online and sell the clothes also online in Malaysia. The last I heard, she is bringing in her second shipment; selling out her first.

At both our Nexus schools, you will hear a new term more often, and its "The Nexus Way". It will be nothing that the Class of 2016 and all learners are not familiar with – its about Personalised Learning, Inclusive, Digital, Mindsets and Relationships.

There is however one major component that we need to stress in our schools – one that we need to consciously inculcate to our learners; and that is character building. Our starting block for character building is from Taylor's core values which are Respect and Care, Excellence, Open Communication, Integrity, Passion and Enjoyable Environment. We are fully aware that the same power for good also have the propensity for bad therefore we need to have an Internal Moral Compass within each child so as to ensure that their creative entrepreneurship will lead towards the positive and productive development for mankind.

On that note, I would like to congratulate the Class of 2016, your parents and guardians, the staff and all who have contributed towards your learning at Nexus and would like to wish you all the very best that this brand new world have to offer. Class of 2016, the future stands before us with great uncertainties, but I hope that armed with the 21st Century Tool Kit and having an Internal Moral Compass, you will go forth and make a positive difference to this world.

Thank You and God Bless



# CAS Reflection



On the 12th and 13th of April, I participated in the Arena of Youth: MyCity 2050 competition. It was a competition opened to secondary students aged between 15-17 years old, is a construction-related youth empowerment competition aimed at cultivating the next generations of builder. We had to take both practicality and imagination into consideration. The aim of the competition was to envision how we could develop a sustainable and healthier future.

We competed against both PINTAR and International schools, and I especially found this interesting as the different approaches and perspectives the other teams took really helped broaden my mindset and look at issues from several angles.

I actually joined the team late, as a replacement for a member who had dropped out. Therefore, taking on the role of Public Welfare. Initially, I joined the activity worried about how it would turn out, but after time I settled into the team and work was increasingly more cohesive.

Now that the competition is over, I can reflect and acknowledge that participating in the Arena of Youth was really a fulfilling activity as it required teamwork and planning as well as creativity and innovation. Despite not placing, I feel as though our hard work had paid off and our ideas validated.

**Riana Adams**



# Year 9 Trip to Mersing

Sorour Khadivi

On the 30th of March to 2nd of March we went to Mersing . We stayed at Sukalayar Resort, it was right next to the beach and we had such an amazing time. We had to face challenges that we had never faced before and we also had to stick together and help each other through tough times.

On the first day we arrived at the resort at around 3:00 pm and we had lunch then we started on our first activity. Our first activity was working on our survival skills. Our first challenge was to make a tent and a fire under 45 minutes. Our team had successfully won the activity. At night we went night crabbing and we had to search for the most unusual marine species, and our team had another victory. This activity really helped me to explore for myself and it helped me to see what my other teammates skills were since we were just getting to know each other.

The second day we had water confidence and kayaking lesson in the morning. Again, the second day really helped us to work together as a team and get to know each other's weaknesses and strengths. The highlight of my day was the night walk. Around 8:00pm when it was getting really dark we went night walking in the dark with no torches and no light. We had to walk through a forest like path with our pairs, and the path was around 900m. I was not really scared of the dark and I think that was when I had to step up and comfort my partner and help her to not be scared. The other challenge we had was not to talk during the walk. But what we did have was a secret code, and that was "ice cream soda", so if we wanted to communicate with anyone during the walk we had to say "ice cream" and if anyone answered "soda" back that meant that they were one of us.

Day three was not really about us, it was more working as a team and about helping other people. So in the morning we had a raft building competition. We had around 15 minutes to build a raft and as a team we had to get to the other side of the finish line by sitting on our raft and paddling our way there. At the start our team was not quite successful and our raft came apart and we came last. But the second round we had a chance to redeem ourselves and we worked as a team and learned from our mistakes. For the second round we successfully came second. In the afternoon we went to a local school and our goal was to improve their library and we wanted to improve the kids English. We were split into 4 groups and one of the groups that I chose to be in was the mural wall. We came up with a design to paint the wall and I was very happy with the way it came out. Then we invited the kids from the school to see the painting and their reactions were priceless. It made me really happy to see them smiling. In the evening we had a chance to talk about our day and when we were talking about these kids it really hit me and made me emotional and one thing that I forgot to say was that. It's not about winning or what has happened in the past. It's all about what you are going to do in the future and at the end of the day we made these kids happy and put a smile on their faces. I think that's what we should all be aiming for in life, to make other people happy. It's not always going to be about you.

On the last day we went on around 7-8 km hike. It wasn't as difficult as I expected it to be, but at some points it was a bit tiring. However, the view at the top was absolutely amazing. The way coming down the hill was a bit more difficult and that was when you had to start cheering for our friends.

Overall I had such an amazing time and this trip really helped me to get to know my friends more and build stronger relationship with me and my friends. I also surprised myself of what I'm really capable of and what I can really do if I put my mind to it..





## Year 10 Sabah Trip

Throughout the Sabah Year 10 trip, I have experienced things that before I had never thought that I would ever do. I learnt a lot of different survival skills, got a taste of the culture and, of course, I bonded with my friends. The trip wasn't an ordinary trip, it was very different compared to the trips I have gone on before. From sleeping in a hammock to mountain biking 30km, the activities that I experienced on this trip were out of my comfort zone.

Out of everything that we did during the trip activity-wise, my favourite was the mountain biking - despite having to cycle 30km! Although at the beginning, I was very hesitant to try it out because I thought that I would find it extremely difficult - and I mean it most definitely was - it was well worth the experience in the end.

The hardest part of the trip, in my opinion, was the trekking. Trekking has always been a tough thing for me because I never had to do these kinds of activities unless I was on a school trip. Trekking for several hours isn't easy for people that aren't used to the activity! Throughout though, I experienced discomfort that made it harder, because my shoe tore open! Lastly, sleeping on a hammock, especially right after trekking, wasn't really my "cup of tea" mainly because I was so exhausted. Unfortunately for me, I also experienced even greater discomfort doing this when my hammock ripped in the middle of the night, plus the rain didn't help with the situation!

Though I've mentioned to a lot of people that this trip to Sabah was one of the hardest and toughest trips I've ever experienced, I am grateful for the opportunity and to be able to share the experience with my friends. I also learnt that I should appreciate my surroundings more and everything that I have, because for me I would find it extremely difficult to have to live in that kind of environment. Personally, I am a shy and prefer to stay in the security of my shell, so this trip also made me realise that I am able to come out of my comfort zone, do things that I've never done before, even though things might be challenging for me.

**Norlisa Lob Muhammad (Year 10N)**





## Year 12 Group 4 Project trip to Mersing



On a bright Wednesday morning, the Year 12's embarked on a five hour bus ride to Mersing, Johor to complete their compulsory Group 4 science experiments. Exhausted from a week full of mock exams, extended essay deadlines, and endless procrastination, a full two nights and three day getaway from the IB life was much needed. With the entire year group boarding the bus, we left Nexus at around 9:00am. Within the five hours, learners entertained themselves from a range of card games, conversations, and music. However, one pass time everyone enjoyed was the sleep we could catch-up on.

Arriving at the resort at 1:00pm, we unloaded all of our science equipment and luggage and was warmly greeted by the resort facilitators and staff. Upon arrival learners sat around the dining area and lunch was served in order to replenish much needed energy for the activities planned out for the rest of the day. After being hastled into appropriate clothing and put into groups of eight people, the Year 12's began their trip with a small session on jungle survival in which we were given a timed teambuilding challenge to build a shelter off the ground along with a campfire with nothing but string, a lighter, bamboo planks, branches, and a tarp. With all teams managing to build a shelter able to withstand two learners (although some barely achieved this), we learnt to collaborate and communicate with each other as well as build stronger bonds between friendships. After completing the "Jungle Survival School" it was onto the final activity of the day; beach survival, where we learnt how to catch crabs, and fishes using both a long net and learnt how to catch clams using a traditional method involving a clam rake.

The next day learners were split into their group 4 science groups and spent the entire day conducting their own experiments in different locations ranging from mangroves, the ocean, brackish water, and a river. Some groups took the biological aspect, some took the chemistry route, whilst others took a physics investigation. Some interesting science explorations include; *the effect of different levels of salinity on the buoyancy of a boat to find the optimum salinity for a boat to achieve maximum buoyancy, and investigating the best purification method for purifying salt water.*

The final day consisted of an early 7:30am breakfast and a quick morning trek throughout the jungle to arrive at a secluded rocky beach where our final activity for the day took place; a beach cleanup. Amongst picking up trash, many of us began diving into the water and climbing rocks to embrace the final few hours before we headed back for Nexus. After trekking back to the resort, we were given an hour to pack up our stuff and have lunch.

Here are a couple of quotes from the Year 12's on the trip:

"The mersing trip was the perfect relaxation break I needed, after the torturous year 12 assessment" - Hamidah 12E

"It was refreshing, like ice lemon tea!" - Fizzy 12X

"I think the trip was hella fun. I was able to strengthen my bonds with many new people and discovered myself as an individual under the stars" - Syed 12X

"Pretty awesome man" - Jerel 12X

"It was an opportunity for us to explore knowledge outside of the classroom" - Saeed 12X

"10/10 would recommend" - Sabrina 12E

"There was a range of activities from physical activities, enjoying the ecosystem, and moral responsibility" - Riana 12N

"Great instagram and selfie opportunities" - Georgia 12X

# Term 3 Week 7

## Year 13 Leavers Dinner

On Wednesday evening we held our Year 13 Leavers Dinner in the boarding house. We were treated to a fantastic meal, the menu chosen by the leavers as well as some fine farewell words by Ryan and Nishi who responded to humorous speeches by Raziq, Faris, Rachel and Sue Yen.

It was a lovely evening and we all enjoyed the celebration of those who were to spend their last few days with us in the boarding environment.



## Crab Island

Last Saturday a group of the boarders went on a trip to Crab Island. On arrival to the dock in Klang, we took the speedboat to the island. Before we reached the island, we had a stop at the fish farm that is located in the middle of the sea to feed the snapper, sea bass and groper. Over one tonne of feed is given to the fish on a daily basis and Rachel, Luanne, Mr Troy and Carter had fun feeding them all. It was a hot day, but subsequently getting soaked by the fishy water as it splashed when the fish frenzied for food was refreshing for some more than others.

We then headed to Crab Island with lunch being one of the lasting memories from the trip. An assortment of seafood, stir fry, and soups made for a good meal before we all ventured on a cycling tour around the narrow and somewhat tricky pathways and bridges of the small village. Our tour guide showed us some markets, housing areas, prawn farms and a traditional Chinese temple. One of the features of the day was witnessing a caged python slowly chewing through its lunch!!



## Boarding Activities

Throughout the week boarders continue to participate in a variety of evening activities. The gym is opened for boarders to play basketball, cricket or badminton. We endeavour to introduce rock-climbing as well under Mr Alex's guidance and expertise. The library is available for those who may wish to do extra study or select a book or two to read. Ms Hayley supervises an evening swim on Wednesday evenings, which has proven to be popular. The boarders have the opportunity to attend the Friday Night Market in Putrajaya to taste a variety of mouth-watering local delicacies. Following Saturday activity, the boarders may stock up on popcorn and fizzy pop and watch a movie in the common room with each other. Meanwhile, after prep on Sunday evening, Mr Troy has introduced "Sunday Sundae", when boarders can treat themselves to different flavoured ice creams and a variety of toppings including chocolate, raspberry or caramel sauce as well as chocolate or hundreds and thousands sprinkles!



## Term 3 Week 8

It was a relatively quiet week with almost half of the boarding house off-site attending their respective year group residential trips. Those who were in-house enjoyed playing basketball, reading and revising in the library or swimming after prep in the evenings.

On Saturday most boarders visited the cinema to watch the exciting and captivating movie Marvel Captain America: Civil War.

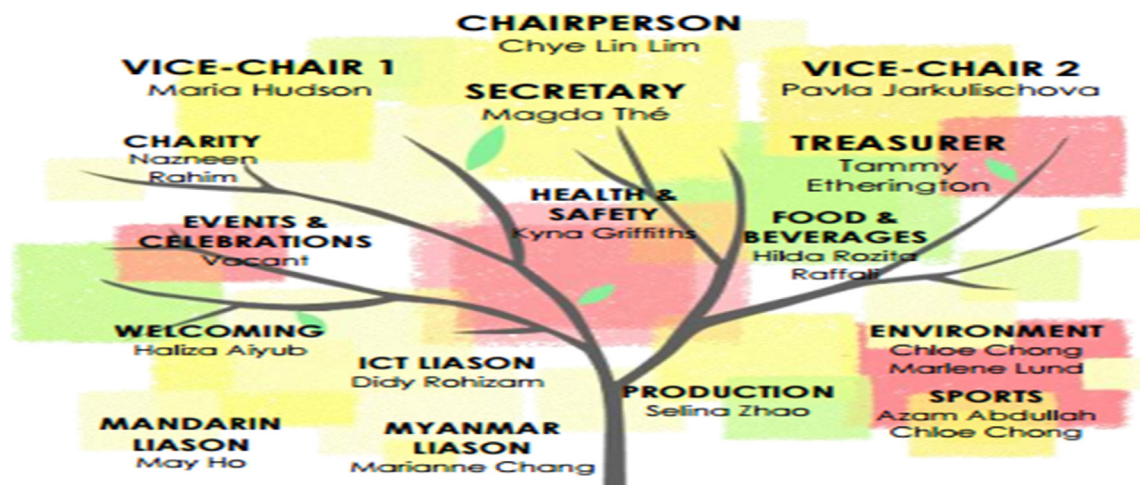


In the evening Ms Hayley, Jeffrey, Max, Jiyong, Raziq, Terence and Dening made 'fruity parcels' - puff pastry filled with blueberries, strawberries and raspberries added with ice cream for dessert!





## PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION 2015/2016



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