

Letter from the Principal

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14 June 2013

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWS

This is the last newsletter for the Academic Year 2012-13. With only one day remaining in the school year we are busy with class parties, assemblies, and other events to mark the occasion. This week the Year 6 classes hosted their parents and the rest of the Primary School at their farewell celebration and the Secondary School learners enjoyed a pool party and social games. Year 11 students have now finished their IGCSE exams and are appreciating a well-earned break as they await their results (due in mid August). Year 12 students returned from their CAS camp in Telunas and immediately attended a workshop focusing on Extended Essay research and other tasks that they will work on over the break. Classes may be nearly finished, but learning continues.

Our congratulations go to Jeffrey Talabucon, one of our Health and PE teachers. Jeffrey was selected as the winner of the Education Award for Filipino workers in Singapore for demonstrating excellence and passion in his profession. This is a well deserved reward that recognises Jeffrey's contributions to the education of young people. Well done.

Of course, end of year is a time that we farewell colleagues who are moving onto new challenges. Teachers who are leaving us this year include Natalie Paisley, Danielle Mandich, Wendy Bridson, Alan Evans, Aaron Kane, Robyn Prokok, Shipra Sharma, Poon Kwai Fan, Brian Walsh, Barbara Medynski, Gavin McLean, Abraham Delos Reyes, Julia Deng and Natalie Madison. Best wishes to you all and thank you for your contributions to the continuing development of Nexus.

The Yearbook was issued to all learners. I will not repeat what I wrote in my introduction, except to thank all learners, parents, staff and friends who have worked hard to make this such a successful year for so many. Terms begins on Monday, 12 August and I look forward to seeing you all back at Nexus. I wish every one a refreshing break.

Finally, we are part of a much larger organisation. Our parent body, Taylor's School Division, has recently been renamed "Taylor's Schools" to reflect the growth in their role. They now provide oversight and management of six schools with more due to open soon.

Nexus Parent Group (NPG)

Uniform Exchange/Donation

Please bring your uniform donations (in clean and in good condition) to the NPG Room (Block C, Level 2) and place them in the box provided next to the Uniform Exchange wardrobe. During the school holidays you may leave them with Reception.

Book Club organised by *Della Cheal*

9.00am to 10.30am

30 August, 25 October, 13 December

Usually the last Friday of every other month

The Club will be selecting their first book shortly; please email npg@nexus.edu.sg (for the attention of Della) if you are interested in joining and would like to know the book selection.

Discussion Group organised by *Pallavi Bhargava*

9.00am to 11.00am

20 August, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November, 3 December

Usually the first Tuesday of each month

For parents of children with learning issues (e.g. Dyslexia/Dyspraxia, ADD/ADHD, Auditory Processing, Autistic Spectrum etc.)

Secondary School Parents' Pot Luck Lunch organised by *Jan Evans/Susan Ryan*

12 noon onwards

20 August, 17 September, 22 October, 19 November, 17 December

Third Tuesday of every month

All Groups/Clubs to meet in the NPG Room. If you have an idea for a group or have a query regarding any of the groups mentioned above, please email us at npg@nexus.edu.sg

Coffee & Catch Up Morning

Our first coffee morning of the year will be held at 8.30am on Friday, 16 August. Do come and catch up with old friends and welcome new ones.

NPG Committee

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

The Jungle Book

Our younger learners, numerous parents and friends were the audience for the stunning Year 3 to 6 production 'The Jungle Book', last Friday. We all had a fabulous time watching the action and singing along to classic tunes. Our performers were confident, articulate and expressive. Even more impressive was that they took the lead in creating and adding to the choreography, script, set and costumes. A truly massive achievement! Thank you to all the staff and the army of parents who made this show possible. It really has been a real team effort and was a huge success.



Our Wonderful Cast



Please visit [Facebook](#) for more photos of The Jungle Book.

Classes for Academic Year 2013-2014

We have a large number of new children joining us in August. To accommodate this, we will be reorganising the class groups for academic year 2013-2014. During the holidays all the children will be allocated new classes and homeroom teachers according to friendship groups that work well in the classroom environment and promote learning. The current homeroom teachers will have spoken to your child over this last week to ask for their opinions on with whom your child enjoys working alongside and works well with. You will be informed of your child's new class and their homeroom teacher before your child returns in August.

Finally...

My thanks for making me feel so welcome during my first semester at Nexus. I have had a wonderful time getting to know you all and there have been numerous highlights over the last 6 months, such as the Year 6 Exhibition and residential trip to Loola Adventure Resort in Bintan, our Chinese New Year celebrations, the Primary School Swimming Gala (Come on Red, Blue, Yellow and Green!), two stunning productions - Minibeast Madness and The Jungle Book, the Annual Beach Clean Up, numerous assemblies and trips, and our mini exhibitions. These activities require a lot of hard work and dedication from all involved for them to be so successful. In fact, when we are part of a learning process, hard work and dedication is required every day, so my sincere thanks to all the staff, parents, guardians and children for making this semester such a success.

I would like to wish all our children and their families a very relaxing and enjoyable holiday. To the children and staff who are moving on, we thank you for being part of the Nexus story and we wish you all the best for the future. To the rest of you, I very much look forward to seeing you all in August for what promises to be a very exciting academic year.

Paul Beach, Head of Primary School

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

Theory of Knowledge

Congratulations to the Year 12 learners who completed the first stage of their Theory of Knowledge assessment last week - a 10 minute presentation on a "knowledge issue" of their choice. Both the professionalism demonstrated by the speakers and the high levels of intellectual engagement impressed the audience of parents, teacher and learners. Our learners truly rose to the occasion and tackled a range of difficult and complex topics. It is even more impressive to note that English is not the first language for so many of our presenters. It was great to see an inkling of the high academic achievements that are possible for the Nexus community in the years ahead. Well done Year 12s.



Year 8 and Year 9 Trip to Pa Ngam, Thailand

30 September to 4 October 2013

An exciting, action packed 5 day, 4 night visit to Pa Ngam Outdoor Activity Centre in Thailand is in its final stages of planning. We have sent a letter and exemplar programme home with your child.

We expect all learners who will be here in the next academic year to take part in this trip unless there are exceptional reasons. It is of huge educational value and will provide learners with excellent opportunities to learn to work in teams, develop new skills, as well as create new friendships.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any questions or worries at jefferson.a@nexus.edu.sg

Andy Jefferson, Learning Area Leader: Languages other than English

Classes for Academic Year 2013-2014

We have a large number of new learners joining us in August. To accommodate our new intake, we will be reorganising the tutor groups for Academic Year 2013-2014. During the holidays all learners will be allocated new classes and homeroom tutors, according to friendship groups that work well in the classroom environment and promote learning.

Finally ...

Thank you to everyone who has helped me or assisted in any way with Secondary School activities this year. I have really appreciated getting to know you and am looking forward to next year with great anticipation.

John Evans, Head of Secondary School

If you have any comments or questions about any aspect of the school's procedures, please email me at principal@nexus.edu.sg or martin.s@nexus.edu.sg

Please also LIKE and share our [Facebook](#) page and follow us at [Twitter](#) to keep up with all that is going on at Nexus.



Dr Stuart Martin
Principal