

Letter from the Principal

201 Ulu Pandan Road Singapore 596468, T: +65 6536 6566

1 February 2013

2013-14 Term Calendar

Our new term calendar is now published on our website. Our term dates are chosen in order to ensure that we meet the educational needs of our learners, especially the very young children and the senior examination candidates and to meet the holiday needs and preferences of our multicultural and multinational community. It has been developed following wide consultation with parents and staff representatives.

Chinese New Year celebration

Details of this event on Thursday 7th February were published in last week's newsletter. Chinese snacks will be available from 12.40 pm and lion and dragon dances will start at 1.30 pm. Come along and enjoy the festivities.

NEXUS PARENT GROUP

The Nexus Parent Group ("NPG") Coffee & Catch Up got off to an excellent start last Friday and we were pleased to see so many parents. We will get together at 8.30am on the first Friday of every month in the comfortable and spacious NPG Room (Blk C, level 2) which also houses the Book and Uniform Exchange. The room is open during normal school hours, coffee and tea are always available and parents are encouraged to make full use of the room e.g. waiting for children or as a place to meet other Nexus parents.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Coffee & Catch Up (Friday, 1 March).

Joyce Baird, NPG secretary

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Transformation of our Kindergarten

On Monday morning the children in Kindergarten and Nursery were delighted to find that their learning pod had been transformed! An old and impractical metal structure has been removed to provide a bright and inviting communal learning space. The children have particularly enjoyed coming together and sitting on the rugs and sofas for their story time sessions. Over the next few months we will continue to develop the outdoor and indoor learning environments in our Kindergarten.

In another Kindergarten change, our classes have been renamed as follows:

Nursery and KG1 - Starfish

KG2 with Sonya Nicholls - Dolphins

KG2 with Nicki Taylor – Penguins

Grade 1 Assembly

Thank you to all those families that came along to this week's assembly, as our Grade 1 learners shared their recent learning in their Unit of Inquiry: "Celebrations Express Traditions of a Culture". The multicultural nature of classes at Nexus provides learners with the opportunity to explore and to share firsthand experiences of an incredible variety of cultures. The Grade 1 learners took their audience on a trip around the world as they discussed dress, food, decorations and music drawn from different cultural celebrations. Thank you to the homeroom teachers, specialists and teaching assistants for helping the children prepare for their assembly. Our next assembly will be led by our Grade 2 learners on 15 February. We hope that lots of families will be able to join us.

PE lessons

Next week is the last week of Swimming classes for the Junior School this term. Land-based lessons will start on Wednesday 13th February (the first day back after Chinese New Year) for the rest of the term.

Grade 5 to 6 Transition Evening

Thank you to those parents and guardians who attended our Transition Evening for Grade 5 parents. For those of you who were unable to attend the presentation is now available on the Parent Portal.

Reminder: Portfolios

Please remember to return your child's portfolio to his or her homeroom teacher and the three-way conference reflection forms to student services. Thank you.

Paul Beach, Head of Junior School

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

Grade 6 & 7 Extended Learning Project

Grade 6 & 7 learners are beginning an Extended Learning Project (ELP) for their Humanities classes. This will involve learners exploring the idea of "My Place in the World". They will be describing and evaluating where they live, interviewing other people to find out their opinions, as well as creating a 'vlog' (video blog) to explain possible improvements to their home environment. We expect that much of the work will be completed at home in their own time. The due date is Friday 15 February. Parents are encouraged to discuss ELP with their children and you can also view the learning opportunity by asking your children to show you the Google site created for the ELP.

Grade 10 and 12 Trial Exams

Our Trial Examinations for Grade 10 and Grade 12 begin today and we wish all our learners the best of luck. The candidates have all been given details of how the examinations will be conducted and the equipment they will need to bring in for each examination.

Nexus Loves Reading

This Thursday's homeroom period saw the last of our Nexus Loves Reading sessions. The English Department have linked with this event and have carried out a number of activities to help promote reading amongst our learners and teachers.

PE lessons (Grades 6 - 8)

Next week is the last week of Land-based classes for Grade 6 - 8 this term. Swimming lessons will start on Wednesday 13th February (the first day back after Chinese New Year) for the rest of the term.

School Council

Next Thursday the learners will have a presentation from Dr Martin about the School Council and how it will operate. Elections for the School Council will take place the following week.

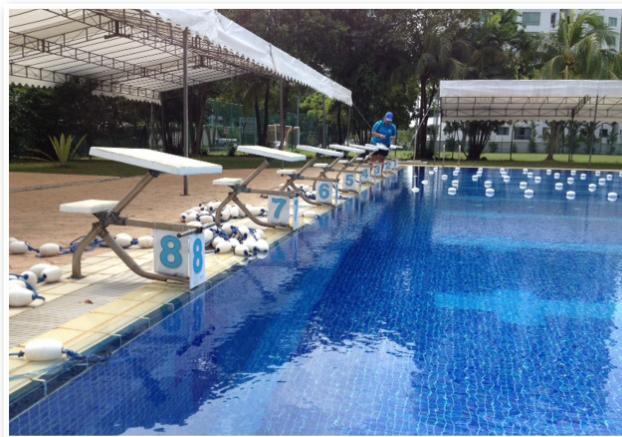
John Evans, Head of Senior School

SPORTS NEWS

THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM! - ACSIS Middle School Swim Meet 2013.

The ACSIS Middle School Swim Meet 2013 is just a day away, this Saturday 2nd February from 9am - 12 midday. The preparation is almost complete before the onslaught of 300 swimmers from 14 international schools around the country.

Thank you to the many hands that have made light work around the organisation of this event; the facilities team, the marketing team, senior management, PE staff, and the staff volunteers - thank you very much for all your help around preparation.



If you are free Saturday morning with nothing to do. Please come and support your local school, have a sausage from the 'sausage sizzle' BBQ, enjoy a coffee or cold soft drink by the pool, watch a bit of swimming, make some noise, and have fun. Look forward to seeing you all here.

NEXUS SPORTS CLUBS

The Nexus Sports Clubs are run by APSM for the benefit of younger students. We support APSM in this initiative to provide additional sporting opportunities that do not fit the ACSIS schedules. You will find a flyer attached to this newsletter advertising basketball and football clubs that will start next week. Please reply directly to APSM if you are interested in joining one of these activities.

SECOND REMINDER: ACSIS SEASON THREE – SPORTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNERS AT NEXUS.

A further reminder that ACSIS season three is just around the corner, so we are in the sign-up phase for the sports we can offer. Most offered sports will be starting mid-February. Nexus International School will offer the following sports:

- **8&U Football.** Age requirements: born on or after 1st June 2004
- **8-11 Track & Field** (Athletics)
- **12&U Football.** Age requirements: born on or after 1st June 2000
- **14&U Girls Basketball.** Age requirements: born on or after 1st June 1998
- **14&U Boys Basketball.** Age requirements: born on or after 1st June 1998
- **U19 Girls Badminton.** Age requirements: born on or after 1st June 1993
- **Swim Team.** Will continue as normal

As we are a school moving forward, we would also like to try and add to our ACSIS participation. If we get the interest, we also have coaches available for:

- **U19 Boys Badminton.** Age requirements: born on or after 1st June 1993
- **U19 Ultimate Frisbee** (NEW ACSIS sanctioned sport). Age requirements: born on or after 1st June 1993

If you are interested in any of the above sporting teams, please see Bevan Moriarty in the PE office to register or feel free to drop me an email

SPORT RESULTS – Final round of ACSIS Season 2

U19 Boys Basketball

- Lost to OFS

14&U Boys Football

- Lost to Stamford American International School

11&U Boys Badminton

- Lost to German European School 1-4

SPORT DRAW: Monday 4th January – Friday 8th February

Tuesday 5th JAN

- 11&U Badminton. Semi-final. AWAY vs. UWC DOVER. 4.30pm

Thursday 7th FEB

- 11&U Football. AWAY at Tanglin Trust School

I wish our 11&U Badminton team the best of luck for their semi-final fixture against UWC Dover on Tuesday.

If you have any questions regarding sport at Nexus International School please do not hesitate to contact me at [**moriarty.b@nexus.edu.sg**](mailto:moriarty.b@nexus.edu.sg)

Bevan Moriarty, Director of Sport

If you have any comments or questions about any aspect of the school's procedures, please email me at [**principal@nexus.edu.sg**](mailto:principal@nexus.edu.sg) or [**martin.s@nexus.edu.sg**](mailto:martin.s@nexus.edu.sg)

Thank you,



Dr Stuart Martin
Principal