

# Taking their talent to the stage

**M**ANY parents opt for an international education to expose their children to a holistic education that places emphasis on soft skills and extra-curricular activities.

At Nilai International School (NIS), this includes lessons and activities in areas such as drama and music as well as a host of sporting activities.

This is to give the students a well-rounded education to shape them into confident and multi-faceted individuals.

At the moment, NIS students are busy preparing for the school's first ever musical under the guidance of the English teacher – Nirmala Naidu. About 30 students of various ages will be taking part in a musical production of *Pocahontas*.

Nirmala says that initially many students were shy and reserved but soon warmed up to the idea of performing on stage.

While many of the students will be on stage, a number of them will be taking charge of equally important tasks such as stage production and preparing the props and costumes for the show. These activities help create students who are well-rounded as they learn to work, rehearse and perform as a group.

Students taking part in the musical are between 10 and 16 years old (Years 5 to 10). The younger students are more playful and require more direction.



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However, they are the more natural performers as they do not seem to be as self-conscious or have the same inhibitions as the older students.

It is not all fun and games as the students are working hard at memorising their lines and rehearsing at least thrice a week.

Learning their lines and practising their songs and dance routines require patience, discipline and focus.

These are the key lessons that they will take from this project.

Apart from studying the

internationally recognised IGCSE syllabus, students get undivided attention from teachers and staff throughout their time at NIS.

One of the benefits of an international school education is the small class size.

Students at NIS receive their teachers' undivided attention and the small classes (each class at NIS does not exceed 15 students) allow the teachers to adjust their instruction methods to suit each child's needs.

As NIS opened its doors in 2011, it is still a fairly new institution

and students benefit from having brand new state-of-the-art facilities with more being added every semester.

Apart from the drama club, students will also be exposed to a variety of extra-curricular activities such as martial arts, swimming and music lessons.

"Parents no longer need to drive their students from one tuition centre to another. NIS has everything under one roof. Here, they are assured a quality education as well as the opportunity to participate in

various co-curricular activities," says Nirmala.

NIS also offers boarding facilities for children aged 11 and above. Boarding students are under strict supervision of housemasters and housemistresses who ensure that they complete their homework and carry out their required revision daily.

■ For more information on NIS, call 06-850 2188 or visit [www.nis.edu.my](http://www.nis.edu.my)



Students at NIS are preparing to stage the school's first musical under the guidance of the English teacher, Nirmala Naidu (left).