#### Sounds of the Art Room

#### Art Instructor Miku Kobayashi

Only a month remains until the School Art Exhibit, and the art room is bustling with many different sounds.

The sound of squeaking saws; making even cuts can be difficult. A loud "splat!" as a handful of paint makes contact with paper; the feeling of cool paint on bare hands can be quite refreshing. The endless rattling of jigsaws; undaunted by ceaseless racket, students shout to each other, "Can I use this piece?"

At the end of it all, when class is done for the day, with hands still covered in paint, in small voices reserved for secret conversations, "Today was fun!"

Day after day, the art room is filled with all manner of sounds and voices.

This year's School Art Exhibit will be held on the following dates and times:

November 18<sup>th</sup> (Fri) 9:00 – 16:00 Admittance ends at 15:30

November 19<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 9:00 – 16:00 Admittance ends at 15:30

Please visit us for a glimpse into the students' worlds.

### Parent-Child Reading

#### Library Leader Naoko Kashima

Autumn is the season of serene skies and cheerful hearts. It is during the long evenings of this time of year when parents and children might enjoy taking some time to read together.

As in previous years, Higashimachi will begin "20 Minute Parent-Child Reading."

Usually, students will spend time reading their favorite books by themselves. The parent-child reading time is a chance for parents to read a book to their children. Surely this time spent together will become a fond memory. Another option is to spend time reading separate books together. Creating a quiet time and space to read in is a great way to forget about the business of the day.

In this way we can encourage children to practice good reading habits, and show them that a life with books by their side is a good life indeed. We thank you for your cooperation.

<20 Minute Parent-Child Reading>

☆Time: October 24<sup>th</sup> (Mon) - November 6<sup>th</sup> (Sun)

★Objective: Spend time reading together and keep a written record

\*\*Additional information regarding the event will be sent out on October 17th.

# **Teacher Development**

## Teacher Development Leader Shizuka Muramatsu

This year the focus for teacher development is science and life studies. "Cultivating opinions and discussions among students" is the theme for the development series. Having a fully formed opinion and being able to convey it to another person are important skills for living in society.

While it might sound simple on paper, it is easier said than done, and especially for students it can be very challenging. Because of this, there is certainly no small number of students that dislike expressing their thoughts and feelings in class.

Students at Higashimachi are bright and honest, friendly with students in grades besides their own, and have many excellent qualities in general. In part, because of the diversity created by the international program, the students are granted many experiences and exposed to many different opinions. The chance to hear these different points of view and integrate them together is an opportunity for further growth and development.

"Discussing ideas with friends is fun!" is what we hope the students can perceive, and is the ideal which we want to move classes toward in our teacher development.