



Receiving the SOS

Principal Yoji Hatano

It is the last month of the first term. We will have the closing ceremony on Friday the 19th. At that ceremony, I will give the students a homework assignment. It's the same assignment I give every year, without fail. And, when giving the assignment, I tell them, sternly, that out of all the homework assignments they have over the summer, this assignment is by far the most important. That assignment is for everyone to show me their cheerful faces at the opening ceremony.

This assignment, however, has been changing over the years. At the beginning, the assignment was a request for the children to not encounter any traffic accidents or water accidents; however, it has changed into a request for any child or student who is having thoughts about suicide to consult a nearby adult. It is also a request in consideration for anyone who does not want to go back to school or is worried about not having their homework finished.

Immediately after the closing ceremony, as the educational counselor explains about summer break, he will also talk to the children about consulting teachers if they have not finished their summer homework. Also, during the last week of summer break, from 8/26 – 8/29, the supplementary classes will be open, and as the students prepare themselves for the next term, they can also consult teachers for help with their summer homework. The supplementary classes will be related to the teacher's instructions, so students can ask for help with things they have trouble with. We hope the children can take advantage of this chance and alleviate any worries they may have about the next term.

In consideration of the recent situation, the following 3 points have been outlined as part of an effort to educate students about the importance of protecting one's life.

- Education about the importance of life
- Education about how to call for help (SOS) (Education about how to deal with stress and difficulties)
- Education to maintain mental health

The aim of educating about how to call for help is for children to be able to contact an adult (SOS) to provide adequate assistance if they are in a dangerous situation or if a dangerous situation may occur and for adults to provide adequate support to alleviate those situations. In other words, the goal is to recognize when students need help and to be able to stop anything dangerous from happening.

Towards the end of the summer break, please observe more closely your child's behavior, interact with them, and offer help when they are in trouble, and, if necessary, consult with the school.

New Faculty Members

Ms. Kazuko Yamagishi (former school nurse) joined us as part of the school support staff on Tuesday, May 7th. As hers is an administrative position, she will not deal directly with the children, but she will assist with answering the phone and helping visiting parents.

Also, Ms. Miho Lipton joined the faculty as an English Support Teacher (EST) on June 7th. Because she joined midway through the term, she will not be assigned to a specific class but instead will teach Japanese to ESCs in grades 1, 2, 3, and 5.

July Events

Date	Day	Event	After-school
1	M	Safety lesson, Committee	4-6
2	Tu		3-6
3	W	4 periods, Teachers in service	x
4	Th	Tokyo achievement test (G5), Soc. S. field trip (G4)	3-6
5	F	Drug abuse prevention lesson (G5/6, 5 th period)	4-6
6	Sa	Speech assembly (G2, 4, 6) 1 st period, Japanese culture, PTA Water Fight (Higashimachi) and Fireworks (Roppongi JH)	x
7	Su		
8	M	Club activities	4-6
9	Tu	Reading (G1-4, morning period), Color vision test (G4, optional)	3-6
10	W	Emergency evacuation drill (suspicious person)	x
11	Th	Music assembly	3-6
12	F	Corn shucking (G1)	4-6
13	S		
14	Su		
15	M	Marine Day	
16	Tu	Roppongi JH experience (G6) PT Conf. (G1,2,3) 15:00	x
17	W	PT conference (G4, 6) 14:40	x
18	Th	Student assembly, School lunch ends	3-6
19	F	Closing ceremony, 4 periods	x
20	S		
21	Su	Summer holiday begins	
22	M	Pool ①, Radio Taiso ①	
23	Tu	Pool ②, Radio Taiso ②	
24	W	Pool ③, Radio Taiso ③, Home visits	
25	Th	Pool ④, Radio Taiso ④, Home visits	
26	F	Pool ⑤, Radio Taiso ⑤, Home visits, Hakone trip medical check (G5) 12:00	
27	S		
28	Su	Hakone Summer Trip Day 1 (G5)	
29	M	Hakone Summer Trip Day 2 (G5), Home visits	
30	Tu	Hakone Summer Trip Day 3 (G5), Home visits	
31	W	Higashimachi summer school ①, Home visits	
1	Th	Higashimachi summer school ②	
2	F	Higashimachi summer school ③	

Notices

July's Emergency Evacuation Drill

A drill to practice a suspicious person entering the school will be held on the 10th (Wed). Students and faculty will practice what to do if a suspicious person enters the school.

Human Rights Day

This month's Human Rights Day is Thursday the 11th. The school lunch for that day will be Hawaiian Mahi-mahi dog.

July's Open Schoolyard

Saturday, July 6th, 13:00 – 17:00

Water Fight Hosted by the PTA

Saturday, July 6th

G 1, 2, 3 14:30 – 15:30

G 4, 5, 6 15:45-16:45

The water fight will be held at school. (Please bring your water toys.)

Fireworks Hosted by the PTA

Saturday, July 6th 19:00 – 20:30

There will be fireworks at Roppongi Junior High School. (Please bring your fireworks.)

Inter-School Swim Meet (G6)

From this year on, the swim meet, where 2 to 3 schools gather in the beginning of September, will be conducted at the individual schools due to the difficulty in arranging the event among the different schools and obtaining medical professionals.

Educational Guidance

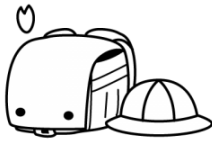
July's Goal

“Let's tidy up!”

Motoki Kobayashi

Educational Guidance Counselor

The closing ceremony is on the 19th. Before we leave for the long summer break, let's tidy up our belongings and clean up the area around our desks.



Transformation!

1-1 Naoko Kashima
1-2 Misa Nojima
1-3 Shuhei Miyazawa

We made *kawari-e* ("changing pictures") during art time. The original picture can change to a different picture when they pull at the side of the paper, so the children's eyes were bright with excitement as they thought about what they could change their picture into.



A seedling ...

... changes to a flower!

The human...

... transforms into Ultraman!

When the first graders started at Higashimachi, there were 81 one of them who needed help from the 6th graders and teachers to get accustomed to life at school; but, as they understand more about school life and how to study, and as they experience things like Sports Day, they too are changing into wonderful students. We are teaching them to look forward to those changes, whatever they may be. We appreciate the help and understanding of all parents, guardians, and community members.

What We Know from Our Children's Growth

Saika Shimozato, School Nurse

This year, this school acted as a model school for Minato City's efforts to advance nutritional education. The goal was to understand how children grow using data from their body growth charts, apply it to nutritional education, and deepen our understanding of the field of child growth and development.

In connection with this project, a lecture intended for parents and guardians about using body growth charts in order to raise healthy children was held with guest lecturer Dr. Masako Kobayashi from Kagawa Nutrition University. Generally, a growth chart is thought to be used to check if someone is gaining or losing too much weight; however, it can also be used to ① check for healthy growth and ② detect illnesses or stress at early stages. Also, clues about any imbalances in diet, exercise, sleep, and other lifestyle habits can be ascertained.

The other day, when Dr. Kobayashi was talking with female high school students, many of them mentioned things like having gained 2 kg over the winter and that everyone was dieting. When she replied that it was natural to gain weight because they were still growing and their bodies and organs were getting bigger, they soon agreed that it was not in fact necessary to lose so much weight. It made me want to teach children to be happy about their growth.



For this project, students will answer a survey about their lifestyles during summer break (G4-6) and parents/guardians will also answer a survey about growth charts (all grades). For the health of our children, we appreciate your cooperation.

School Route Inspection

Erika Kobayashi, Head of School Route Inspections

The school conducts school route inspection in spring and in fall to ensure the safety of the students' routes to and from school.

Three groups inspect the routes for dangerous areas going towards Azabujuban, Yuai, and Sannobashi. The groups not only consist of faculty members, but PTA members, staff from the Azabu Regional City Office, Azabu police officers, and members of the town council are invited to share observations about the condition of the school routes.

When inspecting, we look for ...

- ... damaged road signs
- ... traffic signals, guardrails, and sidewalks in the right places
- ... places for suspicious people to hide
- ... graffiti
- ... abandoned bicycles
- ... if it is well-lit at night time



Afterwards, the results of our inspection are reported and dealt with. There were many participants for our route inspection on June 25th.

The next inspection is scheduled for October 11th (Fri). I believe we can better protect our students with more eyes on the street.

Summer Pool

Hiroshi Kurokawa

Since the pool opened, the kids have been doing their best in their swimming lessons.

The students will have a chance to continue their lessons during summer pool. We believe that both skilled students and beginner students will be able to work towards their goals and experience a sense of accomplishment.

They will have a chance to enjoy moving around in the water with their friends. We hope the students will attend many pool sessions, have fun with their friends, and improve their swimming skills.

This year we will have 3 sessions a day and all grades can attend. Please check the date and times of each session, make sure your child brings all necessary items, and let them join us for summer pool. If your child forgets even one item, they may not enter the pool for safety reasons. Please prepare everything before they leave for school.

Summer Supplementary Classes

Shizuka Muramatsu

Summer supplementary classes will be held for four days from 8/26 (Tues) to 8/29 (Thurs). These classes are for the students to review what they had learned in the first term and maintain a stable rhythm.

Students will work on any uncompleted summer homework and worksheets prepared at school. Since the pool opened, the kids have been doing their best in their swimming lessons. Students can also ask teachers any questions about homework.

Whether your child will attend or not, the application must be returned by **July 8th (Mon)** (application will be distributed at a later date). Students who are absent without notifying the school will be contacted by the school, so please check the dates beforehand, complete the application, and if your child cannot attend, please contact the school.