

#### February 29, 2024 No. 646 Publisher Principal Hashimoto higashimachi-es@minato-tky.ed.jp

#### Finishing the School Year Principal Yuichi Hashimoto

The 2023-24 school year will finish in just one month. In addition to our regular studies, Higashimachi Elementary celebrated its 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with events and ceremonies. The children did their best to prepare, practice, and present for the anniversary. They were also able to feel a sense of accomplishment from this valuable experience. We hope that the children will remember the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration for years to come, and that the school's legacy will continue to the 150<sup>th</sup> and 200<sup>th</sup> anniversaries.

Furthermore, thank you to the parents, guardians, and community members for their contributions.

I would like to share the major events scheduled for the next academic year.

In the spring, Sports Day will be May 18 (Sat.), Grade 6's Hakone Trip will be June 3 (Mon.) to 5 (Wed.), and the Higashimachi Festival will be held July 5 (Fri.). In the summer, Grade 5's Hakone trip will be from July 30 (Tues.) to 31 (Wed.).

Each year in autumn, the art exhibition, the music festival, and the school performance rotate every year. For the upcoming school year, the school performance will be from October 31 (Thurs.) to November 2 (Sat.). The International Assembly is usually scheduled for February but will be held on December 17 (Tues.) this year.

More details about next year's events will be provided at the parent-teacher conferences.

We look forward to working with everyone again in the next academic year.

# March's Goal "Let's wrap up the school year!"

Date	Day	Events	After- school
1	F	4 periods (G1-G5) Arigato no Kai (G6)	_
2	Sa	Saturday school, Japanese culture (G5)	-
3	Su		-
4	М	Morning assembly, Committees	-
5	Tu	G6 Send-Off Assembly, Safety lesson	G3/4
6	W	Parent-teacher conference (G1- G3)	-
7	Th	P.E. assembly, 5 periods (G4- G6), Parent-teacher conferenece (G4-G6)	-
8	F		—
9	Sa	Open schoolyard	-
10	Su		—
11	М	Morning assembly, Drug abuse prevention lesson (G6)	—
12	Tu		-
13	W	PTA general meeting	-
14	Th	Music assembly	G5/6
15	F		-
16	Sa		—
17	Su		—
18	М	Morning assembly	—
19	Tu		—
20	W	Spring Equinox	-
21	Th	School lunch ends, 4 lessons (G1-G4), Graduation rehearsal (G5/6)	-
22	F	Graduation Ceremony (G5/6 only)	—
23	Sa		—
24	Su		—
25	М	Closing Ceremony	_
26	Tu	Spring vacation begins	-
27	W		-
28	Th		-
29	F		-
30	Sa		-
31	Su		
This month's evacuation drill will be unannounced.			

Grade 1

Grade 1 Teachers

#### Notices

#### Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be held in individual classrooms from 15:00 on the  $6^{th}$  (Wed.) for Grades 1 to 3 and on the  $7^{th}$  (Thurs.) for grades 4 to 6.

# <u>Human Rights Day</u>

This month's Human Rights Day is Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup>. The lunch for that day will be hand-made pizza from Italy.

# **Graduation Ceremony**

The Graduation Ceremony will be held Friday, March 22. There will be no school for Grades 1 to 4.

#### **Closing Ceremony**

The closing ceremony for Grades 1 to 5 will be Monday, March 25. Report cards will be handed out on that day. Please look back on your child's accomplishments over the year. There will be no school for Grade 6.

# The International Assembly

Head of International Studies

The International Assembly was held last month. Thank you to all the parents and guardians who attended, and we greatly appreciate everyone's cooperation in letting everyone have a chance to view the performance closely.

Minato City elementary schools, including Higashimachi, have international studies classes from Grade 1 to 6. In addition, there are students whose native tongue is English or who have spent time abroad and their English skills are stronger than their Japanese skills. For this assembly, the classes showcased the language skills they acquired in their lessons and gave an original performance in English. We hope the children enjoyed putting on their performances for everyone to see. One year has passed since that warm spring day when Grade 1 started their first day of school at the entrance ceremony.

Grade 1 is different than day care or kindergarten, as children are expected to do more things on their own, like prepare for their lessons and be on time. However, we can see that many students have grown accustomed to life at elementary school and continue to engage in different aspects of learning and school life.

In the final month of the academic year, they have begun taking care of tulips for the incoming Grade 1 students. Seeing their anticipation about looking after younger students, we can tell they are growing up and becoming more dependable.

We will use the remaining days wrapping up their studies and preparing them to advance to Grade 2 with confidence.

# From Educational Counseling

Head of Educational Counseling

In March, only 20 school days remain. Students in each grade will look back on the year and prepare themselves for a fresh start in the upcoming academic year.

The spring vacation is a good chance for families to talk together about how to prepare for the next grade.

Please talk with your children about how to respond to natural disasters, and make sure the supplies in their desk box are organized and their names are written on everything so that they can begin the new academic year well prepared.

Lastly, we greatly appreciate everyone's cooperation throughout the past year.