



Welcoming the New Year

Principal Yuichi Hashimoto

The New Year is here, and although the third term is the shortest, it is also important for preparing students for advancing to the next grade.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation and look forward to working with you throughout the year.

This year is a special Year of the Snake, the *kinotomi*. The *kinotomi* is an omen of good things to come through continued effort. We can expect this year to be a good one.

December was "Jump Rope Month." The students did individual jumps with a short jump rope and class jumps with the long jump rope.

When a student completes the beginner level jump card, they receive a completion stamp from the principal and the advanced level card. This year, more than 30 children were able to complete the beginner level.

The long jump rope is a little difficult for lower and middle grades, but they improved through daily practice. Grade 2 achieved over 100 jumps as a class. Their hard work is truly amazing.

Main Events of Term 3

- Jan. 9 (Th.) - 10 (F.) Sekishokai
- Jan. 21 (Tu.) - 24 (F.) Sekishokai Exhibition
- Jan. 22 (W.) - 23 (Th.) Open School
- Jan. 22 (W.)
 - 5th period Open morals lesson
 - 6th period Open morals lecture and discussion
 - Topic Accidents in the community
 - Location ABC Hall
 - Lecturer Yoshiyuki Kimura, School Supporter of the Azabu Metropolitan Police Department's Safety Division
 - ※ All are invited to attend.
- Feb. 6 (Th.) Parent-Teacher conference for 2025-26 Grade 1
- Feb. 7 (F.) Kanji Kentei
- Feb. 28 (F.) Grade 6 Send-Off Party
- Mar. 7 (F.) Parent-Teacher Conference (G1-G6)
- Mar. 24 (M.) Graduation
- Mar. 25 (Tu.) Closing Ceremony
- Mar. 26 (W.) Spring break begins

Date	Day	Events
1	W	New Year's Day
2	Th	
3	F	
4	Sa	
5	Su	
6	M	
7	Tu	Winter break ends
8	W	4 periods, Opening Ceremony, Safety lesson
9	Th	School lunch begins, Tablet instruction ③, Sekishokai (G1/2/5/6)
10	F	Sekishokai (G3/4), Measurements (G1), Committees④, Preschool visit (G1, 3 rd period)
11	Sa	
12	Su	Minato City Tag Rugby lesson
13	M	Coming of Age Day
14	Tu	Bouldering Week begins, Measurements (G2①)
15	W	4 periods, Measurements (G2②), Exchange Student (G1-1) 8:40
16	Th	Student Assembly (Assembly Committee), Measurements (G3①), Family Asobi⑥
17	F	4 periods, Measurements (G3②), Preschool visit (G1, 3 rd period)
18	Sa	Saturday school⑤, Japanese Culture③
19	Su	
20	M	Morning Assembly, Clubs④, Measurements (G4①), Kakizome Exhibition preparation
21	Tu	Kakizome Exhibition begins, Measurements (G4②), Art Museum Appreciation (G5-1, 2 nd -3 rd periods)
22	W	5 periods, Open School①, Open Lecture on Morals Education
23	Th	Student assembly (School Lunch Committee), Open School②
24	F	Bouldering Week ends, Art Museum Appreciation (G5-2, 2 nd -3 rd periods), Minato City Elementary School Art Exhibition begins
25	Sa	Minato City Elementary School Art Exhibition
26	Su	Minato City Elementary School Art Exhibition ends
27	M	Morning Assembly, Measurements (G5 ①), Preschool visit (G1, 3 rd period)
28	Tu	Six periods for G2, Measurements (G5 ②), Art Museum Appreciation (G5-3, 2 nd -3 rd periods)
29	W	Evacuation drill
30	Th	Four periods, Five periods for G2-2
31	F	G1/2 four periods, G3-G6 six periods

**January's Goal
 Let's be on time!**

Please check your grade newsletters for dismissal times.

Notices

Open School

The third open school of the academic year will be held January 22 (Wed.) and 23 (Thurs.). In the first and second terms, families saw how their children spend their time at school during events like open school, Sports Day, and the School Performances. This time, we invite families to see how their children have grown and matured over the year.

Kakizome Exhibition

Dates: January 21 (Tues.) – 24 (Fri.)

Location: Hallways outside of classrooms

Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day is January 23 (Thurs.). The lunch for that day will be fish and chips from the U.K.

Open Schoolyard

Water gate construction is being done over the weekends from December 1, 2024 to February 28. During this time, there will be no open schoolyard.

Grade 4

Nozomi Yamamoto
Grade 4 Head Teacher

On Tuesday, November 5, Grade 4 visited the headquarters of Hibiya Kadan Company. This is a local company that has provided the school with flowers for Mother's Day and the 110th Anniversary ceremony last year.

This time, the Grade 4 students were introduced to the company's business operations and had the opportunity to enjoy a flower arrangement lesson. They followed the Hibiya Kadan employees' kind instructions and concentrated on making seasonal flower arrangements, contemplating if it would look better this way or that.

After returning to the school, the children were inspired to brighten people's hearts with flowers with paper flowers in their classrooms and hallways. They also made celebratory bouquets for the 111th Anniversary Assembly.

We hope the students will continue to cherish these moments that have brightened their hearts.



From the Arts and Crafts Room

Yurie Suzuki

Arts and Crafts Instructor

In 2024, Grades 3 visited the Sen-Oku Hakkokan Museum as part of their arts and crafts class. The students deepened their understanding of the artists and their works by listening to the curator's explanations and closely examining the works by themselves. Afterwards, on a holiday, some of the children visited the museum again with their families to observe the art more closely. The curators were very pleased with these repeat visitors.

For 2025, Grade 5 will visit the Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum in January and Grade 2 will visit the Suntory Museum of Art in February. We believe these visits will stimulate the children's interest in art and motivate them to create their own art.

Please check the Arts and Crafts Blog for updates and information about the students' works and art museums via the Arts and Crafts Blog.



Sekishokai

Yuki Onishi

Sekishokai and Kakizome

The 2024 kanji of the year is 金 (*kin, kane*). During the Olympic and Paralympic games, many people were moved by the numerous athletic achievements. What kanji would Higashimachi students choose for 2024?

To welcome the new year, Higashimachi conducts a *kakizome* event. *Kakizome* is an important tradition where people write their resolutions and goals for the coming year. It began in the Heian period and then spread across the country as a new year calligraphy lesson in temple schools during the Edo period.

Lower grades will practice with pencils; Grades 3 and above will practice with brushes.

Students of all grades will sit properly and neatly copy the sample one stroke at a time. Students practiced at school before the start of winter break and will continue practicing up to the official *kakizome* event.

The works will be displayed at school for students and families to enjoy.

