



An Opportunity to Think About Human Rights

Principal Tetsuro Kawahara

We were very pleased to welcome so many visitors to our art exhibition and to have you enjoy the students' wonderful artwork. The children also discovered many good points in their friends' and other grades' works.

December 10 is Human Rights Day, and in Japan the week leading up to this day is observed as Human Rights Week. At Higashimachi Elementary, we will hold our own Human Rights Week from December 3-10, providing opportunities for students to reflect on and deepen their understanding of human rights.

Although "human rights" can be a difficult concept, the essential idea is to value both ourselves and others. By thinking about their own strengths, recognizing the good qualities of friends, and noticing differences among people, children begin to appreciate each person's individuality. We hope they will grow in their ability to recognize and celebrate these differences.

Listening to classmates, acknowledging their ideas in lessons, and recognizing the strengths in others' work—as seen in the art exhibition—are all important foundations for developing a sense of human rights.

Our school will continue to create opportunities for students to learn about human rights issues, including bullying, so they can understand the importance of both themselves and others, eliminate discriminatory attitudes, and act with respect and empathy. We also encourage families to take this opportunity to talk with your children about human rights and bullying.



December's Goal

Let's appreciate our friends!

Date	Day	Events
1	M	4 periods, Morning Assembly, Safety Lesson, Jump Rope Month begins, Teacher Development (1-1 5 th period)
2	Tu	Committees ⑧
3	W	B schedule 4 periods, Human Rights Week begins
4	Th	B schedule 5 periods, *IPTM ①
5	F	B schedule 5 periods, IPTM ②, Peace Message Exhibition ends
6	Sa	
7	Su	
8	M	B schedule 5 periods, IPTM ③, My School PR Competition
9	Tu	B schedule 5 periods, IPTM ④
10	W	B schedule 5 periods, Human Rights Week ends
11	Th	Music Assembly
12	F	6 periods for G2 ④ 6 periods for G3 ⑥
13	Sa	
14	Su	Minato Tag Rugby Class
15	M	Morning Assembly
16	Tu	
17	W	B schedule 4 periods, G5 Music Appreciation class
18	Th	International Assembly rehearsal
19	F	International Assembly, Jump Rope Month ends, School Management meeting
20	Sa	
21	Su	
22	M	Morning Assembly, Evacuation Drill ⑧, Last school lunch, Meeting for Prevention of Bullying and Chronic Absenteeism
23	Tu	B schedule 4 periods, Closing Ceremony
24	W	Winter Vacation begins
25	Th	
26	F	
27	Sa	
28	Su	
29	M	
30	Tu	
31	W	

*IPTM: requested individual parent-teacher meetings

※ Please check your grade newsletters for dismissal times. ※ Please see the Higashimachi website for the school newsletter, grade newsletter, and lunch menu.

Emergency Evacuation Drill

December's evacuation drill will practice responding to a warning of an earthquake.



Human Rights Day

This month's Human Rights Day is Thursday, the 4th. Lunch for that day will be handmade piroshki and borscht from Russia.

Educational Activities From This Year Forward

Amid ongoing educational reforms—such as teacher work-style improvements, reducing surplus instructional hours, promoting individualized and collaborative learning, and expanding ICT use—and in line with Minato City's educational policies and our school's management policy, we are planning our educational activities for the coming years. Our fall cultural event will rotate annually among three options: an Art Exhibition, a Music Festival, or a School Performance. We will also review the future format of the International Assembly.

The International Assembly

At the International Assembly, children present the results of their International Studies classes across grade levels.

Because the event is intended for students to observe each other's presentations, there are no designated seats for parents. However, parents and guardians may also watch from the back of the gymnasium. Please be considerate of one another and allow the parents of the class currently presenting to take the front viewing area.

If you wish to watch multiple presentations and there is a break in the program, please exit the gymnasium. If you are not returning home, you may use the Small-Group Mathematics Classroom (Annex, 3rd Floor) as a waiting room. Date: December 19 (Fri.)

Classes will perform at different times. Please refer to the grade newsletters for details.

Location: Higashimachi ES gym ※Visitors will change to indoor shoes in the annex before entering the gym. **You will be walking outside, so please bring indoor shoes.**

The School Anniversary Assembly

Special Events

On Friday, November 21, the Steering Committee and the Assembly Committee planned, prepared, and led the ceremony celebrating our school's 112th anniversary.

In the week leading up to the event, we carried out a special greeting campaign called "Aisatsu 112," an anniversary version of the daily greeting activity run by the Steering Committee. The 112th student who gave a cheerful, energetic greeting was introduced and recognized during the ceremony—an initiative reflecting the committee's wish to encourage even more students to greet one another.

On the day of the celebration, the whole school enjoyed singing the anniversary song "Mirai e," the school song, learning about the history of Higashimachi Elementary, and hearing about Sunlight. We also had the "Aisatsu 112" award presentation and the "Where Is This?" quiz, making it a very meaningful and enjoyable event for all.

An Introduction to Jump Rope Month

P.E. Events Committee

As winter approaches, the days are growing colder, yet the children continue to play energetically outdoors.

At our school, December 1–19 will once again be Jump Rope Month, as it was last year. This year, students will practice both individual jump rope and class jump rope.

For individual jump rope, students will set personal goals using their "Jump Rope Card" and will practice during classes and recess. For class jump rope, each class will work together in lessons and during the "Class Jump Rope Morning Assembly," where they will also see a demonstration by the sixth graders.

We ask each family to prepare an individual jump rope by late November. Please remember to adjust the length and write your child's name on it.

We hope all Higashimachi students will enjoy these activities while improving their fitness and getting ready to welcome the new year with energy.

Thank you for your cooperation.