



Learning Through Experience

Principal Tetsuro Kawahara

This year's rainy season has been more typical than it has been in recent years, with gloomy and unsettled weather continuing day after day. As a result, there have been fewer opportunities for students to enjoy swimming in the pool. However, the morning glories that the first-grade students are growing in their Life Studies class have been sending out vines and thriving. The second graders' bell pepper plants have also begun bearing fruit and are growing well.

In addition to these gardening activities, our school places great importance on learning through hands-on experiences. Not only in daily classroom lessons, but also by inviting guest teachers with specialized knowledge and skills, we provide opportunities for students to experience and learn from authentic, real-world expertise. It is said that learning accompanied by direct experience deepens understanding and helps knowledge become more firmly established.

Children also learn many things through their everyday school life outside of formal lessons. As the saying goes, "Children grow through interactions with other people." School, where students live and learn together in groups, is exactly such a place. Sometimes they are unable to express their feelings as they intend and end up arguing. At other times, they quarrel and then make up, learning how to relate to others along the way. Through these experiences, they come to understand the importance and rewards of compromise, patience, mutual respect, and cooperation. School is a small society, offering many valuable lessons that can only be gained through group life. We believe these experiences help develop the skills and character needed to live successfully in society.

Now, summer vacation will begin on July 21. There will be many opportunities during the break, such as PTA-sponsored radio exercise sessions and community events. We hope that students will take on a variety of new challenges and gain experiences that they would not ordinarily have during regular school life. We wish for each child to use this time as an opportunity for growth. Please take care of your health and safety and enjoy a summer free from serious injuries or accidents.

July's Goal Let's Organize Our Things!

※Please check your grade newsletters for dismissal times.
※Please see the Higashimachi website for the school newsletter, grade newsletter, and lunch menu. Paper versions are available upon request.

Date	Day	Events
1	W	B schedule 4 periods, Safety lesson, Scoliosis screening (G5)
2	Th	Music Assembly ①, Joint 3-School Roppongi JH experience (G6)
3	F	Color vision check (G4)
4	Sa	
5	Su	
6	M	Morning Assembly, Waterworks Caravan (G4)
7	Tu	
8	W	B schedule 5 periods, Evacuation drill ④
9	Th	Student Assembly②
10	F	B schedule 4 periods, Higashimachi Festival
11	Sa	
12	Su	
13	M	Morning Assembly, Inner-city swim meet (G6)
14	Tu	Reserve day for G6 Inner-city swim meet
15	W	B schedule 5 periods, Pool with clothes (G5), Pool ends
16	Th	Last day of school lunch
17	F	B schedule 4 periods, Closing Ceremony
18	Sa	
19	Su	
20	M	Marine Day
21	Tu	Summer Vacation starts Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings ①, PTA-sponsored Radio Exercise 6:30-
22	W	Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings ②, PTA-sponsored Radio Exercise 6:30-
23	Th	Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings ③, PTA-sponsored Radio Exercise 6:30-
24	F	Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings ④, PTA-sponsored Radio Exercise 6:30-
25	Sa	
26	Su	
27	M	Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings ⑤
28	T	
29	W	Summer Pool ① (G1/G6)
30	Th	Summer Pool ② (G2/G5)
31	F	Summer Pool ③ (G3/G4), Pre-Summer Camp Health Check (G5)

Notices

Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings

Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings will be held from July 21 (Tue.) to July 27 (Mon.). We will discuss your child's academic progress and daily school life during the term 1, while also considering ways to support their continued growth and success. We appreciate your cooperation and participation.

Summer Swim Lessons

This year's summer swim lessons will be from July 29 (Wed.) to July 31 (Fri.), and August 24 (Mon.) to August 26 (Wed.).

Prior registration via Google Form is required to participate in the summer swim classes. Please note that pool cards will not be distributed this year. Instead, families who register for the program will receive a health check form through the *Sughoor* app.

For further details, please refer to the "Notice Regarding Swim Classes During the Summer Break," distributed on Friday, June 26.

Human Rights Day

This month's Human Rights day will be Thursday the 9th. The lunch that day will be an American (Hawaiian) menu featuring a make-your-own Hawaiian sandwich.

Higashimachi Festival

Special Activities Coordinator

This year, Higashimachi Festival will be held on July 10 (Fri.). Higashimachi Festival is one of the events that students look forward to each year. Students in Grade 2 and above work together by class to plan and operate their own festival booths. The classes have already begun discussing what kind of booths they would like to create, and the students are taking the lead in preparing for the event. On the day of the festival, students will take turns running their booths, while other students—including first graders—will visit and enjoy the booths organized by different classes. Through this activity, we hope students will experience the importance of working cooperatively with their classmates and enjoy building connections with students from other grade levels. We would appreciate it if you could talk with your child about the Higashimachi Festival at home and encourage them as they prepare for and participate in the event.

In-School Teacher Development

Research Coordinator

This year, Higashimachi Elementary School is conducting a study under the theme, "Enhancing Instruction to Support Effective Learning Through Physical Fitness and Gymnastics Activities." Our research focuses on physical fitness development and apparatus-based activities such as mat exercises in physical education classes. We hope to extend the successful teaching practices developed through this research to other subject areas as well. Classes selected for research lessons may have longer class periods than usual. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Introduction to the Special Support Classroom

Special Education Coordinator

Each child has their own way of learning, understanding, and acquiring new skills, and the pace at which they learn varies from student to student.

In the Smile Room, individualized support is provided according to each student's needs through two formats: one-on-one instruction and small-group learning. By reflecting on themselves, students deepen their self-understanding. They also learn to talk with instructors about things they do not understand or difficulties they are experiencing, helping them feel more secure and enabling them to work together with staff to find solutions. Through learning, students accumulate many successful experiences, discover their strengths, and develop positive ways of interacting with others. Our goal is to nurture each child's unique abilities and individuality so that they can enjoy a fulfilling and rewarding school life.

In addition, Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) provide necessary support for learning and daily school activities within the classroom under the direction of the homeroom teacher.

Applications for the Smile Room and SNA in Term 3

Parents or guardians who would like their child to receive support through the Smile Room or from a Special Needs Assistant (SNA) are asked to consult with their child's homeroom teacher or the school nurse by September 8 (Tue.).