



Beginning the Second Term

Principal Yoji Hatano

After the exceptionally short summer vacation, the second term begins earlier than usual. Towards the end of the first term, the long rainy season made the days bearable, but once August began, there were continuous days of extreme, record-breaking heat. Also, the number of COVID-19 cases has remained in the triple digits since July, and as the age groups of those infected has spread from the 20s and 30s to the 40s and 50s, the virus has migrated from the city's nightlife district to homes and offices.

As we bring in the second term, we are reevaluating aspects of school in an effort to ensure our students' safety. Water breaks, air conditioners, and breaks from wearing masks will be implemented to combat the risk of heat stroke. However, if the heat index* rises above 31°C and a "danger" (危険) warning is announced, outdoor PE and recess will be cancelled. The newly implemented "heat stroke alert" (熱中症警戒アラート) is for conditions more dangerous than the above "danger" advisory. Naturally, outdoor PE and recess will be cancelled if this alert is issued.

There are also typhoons to consider at this time of the year. If a warning or advisory is issued in the event of an approaching typhoon, or even snowfall or a strong earthquake (lower 5 on the JMA's intensity scale), Minato City kindergartens and elementary schools will conduct the following measures.

- . If public transportation (JR, subways, etc.) announces scheduled delays the previous day, then school will be closed.
- . If a "warning" (警報) or "emergency warning" (特別警報) is announced by 6:30 a.m., school will be closed for that day (excluding warnings for heavy rain (大雨警報)).
- . If an earthquake greater than a lower 5 (JMA) occurs while the students are at school, students will be kept at school until a parent/guardian can pick them up.

As mentioned in a notice sent on June 29th ("Revisions to School Days, Class Activities, and School Events for 2020-21"), school events scheduled for the year were categorized into 4 groups: cancelled, postponed, shortened or altered, or TBD (to be determined). Our priority is to conduct these events, even if it means to do them under certain restrictions. Therefore, we hope families understand that some events may be held in a drastically different manner than previous years.

By starting early and increasing the number of Saturdays, the second term will be longer by 10 days. The faculty at Higashimachi intend to educate the students at a reasonable pace, and we hope their health is carefully monitored at home as well.

*Heat index – Refers to the wet bulb globe temperature (WBGT). Developed in the US to prevent heat stroke, it uses the same unit of measurement for temperature (°C) but the value is different than the actual air temperature. The purpose is to measure the effect of heat on the human body by measuring ① humidity, ② sunlight and environmental factors, and ③ heat.

August and September

Date	Day	Event	After-school
8/25	Tu	Opening Ceremony	G6
26	W	School lunch begins	X
27	Th	Physical exam (1-2, 1-3, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3)	G5
28	F		G4
29	Sa		
30	Su		
31	M		X
9/1	Tu	Ear nose throat exam (1-2, 1-3, 3-1, 3-2, 5-1), Evacuation drill (G4, G6) Summer Project Exhibition begins,	G5
2	W	Evacuation drill (G1, G5)	x
3	Th	Ear nose throat exam (2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 6-1, 6-2), Evacuation drill (G2, G3)	G4
4	F	Ear nose throat exam (1-1, 4-1, 4-2, 5-2, 5-3)	G6
5	Sa	Summer Project Exhibition ends	
6	Su		
7	M	Committee ①	X
8	Tu	Physical exam (1-1, 3-1, 3-2, 4-1, 4-2)	G6
9	W	4 periods, 6-2 Teacher development (5 th period)	X
10	Th	Music assembly	G3
11	F		G6
12	Sa		
13	Su		
14	M	Parent-teacher conference (G3)	X
15	Tu	Parent-teacher conference (G2)	G4
16	W	Parent-teacher conference (G6)	X
17	Th	Parent-teacher conference (G1), Physical check (5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 6-1, 6-2)	G3
18	F	Parent-teacher conference (G4)	G6
19	Sa		
20	Su		
21	M	Respect for the Aged Day	
22	Tu	Autumnal Equinox	
23	W	Parent-teacher conference (G3), Measurements (G1)	X
24	Th	Measurements (G2)	G5
25	F		G4
26	Sa	Japanese Culture	X
27	Su		
28	M	Club ①, Measurements (G3)	X
29	Tu	Measurements (G4)	G5
30	W	4 periods, Measurements (G5)	X

Notices

Evacuation Drill

For September's evacuation drill, students will practice group dismissal by grade and route. Group dismissal is used in cases where the school routes may become too dangerous, like after a typhoon has passed and there are fallen trees and signs.

Like in July, the drills will be conducted by two grades over three days to avoid crowding. It will not be cancelled in the event of rain.

Human Rights Day

This month's Human Rights Day is on the 14th (Mon.). The lunch for that day will be bibimbap and yangnyeom chicken.

Perfect Attendance Awards

There are schools that award students a "Perfect Attendance Award" for not missing a single day their entire 6 years at elementary school.

Perfect attendance awards were originally intended to reward students who achieved perfect attendance by maintaining a healthy lifestyle. However, as more students attended school (or were made to attend school despite their health condition) for the sake of a spotless record, the purpose of perfect attendance has been lost.

Please understand that for these reasons Higashimachi does not offer an award for perfect attendance.

Educational Counselling

September's Goal "Get Back in the Swing of School"

Junichi Takagi
Educational Counselor

The students will return to their school routines. First, they must arrive at school on time (8:10-8:20), wear their hat when they are leaving or coming to school, wear their nametag at school, leave any unnecessary items at home, and return things to their right place when they are not using them.