



Having Swim Lessons after Two Years Without

Principal Yuichi Hashimoto

The state of emergency for Tokyo was lifted on June 20 (Sun.) and the status was changed to a "quasi-emergency" from June 21 (Mon.). Thank you to all the parents and guardians for your understanding and cooperation during the state of emergency. Although COVID-19 has not yet been eliminated, we will continue to hold school while taking measures to prevent infection.

Swim lessons began on June 21 (Mon.). It has been two years since students at this school have been in the pool. To prevent crowding, pool is conducted by class instead of by grade. Also, to prevent students from shouting during the lessons, the buddy system has been replaced by a roll call from the faculty members. The students agree to not speak or shout after taking off their masks, so the lessons are conducted quietly. It is truly impressive to see the students understanding the situation and acting appropriately during the lessons. Each grade has three swim lessons scheduled up to September. The rainy season is not yet over, so it is likely that some lessons may be cancelled; however, I hope swim lessons can be carried out as planned.

Amid the pandemic, the school has done what it can to conduct its educational activities as close as possible to how they were done before; but we hope to connect the students' current education with the following academic year.

Cancellation of Summer Vacation Activities

Due to major construction on the school's fire emergency system, pool and summer school will be cancelled. The supplementary studies courses will be held as scheduled (Aug. 25 – Aug. 27). The PTA has also decided to cancel the Radio Taiso. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Also, please note that Marine Day has been moved to July 22 (Thurs.) and Sports Day has been moved to July 23 (Fri.).

Observing the Olympic and Paralympic Games

The Minato City Board of Education will decide at a later date whether this event will be held as scheduled, but for the time being each grade is scheduled to view one Paralympic event sometime between September 2 (Thurs.) and September 4 (Sat.). The school will notify families by early July about transportation and the main outline of the event as well as how absences will be handled.

School Happenings On Twitter

The school's Twitter account will be reopened momentarily. Please check out the school's Twitter feed and website as well.

Handle: @higashimachies

July

Date	Day	Event	After-school
1	Th	Safety lesson, Long Family Asohi (G2, G4)	
2	F		
3	Sa	Saturday school	
4	Su		
5	M	Committees	
6	Tu	Group dismissal (5 th period, G1-G3; 6 th period G4-G6)	
7	W	4 periods	
8	Th	Music Assembly, Colorblind test (G4, if requested), Roppongi JH experience (G6)	
9	F	Teacher development (5-2), 4 periods	
10	Sa		
11	Su		
12	M	Club	
13	Tu	IPTM ①, 5 periods	
14	W	IPTM ②, 5 periods	
15	Th	Student Assembly, IPTM ③, 5 periods	
16	F	IPTM ④, School lunch ends, 5 periods	
17	Sa		
18	Su		
19	M	IPTM ⑤, 4 periods, 12:30 dismissal	
20	Tu	Closing Ceremony, 4 periods, 12:30 dismissal	
21	W	Summer vacation begins, Summer camp medical check (G5)	
22	Th	Marine Day, Summer Camp (G5)	
23	F	Sports Day, Summer Camp (G5)	
24	Sa		
25	Su		
26	M		
27	Tu		
28	W		
29	Th		
30	F		
31	Sa		

IPTM: Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings

Notices

*Emergency Evacuation Drill

Students will practice group dismissal on the 6th and go home on the same route with upper- and lower-classmates. Grades 1 to 3 will practice in 5th period, and grades 4 to 6 will practice in 6th period. This is to practice staying safe during an emergency situation, so we will have the students participate diligently in the drill.

*Human Rights Day

This month's Human Rights Day is Wednesday the 14th. The lunch will be Mahi-Mahi Sandwiches from U.S.A. (Hawaii).

*Cancellation of Events During Summer

Summer pool and summer school events were scheduled for the summer vacation; but due to major construction at the school, the events have been cancelled. Supplementary studies sessions (*hoshu*) are scheduled for August 25 (Wed.), 26 (Thurs.), and 27 (Fri.).

Educational Counselling

July's Goal "Let's Tidy Up!"

Naomi Naito
Educational Counsellor

Pencil cases, textbooks, notebooks, P.E. clothes - students really have a lot of things for school! Not only that, but there are also worksheets from their lessons as well as printouts and letters from school. Sometimes I see things just pour out of their desk boxes. From study tools used to learn to letters connecting schools and families - we want the students to take care of each individual item. So the students can return to school fresh from the summer break, they will tidy up their communication pouch, their desk box, their *randozeru*, and other things around them. We hope that during the break, families will tidy up their things together.

Classroom Window

Grade 1

Grade 1 Class 1 Chisa Yoshimura
1-2 Naoko Kashima
1-3 Tomoya Kobayashi

The first summer break of elementary school is just around the corner. The Grade 1 students have gradually become accustomed to school life. For their studies, the students are working on their listening and speaking skills by "speaking like the sun and listening like the sunflower." They are also practicing social skills by following rules during recess. During lunch, many students are able to eat foods that they did not like.



All faculty and staff are helping the students have more confidence in their abilities. Please make sure to praise your children when you notice them improving or maturing.

From the Nurse's Office

Saika Shimosato
School Nurse

Vision tests were held the other day. There were many students who mentioned that they were not able to see as well as before. Children's eyesight tends to worsen as they advance from grade to grade. It is thought that from elementary school to senior high school, shortsightedness develops in students due in part to the rapid physical growth of that period as well as the increase in studies and work that require physically closer observation. Also, in rarer cases, one cause could be a disease in the eyes that causes lower vision. At any rate, those with vision test results below 1.0 (B, C, or D) are asked to consult a specialist.

In the nurse's office, stadiometers (for height), scales, and eye charts are available for students to measure their own body's changes on their own. Students will spend recess time measuring themselves and finding out if they are growing or if their eyesight is getting weaker. Seeing this, I can tell that the students really enjoy measuring themselves. I hope to use the students' interest in their bodies as a way to connect them to their studies about the human body.

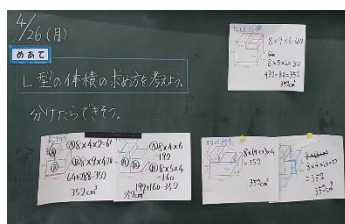
Lastly, thank you to all the families for their cooperation with various measures against the spread of COVID-19. Please continue in your efforts to prevent infection by checking your children's temperatures at morning and at night, as well as observing their health condition before leaving for school and keeping them home if they feel unwell.

About Small Math Classes

Akemi Suzuki
Head of Small Math Classes

At school, Grades 3 to 6 study math in small classes to suit students' interests as well as their math abilities.

Some may wonder what the purpose of having math in small classes is. As a subject, math follows a linear path, and if a student struggles at one point their studies later on will be negatively impacted. By learning in smaller groups, teachers are able to notice any problems early on and give appropriate, individualized instruction. Also, lesson content can be explored in more depth, allowing more time for the students to explore and discover the content on their own. With this, we will continue to instill the lessons in each student and improve their learning abilities.



The math classroom is on the 3rd floor.



School Route Inspection

Erika Sasaki
Educational Counselling

At Higashimachi, school route inspections are conducted twice a year, in spring and in fall, to ensure the students' safe arrival at school and at home. Teachers search for any dangerous areas along the designated school routes towards Azabujuban, Yuai, and Sannohashi. The inspection is conducted by not only the school's faculty, but by parents and guardians, city officials, the Azabu police, and city council members.

The following are observed during inspections:

- Damaged street signs
- Where traffic signals, guard rails, and sidewalks are needed
- Places for suspicious people to hide
- Places with graffiti
- Abandoned bicycles
- Sufficient light at night, etc.



The results of the inspection are shared in an official report and appropriate measures are discussed. The inspection held on June 29 (Tues.) did not include parents/guardians or members of the city council as a measure to prevent infection.

The next inspection is scheduled for September 30 (Thurs.), and we hope to do our best for the safety of the students.

