



The Importance of Change

Principal Yoji Hatano

Only July remains in the first term. This year, the 6th graders have their classes in the annex. For their school lunch, every day, they have to eat on the second floor of the original school building; however, the 6th graders have adapted to this change since the beginning of the school year.

The other day, a television program began with the following quote from Charles Darwin:

"[I]t is not the most intellectual of the species that survives; it is not the strongest that survives; but the species that survives is the one that is able best to adapt and adjust to the changing environment in which it finds itself."

Since Darwin was an advocate of the theory of evolution, these words pertain to survival of a species; however, I believe this quote carries great importance in today's society.

The television program mentioned earlier was a feature about how Yomiuri Giants pitcher Tomoyuki Sugano dealt with a tougher pitching mound when he appeared for this year's World Baseball Classic. When pitching, Sugano was able to adapt to this change by taking a slightly further step, and advance his achievements for this season (at this time, Sugano had achieved the first triple consecutive shutout in the last 28 years of the Central League's history).

In professional baseball, there are skilled pitchers who can insist on adhering to their ways and will soon disappear from the baseball world. While on the other hand, that same skilled pitcher could be an adaptive pitcher and leave his name in baseball history. In business, there are some companies that failed to sell enough of their main product and therefore have to downgrade their company. Among us educators, teachers who are praised for their lessons are the ones who adjust their lessons according to the needs of the students and the skills necessary to educate them at that time.

No matter the society, in order to survive, the ability to change is indispensable. Additionally, in order to change, we must acquire the strength to build a happier life and a better society by engaging our sensibilities and actively involving ourselves in unforeseen social changes, while considering for ourselves what kind of future we want to make and what we can contribute to people and society.

Actually, this strength is nothing more than what we teachers have called the "strength to live." However, as times change, we reassess what the "strength to live" means, and strive to enhance its qualities.

July

date	day	Events	after-school
1	Sa	Safety lesson, Speech assembly (pr. 1) Japanese culture	X
2	Su		
3	M	Committee (G5, 6)	X
4	Tu	P-T conference (G4, 5, 6), Social studies field trip (G3)	X
5	W	4-pr. day	X
6	Th	Municipal achievement test (G5), P-T conference (G1, 2, 3)	X
7	F		2 - 6
8	Sa		
9	Su		
10	M	Club	4 - 6
11	Tu	Student assembly, Color vision test (G4, voluntary), Bicycle safety class (G3)	3 - 6
12	W		X
13	Th	Music assembly, Emergency evacuation drill (J-Alert)	4 - 6
14	F		2 - 6
15	Sa		
16	Su		
17	M	Marine Day	
18	Tu		3 - 6
19	W		X
20	Th	Closing ceremony, Cleaning, School lunch ends, 4-pr. day	X
21	F	Summer break begins, Summer poolⓄ, Supplementary classesⓄ, Radio TaisoⓄ	
22	Sa	R. TaisoⓄ	
23	Su		
24	M	PoolⓄ, Supp. ClassesⓄ, R. TaisoⓄ	
25	Tu	PoolⓄ, Supp. ClassesⓄ, R. TaisoⓄ	
26	W	PoolⓄ, R. TaisoⓄ Medical exam before summer school trip (13:00) (G5)	
27	Th	Summer school tripⓄ (G5), Home visits	
28	F	Summer school tripⓄ (G5), Home visits	
29	Sa	Summer school tripⓄ (G5)	
30	Su		
31	M	PoolⓄ, Home visits	

July's Goal

Educational Guidance Counselor Hiroki Mine

Let's sort and tidy up our things.

"Sort" and "tidy up" are two phrases we use quite often. Sort means to separate according to kind, so "sorting" your things is removing unnecessary things from the things you do not need. "Tidy" means to make things neat and organized so that anyone at any time can readily use them. By sorting and tidying our things, we can organize them so that they are easily available.