



Nanohana - MIS Newsletter

Edition 325 – Friday 11 September 2020

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



Students in Grades 1-6 took the New Group Reading Test (NGRT) this week. Students in Grade 1 do this with a teacher on paper while students in Grades 2-6 completed theirs online in the socially-distanced MIS ICT Suite. This test is a dynamic test in that it challenges students beyond their reading level at times then finds the 'just right' reading level for the student.

We will then gather that information and it is used to better inform teachers when they are designing leveled reading groups. These reports are designed for teachers, so while the NGRT does not give us a written report for parents, they allows us to be able to better differentiate for individual students not only in reading but in other subjects where reading is a key aspect of learning.

The children always try their very best and take these assessments seriously. I want to say thank you to the students as well as to Mr. Hall for arranging the NGRT sittings as well as Mr. Mills, Mr. Burton, and Ms. Harrison for managing the actual administration of the tests.

Additionally, I met with our Curriculum Team Leaders for English, Maths, Humanities, Arts and Science in order to pre-plan with them ahead of next Monday's upcoming meetings with their teams to plan out re-configured events for the remainder of the year. The purpose of this pre-planning meeting was to make them aware of the parameters and protocols outlined by Chiba Prefecture in order to prevent the risk of COVID-19. I know that students and parents alike are eager to find out what events we might be holding and what they will look and feel like. We ask for your patience as we plan these out, providing fun opportunities for our students while maintaining the safety and well-being of the entire MIS community. Following the parameters from Chiba Prefecture and in alignment with our MIS Return to School Operation Protocols, we will not be able to have parents on campus as spectators at events but will look at videoing events and securely broadcasting them to parents after the event.

I can tell you that contrary to the original 2020-2021 MIS School Calendar, we will **not** be holding Sports Day on Saturday, September 26th but will hold it on a weekday at a date to be announced later.



Calendar

Per MIS's Return to School Operation Protocols, in order to prevent the risk of COVID-19, events are limited.

Monday 14 September

G1-6 Medical Checks

Tuesday 15 September

General PTA Meeting
1:15pm

Wednesday 16 September

G5&6 Swimming - Day 3
K2&G1 Ophthalmology
G4 Colour Perception Tests

Thursday 17 September

Board Meetings 1pm & 3pm

Friday 18 September

G5 MIS Rice Paddy Harvest



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Kindergarten News

From Mrs. Laura McKeown, Kindergarten Coordinator



Resilience Part 2 – Positive Relationships

Last week we spoke about building children's resilience through ensuring that they have enough good quality sleep. This week I would like to discuss the importance of positive relationships in children's lives. Having positive relationships in your life is associated with higher positive emotions, self-esteem, motivation, optimism and resilience. When children make a mistake and you correct them, they can often take this to mean that you don't care for them anymore. This is why it is important to remind children that you still love them, especially when they

make mistakes.


'It is okay that you made a mistake, what could you do differently next time?'

'Well done, I love you'

Additionally, children won't always notice the other people who care for them, so when you can, let them know about the other people who love them too. Anything you can do to build their connection with the people who love them will strengthen them and build their resilience.

'I told Grandma how brave you were. She's so proud of you.'






K1:
Practicing
the Days
of the
Week

K2:
Estimating
Numbers
and
Amounts

K3:
Hunting
for and
Making
Spider
Webs





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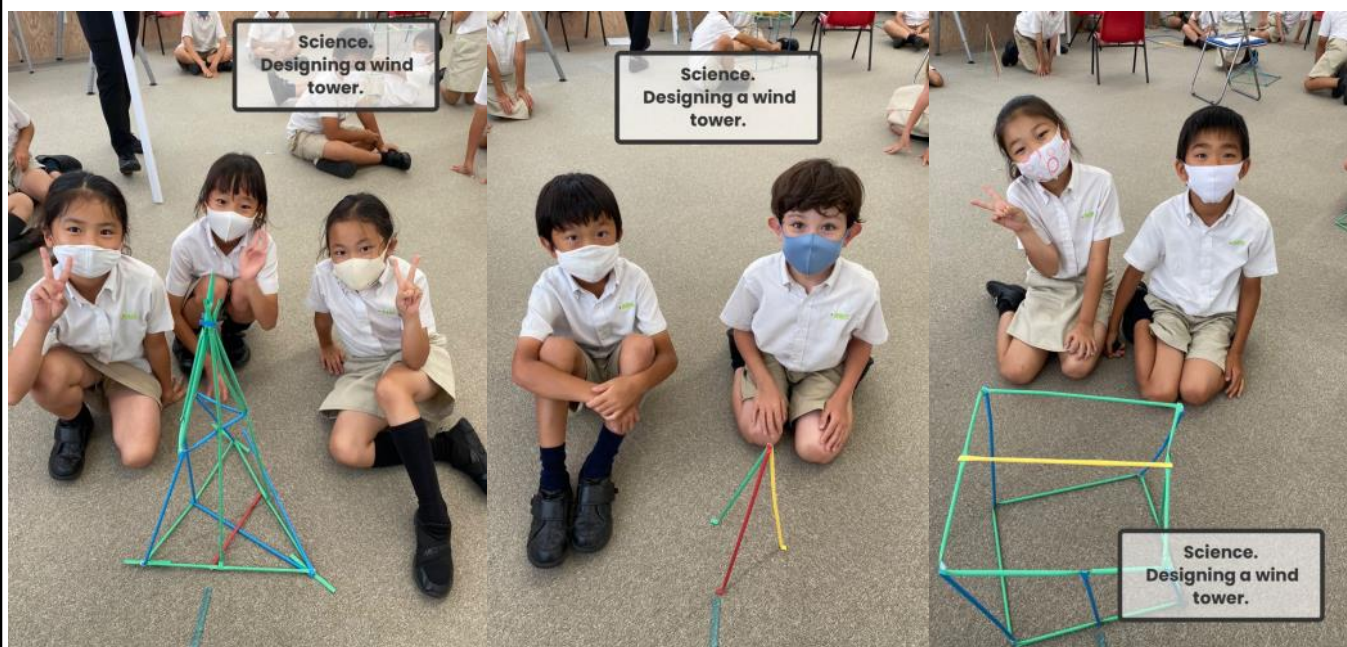
G2 Are Acting and Student-Teaching

In G2G students have been learning about traditional tales in English. They learned the story of Cinderella, and then looked at many different variations of this story from around the world. In the pictures below, they are listening to the Iraqi version of the story, 'The Golden Slipper' and acting it out with their bodies. In G2Y the children have been serving as student-teachers in different subjects, giving them greater ownership of their learning and allowing them an opportunity to present orally as well. After all, they say that once you've taught something, you'll never forget it!



Can Your Tower Stand Up To Grade 3?

In science this week, students worked in teams to design and construct free-standing towers which they tested with different levels on the classroom fan to simulate the wind. The students and staff were equally impressed with the strength of the towers and how well they held up to the powerful 'wind'. It also allowed for a great conversation about why certain designs were better able to stand up to wind forces.





What's the Weather Going to be Like, G5 Weather Reporters?

This week, students in G5Y utilized the school's green screen and to make multimedia weather forecasts. The students studied about the possible paths and power of Typhoon Haishen. This is all part of their study of natural disasters in science. We were very impressed at how well the video productions turned out. The students worked collaboratively and used their creativity to design and produce quite different weather forecasts. Keep up the great work, G5!



Oh, How Much We Enjoy the Library!

G6G have had a great start to the term, working tirelessly each day to improve their skills and knowledge. Each week, library time with Mr. Hall affords them with a much-deserved change of pace and the students are able to select a book of their own interest and settle in to a comfortable spot to read. No wonder they enjoy this priceless reading time so much in the MIS Media Centre. Thanks must go to Mr. Hall for keeping the shelves continually stocked up on the latest books and for making the space so welcoming and conducive for the enjoyment of reading.





Out and About at MIS!



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