



# Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 339 – Friday 22 January 2021

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



As the Head of School and as a parent, I continue to be impressed at just how proficient our MIS students are at in both English and Japanese (not to mention children with a third or fourth language as well). I know all too well that this is because of a shared community vision of developing our children's languages equally and competently as well as great focus and efforts of teachers, students, parents and support staff giving students numerous opportunities to develop their bilingualism.

Moreover, our students are culturally flexible and confident - knowing when and to whom to speak either English or Japanese to and using appropriate greetings or expressions in the right situations. Oftentimes at dismissal, students happily say, "See you tomorrow!" to me and then pass by Orii-san, bow and say, "Sayonara!" to him. We are giving our students a real gift - the gift of being global citizens!

## Grade 2 Bring Japanese Story to Life!

This week, G2 are learning the story "KASAKO JIZO" in their Kokugo lessons. They practicing reading this story aloud as a group to develop their understanding of the meaning of the words and scenes as well. Well done everyone!



## Calendar

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

### Monday 25 January

G1 & 2 Swimming - Day 3

### Tuesday 26 January

Grade 1 Spelling Bee

### Wednesday 27 January

Grade 2 Spelling Bee

G1 & 2 Swimming - Day 4



## Upcoming Student Council Sponsored Spirit Days

### Friday, February 12th - Non-Uniform Movie Time

Dress up as a favorite movie character and enjoy popcorn & a movie!



### Friday, March 12th - Non-Uniform Play Day

Bring a toy, game or craft to share with friends!



Students & Staff pay 100yen to participate. All donations go to the Red Feather Campaign to support those in need.



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Innovative Bilingual  
Education for an  
Ever-Changing World



From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



### MIS Art Exhibition Brings Students' Creativity to the Forefront

Greetings from MIS! In this week's Nanohana, I would like to highlight some of the positive outcomes that Seesaw has brought to our teaching and learning experience at MIS. We have been using the platform for almost a year now and during that time, it has become an essential tool in our teaching toolkit. Before we began using the app, Mr. Citrano and I hoped that the use of Seesaw would enable children to make their learning progress more visible for parents and provide them with a way to record their learning over time. I am pleased to say that the use of Seesaw has helped us to meet that goal and more.

Impressively, each week there are approximately 800 items posted, 1000 pieces of feedback shared by teachers, children and parents, and 1000 visits to children's journals by parents. This amazing level of engagement really supports our children's developing self-esteem and pride in their work. The constructive feedback given supports their growth as learners. I am sure you look forward to seeing your child's new Seesaw posts and we aim to make sure that every child has at least two new items in their journal each week. The environmental impact has also been pleasing as we are using a lot less paper these days.

Furthermore, we have been satisfied with the use of Seesaw as an effective communication tool between teachers, parents and children. When I was teaching in G6G, I valued the use of Seesaw as a communication tool and I did not miss the use of the old communication books at all. I hope you too are enjoying the ease of communication that Seesaw enables with your child's teachers. If you have any other ideas for ways to use Seesaw in support of your child's learning, I would like to hear from you. You can either send me a message to my Seesaw Inbox or to my email address at [deputyhead@mis.ed.jp](mailto:deputyhead@mis.ed.jp).



### HOUSE POINT TOTALS

**MIDORI STILL ON TOP THIS WEEK!**



### Exciting Week of Learning in G6G!

Another busy week up with the Grade 6 Green Team! They've been working through developing their understanding of figurative language and poetry. They even made a shared poem about Donald Trump! They began developing their understanding of block coding and created their own mini sports games, too. Super fun!



**SALE**

**School Photo Sale**

Sports Day photos are being sold until Feb 05

Order at:  
<http://snapsnap.jp/>  
 Passcodes sent home previously.



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# Kindergarten News

From Mrs. Laura McKeown, Kindergarten Coordinator




## Enjoying Being Outside

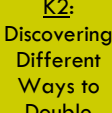
Being outside in nature is a great way for children to develop their physical and social skills. This week, the children in Kindergarten have continued to love being outside. During Japanese time, the children worked hard to build and decorate their very own kite. To celebrate, they enjoyed time outside flying their kites in the wind. They watched their kites dance in the wind and enjoyed letting them fly high and low.



The children have also enjoyed being outside during morning break and lunch. It is great to see the children think of new and creative ways to spend their time; some children have even begun organising games with their friends such as 'tag' and 'What's the time, Mr Wolf?'. If you are visiting the park this week, why not try one of the new games found in this article title [18 Fun Outdoor Games for Kids?](#)





**K1:**  
Practicing Writing their Names!



**K2:**  
Discovering Different Ways to Double Numbers!

**K3:**  
Measuring Weight, Height & Length!




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## It's All About Poetry for Grade 5 Green

This week in G5G, the children studied Michael Rosen's poem 'Words are Ours'. They developed their poetry reading techniques by focusing on pitch, pauses and the overall performance. The children really enjoyed watching themselves back on Seesaw to evaluate their work.



## G2 are Gaming to Save Animals

The students in G2 are learning about how humans impact endangered species in both negative and positive ways. They are creating a board game to show their understanding. In the spaces on the board, they are writing positive or negative impacts on endangered species. The idea is that when playing the game, if a player lands on a positive impact they can move forward, but if they land on a negative impact they must move backwards!



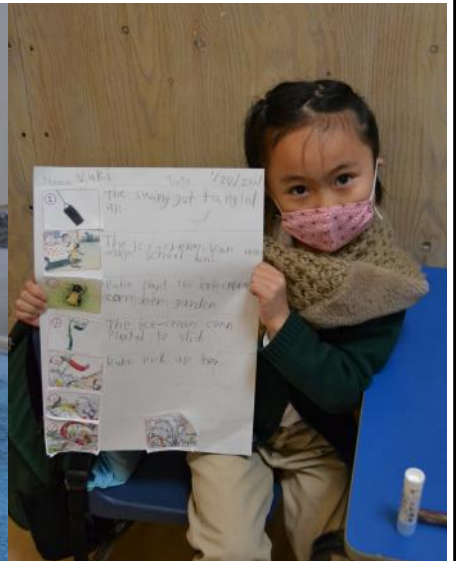
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# Out and About at MIS



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