



Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 346 – Friday 12 March 2021

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



MIS was abuzz with anticipation and excitement on Wednesday morning as the children arrived at school. On this Transfer Day, they were full of wonder as to who their new teachers would be and what they would be like. We even had new future MIS Grade 1 students join us as part of their transition from Kindergarten to Elementary School. Those children and their parents were equally excited.

As I walked around classes, the students, teachers and teaching assistants were so engaged in not only getting to know each other but also in a myriad of activities. It was really remarkable to see just how many different kinds of learning opportunities were taking place. The children were so happy and proud to move up to their next grade! Their smiles told the whole story.



For the Grade 6 students, this time became the beginning of their last days at MIS and the beginning of their Graduation rehearsals. The G6 students were full of nerves and excitement as well in anticipation for their big day. I am happy to report that even after one rehearsal, these fantastic students are already prepared - no surprise really, given how impressive they have been as a cohesive and supportive group this year. Can't wait to celebrate with them next Friday!

On Thursday at 2:46pm, the school observed a moment of silence in memory of those lost in the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. Many classes took time during the day to discuss what happened on that fateful day and how communities are still recovering today. We will continue to keep the people of Tohoku in our thoughts and prayers.



Transfer Day Fun!



Calendar

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

Tuesday 16 March

Board Meetings

1:00-2:30pm, 3:00-4:30pm

Wednesday 17 March

PTA Board Mtg - 1:15pm

Friday 19 March

Last Day of School

K3 Graduation - 9:45am

G6 Graduation - 1:20pm

20 March - 01 April

Spring Holiday

Friday 02 April

First Day of 2021-2022

School Year

(No Opening Ceremonies)



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From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



Greetings from MIS. In this week's edition of Nanohana, I would like to update you all about some exciting upcoming technology developments at school. As you know, over the last few years, we have been developing the school's ICT provision. Over the past 4 years, we have replaced all of our network, servers, laptops, desktops and iPads as well as upgrading our Wi-Fi systems and installing a iMac Media Suite as well as a green screen. Currently we are sharing iPads across two grades in the elementary which originally only had a handful of apps. Of course it was essential to provide professional development to the teachers on how to use them to enhance learning. They were a great hit with the staff and children and ever since then, year on year, we have added to the number of devices available and the number of suitable apps for educational use, which now amounts to over 50 apps.

The positive impact on learning from using these devices is clear to see, especially on Seesaw, so next year, we will have our biggest ever roll out of new devices. We will purchase enough extra sets to be able to provide 26 devices per grade in elementary. We will also be purchasing a number of additional devices to share in kindergarten. To support stable internet connections, we will be updating our Wi-Fi system and network connectedness. This additional investment in technology will enable us to continue to meet our vision of being an innovative school that provides cutting edge technology to support our children's learning. All this has been made possible by the dedication of the ICT Team, so our thanks goes out to them for supporting the improvement of our ICT infrastructure at school.



Grade 4 Dance, Dance, Dance!

The students in Grade 4 have been working hard to create some fantastic dances in PE. All the children worked brilliantly in small groups to design their own choreography to a beat of 4, matching the song 'The Hustle'. Cinematography was masterfully handled by Isaac, and a huge thank you to Mr. Satterwhite for the tunes.



HOUSE POINT TOTALS

MIDORI STAY ON TOP!



Lost & Found

The Office will dispose of Term 3 Lost & Found items on Friday 19 March.

Please check for missing items before then.

Thank you!



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Kindergarten News

From Mrs. Laura McKeown, Kindergarten Coordinator



Spring Time and New Beginnings

This week the children have enjoyed noticing the changes of the season when outside. Our beautiful tulips that we planted in Term 2 are beginning to bloom outside the kindergarten building. This has resulted in a sense of wonder and awe - "This tulip is red. What colour will this one be?", "The tulips are growing! I can see their petals!" We have also used this opportunity to reflect on how much the children have grown and developed "I am growing too... just like the tulips!"



As the end of the academic year approaches the children have enjoyed spending time with their classmates and preparing for their next grade. The children even had the opportunity to meet with their new class teacher on Transfer Day which was a great opportunity to put the children's worries at ease. Each day we can hear the K3 children preparing for their Graduation Ceremony which will take place next week. The staff are going to miss the K3 children so much but we know that they are ready for their next adventure. If you see a K3 child next week, remember to wish them a 'Happy Graduation!'



K1:
Examining the Kindergarten Tulips!



K2:
Performing Pollution Experiments and Making Lego Sea Creatures!



K3:
Using Beebots for Coding!



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For Grade 1 Students Introduce K3 to Elementary Life

The G1 children have been working on making a video in Kokugo lessons for the K3 children to introduce the daily school life in Grade 1. They talked in small groups about what the K3 children want to know, then wrote scripts and now are practicing to talk in front of the camera. We hope the new intakes enjoy it! These photos are of the children writing their scripts and practicing their talks.



It's All Statistical in Grade 5

This week in maths, G5G created their own short statistical enquiry. They displayed their data using a range of different graphs. Some children explored the most popular mask colour and the reasons for this choice (white). Other children collected data on drink choices in Grade 5. Interestingly, tea was the most popular choice among the children.





MIS Cheer Dance Club



Lesson Time: Tuesday 3:30-4:30

※Location and time may vary.

練習場所と時間帯が変更になることがあります。

Monthly Fee: 8,000 yen

※Face to Face Lesson: 2,000 yen / Online Lesson: 1,500 yen

Instructor: 村田 綾子 (Ayako Murata)

Instructor for the Japan Cheer dance Association

日本チアダンス協会インストラクター

<http://www.stars-smiley.com>

色摩 唯 (Yui Shikama)

Performances and Events scheduled:

Bazaar, Sports Day, Bay Town Events

バザー スポーツデイ ベイタウンイベント

Competition 1~2 times/year

(JAM Fest, Dance Drill, etc)

**Go! Cheer!
Dance!!!**



MIS Dolphins Cheer dance team is now recruiting new members!

Cheer dance emphasizes team play, building up basic physical strength and flexibility as well as developing sportsmanship to work hard toward the goal. Children will learn not only cheer dance but also the spirit of cheer.

MIS Dolphins チアダンスクラブは現在チームメイトを大募集中です！

チアダンスはチームプレイです。リズム感や基礎体力、柔軟な体作りといった技術の上達と共に、表現力や笑顔を通して明るい気持ちと前向きな心を育て、チアスピリットを培います。是非みんなと一緒にチアダンスをしましょう！

Smile for one, Smile for all! Come join the fun!



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