



# Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 344 – Friday 26 February 2021

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



We look forward to celebrating student success as the school year ends. Reports go home today which will let you know of your child(ren)'s progress so that you can celebrate their growth and achievements with them at home. Of course, we greatly anticipate meeting with you all at next week's face-to-face Parents' Evenings on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday night.

Additionally, on our last day of school, we will have the K3 and G6 Graduations where our Kindergarten and Elementary Graduates will be formally recognized. Prior to that, we will be holding Awards Ceremonies in individual classes to acknowledge the amazing work of our Class Citizens, Leading Learners and a host of other special honors. These will be filmed and shared with parents online. Our G6 students will fittingly receive their awards at Graduation.

Looking ahead to next school year, I wanted to let you know that we will continue to follow the MIS Return to School Operation Protocols to prevent the risk of spreading COVID-19. As a result, we will continued to have revised or limited events and activities. For instance, we will not be holding Opening Ceremonies. On Meet the Teachers Evenings, we ask that only one parent per student attend to allow for social distancing.

While we will not be able to restart after-school clubs and activities in Term 1 and will not be able to host the annual MIS Bazaar in May or Summer School in July, we will go back to having ten sessions per term of swimming at each of the Elementary grades. Term 1 will be Grades 5&6, Term 2 will be Grades 3&4, and Term 3 will be Grades 1 & 2 in the 2021-2022 academic year.

We sincerely appreciate your continue support and understanding as we do everything in our power to keep students in the classroom and our entire community safe and healthy.

*Thank you*  
**FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

## 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 01 March

MIS Staff Appreciation Day

### Tuesday 02 March

Parents' Evenings

K1 - 1:40pm – 4:30pm

K2-G6 - 3:40pm – 6:00pm

### Wednesday 03 March

Parents' Evenings

K1 - 3:40pm – 7:30pm

K2-G6 - 3:40pm – 7:30pm

### Thursday 04 March

Parents' Evenings

K1 - 1:40pm – 4:30pm

K2-G6 - 3:40pm – 6:00pm

## Upcoming Student Council Sponsored Spirit Day



**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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From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



## Putting Social and Emotional Health at the Forefront

Greetings from MIS. In this week's edition of Nanohana, I would like to touch upon the subject of social and emotional learning and the positive work done by Tokyo English Lifeline (TELL). The development of children's social and emotional understanding seems more important than ever during the Covid-19 pandemic because the day to day changes that have been forced upon children has required them to rapidly adapt their approach to pretty much all aspects of their school lives. They deserve credit for the flexibility and adaptability they have shown to the challenges of social distancing, strict hygiene expectations and mask wearing, and most children go about the day with good spirits and a determination to overcome all challenges.

That said, their adaption has been underpinned by lots of guidance and support from you and their teachers. Do you wonder from time to time, who can you turn to if you need guidance and support about how to cope during these unprecedented times? Needless to say, we are here to support you as much as we can, and will happily answer any questions you may have or give you guidance should you need it about school related concerns. Additionally, you may also be pleased to hear about TELL, which is a Tokyo based organization whose mission is to provide effective support and counseling services to Japan's international community and its increasing mental health needs.

TELL regularly informs us of the various events they have and these are advertised in the window next to the front office. Alternatively, you can visit their website at: <https://telljp.com/> to get the most up-to-date information about their service. We do hope that all is well with our families but want to reassure you that in hard times, you are not alone and that you can reach out to us or TELL for support should you need it.

## HOUSE POINT TOTALS

### ROSSO MOVING UP THE RANKS!



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## TELL'S EXCEPTIONAL PARENTING PROGRAM INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)

What is social emotional learning? In this workshop, parents will learn the first step in SEL: how to identify feelings. We will practice a few strategies to help your child understand and manage their emotions.

Presenter: Dr. Yamashita received her PhD in School Psychology from the University of Utah, and has worked at the Nationwide Children's Hospital Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders in Columbus Ohio.



**FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2021  
9:30AM - 11:00AM  
LOCATION: ZOOM**

FREE, DONATIONS APPRECIATED  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT OUTREACH@TELLJP.COM  
REGISTER: [HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/PMFB2MBT7WVDEMGT8](https://forms.gle/PMFB2MBT7WVDEMGT8)

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## Kindergarten News

From Mrs. Laura McKeown, Kindergarten Coordinator



### Striving for Excellence

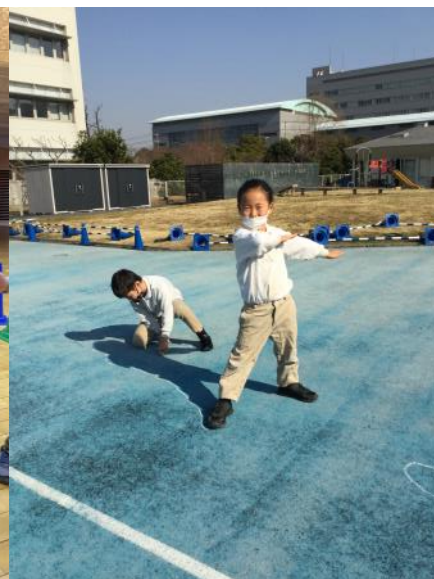
As a kindergarten team we constantly evaluate our classrooms and building in an effort to make the environment welcoming and pleasant for both adults and children alike. After the children responded so positively to our new cloakroom area we decided to ask - What else could we improve?

Outside the children noted that some of the picnic benches were a little too small for some children so we recently bought new outdoor chairs for the children to relax on. When they arrived, the children were quick to make circles so that they could speak to each other or use them for a fun game of 'duck, duck, goose'. Further to this, the children have also expressed that they enjoy reading books in class libraries but could no longer sit with friends on the little sofas due to social distancing. To solve this problem, we also purchased some comfortable individual chairs which have been so popular in class.

Listening to children's views and ideas allows them to have a sense of ownership and control over their environment. When you visit next week for Parents' Evenings, keep your eyes open for all the improvements we've made to our environment. Continuing to improve our environment with the children's best interest at heart is a sign of a truly brilliant school. We hope you think so too!



**K1:**  
Doing  
Super Hero  
Exercises  
in PE!



**K2:**  
Gymnastics!  
Gymnastics!  
Gymnastics!



**K3:**  
Exploring  
Shadows  
and the  
Movement  
of the  
Earth!

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## *The Kindergarten Children Love Their New Furniture!*



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## For Grade 4 It's Multi-Step Multi-Media Time!

G4 have begun a multi-step, multi-media art project that will be evolving as they create. The students created the first component by using large and small arm motions that cross from right to left and vice versa; this uses both hemispheres of the brain and engages them wholly on their task. The children loved it! They also explored the way paint resists different materials. They're ready for Step 2 now. They'll keep you posted as to what comes next!



## Protecting Endangered Species is a Priority in G3G

Grade 3 Green researched endangered animals during their ICT and English lessons. They then prepared slideshows about their animals using Apple's Keynote software. This week, they presented their slideshows to the class. Thank you for being passionate about taking care of our planet, G3 Global Citizens!



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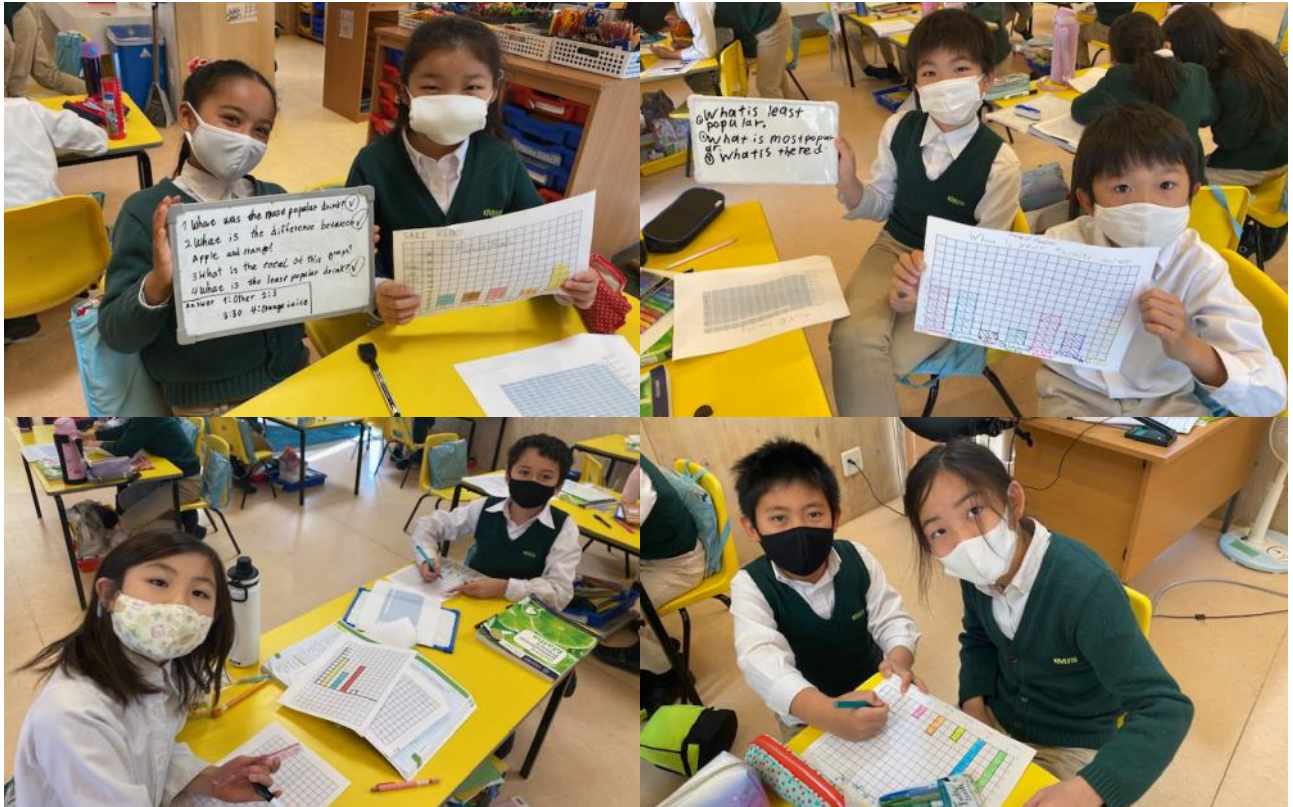
## Grade 2 Students Create Effective Animal Habitats

G2G have been researching endangered animals and will design a zoo habitat for a selected animal. Their goal is to design a habitat which will contain everything the animal needs to survive and live a happy life. This week in Art, they sculpted their animal with air dry clay.



## Grade 3 Handle Data with Skill

Grade 3 collaborated together to collect and analyze their own data. They first thought of questions they wanted to find the answer to, imputed the data onto Socrative, did an online survey with the iPads, then worked together to interpret and present their findings. They also made quizzes and presented to the class. Well done G3Y!





*Don't Forget to Donate Used Clothing to JFSA!*

