



# Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 348 – Friday 16 April 2021

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



A crucial part of being a parent is knowing what our children are learning so that we can support at home as well as to foster interest in those topics outside of school. Every half-term at MIS, we issue Curriculum Overviews for each grade to parents so that you



know what content is being covered. You can find your child(ren)'s Curriculum Overview at the bottom of the Elementary and Kindergarten Curriculum pages on the MIS website.

Kindergarten Curriculum Overviews: <https://www.mis.ed.jp/learning/kindergarten/>

Elementary Curriculum Overviews: <https://www.mis.ed.jp/learning/elementary/>

A friendly reminder from the PTA to please sign up for the upcoming Zoom MIS PTA General Membership Meeting on April 20th at 1:15pm. Please follow the link in the email sent out on Thursday to sign up. The email also contains the login details for the Zoom meeting. We hope that many of you will take part!



Lastly, the Chiba Nishi Police stopped by the school recently to ask us to tell parents to be particularly careful when dropping off or picking up their children in front of the school. They are very concerned about either a traffic accident or a child/parent being struck by passing vehicles. Please always use your emergency hazard flashing lights when stopping in front of the school to make your car more visible. Please take extra special care with the children as they are getting into the car. We certainly want everyone to be safe!



## K2 Develop Strong Number Sense

The students in K2 are very good at matching amounts of objects to a written number up to 10. Practice makes perfect!



## 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 20 April

K1-G2 Dentistry

PTA General Membership Meeting on Zoom - 1:15pm

### Wednesday 21 April

G5 & 6 Swimming - Day 2

### Thursday 22 April

G1&2 Internal Medical Checkup

### Friday 23 April

Urine Test 1

Student Council Elections

Sakura Medal Book Bowl



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Innovative Bilingual Education for an Ever-Changing World



From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



Greetings from MIS. During the elementary school ICT time this week, students have completed a reading assessment called the New Group Reading Test (NGRT). The test generates information about students' reading age and a standardised score for their current age. This information is important for teachers at this time of year and will be used in a variety of ways such as: differentiating the difficulty of the reading materials used in class, creating guided reading groups, creating support groups for lessons and assigning Oxford Reading Tree books according to reading ability. Who would have thought that data from one test could be put to so many uses?

During the tests, the students were all fully focussed on doing their best and tried to show their teachers how much their reading had improved since taking the test last year. The results will be ready for teachers to use and share with the students next week. If you have any questions regarding the test outcomes, I am sure that your child's teacher will be happy to answer them.

To better support our students reading development, Mr Mills has been setting up all of the Bug Club accounts for K3 to G3 (K2 will begin in the third term). Each child was given a bookmark with their login details, and this will enable them to access Bug Club at home. For Grades 4 to 6, Mr Mills has created a Read Theory account for each student. They have been eagerly reading on that platform and complete regular quizzes to support the development of their reading comprehension. The out-

comes from the quizzes also help the children know their lexile score, which they can refer to when selecting an appropriately challenging library book. Please support your child at home with these apps and ask them to show you their progress. We are very pleased with how the apps support reading development, and they are a great addition to the traditional reading books that we send home each week.



## HOUSE POINT TOTALS

**MIDORI IS ON TOP!**



Please sign up for the April 20th PTA General Membership Meeting via the link sent by email to all parents on Thursday.



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## Kindergarten News

From Mrs. Laura McKeown, Kindergarten Coordinator



### World Earth Day

This week the children have enjoyed learning about World Earth Day which will be celebrated on April 22nd. We considered how we protect our Earth in our day to day actions and discussed what else we could do. The children were proud that they always placed their litter in the trash, brought water bottles to refill each day and travelled by bikes and feet where possible.

This year's theme of World Earth Day is Restore our Earth. The children suggested that perhaps we could plant more trees and plants in our kindergarten to restore our Earth. We thought this was a wonderful suggestion so we have already planned to buy more plants and seeds for the children to plant. If you have any suggestions as to how Kindergarten can become more eco-friendly please let us know.



K1:  
Creating  
Salad  
Spinner  
Art!

K2:  
Making Koi  
Nobori  
for  
Children's  
Day!

K3:  
Exploring  
Houses from  
around the  
World and  
Digitally  
Drawing and  
Labelling  
Emotions!



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## Having a Blast with Maths in Grade 4

Grade 4 found out that Maths is fun this week when they practiced their rounding skills. They sang along to [Numberock](#) to recall their rounding facts and then used cards to multiply and round in a game of Tic-Tac-Toe. Lots of skills were used and their Maths knowledge is getting stronger each and every day.



## Grade One Students Prepare to Introduce Themselves

The students in Grade 1 are making their own name card, めいし, in Kokugo this week. First, they practiced holding a pencil with the correct grip and writing their names very carefully. All of their names were written beautifully! Their name cards also have drawings of their favorite things so that the children can introduce themselves to their new friends and teachers.







## Grade 6 Experiment with the Fire Triangle

As part of their learning about combustion, the students in Grade 6 Green varied the amount of oxygen available to an open flame and recorded the effects. They are learning that fire needs 3 key things to stay alive (called the 'Fire Triangle') - oxygen, fuel and heat. Awesome Science Experiment + No Burnt Fingers = SUCCESS!



## For G3Y, It's Patterns, Patterns, Patterns!

As part of their learning with our school's new spelling and grammar curriculum, students in Grade 3 Yellow explored patterns in words, including double consonant, single consonant patterns before 'le' endings. Students then practiced these letter patterns in their writing with the goal that they consistently integrate these patterns in their writing correctly.







## Sakura Medal Book Bowl 2021 - Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

Next Friday the MIS Sakura Medal Book Bowl Team 2021 will face off against 10 other schools in the annual Book Bowl Competition. This year for the first time the Book Bowl will be an online competition. It will still be lots of fun and a big challenge for our super reader team. They have been doing their best to read as many of the 20 Sakura Medal 2021 Chapter Books and prepare themselves for the ultimate book battle. The team is made up of Grade 5 & 6 students. Wish them luck!

### BOOK BOWL - TEAM MIS

Masafumi Yamamoto Karin Ito Julien Moen Nicole Kaunda

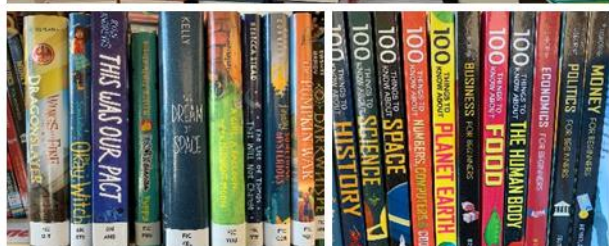
Shixiao Liao Nanami Kinoshita Kotaro Shinoda Sayuri Yamashita

Kate Nishihara Juwon Song Eriko Morita Hiroatsu Jo



### Media Centre Library Update: NEW BOOKS!!!!!!

Lots of new books are making their way to the Media Centre Library shelves and many more to come! Happy Reading!



# MIS PTA Newsletter

We can help create the best possible environment for learning and growing.

## PTA General Meeting

**April 20th Tuesday, 2021**  
**1:15 - 2:15 PM on Zoom**

Please click the link below to sign up by April 19th Monday

(Please complete the survey even if you cannot join the meeting.):

<https://forms.gle/FRAXUv25MRaNaV5Q6>

Matters to be discussed -

1.PTA Activity Report

2. Increasing the amount of money that officers can approve:

Favor to ask parents to raise the amount of money that officers can approve from  
100,000 yen to 200,000 yen.

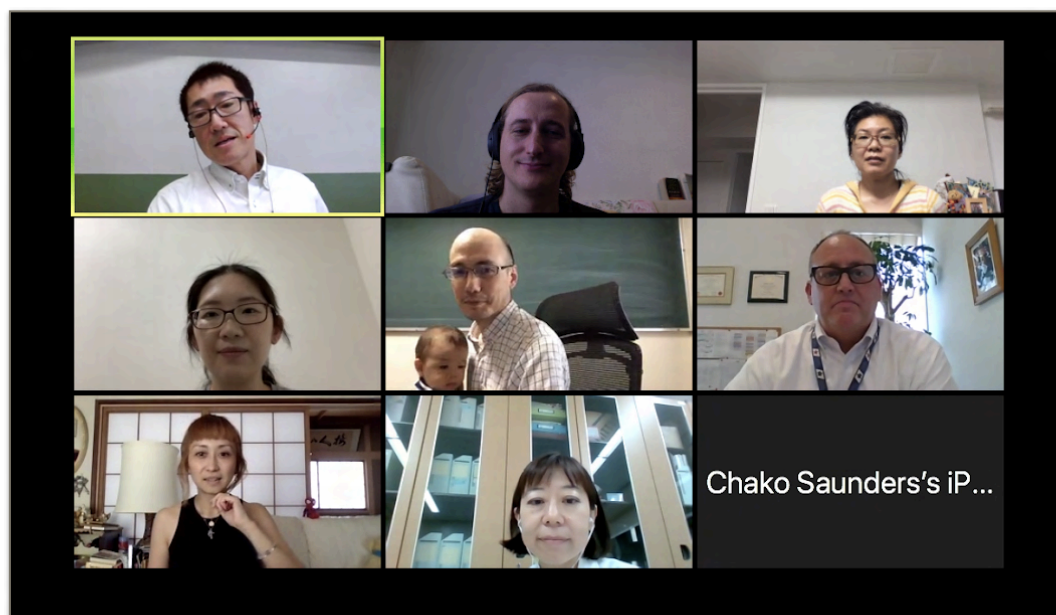
3. Plan for school year 2021-2022

### Greetings from the PTA president

Good day. Welcome and welcome back to MIS. I am happy to greet you in the cherry blossom season this year too. I also appreciate all of the teachers and staff because students of the elementary and kindergarten looked very happy despite our present situation of the COVID-19 at school. Today, I would like to invite you to the PTA officers of this school year. PTA officers are representatives of all the parents that support our children through the PTA activities during one school year. We can feel the school's atmosphere and interaction with teachers. You don't need to attend all of the meeting if you are busy. You can join us if you are interested in PTA activities. PTA officers have a meeting every third Tuesday of the month, from 13:15 to 14:15 on zoom ( for the meantime ).

Atsubumi Taguchi

## Volunteer Opportunities



Whatever your personality, lifestyle or schedule, there are many ways to contribute and make a positive impact.

### Join us! ~ Seeking New PTA Officers ~

We have Zoom meetings on the 3rd Tuesday at 1:15- 2:15 pm every month. Some people think volunteering for the PTA is a huge responsibility and a never-ending commitment of time, but we'll prove that's just not true.

**We will honor your time constraints and never push you to commit more than you want or are able to do.**

Watching kids having a good time and knowing you helped make that happen is a great feeling.

Ready to join? Sign up from the link (on the page 1) and check out the many opportunities to get involved! PTA Board Elections will be held during the general meeting on April 20th.

### What does the PTA do?



### Fundraising

PTA have donated the playground equipments such as swings and triple bars.



### Charity Events

We believe that setting a good example of volunteering is important.



### Appreciation

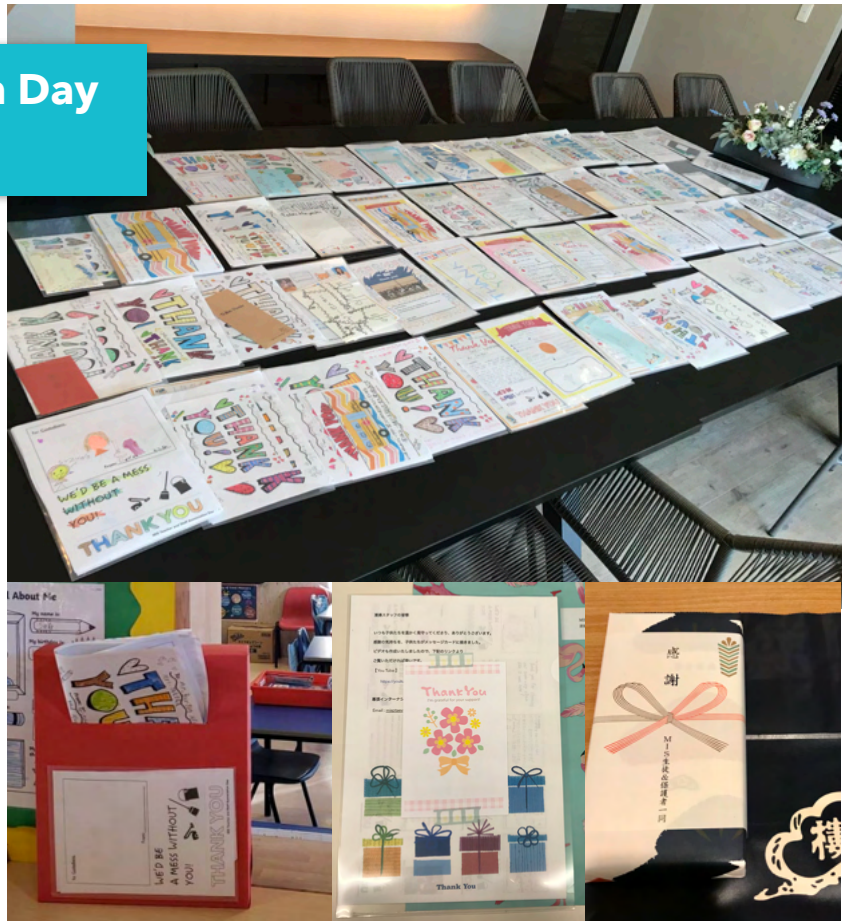
We show how much our staff and teachers mean to us with appreciation events.



## Teacher and Staff Appreciation Day March 1st, 2021

A big thank you to everyone who helped our Appreciation Day a Success! We've received 516 thank you cards and 42 photos from students and parents. These cards and gifts were handed from Mr. Citrano to each teacher and staff.

On behalf of the parents, we would like to thank our teachers and the entire staff for the relentless efforts they put in each day to ensuring the success and enrichment of our children.



Upcoming  
event!

## Road Safety Week May 10th - 14th, 2021



To help create an environment where children can walk or bicycle safely to school, the PTA is looking for parent volunteers who can help monitor crosswalks around the school during the Road Safety Week, from May 10th to 14th, 2021. Further details coming soon.

For more information, visit [www.mispta.com](http://www.mispta.com).

If you have any questions, feel free to contact [misptaevent@gmail.com](mailto:misptaevent@gmail.com).