



Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 350 – Friday 30 April 2021

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



It has been such a treat to enjoy watching and listening to our students perform in the various Music Recitals throughout the week. It is very clear that these young musicians have put in hours and hours of practice as their performances were truly remarkable. As solo performers or in duets or groups, students sang as well as playing the piano, violin guitar, and the drums (even as young as 4 years old!).



We hope that you enjoyed the videos that were sent out to all parents via email. Please have a look through the photos below and on page 6 of this week's edition of Nanohana. Congratulations to all of our performers on sharing their amazing gifts and talents with us.

If you are the parent of a student in elementary school, you likely noticed a change in the homework this year. As a school, we have done a lot of research on the best practices for students learning spelling and grammar effectively. The research is clear that simply giving students a list of spelling words on a Thursday and asking them to take a spelling test on a Monday, does not help students remember how to spell or use those words effectively in their writing. Instead, the focus should be on teaching students about the origins, structures, and patterns within and among words and giving students activities to reinforce these patterns within their own writing. The same goes for grammar. So we have acquired new spelling and grammar curricula from Schofield & Sims and will now be incorporating not only the phonics work in the younger grades but also vocabulary development, spelling pattern work, and grammar throughout the grades. We are looking forward to seeing the students then applying their new knowledge and skills in their own writing.



Calendar

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

Sat-Sun 01-09 May

Golden Week Holiday
No School

Monday 10 May

Summer Uniform Begins

Wednesday 12 May

G5 & 6 Swimming - Day 4
K2 & G1 Ophthalmology
G4 Eye Colour Perception Testing

Thursday 13 May

G1-6 Physicals & Eye Tests
G1,3,5 Hearing Screening
G1 ECGs

Friday 14 May

Urine Tests 2
G5 Rice Paddy Planting
G4 Children's Day
Japanese Assembly
Global Citizenship Time in Elem Creative Studies
(G3-6 students should make sure that their GCA Journals are at school)



Makuhari International School
3-2-9 Wakaba,
Mihama-ku
Chiba City
Chiba 261-0014

Tel: 043-296-0277
Fax: 043-296-0186
Email: info@mis.ed.jp
www.mis.ed.jp



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From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



Greetings from MIS. Last Friday, we held our annual Student Council Elections and it was a wonderful display of eloquent speaking and wonderful ideas that had the best interests of all at MIS at heart. The elementary student votes were counted by Mr Citrano and I, and we can now confirm to you all the elected Student Council Representatives for each class. Congratulations go to those who were chosen for the position. The runners up will also be able to help the representatives throughout the year so their ideas and enthusiasm will not go to waste.

Student Council Representatives

G1G – Shu Muto G1Y – Sena Aoki G2G – Mei Oscarson G2Y – Sakura Nakashima
G3G – Daiki Mills G3Y – Liam Kawauchi G4G – Cecily Winkler G4Y – Marina Suzuki
G5G – Takanori Watanabe G5Y – Yuito Tsukahara G6G – Yui Ishii G6Y – Kotaro Shinoda

Student Council Alternates

G1G – Rin Miyajima G1Y – Anna Fukano G2G – Harry Lockley G2Y – Reinosuke Fukuda
G3G – Otaro Yamamoto G3Y – Shun Nin G4G – Yuito Murota G4Y – Eliot Werry
G5G – Sota Ikegami G5Y – Jayden Kawauchi G6G – Shogo Muto G6Y – Junnosuke Kittaka

HOUSE POINT TOTALS

NILA IS MOVING UP!



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***Congratulations to our Newest
Student Council Representatives!***



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Kindergarten News

From Mrs. Laura McKeown, Kindergarten Coordinator



MIS Has Talent

This week the children were excited to be part of a Music Recital which was organised by our very own music teacher, Mr. Satterwhite. For some children, this was their very first time going to a music recital or their first time performing but the excitement from the other students was infectious and soon everyone could not wait for the big day. I want to say a huge congratulations to our performers who demonstrated great bravery at such a young age. Everyone was blown away with each performance and it was easy to see the hours of practice that must have been put in - thank you for this. As Mr. Satterwhite said, there will be more music recitals in the future so please keep practising and we can't wait to see who else at MIS has talent!



Finally, I want to say a big Happy Mother's Day to all of our MIS families. I hope you enjoy the gifts the children have made for you. Have a wonderful Golden Week and we will see you after the holiday.



K1:
Making
Friends
And
Exploring
the
Alphabet!

K2:
Story
Mapping
In
Language
Time!

K3:
Describing
and
Making 2D
Shapes in
Maths &
Role Play-
ing as
Jungle
Explorers!





Grade 4 Focus on our Earth

G4 focused on Earth Day in their science lessons this week, discussing ways we can help our planet. They used their observation skills on a nature scavenger hunt, finding a variety of leaves, grasses, flowers, scents, insects and more. They marked their findings on their sheets and took photos to use in their future art and ICT lessons.



Global Citizenship in Action in Grade 6

G6Y students spent time preparing the ground to plant spring flowers as part of their Global Citizenship efforts – beautifying the school grounds. The students worked on preparing the soil for planting seeds. They wanted to contribute to improving the view of the courtyard beside the library. A lovely way to spend some time on a sunny Friday afternoon.



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MIS Students Excel at Sakura Medal Book Bowl

On Friday, April 23rd our amazing MIS Book Bowl Team fought a hard battle against 9 other competitive schools from around Japan. They did not win the Book Bowl title this year but did a fantastic job representing MIS. Our 12-member team put in many long hours reading this year's Sakura Medal Chapter Books and prepared themselves well. The students displayed great teamwork and a true passion for reading! Parents, teachers and classmates should be proud of their efforts and performance. I can honestly say they have been one of the best MIS Book Bowl teams assembled. Excellent job, Team MIS! Thank you! - Mr. Hall, MIS Librarian



It's All About Research for Grade 5

The students in Grade 5 are learning the value of utilizing a wide variety of resources when doing research to gain not only more information on a topic but also a variety of perspectives. This week, the students researched different countries around the world by using books from our library, the internet, and accessing their own individual and collective knowledge.



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Music Recitals



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