



# Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 387 – May 2022

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



May was a remarkable month at MIS with so much engaging learning both in and out of the classroom. I am fortunate to be able to see that remarkable learning opportunities that our students experience on a daily basis and we hope that Seesaw gives you a glimpse of this too. Please check in regularly on your child(ren)'s Seesaw Journal(s) and provide them positive feedback on what and how they are working independently, in groups or as part of a whole class project.

We also held many significant events, including rich cultural and natural experiences such as Children's Day, Mother's Day, a virtual cultural exchange with a school in New Zealand, and growing a variety of things around MIS - lotus flowers in the pond, sunflowers in the English Garden, vegetables and flowers in the MIS Organic Garden, and (perhaps best of all) sowing the rice in the MIS Rice Paddy (see pictures later in this edition of Nanohana). All rich, real-life experiences for our students!

Pre-School began for our MIS 2 year-olds and their parents. So exciting for them to have their first times in school! Additionally, elementary students focused and did their best as they took the New Group Reading Test (NGRT) to better inform us as to how to best meet their needs as English readers and be able to support and challenge them appropriately.

Thank you to the over 80 parents who were able to participate in the Phonics Coffee Morning presented by Mr. Burton (photos below). If you missed it, please check your email for the presentation, handouts, and videos that were shared on that informative day.

Our PTA is more active than ever planning events for the school year. So much great energy, collaboration, and dedication to not only do what's best for our students but to also bring our community back together after we have been fragmented over the past couple of years. We hope that you will join the MIS General Membership online on Tuesday, May 31st (email invitation was sent this Wednesday - please reserve your spot). Also, please keep an eye out for a fun family event coming up on Saturday, June 25th - sponsored by the MIS PTA and held here on campus. Let's come together and reunite as a community!



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## Upcoming Events

### Monday 30 May

G5&6 Swimming - 1 pm

### Tuesday 31 May

PTA General Membership Meeting via Zoom  
12:15pm-1:15pm

### Wednesday 01 June

G5&6 Swimming - 1 pm

### Wednesday 08 June

G5&6 Swimming - 1 pm

### Monday 13 June

G5&6 Swimming - 1 pm

### Wed-Thurs 15-16 June

Individual Photos & G6 Group Photo

### Tuesday 21 June

PTA Board Meeting via Zoom 12:15-1:15pm

### Friday 24 June

G1 Trip to Hanamigawa Traffic Safety Park

### Wednesday 29 June

G5&6 Swimming - 1 pm

Innovative Bilingual Education for an Ever-Changing World



From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



Greetings from MIS. This week, I have the pleasure of celebrating a shining example of the academic success of our students. In February 2022, students from Grades 3 to 5 participated in the International Schools' Assessment (ISA), a programme developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) and designed specifically for international schools. The test provides MIS with a means to compare the academic performance of our students with other international school students.

What follows are facts about the test:

- ⇒ Over 34,000 students took the tests at 161 international schools in 450 countries.
- ⇒ 4,509 students took the Grade 3 tests; 4,723 took the G4 tests; 5,920 took the G5 tests.
- ⇒ For purposes of making comparisons, schools are grouped according to their majority home language. MIS was listed as a Group 1 school. Group 1 schools have 15% or less of their pupils whose native language at home is English.

When looking at the overall results, the MIS school community can be greatly reassured that our students' achievements compare very well to all other groups. In all subjects, MIS averages are significantly above the averages for other Group 1 schools. In all subjects, the MIS results are better than the Asian Schools' averages and the All Schools' averages. You can see these results in the chart below. Well done to the students, they deserve great credit. Should you need any further information about our ISA test results, please contact your child's teacher via Seesaw.



## ISA Average Scores Comparison

Grade 3	MIS Grade 3 Average	Group 1 Schools	Asian Schools	All Schools
Mathematical Literacy	429	321	334	330
Reading	363	277	327	306
Narrative/Reflective Writing	386	331	360	354
Exposition/Argument Writing	432	391	415	407
Grade 4	MIS Grade 4 Average	Group 1 Schools	Asian Schools	All Schools
Mathematical Literacy	516	414	405	399
Reading	420	315	371	367
Narrative/Reflective Writing	431	386	415	413
Exposition/Argument Writing	477	443	461	461
Grade 5	MIS Grade 5 Average	Group 1 Schools	Asian Schools	All Schools
Mathematical Literacy	571	412	443	426
Reading	450	329	406	382
Narrative/Reflective Writing	453	402	459	439
Exposition/Argument Writing	523	447	492	474

**HOUSE POINT  
TOTALS  
ROSSO JUMPS  
UP TO THE  
TOP!**



**SALE**

### School Photo Sale

Music Recital photos are being sold until June 13, 2022.

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



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## Kindergarten News



**K1:**  
Reading in  
the Library,  
Creating  
Surprises for  
Mothers' Day,  
and Going on  
a Shape Hunt!



**K2:**  
Learning How  
to Write,  
Making  
Koinobori,  
and  
Celebrating  
Mothers' Day!



**K3:**  
Creatively  
Painting  
Their Own  
Self-Portraits  
and  
Reinforcing  
their Phase 2  
& 3 Phonics!



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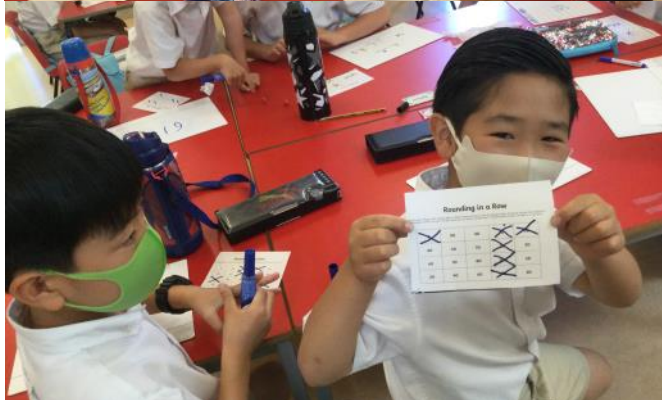
## Grade 1 Double Up on their Learning!

In G1 Maths, children practiced their doubles math facts to 20 by playing doubles bingo and coloring by number! The students truly enjoyed seeing who would win. They even forgot they were doing math!



## For Grade 2, It's Rounding, Rounding!

G2 is just finishing up their unit on place value, focusing on rounding numbers to the closest 10. Whenever possible, we try to incorporate games and hands-on activities to make learning engaging and interesting. Here we are playing a bingo game with dice to practice rounding.







## Growing and Recording Results in Grade 3

G3 have been taking great care of their sunflowers and have been rewarded with some fantastic results. Their tallest plant so far is 33cm! They have done some wonderful scientific illustrations monitoring the growth of their plants over the past 6 weeks. We can't wait to see if we get some flowers this term.



## Grade 4 Get Creative with Self-Portraits

Grade 4 have been studying Still Life Art using pencils, chalk, and pastels. They used their new blending skills to create self-portraits using oil pastel crayons. Pretty impressive, G4!



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## Grade 5 Have an Amazing Week!

Grade 5 welcomed the newest member of the MIS Community, G5G teacher Mrs. Roberts, with open arms! They were so happy that she could join them in time to plant the MIS Rice Paddy - so squishy in the fresh, wet mud. They also connected with students from Matamata Intermediate School in New Zealand, both learning about Kiwi and Maori culture as well as sharing about Japanese culture.



What a great month Grade 5 have had! Besides our daily work we have chilled out in the library, completed the NGRT reading test and welcomed a new teacher to G5G!



But there's more- we also zoomed Matamata Intermediate School in New Zealand and planted rice in the MIS paddy!



## Grade 6 Sew Up a Storm (or at least Aprons)!

The Grade 6 students are busily customizing and sewing their very own aprons (which they will use in Term 2 cooking lessons) in Home Economics! There's a lot to do – cutting out patterns, ironing pocket squares, and starting to hem the edges of the aprons using the sewing machines. Everyone did a terrific job in this lesson!



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### Grade 6 Make their own "Haru wa Akebono"

The students in Grade 6 have been improving their Japanese essay writing using one of the oldest essays in Japan called "Makura no Soshi" known as "The Pillow Book" by Sei Shonagon. G6 made their own writing about their favorite time of the year. They even used special paper with classic words and styles.



# Preschool



*MIS Pre-School Children & Parents Love MIS!*



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## *Grade 5 Plant the MIS Rice Paddy!*



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