



# Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 394 – January 2023

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



January has been a month of new beginnings and experiences, ushering in the New Year. As part of our celebration of local culture, the children in kindergarten enjoyed making mochi with the giant wooden mochitsuki barrel and mallet while the students in elementary practiced painting shuji during Calligraphy Week. As always, we were incredibly impressed with the quality of the shuji that our students were able to demonstrate.

Grades 1 and 2 began swimming at the Chiba International Swimming Centre, and by all accounts they have already made great progress. MIS student artwork was showcased at the annual Art Exhibition, with a record number of students' works being shown (please read more about this in Mr Hall's article on the next page). We are ever so proud of the gifts and talents that our students display throughout the year!

Additionally, students in Upper Elementary and Lower Elementary competed in the annual MIS Spelling Bees. These amazing spellers spent hours and hours practicing long lists of tricky words to prepare, then first had to win their classroom competitions before moving on to these elite spelling bees. We are delighted to announce the top spellers in our MIS Spelling Bees...

## Congratulations to this Year's

## MIS Spelling Bee Champions!

**Upper Elementary Champion - Zeze Zhang**

**Upper Elementary Runner Up - Eliot Werry**

**Lower Elementary Champion - Kanata Ueki**

**Lower Elementary Runner Up - Ota Ueki**



In addition, the MIS PTA donated over 330,000yen in books to fill up each grade level's shared library for students to enjoy and to enrich the reading they have available to them. You can see a photo on p. 7 of the joy on our students' faces as they opened the box of donated books for the first time! THANK YOU, MIS PTA! Next week, we look forward to the MIS Maths Challenge where students will compete in teams to complete a wide range of truly challenging activities all centered around not only developing their mathematical thinking and problem solving, but also their teamwork.

## Upcoming Events

### Monday 30 January

G1 & 2 Swimming  
MIS Maths Challenge

**1, 6, 8, 27 Feb + 1 March**  
G1 & 2 Swimming

**Wed-Fri 01-03 February**  
Grade 5 Residential Trip

**Tues-Wed 07-08 February**  
G3-5 ISA Tests

**Thursday 09 February**  
New Parents Orientation &  
Uniform Fitting

**Mon-Fri 13-17 February**  
Science Week  
Science Fair (Thu 16 Feb)

**Tues-Fri 14-17 February**  
G6 Snow Trip

**Monday 20 February**  
G4 Japanese Test

**Wednesday 22 February**  
PTA Staff Appreciation  
Luncheon

**Thursday 23 February**  
Emperor's Bday - No School

**Friday 03 March**  
Reports Home



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



Greetings from MIS. In this month's edition of Nanohana, I would like to update you about the Chiba Prefecture Private Schools Association Annual Art Exhibition 2023. The exhibition ran from January 15-24 and included works of art from 46 MIS students. The selected pieces were chosen from the entries submitted for the Winter Performance programme design competition and displayed the artistic talents of the MIS students from K1 to Grade 6 very well.

The exhibition was hosted at the Colton Plaza in Ichikawa. During the course of the exhibition, approximately 1,700 visitors enjoyed the art on display. I hope you were able to take your children along to see the exhibition and perhaps now want to visit other art galleries with your children. There are many fantastic galleries in Chiba and Tokyo that you could spend hours in together gazing at wonderful artwork. My favourites are the Hoki Museum in Chiba and The National Museum of Western Art in Ueno Park. Both museums contain hundreds of fascinating paintings that should inspire your children to pick up a brush and see what they can create for themselves.

Congratulations to the artists that had their work displayed. One day, their artwork may also be on display in a national gallery but, until then, we will continue to encourage excellent artistic expression at MIS and celebrate our creations together.



## HOUSE POINT TOTALS

**Wow, Rosso!**



**SALE**

## School Photo & DVD Sales

Winter Performance photos, DVD's & Blu-ray discs are being sold until Feb 28, 2023.

Order photos at: <http://snapsnap.jp/> and discs at <https://q-shashin.co.jp/movie> Passcodes were sent home previously.



On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mr Mills and Mr Hall visited Otaki in Chiba to deliver the books that were kindly donated by the MIS community during Book Week. Volunteers from the Isumi Railway were on hand to receive the mixture of titles that were both in Japanese and English.

The aim of the Itetsu Project is to deliver donated books to those that need them, and use the profits to revitalize the local community. Thank you for your generosity and willingness to share your love of books with others.

If you would like to know more, please visit <https://itetsubooks.club>

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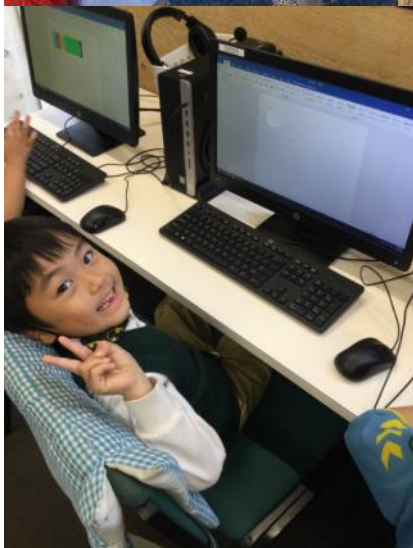
## Kindergarten News



K1:  
Making  
Gruffalo  
Pizza  
and  
Segmenting &  
Blending in  
Phonics!



K2:  
Pounding  
Mochi  
and  
Crafting with  
Dinosaurs!



K3:  
On a  
Transporta-  
tion  
Discovery  
Walk  
and  
Working on  
their ICT  
Skills!



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## Grade 1 Create Their Very Own Autobiographies!

In PSNS, Grade 1 have been learning about growth and development. They have been using photos from different stages in their development to create an autobiography. They are making predictions about what they will be like in the future.



## Grade 2 Brings Maths to Life!

To make Maths lessons more interesting, the students in Grade 2 have been using manipulatives and technology to enhance their understanding and engagement. Here, students are learning about time using mini-clocks and reviewing their understanding of time through an online activity.



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## Grade 3's Trip to the Steel Factory Gives Lifelong Memories!

Grade 3 went to visit the JFE Steel Factory in Soga for a tour and to learn about the process of making steel. It was a fun day and they had to wear safety hats and gloves for their guided tour of the facility. They were able to see the different stages of making sheets of steel that are used for the production of automobiles, canned goods and even the 'kairo' heat patches that we all can use to keep warm in winter. Afterwards they got a chance to have lunch and play in a local park despite the cold.



## Grade 4 Create Gorgeous Mosaics!

Grade 4 have been learning about the history and use of mosaics in their art lessons. They created their own mosaics from colored construction paper. We think that you'll agree that the results were very creative and colorful! Beautiful, Grade 4!



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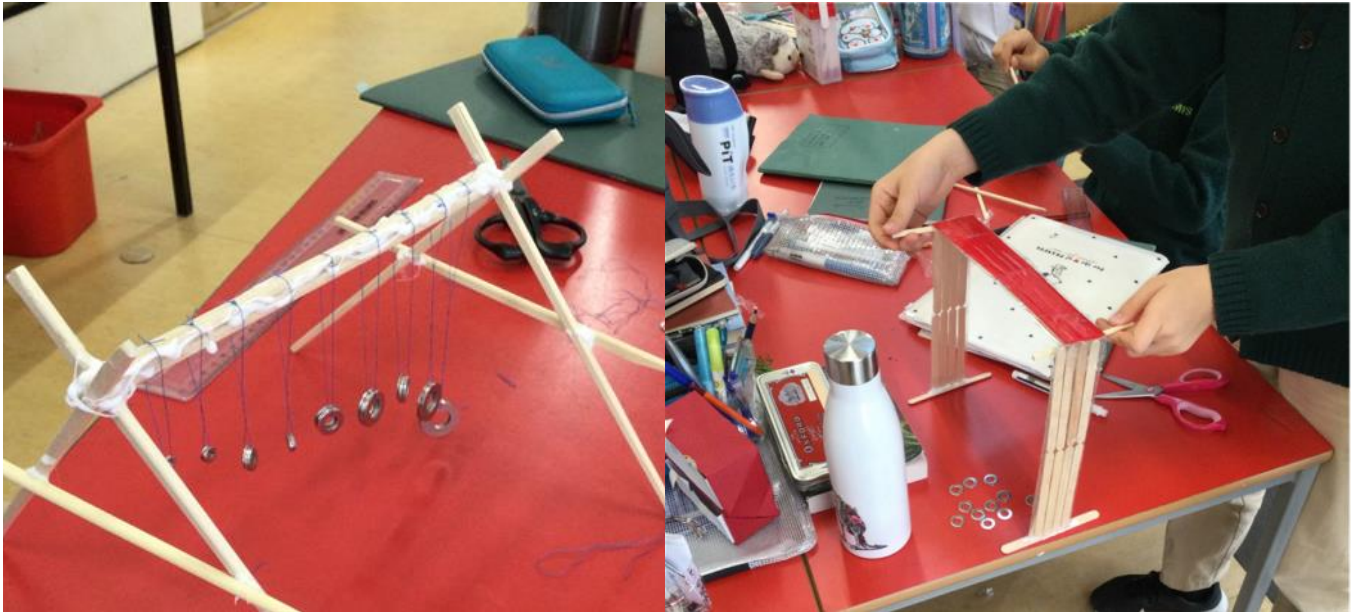
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## Grade 5 Experiment with Different Variable to Create Effective Pendulums!

In Grade 5, student learned the science behind how pendulums work based on Newton's three laws of motion. Using different lengths of string and different types of washers, students created pendulum art pieces. It was so impressive to watch the students experimenting with these different variables and log the results. Well done, Grade 5!



## Grade 6 Plan Meals on a Budget with a Trip to the Grocery Store!

Last Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, some of the G6Y students travelled over to Aeon Style to do some price checking. In Term 3 Home Economics lessons, the students are working in groups doing meal planning, which includes working within a budget. The G6's discovered how much the ingredients for their dishes would cost. An interesting, fun, useful trip to the supermarket!



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## Grade 4 Superstars Win Big with their Japanese Essay Writing Skills!

Osuke Kimura (G4Y) and Minato Hachiga (G4G) won a prize in an essay contest, 『夏のチャレンジ 全国小学生『未来』をつくるコンクール』, sponsored by Benesse Corporation. Their certificates haven't arrived yet but they are delighted with the news. Well done, boys!



## Out and About at MIS



**Thank You for the Book Donations, MIS PTA!**



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