



Nanohana – MIS Newsletter

Edition 403 – December 01, 2023

From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School



As we quickly approach the winter performances and holidays, it is a nice time to celebrate the successes of our school community over the past month.

I am happy to say that as a result of our combined efforts during the Terry Fox Run on November 4, 2023 and subsequent fundraising, we were able to raise ¥267,000 to the Terry Fox Foundation, a charitable organization in support of cancer research. Together, as internationally-minded global citizens, we are making a positive impact on our world by fighting cancer! Thank you to all who participates and/or donated to this worthy effort!

The following week we held a flawless Lockdown Drill which we practice in the case of an intruder. The students and staff ensured that all doors and windows were locked, all lights were out, and that everybody was out of sight. As part of the inspection team, I can tell you that it was as if there was nobody on campus. Rest assured that in the extremely rare event that we have an intruder, we are doing everything we can to ensure the safety of everyone at the school. Well done, MIS students and staff!

The Grade 4 Science Sleepover was a great success as well with students doing a wide variety of science-related activities, eating a delicious pasta dinner, enjoying a movie with hot cocoa and cookies, sleeping in the Hall overnight, and waking up early for a quick muffin with juice before heading home in the morning. The children's faces that you can see later in this edition of Nanohana tell the whole story. A huge THANK YOU to the staff who prepared & ran the activities and chaperoned the sleepover. You have given the students precious memories!

Other highlights of the month included the Student Council-sponsored Camping Spirit Day in school where children created forts and enjoyed games and books with their lanterns. Students donated ¥100 each to the Red Feather Campaign to make a positive difference in the lives of many in need all across Japan. Additionally, students put on a number of excellent class and grade level assemblies as part of teaching our Ethics curriculum. We, of course, also celebrated the achievements and efforts of many, many Students of the Week in both kindergarten and elementary. We also were treated with a super adorable performance by the talented MIS Cheerdance Dolphins which filled the hearts of the entire audience with spirit. Their hours of practice are apparent!

Major Dec. Events

Friday 01 December

Science Fair Homework Goes Home
(Due January 22)

Wednesday 06 December

Kindergarten Winter Performance
9:15am (Gates open at 8:55am)
G1-3 Green Winter Performance
11:15am (Gates open at 10:50am)
G1-3 Yellow Winter Performance
1:15pm (Gates open at 12:50pm)

Thursday 07 December

G4-6 Winter Performance
9:15am (Gates open at 8:55am)

Monday 11 December

Board Meeting - 3-5pm

Friday 15 December

G1Y Assembly
Reports Home

Monday 18 December

G4Y Assembly

Tuesday 19 December

PTA Board Meeting - 12:15pm

Wednesday 20 December

Last Day of Term 2

21 December - 03 January

Winter Holiday

Thursday 04 January

First Day of Term 3



Lost & Found

Please make sure you check the school's Lost & Found in the office before Dec 20th as after that items will be donated or disposed of.



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From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



Greetings from MIS. In this month's edition of Nanohana I am excited to share a brief update about the progress we are making with the school's self-study as part of the Council of International Schools (CIS) reaccreditation process. Our self-study is well underway, and the energy among our teachers is contagious. The self-study is a deep dive into every aspect of our institution, evaluating how our practices align with the CIS framework, standards, and our own guiding statements. It has proven to be an enlightening experience, allowing those involved to reflect on our strengths and identify areas for growth.

By the end of the journey, our entire school community will have contributed to the self-study, with diverse perspectives enriching the process. Teachers, administrators, parents, and students are actively engaged, and our domain teams are developing insightful plans to address the criteria we are working towards. Looking ahead, we eagerly anticipate the visit from the CIS accreditation team in August and September 2024. This visit is a crucial step in our reaccreditation journey, providing an opportunity to showcase our progress and commitment to providing an exceptional international education for our children.



Rest assured, we are leaving no stone unturned in our efforts to be reaccredited. The self-study is laying a solid foundation, and we are dedicated to ensuring every aspect of our school aligns with CIS standards. Thank you for your continued support as we work towards achieving and surpassing the high standards set by the Council of International Schools.



HOUSE POINT TOTALS SARI MOVES INTO FIRST PLACE!



SALE

School Photo Sale

Open Day,
Sports Day &
Music Recital
Photos are being
sold until
Dec 13, 2023.

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



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Kindergarten News



K1:
Asking
Questions
About
Their Class
Reading Book
'Handa's
Surprise'!



K2:
Working on a
STEM Activity
Related to
their Reading
- Making
Beanstalk
Towers for
Jack to Visit
the Castle!



K3:
Making
Paper Mache
Planets,
Playing
Money
Bingo,
and
Harvesting
the Radishes
They Grew
From Seeds!



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Grade 1 Utilize Dictionaries to Solve Problems Creatively

This month Grade 1 have been looking at various non-fiction texts including reports and dictionaries. Grade 1 students have had fun learning how to use dictionaries in the classroom. They have been working on different scavenger and word hunts with their dictionaries to show their understanding of how these non-fiction texts work.



Grade 2 Students' School Lives Enriched by their Parents

A big thank you to the amazing parents of G2 who've been hard at work behind the scenes, crafting fantastic costumes for our Winter Performance. Your creativity is making the upcoming show truly special! We also want to appreciate those parents who recently came to our classrooms to chat with our students about their jobs. Your insights have been eye-opening for our kids. We're lucky to have such supportive parents, making Makuhari International School an even better place for our students.



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Grade 3 Experiment with Sound and Vibration

Grade 3 engaged in a hands-on lesson in which students learned about how sound travels using a simple yet fun method involving cups and string. Through this activity, they explored the principles of vibration and how sound travels. They were able to experiment with a taut and slack string and how this affects the waves as they travel. It was great to see them experimenting and talking about how the sound is moving.



Grade 4 Design & Decorate Costumes for Winter Performance

G4 have been getting into the Winter Performance spirit. This week they made T-shirts based on Hawaiian motifs and symbols they researched on the internet. It was a fun process that ended with them using paint to create a silhouetted outline of their designs on their black T-shirts. They are looking forward to showing them off on the performance day!



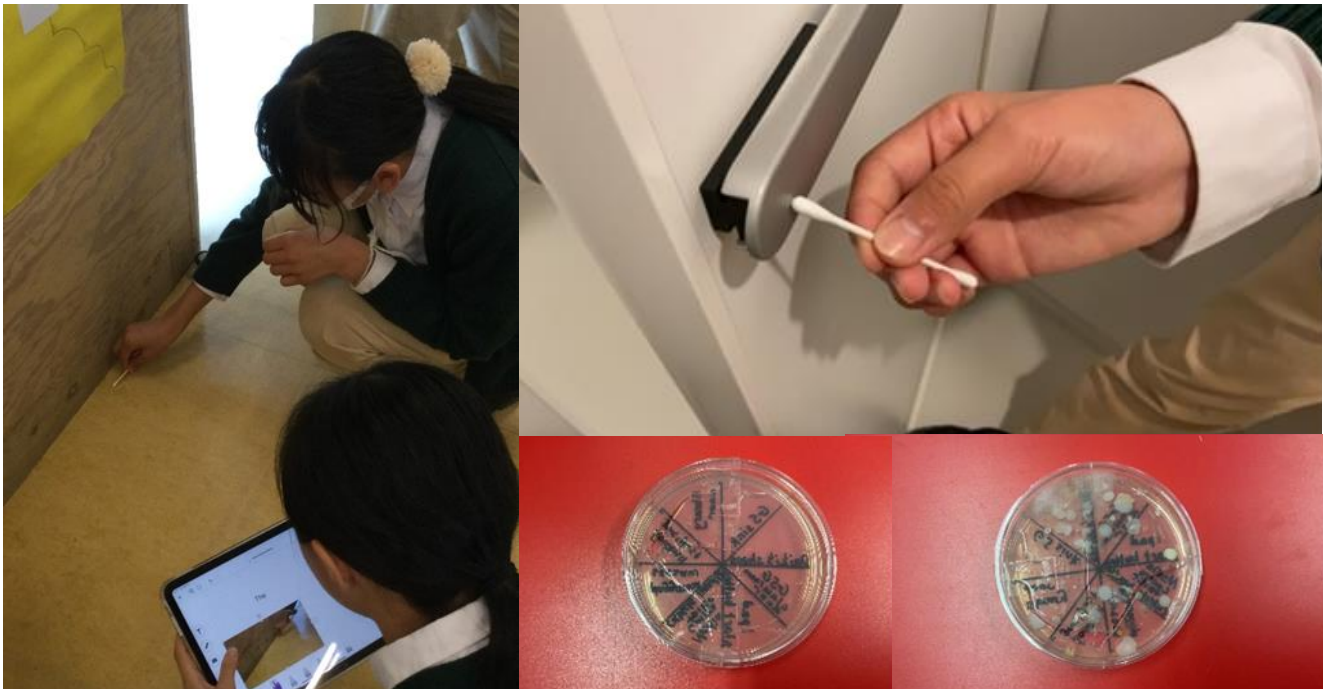
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Grade 5 Explores Whether Bacteria is Alive

The past week G5 grew bacteria in a petri dish. They went around the school and swabbed different areas they thought would grow bacteria. They learned a lot about microscopic life and bacteria growth.



Grade 6 Learn and Live Like Samurai

Thanks to the volunteers from the Chiba City Folk Museum, the students in Grade 6 were fortunate enough to experience being a Kamakura samurai in Japanese Social Studies. G6 students were able to hear how samurai fought in those days, including actually wearing helmets and holding armour. What a rich intercultural-global citizenship learning experience!



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Kids Enjoy Camping Spirit Day

The students across the school truly enjoyed their time together in man-made shelters and their cozy sleeping bags and blankets. Students played games, read books, watched movies and created some inventive crafts. Such an fun way to support the Red Feather Campaign!



MIS Cheerdance Dolphins Wow the Audience!

It is clear how much time and dedication our very own Cheerdance Dolphins have put into preparing for their school performance this week. What a pleasure it was to soak in their school spirit with their great moves and choreographed teamwork. Amazing dancing, girls!



Recognizing Student Success!



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Super Assemblies!



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Super Assemblies and Students of the Week!



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NANO HANA

Terry Fox Run Brings Community Together to Fight Cancer!



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CIS WE ARE AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL
EARCOS
East Asia Regional Council of Schools



Students had a Blast at the Grade 4 Science Sleepover!



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