



# Nanohana—MIS Newsletter

Edition 425 — January 30, 2024

**From Mr. Trent Citrano, Head of School**

Today we had the pleasure of welcome over 120 students from our neighboring Utase Elementary School for a friendly exchange with our Grade 5 students. Students got in groups, introduced themselves, then read English picture books with our students often translating to ensure that the Utase students understood. The children then played fun game of chance together – which was everybody's favorite part.

At the end both MIS students and Utase students gave speeches of appreciation in impressive English and Japanese. One common theme was that they hope to continue to foster the friendships that established today. It was a lovely event for everyone!

This final term is quickly flying by with loads of learning, trips, assemblies, and other events such as the upcoming Grade 6 Snow Trip, the MIS Matilda Musical, Parents' Evenings, the End of Year Awards Ceremony, and of course our K3 & G6 Graduations. I want to thank the entire community for your support in guiding our children. We look forward to celebrating our students' many successes!

## Upcoming Events

**Thursday 05 February**  
New Parent Orientation & Uniform Session

**Friday 06 February**  
G1Y Class Assembly

**Wednesday 11 February**  
National Foundation Day  
No School

**Friday 13 February**  
G4G Class Assembly

**Mon-Thurs 16-19 February**  
G6 Snow Trip

**Tuesday 17 February**  
PTA Meeting – 12:15pm

**Friday 20 February**  
G4Y Class Assembly

**Monday 23 February**  
Emperor's Birthday  
No School

**Thursday 26 February**  
MIS Matilda Musical – 1:15pm

**Friday 27 February**  
Transfer Day – 9-10am  
PTA Staff Appreciation Luncheon  
Last Day of Clubs  
2026-2027 Class Lists Home  
Term 3 Reports Home

**Tues-Thurs 03-05 March**  
Parents' Evenings

**Wednesday 04 March**  
G1 & 2 Swimming – 1pm





From Mr. Anthony Hall, Deputy Head of School



Greetings from MIS. Over the first four weeks of our new STEAM programme at MIS, students from K3 through to Grade 6 have already engaged in a wide range of exciting, hands-on learning experiences. Across the school, children have explored coding, digital design, robotics, video production, animation, and creative computing. From our youngest learners experimenting with touch coding and designing robots, to older students creating pixel art, posters, and digital media, lessons have been carefully designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and confidence with technology.

Students have been applying their learning in purposeful and authentic ways. Many classes have worked on real-world projects such as designing posters for the MIS Bazaar and JFSA donation drive, creating promotional videos for the school, and developing visual designs using industry-standard tools such as Adobe Premiere Pro, Procreate, and Excel. Alongside this, students have strengthened foundational digital skills including typing, file management, sequencing, debugging, and collaborative problem-solving. These experiences allow students not only to learn new tools, but to understand how technology can be used to communicate ideas, solve problems, and work effectively with others.

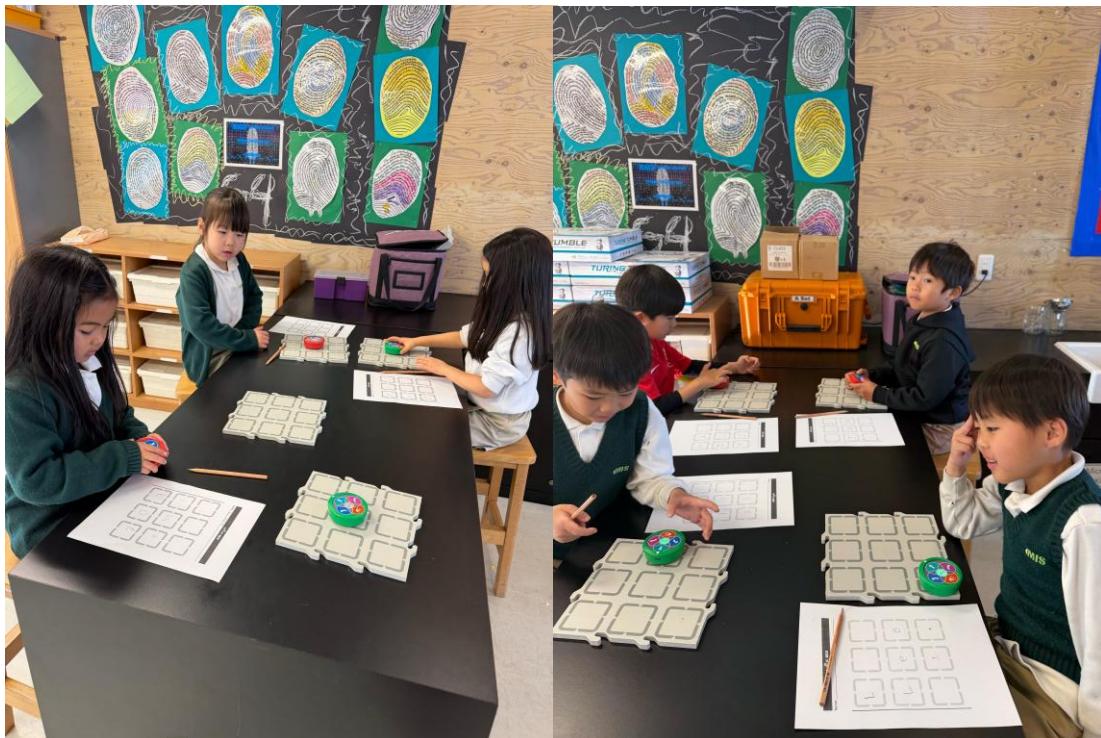
Most importantly, the early weeks of the programme have highlighted the strong connection between STEAM learning and the development of essential 21st-century skills. Students are thinking critically, collaborating in pairs and groups, iterating on their designs, and sharing their learning through platforms such as Seesaw. Co-teaching between class teachers and our STEAM specialist has ensured learning remains developmentally appropriate, creative, and well-integrated with classroom goals. We are delighted with the enthusiasm shown by students and staff and look forward to building on this strong start as the programme continues to grow throughout the year.

## HOUSE POINT TOTALS

**NILA**  
**ON TOP!**



## K3 Students Touch Coding in STEAM Class



**Sale**

Winter Performance photos will be on sale until February 28, 2026.

Order at:  
<http://snapsnap.jp/>

Passcodes were sent home previously.





## Kindergarten News



**K1:**  
Making  
Gruffalo  
Pizza,  
Planting  
Seeds,  
&  
Exploring  
Sinking &  
Floating  
Objects



**K2:**  
Learning and  
Creating with  
Tie Dye!



**K3:**  
Learning to be  
Car Mechanics  
and Ice Cream  
Makers on  
their Trip to  
Kandu!





## Grade 1 Clean Up as Global Citizens

This year, as part of their school Global Citizenship Project, the Grade 1 students have been cleaning the bike area at the front of the school. The Grade 1 students wanted to help create a good impression of the school. When pedestrians walk past and students ride their bikes to school, they have a clean area to place their bike or scooter.



## Grade 2 Get Creative with Sculpture

Grade 2 students have been busy exploring sculpture in Art class. They experimented with a range of materials and techniques, creating foil sculptures, paper sculptures, and radial sculptures. Through these activities, students learned how to shape, balance, and join materials while expressing their creativity. The finished artworks showcased great effort and originality from the students.





## Nanohana

### G3 Get Electric

In Grade 3, the students have been learning about batteries, electrical currents, and mains in their study of electricity. They learned how to construct their own circuit as part of their explorations in science.



### Grade 4 Find Balance in their Lives

In Grade 4, students have been learning about balances and ways to travel in their gymnastics unit for PE. They found different ways to move and hold positions across different apparatuses.





## Nanohana

### Grade 5 Explore Pendulums in Science and Art

Grade 5 students explore pendulums through hands-on experiments and creative art projects, discovering how motion, length, and gravity affect movement. By blending science and art, they deepen their understanding while expressing their learning in visual and imaginative ways.



### Grade 6 Do Research on Electricity Use in Facilities

This week in science class, the students were learning about electricity and how it is generated. Each student chose an electricity producing facility somewhere in Japan and created a short research project about it – its history, the type of facility it is, its location, and the amount of electricity it can generate. Everyone worked hard to produce quality projects.



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## Preparation in Full Motion for the Japanese Winter Performance

During the first week after winter break, the students worked on Kakizome (New Year calligraphy) in Kokugo class. Students in Grades 3 to 6 used brush and ink, while Grades 1 and 2 used pencils. Everyone took their time and worked carefully, putting their best effort into their writing.



## Wonderful Assemblies!





## Amazing Students of the Week!



**MIS** ◀ **MIS** ◀ **MIS** ◀ **MIS** ◀ **MIS**



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