# Gyosei International Primary School Newsletter

February 26, 2024 Issue No. 12





# God is life itself

We are living this way, here and now. Or rather, it is probably more appropriate to say, "We are being kept alive. Our life, both beginning and ending, has been given to us. In the face of this fact, let us mind our words, hang our heads, and give thanks.

One becomes arrogant when he forgets that his life is kept alive by other lives. We are but a speck of dust. But we are not mere dust, but God's beloved dust. In other words, we are fleeting but irreplaceable. By serving each other's life, we are led to true happiness.

"Do not be afraid. I am with you" (Isaiah 43.5).

According to the Church calendar, February 18 marks the first Sunday of Lent, the period of preparation for the Christian Passion and Resurrection. I hope that everyone will make the most of each and every day.

D. Tagawa S.M.

#### Verse for March

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you. -JOHN 15:16-

#### Hymn for March

"Shalom" Catholic Holy Hymn No.314, ("Tomoyo Utaou" p. 80)

#### Motto for March

Let's review all we have learned. Let's keep our school environment clean.

#### Safety Reminder for March

Foresee what will happen to keep yourself safe!

#### **Class Observation and Parents Meeting**

Thank you for attending the last class observation and parents meeting of this school year.

#### Science Study Presentation

We held the 2023 Science Study Presentation on February 10th. Six children participated in this year's event, which was opened to anyone who wished to make a presentation. The children conducted observations, experiments, and research on a variety of topics, including the life history of insects, especially *funanafushi*, dark matter in the universe, black holes, and DNA extraction, and summarized their findings in posters.

On the day of the presentation, a poster session was held. The students explained their findings to their friends, family members, and teachers using gestures. They were like little scientists themselves as they tried their best to explain their research.

The posters are on display in front of the nurse room on the second floor, so please have a look.

## Music Festival

On February 23<sup>rd</sup> (Saturday), a music festival was held in the second gym. In January, many classes were closed due to the flu and many students were absent even when their classes were not closed, so it was not possible to practice as much as expected. However, the students were able to clearly express the individuality of each grade through their youthful singing voices and the sounds of their united instruments.

Since the festival was held separately in two parts, there may have been some performances that you were not able to see. We hope that you will order the DVD and feel the real atmosphere of the performances.

# 2023 Music Festival DVD

We are now accepting orders for the Music Festival DVD. The price is 3,000 yen. Please do not forget to place your order in time. If you are interested in ordering, please fill in the slip with the DVD title, "Music Festival" and the number of copies you want to order and submit it to us by March 16<sup>th</sup> (Saturday).When placing an order, <u>be sure not to order boutique items</u> with the same slip. The DVD will be distributed at the end of April.

#### After School Study and Play

On March 1<sup>st</sup> (Friday), the "after school study and play" will end. It will be the last one of this school year.

#### English Drama Festival (for Regular Course)

Due to preparation reasons, this year's English play presentation has been cancelled. As far as  $5^{th}$  and  $6^{th}$  graders are concerned, it will be held on March  $9^{th}$  (Saturday) as part of their usual classes. The parents of 5A and 6A students can observe the plays. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher if you want to.

#### School Cleaning

The 3<sup>rd</sup> term school general cleaning is scheduled on March 14<sup>th</sup>, Thursday during the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> periods. It will be conducted by students and teachers only. Students need to bring rag towels, gloves and wear their P.E. uniforms. Please be reminded that the school will not provide or lend the stuff.

#### School Year Closing and Graduation Ceremony

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, the school year closing ceremony (Time: 8:40-9:00, Venue: Pilotis) and graduation ceremony (Time:9:30-11:00, Venue: Chapel) will be held.

Students in grades 1 - 5 will be dismissed from school at 10:00, and the school bus will depart at 10:15 after the closing ceremony and homeroom. Please note that this is different from the regular schedule.

#### Questionnaire on How to Commute and on the Passed Certification Test Levels

We distributed the new school year commuting method survey form today, on 25th and a report form of the passed proficiency tests to the  $1^{st}$  -  $5^{th}$  graders on  $15^{th}$ . If you have not received them, please contact your homeroom teacher or the office. The deadline for submission is March  $1^{st}$ , Friday. You can submit them by fax, too. : 0438-52-3856. Even if there are no changes, all students are required to submit them, so we appreciate your cooperation.

- Concerning the 3<sup>rd</sup> English Proficiency Test, the results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> test will be mailed to the examinees from the Eiken office by March 12<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday. The students who took the 1<sup>st</sup> test at the open center are requested to inform the school upon receipt of the results.

- Regarding Kisarazu School Bus, we are going to add new routes from April. Please see the letter distributed today.

# **Religion Textbooks**

The same Religion textbook may be used next year too. Please keep it.

#### French Dictionary Survey

In order to fortify our students with French, we will make a survey on a French dictionary. Please cooperate in it. The deadline for it will be March 11<sup>th</sup>.

## 2024 School Year's School Items

Notebooks and files for the new school year will be purchased at school and given in the classroom in April. New correspondence notebooks will also be provided at the school. Please replenish or replace worn out school supplies (glue, paints, etc.) at home. We are going to place more emphasis on notetaking next school year.

#### Student's School Items and Uniform

Please repair the smock if it has a missing button or a fray on it. Also, if it is dirty, your child will take it home, so please wash it and get your child to bring it to school the next day. Moreover, please make sure that your child's smock is in a suitable size. We see some students not wearing berets. Please make sure they are properly dressed including a beret. Also, please write your child's name on all his/her belongings.

# Commuter Pass for the New School Year.

To purchase a commuter pass for public transportation for the new school year, you will need a certificate of enrollment. If you need a copy, please let your child's homeroom teacher know. We will give a form for it to your child. Fill in the blanks in the smaller part above the dotted line, and submit it with a reply envelope attached with an 84yen stamp. It will be issued on and after April 1<sup>st</sup> and be mailed to your home.

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# Notice from Maria Boutique

Maria Boutique will be closed on March 1<sup>st</sup>, Friday due to the senior high school graduation ceremony.

# About our School Evaluation Questionnaires

Thank you for your cooperation in answering the school evaluation questionnaire and giving your opinions to us. You can view the questionnaire results on our website in March. With regard to your individual requests, we will think them over and carry them out one by one.

# Election of new year's School Council members will be held in March.

We announced in the previous issue of "Akatsuki" that the election of the school council members would be held in February. However, due to preparation reasons, the election will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup>, Thursday.

# Shohei Gloves

The gloves donated by Mr. Ohtani arrived at our school on January 11<sup>th</sup>. They delighted the children so much that everyone said, "I want to use it! I want to use it too!" They were excited saying that "This is really Ohtani's glove?" Their eyes were brightly shining and they were about to fight each other to get it. After all, everyone could try using



the Ohtani gloves. Baseball-loving children enjoyed throwing a ball as hard as they could, pretending to be an Ohtani. "Let's play baseball! Ohtani's message seemed to have been well received.

	Schedule for March	Departure time	After School Study/Play
1(Fri.)	General Assembly Last Day for After School Study and Play Last day of Borrowing Books from the Library (High School Graduation Ceremony)		0
2(Sat.)	Transfer Exam.	13.55	—
3(Sun.)			
4(Mon.)	P.C. for A Course, Grade 3 and up		—
5(Tue.)		14:45	—
6(Wed.)	Last Day for Committee for Grade 5 and up	15:35	—
7(Thurs.)	Student Council Candidate Speeches and Election	14:45	—
8(Fri.)	Last Day of Returning Borrowed Books from the Library	14:45	—
9(Sat.)	English Drama Festival(5A and 6A) (Junior High School Graduation Ceremony)	13:55	—
10(Sun.)	The second se		
11(Mon.)	P.C. for B Course, Grade 3 and up	14:45	—
12(Tue.)		14:45	—
13(Wed.)	Last Day for Club Activities for Grade 4 and up Farewell Activities for Grade 6		—
14(Thurs.)	School General Cleaning Day (5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> period)	14:45	—
15(Fri.)		14:45	—
16(Sat.)	School Year Closing Ceremony (8 : 40 - 9 : 00) Graduation Ceremony (9 : 30 - 11 : 00) Dismissal for grade 1 to 5	10:15	—
	Spring Holidays to April 7 <sup>th</sup>	1	;
	$\sim$ 2024 School Year $\sim$		
April 8 (Mon.)	Opening Ceremony and Entrance Ceremony(9:30 - 11:00) %Regular school schedule for grades 2 to 6. Lunch will be served. %Dismissal time for grades 2 to 6 will be at 12:30	12:30	_
Note	<ul> <li>Maria Boutique will be open irregularly during the spring he them and make sure it is open before your visit.</li> <li>The 2024 school events calendar will be distributed on Sature Inquiries during spring holidays-school office from Mon. to Fu Sat. from 9:00 to 12:00</li> <li>Please do not bring and leave any school items during the spring head of thead of the spring head of the sp</li></ul>	olidays. Ple day, March i. 9:00 to 14	ase call 1 16 <sup>th</sup> . 5:00,