

GOD IS CLOSE TO US!

You will be happier if you learn to talk to God when you are happy, when you are sad, and even when you study or play as if he were your friend who is always close to you. God is not far away. God is in the people around us, so how about trying to see him in them? Jesus tells us in the holy Bible, "What you do to others is what you do to me." People often say that we should do at least one good deed in a day. Your good deed for others will make them smile. Please put yourself in the other person's shoes. By doing so, we can forget ourselves and eliminate our selfishness. Self-centeredness or selfishness, which leads us to think only of ourselves, is the source of all misfortune. If we put ourselves in other people's shoes and do what we think is good, we will be able to improve ourselves, and, in the end, it will make our society a brighter place to live.

D. Tagawa S.M.

Monthly Verse

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

(Heureux les miséricordieux, car ils obtiendront miséricorde.)

(Matthew 5:7)

Monthly Hymn

"Laudate Omes Gentes"

Monthly Quote

"Let's find the good points in our friends and appreciate each other."

Monthly Safety Goal

"Let's keep silent on the bus."

Message from Deputy Principal

The words of Fr. Tagawa for this month's issue of the newsletter teach us comprehensibly how we must live each day. Fr. Tagawa sometimes said, "Children have God's home in their heart". This phrase was taught to Fr. Tagawa by his Japanese teacher of Japanese when he was a junior high school student at Gyosei in Kudan. He also said repeatedly for a while, "Be a person who gives joy to others".

"God is close to us." What does it mean? When I say so to our students, they ask me, "Where is God?" or "Is God a ghost? I always answer, "What is essential is invisible to the eyes". This is a quote from Saint-Exupéry, the author of "The Little Prince". After that, I tell them about Makkurokurosuke from "My Neighbor Totoro". In the movie, they actually appear, but they are not visible to adult eyes. They are visible only to the eyes of children.

The presence of God is Jesus conceived in a womb for Mary. It is Jesus teaching in the form of a young man for the Twelve Apostles, and for us, it is God's presence in our hearts as the Holy Spirit. His presence is invisible to our eyes, but Jesus teaches us, "Blessed are those who do not see and yet believe" (John 20:29). As Fr. Tagawa teaches, when we speak to God in our hearts and in the hearts of our neighbors, and when we do acts of gratitude, there can only be love. Because God is love. John says, "God is love. Whoever abides in

love abides in God, and God also abides in him." (1 John 4:17) Doing good to one's neighbor is, so to speak, a natural response to God's love. Therefore, as Fr. Tagawa teaches, talking to Jesus in your friend's heart is a source of love and peace.

Sport Day

On Sunday the 6th, the Sports Day was held. It was the first experience for the 1st graders and the last for memories the 6th graders. Students happily cheered to each other that echoed throughout the soccer ground. This year, the yellow team won. A lot of thanks to all the parents who came to support and helped during the clean up after the activities, even though some families were unable to attend due to the postponement of Saturday's schedule. We will carefully coordinate the schedule for next year. We hope for your kind



understanding in observing the rules and manners next year as well.

English Test

On Friday the 4th, Eiken was held. Notifications of the test result and the admission ticket to the second test will be mailed to your home on November 5th (Tuesday). The second test will be held on November 10th (Sunday) for level 3, level pre-2, and level 2. Please consult your application forms for test locations. On November 5th (Sunday) is the second exam for pre-1 grade level and grade 1 level. Results for the second test are expected to be sent on November 26th (Tuesday). We encourage students to take the English Proficiency Test at least once a year. Students who have not yet taken the test this year are requested to take the English test that will be held in the 3rd term.

Grade 6 Graduation Trip

From Friday the 18th to Sunday the 20th, 6th graders went on a school trip to Nagasaki. They realized the fear of war through the atom-bombing survivor's lecture and displays at the Atomic Bomb

Museum. They also visited the A-bombed remains with a volunteer guide. On the last day, they went to Huis Ten Bosch and enjoyed attractions and food. No one was absent and we were able to return home without any accidents or injuries. We hope to make the most of this experience in our future studies!



Autumn Educational Field Trip

On Wednesday, October 23, 1st and 2nd graders went to Kamogawa Sea World for a field trip. On Wednesday, November 20, students in other grades will go on an excursion. For further details, please read the letter distributed in each class later on.

Japanese Proficiency Test

The Japanese Language Proficiency Test will be held on November 8th (Friday). 26 students will take the exam.

Class Observation Day

The second term class observation and Science Activity Session will be held on November 9th (Saturday). For details, please read the letter that will be distributed at a later date.

Time: 3rd period (10:35-11:20) and 4th period (11:25-12:10) Time to leave school: 13:00 after lunch Please note that the class observation for 1st grade A class will be held on November 2 (Sat.) during the 5th period, but not on November 9 (Sat.).

Parent Teacher Interviews

From November 9th (Saturday) to 15th (Friday) we will begin holding parent teacher interviews in school and students will be dismissed at 13:00. When you come to the school, please observe the following:

- 1. Please bring your indoor shoes/slippers and shoe bag.
- 2. Please write down your name and time of arrival at the entrance.
- 3. Please wait beside the classroom after that. (If the meeting is not held in the classroom, please wait for the teacher to guide you).
- 4. Students and parents will wait in different places. Students will be waiting in the cooking room. If you, parents, have to wait for your turn, please wait in the library.
- 5. If your child's way of going home differs from his/her usual way, please inform your child's homeroom teacher of the change by communication notebook.

French Proficiency Test

On Sunday, November 17th, the 2024 Autumn French Proficiency Test will be executed in our school, in 4B, 5B, and 6B classrooms. There will be 13 examinees in total including Junior and Senior HS students. There are no school bus services because it is Sunday.

The admission ticket and the notification of results will be sent to each home from the Association.

Schedule: Level 3: 15:20-16:35, Level 4: 12:10-13:10, Level 5: 10:20~11:05

Red Feather Donations

Students of Beautification Committee will be working on the red feather donations next to the staff room during lunch recess. Donation boxes will be placed in the school until November 2nd (Saturday). We appreciate your support.

Admission Tests to Our Junior High School

For our 6th grade students, our junior high school department will be giving an internal admission exam on Monday, December 2nd. The tests will cover Japanese and Math. For International Course, the math test will be in English. For further detail, please see the letter and application form distributed on Monday, October 28th.

Winter School Uniform

During cold days, students are allowed to wear tights without socks to be worn. Wearing anything other than tights is not permitted.

While in school, students are supposed to take off their blazers. If the temperature is cold, students can wear a smock, vest or sweater. During P.E. days, students can wear their jersey. Wearing a sweater and blazers on top of P.E. uniform is not allowed. Jerseys are available in the Maria boutique for purchase.

Maria Boutique

Please be informed about the changes of operating time of the boutique from Thursday, November 14th until Saturday, the 18th due to the Jr. and Sr. high school's half-term break.

Prices of uniforms and designated items will increase from January 2025. Please contact Maria Boutique to confirm prices.

If you want to change the item with another one or different size after you have purchased, please contact the Maria Boutique within a week after the purchase. Please show the receipt or order form to them in that case. Please note that if you damage the item itself, its bag or tag, you can't get it changed.

Students Account Statement Reports

We used to mail a monthly "Students Account Statement" to your home, but from next month, we will hand-deliver it to your child and get him/her to bring it home. We will distribute the statement on the 25th of each month. If you wish to have it sent home as before, please contact our accounting office. (TEL 0438-52-3291) When making money transfer, please do not forget to input your child's name and ID number.

Account information: Mitsubishi UFJ Bank Kisarazu Branch (Savings Account) 0279121 or Chiba Bank Kisarazu Branch (Savings Account) 1100029

Swimming Lesson Fee

Swimming lessons for all classes have finished. The fee was 2,200 yen. The fee for the classes that finished swimming in $1^{\rm st}$ term has been already deducted.

	Schedule for November	Departure	After
		Time	School
1 Fri.	All Students' Monthly Assembly	14:45	0
2 Sat.	Assembly for All Souls Day	13:55	
	Class Observation for 1A (5 th period)		_
	Last day for Red Feather Donation		
3 Sun.	Culture Day		
4 Mon.			
5 Tue.		14:45	0
6 Wed.	Club Activities for Grade 4 and up	15:35	_
7 Thurs.		14:45	0
8 Fri.	Nihongo Kentei or Japanese Proficiency Test	14:45	—
9 Sat.	Class Observation and Science Session Day (except 1A)	13:00	_
	Start of Parents-Teacher Meeting (until 15 th)	10.00	
10 Sun.			
11 Mon.	P.C. for B Course for Grade 3 and up	13:00	_
12 Tue.		13:00	_
13 Wed.		13:00	—
14 Thurs.		13:00	_
15 Fri.		13:00	—
16 Sat.	2 nd Entrance Exam (dismissal after lunch)	12:00	—
17 Sun.	French Proficiency Test		
18 Mon.	P.C. for A course, Grade 3 and up	14:45	—
19 Tue.		14:45	0
20 Wed.	Educational Field Trip for Grade 3 and up	15:35	—
21 Thurs.		14:45	0
22 Fri.		14:45	0
23 Sat.	Labor Thanksgiving Day		
24 Sun.			
25 Mon.	P.C. for B Course, Grade 3 and up	14:45	—
26 Tue.		14:45	\cap
27 Wed.	Committee Activities for Grade5 and up	15:35	—
28 Thurs.	30222222222222222222222222222222222222	14:45	\cap
29 Fri.		14:45	_
20 111.	Workshop for Teachers	11.10	
30 Sat.	New Students Uniform Fitting		
Note	 During the Parents-Teacher Meeting week from Nov. 9th to 15th, there will be no supplementary lessons and activities after school. Dismissal time will be at 13:00 during this period. On Saturday the 16th, the students will leave at 12:00 after lunch due to the 2nd entrance examination. The School will be closed on Saturday, 30th due to a workshop for teachers. 		