



MESSAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR

What kind of year did you spend last year? Let us give thanks to God for a safe and successful year. God has blessed us with a new year. Have you set goals for the new year? Is it about your studies? The reason you come to elementary school is to study. The other reason is to get along with your dear friends. You want to make your friends happy by greeting them and saying good and kind words. This is very important. You study many things, but the deepest study is to cultivate your "heart. The most important thing is to give words, greetings, joy, and smiles to the hearts of others and friends. God's love is given to our hearts like sunlight, like starlight. Let us thank God once again.

D. Tagawa S.M.

★Verse for February

“Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them.” (Matthew 7:12)

★Hymn for February

“Little People”

★Motto for February

“Let's not be discouraged by the cold and play outdoors.”

★Safety Reminder for February

“Forsee what will happen to keep yourself safe!”

◆Message from Deputy Principal

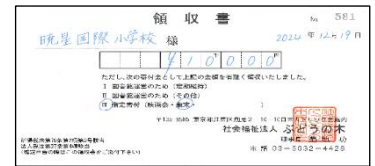
We say “My expression to celebrate the new year to you!” in Japanese at New Year’s. I asked the children at the opening ceremony of the third term why we say so instead of saying “I wish you a Happy New Year.” No one knows if the new year will be a good year or not, but we say “My expression to celebrate the new year to you!” without thinking too much about it. As Fr. Tagawa says at the beginning of his message, I think we say so for the fact that we were able to spend the year safely and welcome the new year. In other words, as Fr. Tagawa says, “God has blessed us with a new year,” this greeting is an expression of thanksgiving for God's grace. Especially for those who are sick in bed or in the midst of the ravages of war, the joy of being alive and the desire to celebrate the new year must be great.

The Lord said to Moses and his brother Aaron, “Bless the people of Israel, and say to them: “The Lord bless you. That is, “May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord turn His face toward you and shine upon you and give you grace. May the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.” (Numbers 6:22-26) So the Israelites prayed for God to be involved in their lives in an immediate and concrete way. Now, in the 2025th year since the birth of Jesus Christ, instead of being concretely involved in our lives with

His physical body, Jesus uses our bodies to be involved in people's life. In other words, as Fr. Tagawa teaches, when you speak a kind word to your neighbor and give him/her joy and a smile, there is Jesus involved. For love comes from God.

◆Thank You for Your Christmas Donation

Over the Christmas holidays we were able to collect 69,119 yen in donations with your generous support. We remitted them to Caritas Japan, Group home for children Nono Hanano and Logos Braille Library for its Christmas fund.



◆Standard Achievement Tests

According to the school event calendar, NRT, standard achievement tests was scheduled to be held from February 4 (Tue.) to 7 (Fri.), but we have decided to postpone it so as to examine the result of the students' academic achievement after completing all the curriculum, and have changed the date of the program as follows:

Period: Monday, March 3 to Friday, March 7

Regular Course: 1st to 4th graders will take 2 subjects, Japanese and math. 5th and 6th graders will take 4 subjects including Science, and Social Studies.

International Course: Japanese only for all grades

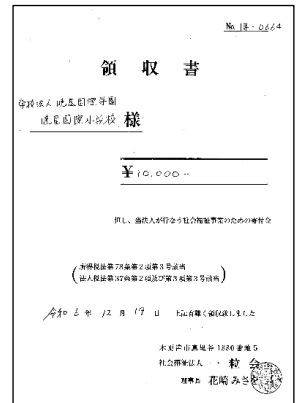
Time for each subject: 40 minutes

Each exam does not affect the annual academic grade of each subject.

Please understand that if you are absent, it may not be possible to administer it at a later date due to scheduling reasons.

Results will be distributed in April of the next school year. Results for the graduating 6th graders will be mailed to their home addresses.

The test fee will be deducted from the student's account at a later date.



◆Parents' Day

The third term class observation and parents meeting will be held on Saturday, February 8. For details, please check the letter distributed at a later date.

Time: 3rd period (10:35-11:20) – Class observation

4th period (11:25-12:10) – Parents' meeting in each classroom

Time to leave school: 13:00 after lunch (all grades)

Others: • Please bring indoor shoes (slippers).

• Write your name in the reception book in each classroom

• You cannot stay in the classroom during the school lunch break.

• If you want to wait for your child to leave school, please wait in the library.

◆2024 Music Festival

The Music Festival will be held on February 22 (Sat.). Like last year, we will hold the event in two parts. The schedule is as follows. Please check the letter and program distributed at a later date.

Time: 1st, 2nd and 3rd grades --- Start 9:00, Scheduled to end 10:20

4th, 5th and 6th grades---Start 10:40, Scheduled to end 12:00

Time to leave school: After lunch, 13:00

We will not be selling DVDs though we did it until last year. We apologize for the inconvenience. Video recording will be available on the day of the event. (Handy camera only).

◆After School Study and Play

From Friday, February 7 to Tuesday, February 11, there will be no After school Study and Play due to the junior and senior high school half term holidays. In addition, there will be some other days to cancel it due to other events. Please check the schedule for February on the back.

◆Making Sure of Proficiency Test Levels

Near the mid of February, we will distribute a form to find out the most recent levels attained by the students in the proficiency tests such as Eiken, Kanken and Suken. If your child has taken a test at an open center outside our school, please make photocopies of the certificates and submit them in to the school with the completed form. Thank you for your cooperation.

◆Gyosei International Primary School Literacy Week: March 3-8, 2025

The English Fair scheduled for March 8 will be held from March 3 to March 8. This event highlights the power of literacy through exciting activities that showcase our students' talents and creativity in these essential skills.

On **March 8**, parents are invited to join us for a series of special presentations in the classrooms:

- **Classroom Play** (Grades 1-6, A Classes) - Expressing creativity through acting and storytelling
- **Speech Presentations** (Grades 1-3, B Classes) - Developing speaking and presentation skills
- **Debate** (Grades 4-6, B Classes) - Sharpening critical thinking and argumentation
- **Spelling Bee** (Grades 3-6, A & B Classes) - Testing spelling and writing proficiency

Additionally, throughout the **Literacy Week**, all students will participate in **D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read)**. At random times during the week, 5-minute reading breaks will be announced over the PA system, giving students the opportunity to drop everything and enjoy a quiet moment with their books. To make these moments even more special, students are encouraged to bring their **favorite English books from home** to school and share in the joy of reading. This initiative fosters a deeper love for reading and provides a relaxing, focused break in the day.

We invite all parents to come and witness how our students shine in **reading, writing, and speaking** as we celebrate the joy of literacy together!

◆Maria Boutique

Maria boutique is closed on Saturday, February 8 due to uniform fitting and measurements for junior and senior high school. Sixth graders who will be attending our junior high school will receive an announcement next week with more information. Please come to the clubhouse during the registration time. From Friday, February 7 to Monday, February 10, business hours will be from 9:00 to 15:00 due to junior and senior high school holidays. Also, you are reminded that students are not allowed to purchase items at Maria Boutique on their own. They should be accompanied by a guardian. The boutique does not accept credit cards or electronic money. Please pay in cash or by student check. Kindly check the balance of your child's account if you use a student check or order slip.

◆School PR

We will be participating in the school briefing sessions for private schools. You will find the leaflets in front of the staff room. In addition, you will find the banners for each briefing session on our school website. Please cooperate in giving the information to your acquaintances.

- Private Elementary School Fair in Chiba:
February 23rd (Holiday, Sunday) Venue: Showa Gakuin Ito Memorial Hall
- Christian school joint fair (*Advance application is required.)
March 20th (Holiday, Thursday) Venue: Aoyama Gakuin Junior High School

◆School Counseling Information

■■■■■ a school counselor, will be visiting our school.

If you would like to schedule a meeting with ■■■■■ please contact your classroom teacher.

Dates and times of visits: Thursday, February 6, Thursday, February 20, and Thursday, March 6

*Only Japanese language support is available. We apologize for the inconvenience.

◆2024 School-related Personal Evaluation

Questionnaires for parents and children were distributed on Wednesday, January 22. We appreciate your cooperation. The questionnaire for parents can also be answered via the web, so please scan the QR code on the right and answer the questionnaire.

◆About the passage of cars in the campus

When driving your own car in the campus, please drive at a very slow speed. Please do not park on the street, as it is very dangerous.

The road between the first school building and the prefabricated school building of the junior and senior high school is now closed to vehicular traffic.

Date	February Schedule	School bus Departure	After School Study/Play
1(Sat)	Guidance on School Life for 2025 Grade 1	13:55	-----
2(Sun)			
3(Mon)	General Assembly P.C. for Grade 3 and up in A course	14:45	-----
4(Tue)		14:45	○
5(Wed)	Committee for Grade 5 and up	15:35	-----
6(Thurs)		14:45	○
7(Fri)		14:45	-----
8(Sat)	Class Observation and Parents Meeting Uniform Fitting for Junior-high School	13:00	-----
9(Sun)			
10(Mon)	P.C. for Grade 3 and up in B course	14:45	-----
11(Tue)	National Holiday – Foundation Day		
12(Wed)	Club Activities for Grade 4 and up	15:35	-----
13(Thurs)		14:45	○
14(Fri)	Math Proficiency Test/SUKEN	14:45	○
15(Sat)	Transfer Exam	13:55	-----
16(Sun)			
17(Mon)	P.C. for Grade 3 and up in A course	14:45	-----
18(Tue)		14:45	○
19(Wed)	Committee for Grade 5 and up	15:35	-----
20(Thurs)		14:45	○
21(Fri)		14:45	-----
22(Sat)	Music Festival	13:00	-----
23(Sun)	National Holiday – Emperor's Birthday Chiba Prefecture Private Elementary School Fair		
24(Mon)	Substitute National Holiday		
25(Tue)		14:45	○
26(Wed)	Club Activities for Grade 4 and up	15:35	-----
27(Thurs)	Student Council Candidate Speeches	14:45	○
28(Fri)	Student Council Election Day Last Day of After school and Play	14:45	○
Note	<p>*The Standard Achievement Test scheduled for Tuesday the 4th through Thursday the 7th will be put off to March.</p> <p>*Please note that the school dismissal time will be different on 8th (Saturday) and 22nd (Saturday).</p> <p>*There will be no after school study and play from the 7th (Friday) to the 11th (Tuesday) due to junior and senior high school holidays. Also, the opening hours of Maria Boutique will be different. Please be aware of this.</p>		