



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, March 9th 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!

Message from Deputy Principal

What did you think when you read Fr. Tagawa's message for this month's issue? "We are but dust" must be a shocking statement. But our lives are finite, and we will all return to dust one day. We will have the challenge of understanding how much we are loved and how much we can love in the time we are given, in the time we are allowed to live. The day will come again this year when the priest will draw a cross of ashes on the forehead of the congregation, saying, "You are dust, and you will return to dust." Ash Wednesday this year is later than usual, on March 5th. From this day until the Day of Resurrection, we will endure Jesus' Passion together for 40 days. During Lent, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are called for. "When you pray, go into your room in the back, shut the door, and pray to your Father who is in the hidden place." (Matthew 6-6) As Jesus teaches this way, if we 'fast' the time in our day that we spend doing what we like to make it a time of prayer, God will be willing to listen to us and show us the way.

Class Observation and Parents Meeting

Thank you very much for taking time out of your busy schedule to come to the last class observation and parents meeting of this school year.

We hope that you were able to see the growth of the children who have studied in the current class over the past year, and we are sure that they have made great progress compared to the first semester.

At the Parents' Meeting, we reported on the students' progress over the past year, and each homeroom teacher shared with you some of the positive things they have seen since April, as well as the improvements that have been made.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the families who have supported us in running our classes this school year. With only about one month left in this school year, all of the teachers and staff will continue to support the children's better growth.

Music Festival

On Saturday, February 22, a music recital took place in the second gymnasium.

Class A and Class B came together to perform songs and instrumental pieces, experiencing the joy of making music as a group. Their homeroom teachers also joined in, cheering them on and observing their progress.

As the students practiced, their voices grew stronger, and their confidence increased. We hope they will continue to sing and enjoy their music classes in the future.

Thank you, parents, for taking time out of your busy schedules to support them!



After School Study and Play

On Friday, February 28, the “after school study and play” will end. It will be the last one of this school year.

School Library

Library books can be borrowed until Friday, February 28. The last day to return books is Friday, March 7. Please check if there are any books that your child has forgotten to return at home.

Standard Achievement Tests

As announced in the previous issue of ‘Akatsuki’, academic achievement tests will be held between Monday, March 3 and Friday, March 7. Please note that make-up tests will not be available in case of absence.

Literacy Week

As announced in the previous issue of ‘Akatsuki’, Literacy Week will begin on Monday, March 3. During this time, Drop Everything and Read will be held, so please bring your favorite English books from home. If you do not have any English books at home, you may borrow books from the library. The event on Saturday, March 8 will be announced at a later date.

School Cleaning

The 3rd term school general cleaning is scheduled on Thursday, March 13, during the 5th and 6th 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 16th, 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

On Monday, February 17, we distributed the new school year commuting method survey form and a report form of the passed proficiency tests to the 1st - 5th graders. If you have not received them, please contact your homeroom teacher or the office. The deadline for submission is Friday, February 28. Even

if there are no changes, all students are required to submit them. You can submit them by fax, too. (FAX: 0438-52-3856) Thank you for your cooperation.

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

- Concerning the 2nd Kanji Proficiency Test... After Wednesday the 26th, we can confirm your pass/fail result at the school. Please inquire by phone. Each family will receive the results after Monday, March 10.

- Concerning the first math Proficiency Test... After Friday, March 7, we can confirm your pass/fail status at school. Please inquire by phone.

Religion Textbooks

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

Order of French Dictionary

We will distribute order forms of French dictionaries separately. Please submit it by March 10 if you want us to order one for your child.

2025 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.

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 or not tying their hair up. 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.

The commuting method will change from April, and a commuter pass will be required for those who purchase a commuter pass. Please inform your homeroom teacher if you need a commuter certificate. Please fill out the application form and submit it with a return envelope with a 110 yen stamp attached. The certificate will be issued after April 1 and be mailed to your home.

Notice from Maria Boutique

Maria Boutique will be closed on Saturday, March 1 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.

Discontinue use of NTT Pass Mobile Email Service

From April we will be using the Mimamorume application (website) to unify the method of notification of absences from home and notification from the school (simultaneous email).

We have distributed Mimamorume IDs, so please register them. If you wish to have your ID reissued, please contact the office. A test email will be sent out on Saturday, March 1, and will be used in combination during March.

Contest Awards

☆The 19th University of Tsukuba "Bud of Science" Award
Prize for Effort:

☆The 77th Chiba Prefecture Primary, Middle and High School Calligraphy Exhibition

Shoseikai Prize:

Gold Prize:

Silver Prize:



Schedule for March		Departure time	After School Study/Play
1(Sat.)	(High School Graduation Ceremony)	13:55	—
2(Sun.)			
3(Mon.)	General Assembly Literacy Week P.C. for B Course, Grade 3 and up Last Day for After School Study and Play Last day of Borrowing Books from the Library	14:45	—
4(Tue.)		14:45	—
5(Wed.)	Last Day for Committee for Grade 5 and up	15:35	—
6(Thurs.)		14:45	—
7(Fri.)	Last Day of Returning Borrowed Books from the Library	14:45	—
8(Sat.)	English Fair (Junior High School Graduation Ceremony)	13:00	—
9(Sun.)			
10(Mon.)	P.C. for A Course, Grade 3 and up	14:45	—
11(Tue.)	Farewell Activities for Grade 6	14:45	—
12(Wed.)	Last Day for Club Activities for Grade 4 and up	15:35	—
13(Thurs.)	School General Cleaning Day (5 th and 6 th period)	14:45	—
14(Fri.)		14:45	—
15(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 th			
~ 2025 School Year ~			
April 8 (Tue.)	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 style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maria Boutique will be open irregularly during the spring holidays. Please call them and make sure it is open before your visit. ● The 2025 school events calendar will be distributed on Saturday, March 15. ● Inquiries during spring holidays-school office from Mon. to Fri. 9:00 to 15:00, Sat. from 9:00 to 12:00 ● Please do not bring and leave any school items during the spring holidays. 		