

# Shiwasu, Last Month of the Year

Our God, Jesus Christ, is present among us as the Gospel says, "I am with you until the end of the world". He has ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

This year is coming to an end leaving us many memories. Let us spend the end of the year thanking God and those around us for the many blessings we have received and asking for forgiveness for the mistakes we have made.

Forgiving, understanding, and smiling at others are the most beautiful forms of humanity.

D. Tagawa S.M.

#### Verse for December

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts. (COLOSSIANS 3:15)

#### Hymn for December

Adeste Fideles Silent Night

#### Motto for December

Let's help each other and be kind to each other.

#### Safety Reminder for December

Foresee what will happen to keep yourself safe.

#### Message from Principal

As the cold deepens, the children devote themselves wholeheartedly to events and learning, showing us how much they have grown. With the arrival of December, a calm and expectant atmosphere for Christmas begins to fill the school. We would like to express our sincere gratitude once again for your support throughout the year.

Looking back, this year may have brought not only moments of joy but also times when our thoughts did not quite align, or when we had to face various challenges together. As we come to the close of such a year, Christmas is a season that gently reminds us of the spirit of "forgiving one another and beginning anew."

In Colossians 3:13 in the New Testament it is written, "Bear with one another, and if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other." Encouraged by these words, I hope that we too can prepare our hearts and welcome the end of the year with a sense of peace.

We hope that school and home will continue to work hand in hand so that the children may cherish those around them and spend each day with kindness. Wishing you a warm and peaceful Christmas and a wonderful year's end.

#### Graduation Trip

From Friday, October 31 to Sunday, November 2, the 6th graders went on their graduation trip.

Through the preparatory learning conducted since the beginning of the school year, this trip served as a culmination of our religious and peace education at our school.

During their visit to Nagasaki as representatives of the school, they were warmly welcomed by everyone involved, filling their hearts with gratitude.









#### About the swimming training fees

The swimming lessons for all grades have been completed. They cost 2,200 yen.

For grades 3 to 6, which participated in the lessons during the first term, the fees have already been withdrawn from the student account.



#### **Essay Contest**

The winners of the Summer Reading Essay Contest have been decided.

Starting this year, one Grand Prize winner and one Excellence Award winner from each grade have been selected.

Although some students were not able to receive an award, we believe that the process of working on their reading reports helped them develop their writing skills, expressive abilities, and critical thinking.

We kindly ask you to continue supporting and encouraging your child, so that they can approach

future challenges with confidence.

Grand Prize: Excellence Awards:



# **Award Winners**

In the 53rd JA Kyosai Chiba Prefecture Elementary and Junior High School Traffic Safety Poster Contest, received the Tokyo Shimbun

Chiba Bureau Chief Award. She created a poster to show that looking at a smartphone while walking is dangerous.





# Class Visit

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to attend the parent–teacher meetings, as well as the second-term Open Class and Science Presentation. We truly appreciate your presence and the opportunity for you to see each student's hard work.

The Open Class for the third term will be held on Saturday, February 7.

# Field Trip

On Wednesday, November 19, each grade went on a field trip. The students were able to experience what they

normally cannot do at school.









#### Boy's and Girl's Assertion Contest,

On Monday, November 24, gave a speech as our school's representative at the 51st Boy's and Girl's Assertion Contest, hosted by the Kisarazu City Youth Counseling Committee. Additionally, was selected as a finalist. under the title "My Future Dream," spoke about the abilities she needs to develop for her future. In her presentation titled "My Thoughts on Elementary School Life," talked about what he currently enjoys at school and what students themselves need to improve.

#### After School Study and Play

After school study and play for the second term will end on Friday, November 28. There will be no after-school study and play in December. For the third term, they are scheduled to start on Tuesday, January 13.

# School is closed on Saturday, November 29

School will be closed because of the teacher training sessions on Saturday, November 29.

# Proficiency Tests in 3rd Term

English Proficiency Test, Kanji Proficiency Test, and Math Proficiency Test will be held in the third term.

Application forms for each test have been distributed. The application deadlines are December 5 (Fri.) for the English Proficiency Test and Kanji Kanji Proficiency Test, and December 10 (Wed.) for the Math Proficiency Test. Children who wish to take the tests should submit the completed application form to their homeroom teachers.

These are the last proficiency tests for this academic year. Please make sure not to forget to apply.

Test	Grade Level	Date of Test	Deadline of Application	
EIKEN/English	Level $2\sim 5$	Friday, January 23	December 5 (Fri.)	
Kanji Kentei	Level 2 $\sim$ 10	Friday, February 6	December 5 (Fri.)	
Math	Level Pre 1∼11	Friday, February 13	December 10 (Wed)	

#### Marathon

The school marathon will be held on Saturday, December 6. We have distributed a letter announcing details. Students practice for the marathon race in their PE classes. If your child does not feel well or has pain in any part of the body, please be sure to contact the school or your child's homeroom teacher.

#### Christmas Mass / Closing Ceremony/ Donations

The Christmas Mass will be held on Thursday, December 11. Students will be dismissed from school at 14:45 as usual. Also, the closing ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 13, and students will be dismissed at 12:00 after lunch.

We would like our students to learn the meaning of Christmas in Catholicism and share the joy of Christmas with you all. We are willing to welcome the parents to attend the Mass.

Date of Christmas Mass: Thursday, December 11

Time: 9:30 - 11:00

Venue: Gyosei International School Chapel.

From Monday, December 1, there will be a donation box placed in front of the Christmas tree beside the staffroom. Donations will be sent to the people in need in Japan and overseas through Charitas Japan in the Japan Catholic Central Office. If you wish to make a donation, please put your donation in the envelope provided with the invitation letter to Christmas Mass. Please seal the envelope and put it into the donation box.

#### All Souls' Day Gathering

This year's "All Souls' Day Gathering" which had been postponed, will be replaced by prayers for the deceased during the Christmas Mass.

# **School Cleaning**

During the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> period on Friday, December 12, we will have our second term school general cleaning. We will conduct it with the students and teachers only. Parents will not be asked to help. Students will need to wear their P.E. clothes and to bring a dust cloth. They can bring rubber gloves if they want to. The school will not lend out supplies to the students who have forgotten to bring theirs.

#### School Library

Books in the library can be lent to the students until Friday, November 28 for one week. All borrowed books must be returned by Saturday, December 6. Please be sure to return the borrowed books accordingly.

#### Bringing Home of School Supplies

From Monday, December 1, students will take home their school supplies. Please follow the instructions of your child's homeroom teacher on what to take home. A large and durable bag will be useful to take them home. Please have it ready if necessary.

# The 78th Chiba Prefecture Elementary, Junior High, and High School New Year Calligraphy Exhibition

Those who wish to submit their work should do so to their homeroom teacher or the office by Thursday, January 8. Please check the assignment at the following URL: <a href="https://shoseikai.wixsite.com/shoseikai">https://shoseikai.wixsite.com/shoseikai</a>

# Winter Traffic Safety Campaign

The Winter Traffic Safety Campaign will be held from Monday, December 1, to Wednesday, December 10. Please remind your children at home to pay attention to their surroundings to avoid traffic accidents. We also ask that parents drive safely and remain calm and attentive on the road.

# Compensation Insurance

If your child damages his/her belongings or piece of school equipment such as tablets or facility, the parent/guardian may be required to compensate the damage. We recommend that you purchase personal liability insurance to prepare for such an eventuality. It is often purchased as a rider to fire insurance, personal accident insurance, or automobile insurance, but it may also be purchased on its own. Co-op Mutual Insurance also offers this service.

#### Personnel Announcement

As of November 1, two staff members have joined our school:

	Schedule for December	Bus Departure Time	After School Study-Play	
1(Mon.)	Internal Entrance Exam for 6 Graders for Acceptance to our JH Start of Christmas Donation  Transfer Exam		_	
2(Tue.)	General Assembly		_	
3(Wed.)	Club Activities for Grade 4 and up		—	
4(Thurs.)	3.)		_	
5(Fri.)	Deadline for Eiken/Kanken Application	14:45	—	
6(Sat.)	Marathon Last Day of Returning Books Borrowed from the library		_	
7(Sun.)				
8(Mon.)	Substitute Day for Marathon	14:45	_	
9(Tue.)		14:45	_	
10(Wed.)	Committee for Grade 5 and up  Deadline for Suken Application			
11(Thurs.)	Christmas Mass (from 9:30 to 11:00)	14:45	—	
12(Fri.)	General Cleaning in 5th - 6th Period (Needed PE Clothes & a Dust Cloth)	14:45	—	
13(Sat.)	2nd Term Closing Ceremony (Dismissal after Lunch/ Allowed to Come with a Sub-bag Only)	12:00	—	
	Winter Vacation			
	December 14, 2025 - January 6, 2026			
3rd Term Opening Ceremony Jan 7(Wed.) Classes as Usual Committee for Grade 5 and up		15:35	_	
After-school study and play for the second term ended in November; it will not be held in December.  Reminders  Please take note of the following different dismissal time:  Saturday, December 13: 12:00  After school activities during the 3rd term will begin on Tuesday, January 13.				