

February Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3 Morning Assembly Sakura class and G5 Interaction and Lunch Committee	4 Safety Instruction	5	6 Keisan	7 Kanji	8
9	10 Field Trip to the Local History Museum (G3) Interaction with Class Sakura (G1)	11 National Foundation Day	12 Kanji Club Experience	13 Keisan	14 Sugaku Kentei (applicants only)	15 Kindergartener School Experience
16	17 Morning Assembly Parent-Teacher Conference for New G1 Students	18 Tatewari Assembly Interaction with Azabu Nursery School	19 Kanji 5 pr. only Kids Athletics (G3,4)	20 Keisan Forestry Education (G5)	21	22
23 Emperor's Birthday	24 Substitute Holiday	25 Music Assembly Ogano Kabuki (G3)	26 Kanji	27 Keisan	28	29

This month's evacuation drill will be conducted without prior notification.

February Goal 「Greet others in a friendly manner」

- Look at the person you are greeting.
- Use polite language.



南山小学校

February Edition

School Newsletter

January 31, 2020
Minato City, Nanzan ES
Principal Akio Nanba

Never Forgetting Feelings of Gratitude

Vice Principal

The deep chill of winter has passed, and in February there will be *Setsubun*, the division of the seasons, as well as *Risshun*, the first day of spring. Looking at this school year, if we count the number of school days left, grades 1 through 5 have 37 days remaining, while grade 6 has 36 more days until graduation. Each grade will bring a firm conclusion to the year, and we will instruct the students such that they will have a smooth transition to their new grades and schools.

【In Preparation for Graduation and Transitioning to New Grades】

The countdown for the 6th graders' graduation has begun. As the top grade in the school, the 6th graders have taken on leadership roles in various school activities, and they have demonstrated their reliability as the "representatives of Nanzan." At every turn, those 6th graders can be seen making the most of every moment of the short time they have remaining in elementary school, such as studying and playing harmoniously together with their classmates, and taking care of the lower grades during assemblies and other events with kind consideration. Also, from the 5th graders, who will eventually take the place of the 6th graders, we can sense the desire to become the next reliable leaders of the school. For the students of each grade these 2 months are an important period for wrapping up the school year and preparing for the next grade. This is a time for creating a plan and being ambitious in seeing it through.

【Children Growing within their Community】

On January 12 the *Azabu Miyamura Chokai* mochi-making fair was held at the Azabu Iki-iki Plaza, and I was also in attendance. The preparations began early in the morning, and the mochi-making began from 10 o'clock. Among the festivities, the children mingled with members of the community to pound mochi together. The experience of making mochi has become more valuable as it proved difficult to do at all last year, and I am grateful that the a chance to experience it was nearby in a familiar place. Eating freshly pounded mochi has a tenderness to it that is like nothing else.

February 3 is *Setsubun*, the division of the seasons. A bean-throwing (*mamemaki*) event will be held in the Azabu Juban Shopping Arcade. This event and others like it are great opportunities for children to actively participate in the community. By participating in community events, it raises their awareness of being a member of said community, and strengthens the bonds between people.

The ones who support these fun events are of course the members of the community themselves. Along with enjoying the events, we must honor the community members whose enthusiasm and hard work make the events possible in the first place. Thank you for your continued support.

From February 10, Ms. Haruka Kuwashima, who was on maternity leave, will be returning to school as one of the teachers of the Special Education Room. Ms. Runa Fukuchi will conclude her appointment at our school on February 7.

Sekishokai

Head of Japanese



Afterwards, grades 1 and 2 returned to their classrooms and did pencil calligraphy while grades 3 and up did brush calligraphy in the gym.



Through the calligraphy studies and the Sekishokai, the students not only developed their concentration, they also cultivated the disposition needed for putting their hearts and minds into their writing.



On the day of the Sekishokai, all of the students first gathered together in the gym in the morning to have an opening ceremony. After the Principal's speech, a representative from each grade gave a short speech about their goals for the kakizome (calligraphy).



Everyone set to work with serious expressions on their faces and their goals in their minds.



Also, the students' interest in writing and calligraphy expanded by observing each other's works. There were many students enthusiastically looking at the calligraphy works that were displayed throughout the school. I hope that now more than ever before the students will be conscious about writing with care and that they will improve their calligraphic skills even more.

Open Morals Lessons and Lecture Meeting

Morals Division

The Open Morals Lessons and Lecture Meeting were held at our school with the aim of deepening mutual understanding in regards to the growth of children's minds and the proper handling of moral education by families, school, and the community.

This year's theme was "respecting traditions and culture, and love of country and hometown," and using the supplementary textbook "Furusato ~Minato~" published by Minato City as a base, every student in each grade gained a greater appreciation for traditions and culture. By exchanging opinions in class, opportunities to learn from their classmates were created, and their lively discussions left a strong impression as the students engaged in active learning.

For the lecture meeting, we invited Professor Toru Hase from Tokyo Kasei Gakuin University to visit our school as a lecturer, and together we exchanged ideas about whether or not it is necessary to cultivate the minds of children while understanding children's actions in the home and community, and "respecting traditions and culture, and love of country and hometown." Professor Hase spoke about how moral education exists to nurture proper action, those actions are learned in steps, and by going through those steps the actions become habits, and also by using past experiences as a base we can acquire the power of discernment, which leads to naturally being able to take proper action. During the exchange of ideas, some parents sought consultation in regards to daily child rearing and interacting with their children, and while receiving advice from Professor Hase, this meeting became a valuable place for sharing feelings of raising children with great care.



Grade 1 "School Foundation Day"



Grade 2 "Zoji no Mamemaki"



Grade 3 "Atarashii Sekai ~ Murao Hanako to Toyo Eiwa Jogakko"



Grade 4 "Hanaippai Undo"



Grade 5 "Nikoniko Gakuen to Makino Genjiro"



Grade 6 "Edojo Muketsu Kaijo"

We are very grateful for everyone who attended this year's Open Morals Lesson and Lecture Meeting. In the future as well, the school, families, and community will work together as we engage in moral education. Thank you very much for your cooperation.