



# 南山小学校 School Newsletter

## June Edition

June 1, 2017  
Minato City, Nanzan ES  
Principal Terumi Aketagawa



### Children Playing an Active Part Outside School



Principal Terumi Aketagawa

Thank you to all the guests, parents and guardians, and people from our community, for coming to our Sports Day and giving enthusiasm and encouragement to the children. Also, thank you for your assistance in regards to the preparation the day before, your help at the reception, and cleaning up after Sports Day.

There is always a winner and loser on Sports Day; it was still an impressive Sports Day, every student gave their best effort to be number one, and demonstrated their uniqueness. I am sure that they learned a lot from the day, such as making the best with all their energy, cooperating with their friends, and not giving up until the end, etc. I would like to give a big round of applause to the students who greatly matured with the various thoughts bearing in mind.

Nanzan ES students are playing an active part outside school as well. In May, "Wanpaku Sumo Minato City Tournament," with about 380 children from Minato City, was held at Akasaka Ark Hills. In the girls' event among grades 1~3, a second grader from our school was the 4<sup>th</sup> place (*komusubi*), and among grades 4~6, a fourth grader was also fourth place (*komusubi*), and they won certificates and bronze medals. With knowledge, courage, and skills, defeating the bigger opponents must have made them feel confident about themselves. I hope even the students who shed tears of loss will step forward with their new goals.



Additionally, there are students who joined the Azabu Fire Department Youth Group or Traffic Youth Group. They also play an active role for their communities as a part of the youth groups. I am always impressed when I see students who participate in events outside school actively in addition to their studies at school.

On June 10, 23 children in grades 4~6 from our school will appear in the event "Nippon Genki Project 2017 Super Energy!!" produced by Kansai Yamamoto (Fashion Designer) at the Roppongi Hills Arena.

On May 24, Kansai Yamamoto and Shonosuke Okura (the general holder of important intangible cultural property, *Nogakushi, Otsuzumi Okura Style*) visited our school and held a workshop. The purpose of this project is to pass on the culture of "fashion," "Japanese traditional performances," and "sports" while creating a place that people can share "excitement," "joy," and "inspiration" beyond nationalities, races, genders, and ages with the theme "celebration of humanity."

The students received instruction on playing *Tuzumi* from Shonosuke Okura to prepare for attending the events.

With the knowledge of "Start with a bow, and end with a bow," the students learned how to beat a drum while being mindful of "Timing, Lingering." By the end, the *tuzumi* made a pleasantly resounding sound, and everyone is looking forward to the day of the actual performance. I applaud those students who are ambitiously taking on this challenge.



# June Events Schedule

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 G/Campaign 1	2 Dental Lecture Pre-Swimming Checkup G/Campaign 2	3 Club G/Campaign 3
4	5 Morning Assembly Sports Survey Week Starts Committee S/C G/Campaign 4	6 Sports Test G/Campaign 5	7 Sense of Color Test Rice Planting(G5) S/C G/Campaign 6	8 Art Field Trip(G2) G/Campaign 7	9 Safety Sense of Color Test Sports Survey Week Ends G/Campaign 8	10
11	12 Swimming Lessons Begin Pool Opens G/Campaign 9	13 Music Assembly S.S. Field Trip(G3) G/Campaign 10	14 S/C G/Campaign 11	15 Open School Water Caravan(G4) G/Campaign 12	16 Open School School Health Committee Lunch Sampling Meeting	17 Evacuation Drill (Neighborhood Disaster Drill)
18	19 Morning Assembly G6 School Trip Checkup (G6) Scoliosis Check Up(G5) S/C	20 G6 School Trip 1 (G6)	21 School Trip 2 (G6) S/C	22 School Trip 3 (G6)	23 School Trip 4 (G6)	24
25	26 Morning Assembly S/C	27 Assembly	28 Teacher Research Lesson(G5)	29 Art Field Trip(G6)	30	

## June Goal

### 「Wash Your Hands」

- Wipe your hands with a clean handkerchief.
- Wash carefully between fingers and around fingernails.



## Grades 3/4 Excursion

Grade 4

On May 9<sup>th</sup> (Tue), grades 3 and 4 visited NHK Studio Park and Yoyogi Park as part of their excursion.

It was a long journey, but they did their best.

At Studio Park, grades 3 and 4 divided into groups and walked around together.

Inside, there were 17 booths where the students had fun doing things such as becoming voice actors, making original videos, and becoming newscasters with their faces on the TV monitors.

The 4<sup>th</sup> graders were able to lead the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in fun activities.

At Yoyogi Park, they played games like "tag" and *darumasanga koronda* (Japanese deepened their friendships. They can look back and say, "I got to be a voice actor at the Anime Factory," "I gave the weather forecast at Studio Park News," "It was just like what you see on TV."



## Grades 5/6 Excursion

Grade 6

On May 12 (Fri), grades 5 and 6 visited Kamakura.

The first place was Kotoku-in. They were surprised by the size of the giant Buddha statue, and by observing the interior they saw the statue's inner structures.

After that, they made mixed groups of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders and went on the Daibutsu Hiking Course - their destination: Genjiyama Park. They worked together and hiked forward while looking carefully at the trail signs. Each worked together and arrived at their goal, dripping with sweat. Everyone had expressions of joy on their faces when they reached the summit.

After finishing their lunch, they descended the mountain and headed to Tsurugaoka Hachimangu. After visiting the shrine, they headed to the station, boarded the train, and returned to school. They did their best to cooperate with their classmates from the start of the excursion to the finish.

Grade 5 is anticipating their G5 Summer Trip, and grade 6 is doing the same for their G6 School Trip. I hope the students will make good use later on of the things they learned on their excursion.



## Sports Day

Sports Day Director

The students did their best even while the midsummer-like sun beat down on them. This year, Sports Day was a splendid Sports Day for Nanzan. What we see on a day like this are the individual students giving their all. They gave their all not only on the actual day, but throughout practice as well. During grades 1 and 2's "Rock'n Arabia Taiso," the students practiced the moves repeatedly and tried their best to dance energetically. From watching them immersed in their practice, you could see that they truly enjoy dancing. In grades 3 and 4's "Panorama~Rhythm Jump Rope," they used their experiences from *Sukisuki Nanzan* (rhythm jump rope) and did a performance using their jump ropes. At first they had difficulties with trying to synchronize the moves with the jump rope, but after practicing more and more, they were able to synchronize their moves. They realized the joy of accomplishing something together and their awareness of their performance for Sports Day was heightened. For grades 5 and 6's "Blue Ocean," the students practiced meticulously to make sure the flags moved in unison. Those without flags were also diligent about the way they moved their hands and ran around. Even during practices for the group event and the 100m sprint, they did their best.

The students did not try their best only during their class practice. For the 3 all-school practices held, the students practiced marching onto the field, the all-school event, the cheer exchange, the cheer competition, *Suki Suki Nanzan*, warm-up exercises, lining up, and the opening/closing ceremonies. To move in unison while marching onto the field, they practiced while paying attention to the area around themselves. Also, there was the cheer group who pumped up the school and led them in cheers. Because of the efforts of the upper grades and their support during practice and preparation, it was a wonderful Sports Day. Other than that, representative students used their free time to practice the placards, opening words, relay, and so on. Each student practiced earnestly with faces that showed their determination to carry out their task. I could feel that each student did their best to cooperate and carry out their duties, and that is why this year's Sports Day was a splendid Sports Day for Nanzan.

I believe that the children experienced and learned many things from practicing and preparing for Sports Day. I hope the students can use these things in other school activities and each student will improve themselves even more. To the parents and guardians and members of the community, thank you for your cooperation and help during the preparation and cleaning for the event.