

May Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Safety guidance	2 Health check-up (G1, 2, 6)	3 Constitution Day	4 Greenery Day	5 Children's Day
6	7 Morning assembly Committee School expense deduction	8 Field trip (G3, 4, 5) School counselor	9 Health check-up (G3, 4, 5) School counselor	10 Urine analysis 2 nd submission	11 Dental check-up (G1, 5, 6) Venezuela Embassy exchange (G3, 4)	12 Club
13	14 Morning assembly	15 All-school Sports Day practice	16 Ear and nose check-up (all grades)	17 Urine analysis 2 nd submission (make-up day) All-school Sports Day practice	18 Dental check-up (G2, 3, 4) School counselor	19
20	21 All-school Sports Day practice Student duties for Sports Day	22 All-school Sports Day practice School counselor	23	24 All-school Sports Days practice make-up day	25 Sports Day preparation School counselor	26 Sports Day
27	28 Substitute Holiday	29 Assembly	30 Evacuation drill	31		

May Goal

「Listen Carefully」

- Listen to the person who is talking.
- Pay attention to the school chime.



南山小学校

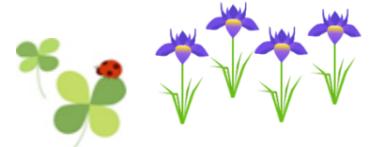
School Newsletter

May Edition

May 1, 2018
Minato City, Nanzan ES
Principal Terumi Aketagawa



Express Your Own Thoughts
with Your Own Words



Principal Terumi Aketagawa

Pleasant winds are blowing, and the season has become vivid green. Every morning at the school gate, student representatives and those who were bearing the sash of the "Aisasatu hayarase-tai" have been cheerfully greeting other students as they arrive. Also, on April 21 (Sat), the over 30 parents and guardians joined in the PTA greeting campaign. For that you have my deepest thanks. By continuing to greet each other pleasantly I hope that everyone can communicate heart-to-heart, so please take a moment at home to remind your child about this.

One month has passed since the Entrance Ceremony and since the students have moved up a grade. The first graders have completely integrated as members of Nanzan ES, partly thanks to the results of their interactions with the 6th graders during the Start Curriculum. During recess, all the grades, 1 through 6, are getting along while playing dodgeball and tag, as well as exploring the Nanzan Forest. The members of the *tatewari* groups have met with each other, and the various enjoyable exchange activities will bring them together as members of the Nanzan family and deeper their shared learning all the more.



G6 Reading to G1
(Part of the Start Curriculum)

There is something I would like to share that was announced over the loudspeakers on the train that I use when commuting to work. Day to day, most announcements on trains are repetitions of the same phrases such as "Next stop 〇〇," made by automatic recordings. But one day, the young voice of a considerate train conductor announced to the crowd of passengers on the train, "It will be very hot and humid today. Please take care of yourself." And, at other times depending on the situation, they improvised other announcements such as, "The rain and wind outside are strong. Please be careful not to lose your umbrella to the wind," or "Have a pleasant weekend. Please have a lively day at work." Whenever I am on the train with that conductor, even if it is completely packed, my spirits feel lifted and I feel like I can do my best throughout the day. Over the course of 2 years, I have only encountered this 4 times, but I cannot help but look forward to it.

No one told this train conductor to do these things; rather, they wanted to continue expressing their own thoughts with their own words to other people. It is wonderful that, after becoming an adult, this small act is perhaps one expression of the consideration and kindness that is cultivated in elementary school.

At graduation in March as well, when the graduation certificates were being awarded, there was a praiseworthy graduate who expressed to me their own thoughts with their own words. As I handed them their graduation certificate, I said to them "Congratulations," to which they replied "Thank you for everything. I want to do my best in junior high school." Despite being nervous upon the stage, this student was able to look me in the eye and express their feelings. I hope that other students at Nanzan will take after this graduate, and become people that can express without hesitation, their own thoughts with their own words. I look forward to seeing the flowers of temperament and ability that were cultivated in elementary school someday bloom in the future.

Grade 1 Welcome Assembly “Let’s Enjoy Playing Together”

Special Events Coordinator

Grades 2~6 spend their time at school with increased awareness of the yellow-hatted 1st graders after they arrive at the school entrance and during recess etc. “Are the first graders excited about to coming to school?” “Are they having any difficulties?” Along with their support for the 1st graders, the other grades also want them to quickly adapt to school life, enjoy their time here, and make lots of friends. To express these feelings to the 1st graders, the “Grade 1 Welcome Ceremony” was held on April 21.

“Let’s have fun playing together” was the message from the 4th graders to the 1st graders. They made a large placard displaying this message to everyone. In addition, 2nd grade made medals, 3rd grade made a flower arch, 5th grade arranged the event space, all of which was prepared for the 1st graders. 6th grade introduced school and performed a song and dance for the 1st graders. The anxious 1st graders were smiling before they knew it. Each and every 1st grader was able to introduce their name in a loud voice. Lastly, the gym resonated with the students’ combined chorus while singing the school song.

A friendly and fun school life, full of connections with others, has begun.



Grade 1

Head of Grade 1

In the blink of an eye, it has already been 1 month since the entrance ceremony. In the beginning, the 6th graders would help out with getting ready in the morning and play hand games with the 1st graders, but now they are able to do it on their own.

In their language class, they have begun studying *hiragana* letters, and they are doing their best to carefully write each letter while keeping proper posture and holding the pencil correctly. They are also enjoying the school lunch along with the broadcast, asking questions like “I wonder what’s for lunch?” and “Who will do the broadcast today?”

From now on, I hope we can help them experience the fun of school life and the virtue of spending time together with friends through various activities at school.



Playing hand games together with 6th grade



Many students looking forward to school lunch



Enjoying watching the tadpoles in Nanzan Forest

Messages from Retiring and Departing Teachers



Custodian

The season of beautiful new green has arrived.

As of March 31, I have reached compulsory retirement, and as of April 1, I have been reappointed to work at Akasaka JHS.

I have many memories from Nanzan ES, but amongst those, the most profoundly memorable is that of the students who would help me out in many situations. You are all very attentive, and your willingness to lend a hand showed a kindness that always saved me. Moving forward, please do whatever you can to hold onto that sense of kindness and the courage to offer help to those in need.

I will always value the 5 years I spent working at Nanzan ES, and I hope to make new memories at Akasaka JHS. Thank you very much.

Former Music Teacher

Thank you for the past 6 years. I regret that I had to leave without being able to properly say goodbye.

I cannot express how grateful I am towards all the honest and kind students whom I had enjoyable music classes with, and for all the support from the parents in various respects. I hope to return to Japan after soaking up all that I can from this new land. I look forward to the day when we may meet again somewhere. Thank you very much.

Former Class 1-1 Teacher

Thinking back on it now, the days and months of the past six years flew by in the blink of an eye. There are many memories that are dear to me, such as the daily pounding of my heart in class when I was taking my first steps as an educator; the daily growth of students and their expressions of struggle and joy as they achieve their goals; and all the times that the school came together for carrying various events.

The days at Nanzan were very fulfilling, thanks to all of the cheerful and honest students, and the support of the warm families and community members. Thank you for everything.

About the Application for the Special Academic Support Room and Arrangement of Academic Support Staff

Beginning last year, the school opened the “Step Room,” which is a classroom offering additional academic support to students who are still developing their skills. The special support classroom was established as a means for students to improve and overcome struggles with life skills and/or academic skills.

Additionally, it is possible to request an academic support staff member, who will join students in their regular class to assist students individually with subjects they are struggling with.

If your child is no already receiving support, please contact the Vice Principal, Special Support Coordinator, or your homeroom teacher about applying for support. The date for application to the Special Academic Support Room or for academic support staff is June 8 (Fri).

※For those wishing to continue with the Special Academic Support Room or academic support staff from the second term, please contact the homeroom teacher, Special Support Coordinator, or the Vice Principal by June 8 (Fri).