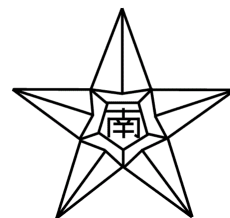


南山だより



Tokyo, Minato City, Motoazabu 3-8-15 TEL 03(3403)5773 FAX 03(3408)4532 MAIL:nanzan-es@minato-tky.ed.jp

2024, The Year of the Wood Dragon (*Kinoetatsu*)

Principal Noriaki Kobayashi

Happy New Year! I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your understanding and cooperation in the academic activities of our school over the past year. In particular, I was very happy to see the students' enthusiasm as we were able to hold the Sports Day and the School Performance as we did before the Covid pandemic.

2024 is the Chinese zodiac year of the Wood Dragon "*Kinoetatsu*." This way of calculating the time and date comes from the Shang Dynasty period in ancient China and was found in the texts of the Oracle Bone Script. The "Wood" is one of the 10 heavenly stems (an ancient way to count ordinal numbers) and the "Dragon" comes from the 12 zodiac animals, also known as the 12 earthly branches.

The "Kinoe" is the first of the 12 heavenly branches and represents the number one and the beginning of things. It is also said to represent other things such as dominance and a large tree that stands straight and towering.

The "Tatsu" refers to the dragon, the only fictional creature in the twelve Chinese zodiac signs. The dragon, which has been worshipped as the god of water and the sea, symbolizes the dynamism of nature that causes natural phenomena such as tornadoes and thunderstorms, and it has been said that "when the dragon appears, happy things will happen. It is said that "*Kinoetatsu*," which combines these two symbols, represents the auspiciousness of "the bud of success growing and taking shape

As we begin the year 2024, the year of the Wood Dragon, what kind of year do you hope to have? I hope that the students of Nanzan can have a pleasant year, leading the way like "Kinoe," and like "Tatsu," the dragon, with has great momentum.



We ask for your understanding and cooperation in our academic activities this year as well.

Curriculum for the Next Academic Year

After receiving feedback at the third meeting of the Nanzan School Management Meeting in December, we have begun work on the curriculum for the next school year.

In accordance with the national policy, Minato City will further promote work style reforms and reduce the number of extra hours during the next school year. In line with this, we will devise class content and teaching methods to ensure that students are able to consolidate what they have learned, and we will also review our school events. In addition, we hope to allocate the time created by the reforms to time spent between teachers and students, time spent on class preparation, and teachers' mental health.

We will inform you of the decided curriculum for the next school year after it is approved at the fourth meeting of the School Management Council.

School Performance

Head of the School Performance

The School Performance held on December 8 (Fri) and 9 (Sat) was a great success, thanks to the students' hard work and the warm applause of the audience. Regardless of whether their parts were large or small, they realized that even the slightest interruption in their lines, movements, singing, or dancing would ruin the performance, so they worked together as one to create a good performance, even though they may have felt a sense of nervousness. They felt a sense of accomplishment in conveying the world of the story, and experienced the pleasure of laughter, emotion, and applause, and were able to experience and learn many things that are only possible at the School Performance.



The parents' support and encouragement in preparing costumes and props, as well as watching their children practice at home, gave them confidence and helped to make the day a great success. Thank you very much.

Fureai Month~No Bullying in Nanzan~

Head of School Life Instruction

The Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education designates June, November, and February as "Fureai Months," to raise awareness of the current situation and prevention of things like bullying and truancy, and efforts to address these issues.



At our school, we had the students spend time

to think about bullying. Based on what they thought about and the various efforts being made regarding bullying, they created anti-bullying slogans according to their grade, and held two "Fureai Month Presentations" on December 12 (Tue) and 15 (Fri).

Through the Fureai Month activities, we hope that students will use more kind (*fuwa fuwa*) words that make themselves and others happy when said, find good qualities in their classmates, and realize the importance of treating others with consideration, and that this will lead to a better Nanzan Elementary School.

January Schedule of Events

9 (Tue)	Opening Ceremony 3 Periods	16 (Tue)	5 Periods
10 (Wed)	School Lunch Starts Step Starts Club	18 (Thu)	Drug Use Prevention Lesson (G6)
11 (Thu)	Kakizomekai (Grades 1,2,3,5)	20 (Sat)	Information Morals Lecture (G5,6)
12 (Fri)	Kakizomekai (Grades 4,6)	26 (Fri)	Kanji Level Test (5 th Period)
15 (Mon)	Kakizome Exhibition (Until the 20 th)		※5 Period Day

January Goal

Greet Others Pleasantly

