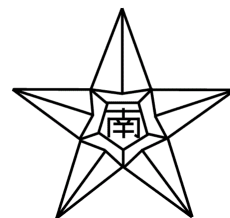


# 南山だより



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## The First Term School Evaluation

One month has passed since the start of the second term, and although the high temperatures continued into September, we are finally starting to feel signs of autumn in the mornings and evenings.

Various events have already been held in the second semester. The PTA event on September 7 (Saturday) was well organized by many parents, and it was memorable to see the students enjoying themselves in the schoolyard and gymnasium. I played the role of a ghost in the maze, but I could not scare them away as they quickly spotted me. Also, during the Autumn Festival on Saturday the 14th and Sunday the 15th, each town council brought out portable shrines and floats, and students from Nanzan Elementary School also participated. It was a great pleasure to see the students active in the community.

At school, many events are being held at each grade level, such as the swimming record meet, *furoshiki* (wrapping cloth) experience, planetarium excursion, sign language classes, and the Everly Concert, etc. In the whole school, practice for the Sports Day is in full swing, and the children are full of energy and enthusiasm every day. Each grade is discussing and devising their own grade events and expressive dance. There was a time when it was difficult to hold the event due to the Covid pandemic, but we have been able to hold it at all schools since last school year. We hope that parents and local residents will be able to see the students of Nanzan doing their best again this year. Please note that this year, October 21 (Monday), the anniversary of the school's opening, will be a substitute holiday for the Sports Day.

Thank you very much for your cooperation in the first term school evaluation. The collection rate this year was 81% (73% last year), and we were able to receive evaluations from more people.

As for the results of the survey, compared to last year, there was no significant difference between positive and negative evaluations overall, with "strongly agree" and "somewhat agree" as positive evaluations (plus) and "somewhat disagree" and "and strongly disagree" as negative evaluations (minus). However, when we look at the contents of the negative evaluations, there is no significant difference between the positive and negative evaluations.

However, when we look at the contents of the negative evaluation, we find that for question 1, "The school provides classes where the students can share and express their ideas freely through things such as "learning together" and "acknowledging one another" in order to acquire basic academic skills." The overall positive evaluation for question 1 was 92% (88% last year), but the number of respondents who answered "strongly agree" increased 11% to 60% (49% last year), and for question 2, "The school provides "understandable," and "enjoyable" classes (studies)," the overall positive evaluation was 90% (90% in the previous year), but the percentage for "strongly agree" increased by 5% to 46% (41% in the previous year), indicating a more positive evaluation. We believe that this was due to the positive evaluation of mutual interactions such as discussions and presentations among students in class, as well as the use of tablets for presentation activities.

In addition, question 9, "The school is easy to communicate and consult with for parents and guardians, and the school responds appropriately. (Establishment of educational consulting system)" received an overall positive evaluation of 91% (88% last year), but 'strongly agree' increased by 5% to 57% (52% last year), receiving a more positive evaluation. We believe that this is due to the fact that not only the homeroom teachers but also all faculty and staff made efforts to address the issue, and that the school counselor and school social workers were utilized more.

Conversely, Question 6, "The school strives to motivate the students to become familiar with sports and the arts through activities like interacting with athletes and music concerts," had an overall positive rating of 93% (93% last year), but "strongly agree" was 59% (70% last year), a decrease of 11%. This may be due to the fact that although the Yakult Swallows players were invited to conduct a throwing class in the first term, the Everly Concert, dance lesson, and handicapped soccer lesson are included in the second term, which may have influenced the responses when answering the questionnaire, or that revision of the contents may be necessary.

We ask for your continued understanding and cooperation as we work together with families and the local community, as well as with all teachers and staff, to help students grow healthier and better both intellectually, morally, and physically through their educational activities at Nanzan Elementary School.

(Please refer to the additional paper for the results of the survey.)

## Disaster Education and Evacuation Drills

Head of Evacuation Drills

Our school conducts an evacuation drill once a month. During the drills, we confirm what to do in the event of an earthquake or fire. Through these drills, we try to make all the students aware of the importance of "protecting one's own life by oneself". Whenever we hold an evacuation drill, please talk about the drill with your children at home and remind them how to evacuate and where to meet with family in case a real disaster occurs.

In September, we held a pick-up evacuation drill. Many parents came to the school to pick up their children during the drill. Thank you very much for your cooperation. When we need to contact you from the school in an emergency, we will send you an "emergency e-mail". Please notify your child's homeroom teacher if you change your e-mail address or if the person receiving the e-mail changes. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that you receive our communications.

In addition, we will hold a "3.11 Memorial Assembly" in March. We will help each student think about how to protect his/her own life by learning about past disasters.

## The English Support Course

Grade 6 EST

The English Support Course (ESC) at Nanzan Elementary was established in 2017. The goal of the program is to give students of foreign nationalities, who do not have Japanese language ability, the opportunity to continue their educational development while at the same time being immersed in the environment of a Japanese public elementary school. To achieve this, each grade has an English Support Teacher (EST), who works with the homeroom and specialist teachers, to provide instruction for ESC students in English in real time. This is not just a one-way process as the ESTs also translate the ESC students' comments from English to Japanese so that they are able to share their thoughts with their Japanese classmates. This we hope, removes language barriers and helps to facilitate communication and the free exchange of ideas.

Communication is an essential aspect of the ESC program; communication with and between students, faculty, parents, and members of the community. As we saw during this year's Paris Olympics, there is enormous goodwill created when people of all nationalities and cultures come together in a spirit of cooperation but for this to occur effective communication is essential. Our own smaller version, Sports Day, is fast approaching and it is another opportunity for ESC and non-ESC students to communicate with each other and to share in the unique culture of Japanese elementary school life. We hope that the unique environment of our school provides opportunities for cross-cultural exchange that cannot be found in a typical school.

### October Calendar

3 (Thu)	Intra-city Sports Meet (G6)	18 (Fri)	Sports Day Rehearsal Sports Day Preparation
4 (Fri)	Evacuation Drill	19 (Sat)	Sports Day
7 (Mon)	Committee	21 (Mon)	School Foundation Day (148 <sup>th</sup> ) Substitute Holiday
8 (Tue)	Sports Day Practice①	23 (Wed)	Club Activities
10 (Thu)	Sports Day Practice②	25 (Fri)	Morning Classes (4 periods)
15 (Tue)	Sports Day Practice③	28 (Mon)	Open School
16 (Wed)	Morning Classes (4 periods)	29 (Tue)	Open School School Explanatory Meeting

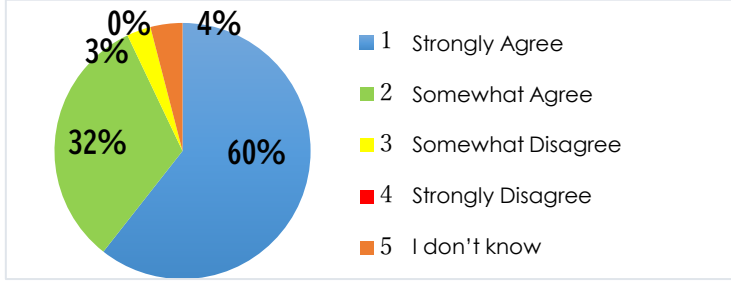
### October Goal

Cooperate in your Studies and School Life

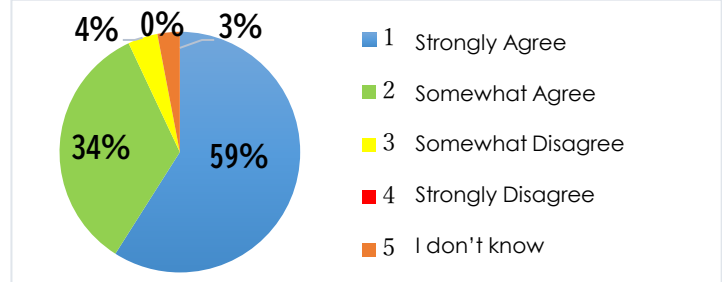
# 2024-2025 School Year 1<sup>st</sup> Term School Evaluation Parent Questionnaire Results

## Response Rate 81% (181/220 families)

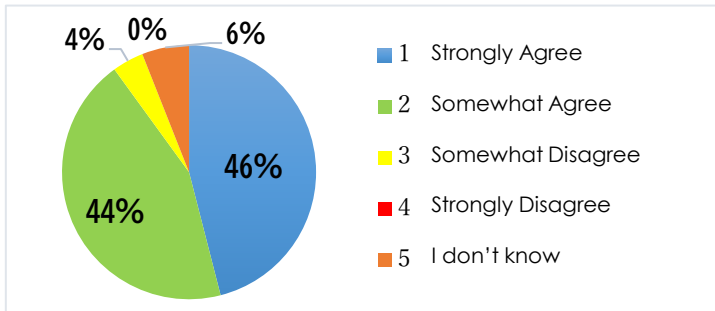
1 The school provides classes where the students can share and express their ideas freely through things such as "learning together" and "acknowledging one another" in order to acquire basic academic skills.



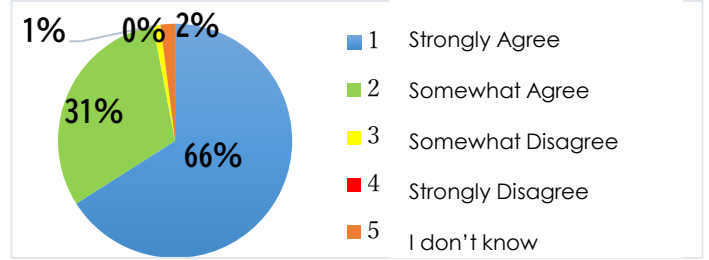
6 The school strives to motivate the students to become familiar with sports and the arts through activities like interacting with athletes and music concerts.



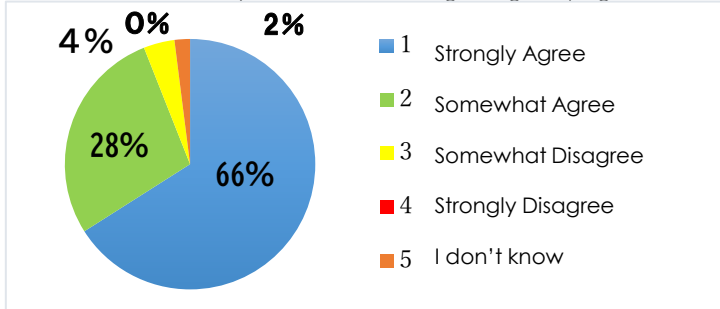
2 The school provides "understandable," and "enjoyable" classes (studies).



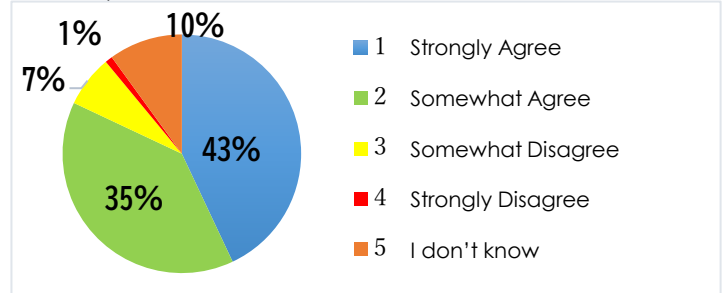
7 The school actively engages in providing various considerations for securing the safety of the students and other security measures. (Evacuation drills, emergency drills, safety instruction, security checks, safety lessons, etc.)



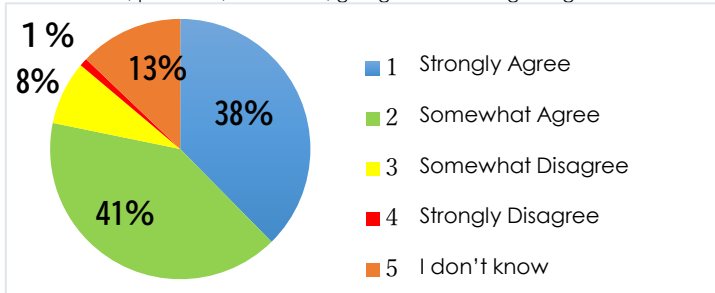
3 The school puts effort into education of the heart and mind so that students learn to acknowledge and respect each other by doing activities such as school events, morals, community interactions, and the greeting campaign.



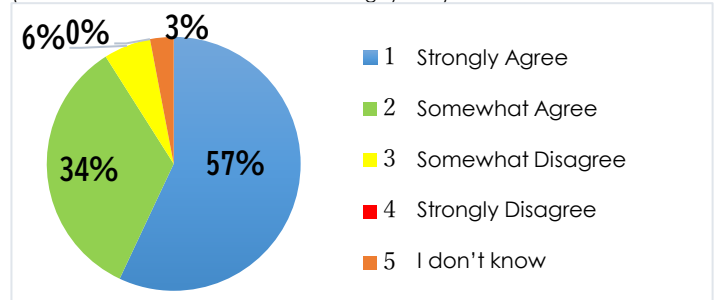
8 The school actively engages in diversifying and enriching guidance and support depending on each student. (Promotion of special support education)



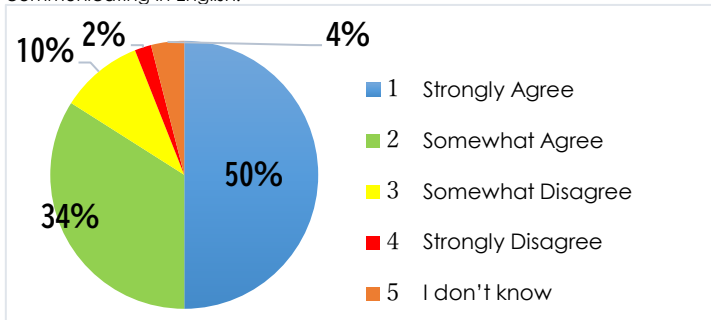
4 The school strives to prevent bullying or truancy by being conscious about student issues, problems, or troubles, giving advice and guiding the students.



9 The school is easy to communicate and consult with for parents and guardians, and the school responds appropriately. (Establishment of educational consulting system)



5 The school provides interesting classes in International Studies by proactively communicating in English.



10 The school provides letters, notes, and a website that are easy to understand for the parents and guardians, and the contents are appropriate.

