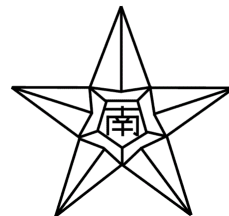


南山だより



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Post-Sports Day Musings

Principal Tsuyoshi Imamura

The second term, which I thought would be a long one, is already coming to a close. We would like to thank the many parents and community members who came to the school and cheered the students on at Sports Day. Each grade showed the results of their practice in the short-distance run, grade-level events, and expressive movement events. In particular, the students had a hard time learning the choreography and matching their movements together. That is why the students' presentation was so wonderful and full of passion. In addition, the Sports Day committee members, cheerleaders, and relay runners contributed to the success of Sports Day by practicing in the morning, after school, and during the day. I know it was a lot of work for everyone, even on the hottest days, but it turned out to be a wonderful event that was very typical of Nanzan Elementary School. Once again, I would like to thank all the parents and community members who supported us.

A few days ago, we held a school explanatory meeting for parents of new first grade students for next school year. I explained about Nanzan Elementary School and also talked about the "Pre-Class," which will be introduced at all elementary schools in Minato Ward starting next school year. "Pre-Class" means that new first grade students will spend one month in a 'Pre-Class (temporary class)' in April, and will be officially assigned to a different class from May. This is the first time in Japan that all elementary schools in the ward have implemented this system, although it has been introduced at Shirokane Elementary School and Akasaka Elementary School.

As well as this "Pre-Class," changes have been occurring in schools one after another, such as foreign language activities and the introduction of tablets during the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, more and more things are being done in schools, such as financial education, consumer education, and programming education, etc. However, I wonder if this focus on new things is causing neglect of what has been done in the past, such as daily classes and daily life guidance. Frankly speaking, I cannot shake off my uneasiness. I feel that it is sometimes necessary to stop and reevaluate the positioning of these activities within the overall educational activities at school.

Recently, I heard the phrase, "An incorrect answer does not mean nothing." I think it was used with the nuance that even if an answer is incorrect for an individual, it is meaningful from another perspective or as a whole. This phrase made me feel like I was asking myself whether I was asking too much to get the answers right in an efficient manner, or conversely, whether I was able to accept incorrect or not-so-correct answers. (There are limits, of course.) To begin with, there are many things that cannot be measured by correct or incorrect answers for children's growth, and the process, time, motivation, and curiosity to reach those answers should also be important.

Another thing I think is that even if you gather all the correct answers, it doesn't necessarily mean that the answer is correct overall. If you only look at that part, it may be the right answer, but the overall environment and conditions may not be in place and things may not go well. It's like the pieces of a puzzle seem to fit together, but the whole is distorted.

In elementary school, we also want to be conscious of being able to accept answers that may not be exactly what we are looking for, and to be able to see a balance between the individual and the whole. In order to do that, I think I need to be able to create free time and mental space.

Sports Day is over, but the Art Exhibition is coming up in December. Preparations are well under way for this as well, so please look forward to it. Thank you for your continued warm support.

2024~2025 Sports Day

Sports Day Coordinator

We were able to hold our Sports Day on October 19 (Sat.). The slogan for this year's event was "Bloom in all your glory, everyone is the star, Go Nanzan!"

It was impressive to see the students of each grade moving and dancing in unison with their classmates and showing the results of their hard work. In the sprint races, the students ran as hard as they could until they reached the goal, and after the race, we saw many smiling faces of students talking with their classmates.

The 5th and 6th graders supported this year's Sports Day not only by competing in their own grade competitions, but also by working on their own sports day committee activities. It was very impressive to see how they managed to balance their athletic competitions with their committees', working for the good of the entire school.

At every turn, the students' smiles blossomed and everyone was a star in the Sports Day. Thank you very much for your cooperation at home in the lead up to the Sports Day. We hope that you will continue to warmly watch over the energetic students of Nanzan.



GIGA School Concept

Information Coordinator

The GIGA School concept was launched in 2019, and it has become commonplace at our school for each student to have access to a tablet for learning. The GIGA School concept aims to realize an academic ICT environment where diverse students, including those with special needs, receive equal and individualized attention, and where their qualities and abilities are nurtured without leaving anyone behind, by integrating one tablet per student and a high-speed, large-capacity telecommunications network. ICT devices are capable of realizing a way of learning that suits each and every student. On the other hand, it does not mean that notebook-based learning is not suitable for individual attention. Depending on the actual situation of the students and the content of the class, notebooks may be more suitable. In other words, the ability for students to choose whether to use ICT or notebooks and to advance their learning on their own is a quality and ability that will be required in the future.

In the future, self-paced learning will be introduced, and the ability of students to choose their own learning content and methods will become even more important. In order to make their own choices, they must have many options. We will continue to teach a variety of learning methods and work to develop their ability to choose their own methods and content of study.

November Event Calendar

5 (Tue)	Committee Withdrawal of educational materials and PTA Fees	13 (Wed)	5 period Wednesday schedule
6 (Wed)	4 Period Day	14 (Thu)	New G1 Health Check-up 4 Periods
7 (Thu)	G5 Social Studies field trip Other grades will have a 4 period day	20 (Wed)	Research class 5 periods for G4 only
8 (Fri)	Evacuation drill	21 (Thu)	G4 Social Studies field trip School lunch tasting School Health Committee PTA board meeting
11 (Mon)	Wednesday schedule	27 (Mon)	Club

November Goal

Use Proper Language <Fureai Month>