

# 南山だより



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## In Preparation for Sports Day

Tsuyoshi Imamura

A month has passed since the new school year began. First graders have started their finalized classes, and all the students are spending their days cheerfully and getting along well in their new grades and classes. That said, we are beginning to see signs of fatigue, so please make sure your child gets a proper rest and takes care of their health during the Golden Week holidays.

This year, due to turf installation work on the schoolyard, the Sports Day is scheduled for May 31 (Sat.) After Golden Week, each grade will begin practicing for the event. In recent years, May has seen many hot days. While the school will of course be attentive to the students' physical condition, please don't hesitate to let us know if you have any concerns at home. Although the preparation period is short, we hope each student will learn something valuable through the experience of working together to create something as a team. We would be delighted if you could come and see the results of their hard work on the day of the event.

Thank you, as always, for your continued understanding and support of our academic activities. We look forward to your cooperation throughout the year.

## Fostering Independence and Compassion through Special Activities

Head of Special Activities

Akiko Takahashi

One of the great strengths of Nanzan Elementary School is the warm, cooperative atmosphere that extends across all grade levels. This school-wide sense of unity is supported by special activities such as *tatewari* group activities and cross-grade interactions.

This year, we are planning "Tatewari Group Play" during recess in September, where students will play together in their mixed-grade groups. Through events like student assemblies and collaborative activities with other grades, we hope that each child will learn to think about their role, act with compassion, and build stronger relationships with others.

## Building on Learning Step by Step

Head of Small-Group Math Instruction

Miyuu Takasaki

In the mathematics curriculum for third grade and above, we divide each grade level (consisting of two homeroom classes) into three smaller groups for ability-based instruction. This approach allows us to provide more personalized and focused support, ensuring that students steadily build their understanding by connecting new content with what they've already learned.

To support this process, students learn in smaller groups than in their regular classes, with homeroom teachers and specialized math instructors working together to align instruction and provide consistent support tailored to each student's needs.

The three course groups are named *Master*, *Clear*, and *Challenge*. While each group may use different approaches or learning strategies, the core curriculum remains the same across all groups. There is no ranking or hierarchy between the courses. All students take the same assessment at the end of each unit to evaluate their understanding.

Our shared goal is for every student to thoroughly grasp the material, and we structure instruction to help them achieve that goal at their own pace. We appreciate your continued understanding and support of our differentiated instruction in mathematics.

## Monthly Goal

# Cooperate in Your Studies and School Life

# May Events Schedule

Date	Day	Morning Assembly, Etc.	Events, Etc.	Health Notices, Etc.	Periods/ Dismissal Time					
					G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
1	Thu	Kanji · Keisan	Physical Aptitude Test	Vision Test G2	4	5	6	6	6	6
2	Fri	Reading	5 Period Day	Internal Medicine Check-up (G1,3,5) 9:00	4	5	5	5	5	5
3	Sat		Foundation Day							
4	Sun		Greenery Day							
5	Mon		Children's Day							
6	Tue		Substitute Holiday							
7	Wed	Safety	Morning Classes G1 Normal Schedule Begins	Vision Test G3	4	4	4	4	4	4
8	Thu	Keisan · Kanji		Dental Check-up (G2,4,6) 9:00	5	5	6	6	6	6
9	Fri	Tatewari	5 Period Day	Vision Test G1	5	5	5	5	5	5
10	Sat		(Open Playground AM)							
11	Sun									
12	Mon	Assembly	Evac. Drill	Vision Test G4	5	5	5	6	6	6
13	Tue	Kanji · Keisan		Vision Test G5 Urinalysis 2nd Screening	5	5	5	6	6	6
14	Wed	Music Assembly	Only G1 5 Periods	Vision Test G6	5	4	4	4	4	4
15	Thu	Keisan · Kanji		Dental Check-up (G1,3,5) 9:00	5	5	6	6	6	6
16	Fri	Assembly	Taxation Lesson		5	6	6	6	6	6
17	Sat									
18	Sun									
19	Mon	Assembly		Hearing Test G1	5	5	5	6	6	6
20	Tue	Kanji · Keisan	Sports Day Job Activities	Urinalysis 2nd Screening (Make-up Day) Eye Exam (9:30~)	5	5	5	5	6	6
21	Wed	Whole School Practice 1	Morning Classes		4	4	4	4	4	4
22	Thu	Keisan · Kanji		ENT Exam · All Grades (9:30~) 1st Heart Exam (Make-up Day)	5	5	6	6	6	6
23	Fri	Whole School Practice 2	5 Period Day		5	5	5	5	5	5
24	Sat		(Open Playground AM)							
25	Sun									
26	Mon	Assembly			5	5	5	6	6	6
27	Tue	Kanji · Keisan			5	5	5	6	6	6
28	Wed		Sports Day Rehearsal Bring P.E. Clothes		5	5	5	5	5	5
29	Thu	Class	Whole School Practice Make-up Day		5	5	6	6	6	6
30	Fri	School Life Questionnaire	Sports Day Final Practice / Job Activities Sports Day Set-up		4	4	4	4	5	5
31	Sat		Sports Day		5	5	5	5	5	5

**Any day that is not marked as "B schedule" is an A schedule.**

**Dismissal Time**      **【A Schedule】** 3 Periods : 11:40   4 Periods : 13:15   5 Periods : 14:40   6 Periods : 15:30

**【B Schedule】** 4 Periods(With Lunch) : 12:55   4 Periods(Without Lunch) : 12:10   5 Periods : 13:55

**✳️ For detailed dismissal times, please also check the notifications from each grade and class.**

# Notice to All Grades

## ◆Sports Day◆

**May 31 (Sat), 2025 8:50 AM – 2:20 PM Nanzan Elementary School Schoolyard**

	The day prior	5/31(Sat)	6/1 (Sun)	2(Mon)	3(Tue)
As planned	Decision 5:00pm	○	No School	Holiday	Regular Classes
Postponement 1	School-wide mail	No School	○	Holiday	Regular Classes
Postponement 2	(On the day)6:30am	No School	Monday Class Schedule	Holiday	○

<Postponement 1 > If the decision to hold the event on Sunday is made by 5:00 p.m. on the preceding Friday, Saturday will be treated as a regular day off.

<Postponement 2 > If it is determined by 5:00 p.m. on Saturday that the event cannot be held on Sunday, regular Monday classes will be conducted on Sunday, and the Sports Day will be held on Tuesday. **(June 2 (Mon) will be a compensatory day off regardless of weather conditions.)**

**Students will take their gym clothes home on May 28 (Wed.) Please wash them at home and make sure your child brings them on the day of the Sports Day.**

## ◆From the Library: “Rules Regarding Borrowing Books”◆

Each student may borrow up to two books. The lending period is one week.

## ◆Regarding Health Check Results◆

This month is a busy time for health checkups. If your child receives any medical treatment recommendations, we kindly ask that you have them treated as soon as possible.

(Please note that children will not be allowed to participate in swimming activities if treatment for ear, nose, or eye conditions has not been completed.)

## ◆Regarding Water Bottles◆

To ensure that students can stay well-hydrated during outdoor play and PE, please make sure your child brings a water bottle with their name clearly labeled.

We also kindly ask for your continued attention to your child’s daily health and well-being.

# Grade Level Notices (May)

## 1st Grade

☆May 14 (Wed) will be a preschool–elementary collaboration day. On this day, the first-grade classes will be open for observation by staff from affiliated kindergartens and nurseries. As a result, first-grade students will have a 5-period school day

### ☆ About Cleaning Supplies

Starting in May, first graders will begin participating in cleaning duties as part of the five-period schedule. Please make sure your child brings the following items by May 2 (Fri)

- 1 cleaning cloth for classroom use (no name)
- 1 personal cleaning cloth (with name)
- 2 clothespins with strings attached (with name)

## 2nd Grade

- The second graders are confidently adjusting to their new roles after welcoming the first graders. We have seen students sharing their ideas on what kind of second grader they want to become. During the meet and greet with the first graders, many students volunteered to take on roles like hosting and delivering opening remarks. They practiced and worked hard to help, and they even taught the first graders how to play "body rock-paper-scissors." They have been a great support to the younger students.
- As the Sports Day approaches, the second graders are working towards their goals with enthusiasm. In the team activities for first and second graders this year, we hope they will lead the first graders and shine in their roles.

## 3rd Grade

- For students who are not part of the ESC program, we will be using Japanese language dictionaries (covered under the school's subsidy program) during language lessons. These will be purchased collectively by the school. Please prepare and send a small bag that can be hung on the side of your child's desk by May 7 (Wed). Thank you for your cooperation.
- Once the calligraphy sets (also covered under the subsidy program) ordered by the school arrive, we will distribute them to the students. Please make sure to label each item inside the set with your child's name and have them bring it to school. The starting date for using the set will be announced via the communication notebook.

## 4th Grade

- The students have begun the club activities they were looking forward to, and many are starting to feel that they are now part of the upper grades. Through working with students from other grades, we hope they will learn the importance of asking questions when they don't understand something and the joy of working together. Each club may require specific items to be prepared, so please ask your child about what they need to bring.
- Tests have also gradually begun. This year, tests will be stored in a file. From time to time, the file will be sent home. Please go over the tests with your child, check what mistakes were made, and use it as a chance to support their next steps in learning. We kindly ask that you stamp or sign the most recent test return the file to school the following day.

## 5th Grade

- Home Economics lessons will be starting soon.  
In the first term, students will hand-sew felt name tags, and in the second term, they will make stuffed toys using recycled clothing and fabric with a sewing machine.  
To support this activity, we are collecting the following reusable items. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation:
  - Buttons, ribbons, and strings
  - Old clothes and fabric (such as old kimono material or traditional hand towels)

## 6th Grade

- In Home Economics this term, students will be making appliqué designs using recycled fabric. These creations will later be incorporated into other Home Economics projects in the second term. To support this activity, we are collecting the following items. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation:
  - Buttons, ribbons, and strings
  - Old clothes and fabric (such as old kimono material or traditional hand towels)
- Based on the findings from the recent field inspection for the upcoming overnight trip, we will soon finalize the destination. Details will be shared at the overnight trip information session on, June 13 (Fri).  
A professional photographer from Matsuo Photo Studio will accompany the group on the day of the trip.