

南山だより



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As We Begin the Year

Principal Tsuyoshi Imamura

Congratulations to all our new first-grade students on your enrollment. And to our students from the new second through sixth grades, congratulations on your promotion to the next grade level. To all parents and guardians, we sincerely celebrate your children's enrollment and advancement.

Time has passed quickly, and I am now welcoming my third spring at Nanzan Elementary School. Once again, under the wide blue sky, filled with the bright and lively voices of students, and supported by the warm cooperation of parents and members of the local community, I truly feel that Nanzan Elementary School is a wonderful place.

At last month's graduation ceremony, in the presence of many parents, community members, and distinguished guests, the graduating students demonstrated their remarkable growth through their dignified behavior, heartfelt words, and beautiful song. The fifth-grade students who attended also showed a calm yet determined readiness to take on the role of the school's senior students, which was truly impressive.

And starting today, we welcome our new first graders into the school community. I am very much looking forward to seeing everyone come together to continue building an even more wonderful Nanzan Elementary School. As we begin this new school year, I would like to share with you some words I spoke at the graduation ceremony:

When the mind changes, actions change. When actions change, habits change.

When habits change, character changes. When character changes, life changes.

There may be different versions of this saying, but its essence is that the state of one's "mind" is what truly matters. How we perceive and face things in life has no single correct answer. However, I believe that our "mind" needs a certain degree of stability. By "stability," I mean things that are constant, predictable, and allow for a sense of margin or calm. We often hear that we live in uncertain times, but if we truly had no idea what tomorrow might bring, we would feel constant anxiety. While no one can predict decades into the future, most people can at least imagine what tomorrow, next week, or even next year might look like.

Even in elementary school, while what we teach evolves with technological advances and changes in society, there are many things that remain constant—such as attitudes toward learning, ways of learning, social skills, moral values, and the joy of creating something together with friends. For children's healthy growth, a steady daily rhythm, along with calmness and peace in everyday life, is essential. In order to embrace change, people need a certain level of stability as a foundation, and maintaining that balance is important.

This year, Nanzan Elementary School celebrates its 150th anniversary. The long history and traditions passed down through the Meiji, Taisho, Showa, Heisei, and Reiwa eras are a great strength of our school and provide a kind of stability that cannot easily be obtained. Building on this foundation, we will continue to flexibly embrace change in response to the times and environment, and strive toward our goal: "A place of learning where every child can grow." All faculty and staff will work together to achieve this. We sincerely appreciate the continued understanding and cooperation of parents and the community in supporting our educational activities. We look forward to your support again this year.

April Goal

Greet Others

April Event Schedule

Date	Day	Morning Assembly Etc.	Events, Etc.	Periods/ Dismissal Time					
				G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6
1	Wed								
2	Thu								
3	Fri		School Attendance ⑥						
4	Sat								
5	Sun		Spring Break Ends						
6	Mon	Opening Ceremony	Opening Ceremony, Introduction of New Teachers, Entrance Ceremony (Afternoon)	2	3	3	3	3	3
7	Tue	Safety Instruction	Morning classes, Step Individual Interviews (until the 10th)	3	4	4	4	4	4
8	Wed	Class	School lunch begins ②~⑥, Committee activities ⑤⑥	3	4	4	4	5	5
9	Thu	Keisan Kanji	5 Period②~⑥, Start of regular health check-ups, Measurements ③④.	3	5	5	5	5	5
10	Fri	Reading	5 Period②~⑥, Evacuation Drill	3	5	5	5	5	5
11	Sat								
12	Sun								
13	Mon	Assembly	School lunch begins ①, Step begins, Measurements ①②.	4	5	5	6	6	6
14	Tue	Kanji Keisan	Measurements ⑤⑥.	4	5	6	6	6	6
15	Wed	G1 Welcome Assembly	G1 Welcome Assembly, Parent-Teacher Conference	4	4	4	5	5	5
16	Thu	Keisan Kanji	Urinalysis (primary)	4	5	6	6	6	6
17	Fri	Reading	Hearing Test ②	4	6	6	6	6	6
18	Sat								
19	Sun								
20	Mon	Assembly	Traffic Safety Class ①, Hearing Test ③, 5 Periods ②~⑥	4	5	5	5	5	5
21	Tue	Kanji Keisan	Fire Truck Sketch ②, Hearing Test ①	4	5	6	6	6	6
22	Wed	1 Assembly 2 Questionnaire	Morning Classes, Heart Check-up	4	4	4	4	4	4
23	Thu	Keisan Kanji	National Academic Achievement Survey - Study Questionnaire⑥, Internal Medicine Check-up ②④⑤	4	5	6	6	6	6
24	Fri	1 Questionnaire 2 Assembly	Preclass Ends①, Club②③④, Hearing Test⑤	4	4	4	5	5	5
25	Sat								
26	Sun								
27	Mon	Assembly	Finalized Class Announcement ①, Committee⑤⑥	4	5	5	5	6	6
28	Tue	Kanji Keisan	Student Study Survey①, Vision Test②	4	5	6	6	6	6
29	Wed		Showa Day						
30	Thu	Keisan Kanji	5 Periods Vision Test①, Spring School Route Inspection and Community Visit, No Cleaning	4	5	5	5	5	5

★The numbers inside the O indicate the grade level. Example: ① → 1st grade

★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.

All Grade Announcements (April)

- **Beginning-of-Term Parent Meeting (First Term)** April 15th (Wed) 13:30~14:10 (G1) Gym
(G2・3) Classrooms
14:20~14:50 (General Meeting) Gym
15:00~15:40 (G4~6) Classroom

○ **Emergency Mailing System “Sughool”**

From April 7th (Tue), **attendance notifications (absences/ arriving late) and school newsletters will be sent via “Sughool.” For first grade students, this will begin on April 10th (Fri).**

In addition, a test mail will be sent on April 9th (Thu). Please check to confirm you have received the mail.

○ **Things to be submitted at the beginning of the school year.**

Deadline: April 8th (Wed)

- Health-related documents in the green envelope (Health Card, Heart Examination Questionnaire, Tuberculosis Screening Questionnaire)

Deadline: April 9th (Thu)

- Family Information Form
- Photo Publication Consent Form

April 16th (Thu)

- Urinalysis test (to be collected at home on the morning of the test)
Make-up day: April 23rd (Thu)

○ **If your child will be late to school or needs to leave early, please go through reception,** and ensure that a parent or designated guardian escorts them to and from the classroom.

○ **Everyday Set — These are items your child should bring to school every day. Please make sure all items are labeled with your child's name.**

School hat, pencil case, *shitajiki* (plastic writing board), contact notebook, contact pouch, handkerchief, tissues, and for school lunch: lunch bag (lunch mat and 2–3 spare masks).

*The pencil case (simple type) should contain: 5 sharpened pencils (mechanical pencils are not allowed), an eraser (white and unscented), red and blue pencils, a black permanent marker, and a ruler (about 15 cm, non-folding).

○ **Regarding Challenge Time**

If assignments are not completed, supplementary learning sessions (“Challenge Time”) may be held during breaks or after school as needed. Please note that there may be changes to dismissal times, and you will be informed accordingly.

○ **Regarding Study Supplies**

Due to partial subsidization of study supplies, more items will be purchased in bulk by the school. We will inform you separately about any items that need to be purchased at home.

○ **Regarding Cleaning Cloths**

Please have your child bring the following by April 9 (Thu): two cleaning cloths (one labeled with your child's name and one unlabeled), and two clothespins (with straps so they can be attached to a chair). For first grade students, details will be provided at a later date.

If you need the school to prepare documents for external organizations (such as a Certificate of Enrollment), please contact the school at least 10 days in advance. Requests with shorter notice may not be accommodated. We appreciate your cooperation.

Grade 1

○ Regarding April's schedule

In April only, we will distribute a printed newsletter each week containing the schedule and a list of items to bring. Please be sure to check it.

Grade 2

○ Items to Bring

Inside the desk box: glue (liquid and stick type), scissors (with cover), colored pencils (12 colors), crayons, and cellophane tape (please prepare at home).

2 cleaning cloths (1 labeled with the student's name, 1 unlabeled.)

2 clothespins with straps (please label them with your child's name).

○ Items for specific classes. Please send these by April 8th (Wed).

- Music: music bag, textbook, *Uta wa Tomodachi* songbook, keyboard harmonica, and a towel for cleaning the instrument.

○ Notebooks

Notebooks will be purchased in bulk at school to match the new school term.

- Japanese: 15-square notebook (with cross guide)
- Math: 17-square notebook (with cross guide)

Grade 3

○ Please have your child bring 2 cleaning cloths (1 labeled with their name, 1 unlabeled) and 2 clothespins with strings that can be attached to a chair by April 9th (Thu).

○ Items for specific classes. Please send these with your child by April 9th (Thu).

- Art: pencil case, scissors, glue, crayons .
- Music: music bag, textbook, *Uta wa Tomodachi* songbook, file (empty), keyboard harmonica

○ Notebooks

The first notebook will be purchased in bulk at school:

- Japanese: 18-square notebook
- Math, Science, Social Studies: 5mm grid notebook

After finishing these notebooks, please purchase new ones with the same format.

Grade 4

○ The club activities that the students have been looking forward to have started. Through activities with students from other grades, we hope they will learn the importance and enjoyment of interacting and cooperating with others. Each club requires specific items, so please check with your child about what they need to bring. Additionally, for student committee activities, two representatives from each class will participate in the Representative Committee. Please note that their dismissal time will differ from that of other students.

○ Regarding Notebooks: The first notebook will be purchased in bulk by the school. (For Japanese: 15 vertical lines; for Math, Science, and Social Studies: 5 mm grid.) Once the notebook is used up, please purchase a new one with the same format.

○ Items for specific classes. Please have your child bring these by April 8th (Wed):

- Art: pencil case, scissors, glue, crayons, paint set
- Music: music bag, textbook, *Uta wa Tomodachi* songbook, recorder, keyboard harmonica, file.

Grade 5

○Regarding Committee Activities

Committee activities will begin in the Fifth grade. Through these activities, we will support students in developing a sense that their actions contribute to the entire school community.

○Notices and Requests

On 23rd (Thu), and 24th (Fri), Ms. Takasaki, the homeroom teacher of class 5-2, will be absent to visit the sites for the Summer Camp. Thank you for your understanding.

○Items for Specific Classes. Please have your child bring these by April 9th (Thu)

- Art: pencil case, scissors, glue, crayons, paint set
- Music: music bag, textbook, *Uta wa Tomodachi* songbook, recorder, keyboard harmonica, file.

Grade 6

○National Academic Achievement Survey

On 23rd (Thu), the National Academic Achievement Survey will be conducted. The test will cover material learned up to the 5th grade. Please encourage your child at home to review previous lessons so they can approach the test with confidence. (Subjects: Japanese and Math) The Student Questionnaire is scheduled for Tuesday, the 28th. Please make sure your child's tablet is fully charged on that day.

※ESC students will only take the math portion of the test and Student Questionnaire

○Notices and Requests

On the 16th (Thu), and 17th (Fri), Mr. Nagai, the homeroom teacher of class 6-2, will be absent to visit the sites for the Summer Camp. Thank you for your understanding.

○Items for Specific Classes. Please have your child bring these by April 13th (Mon):

- Art: pencil case, scissors, glue, crayons, paint set
- Music: music bag (please choose one that can hold A4-size materials, do not bring the large bag for the keyboard harmonica), music file, textbook, *Uta wa Tomodachi* songbook, recorder
(The keyboard harmonica is not needed. We will inform you if it becomes necessary.)
- Home Economics: sewing kit

Regarding events for the School 150th Anniversary

Anniversary Committee

Thanks to the efforts and support of many people since the school's founding in 1876, we are pleased to celebrate our 150th anniversary this year. During this significant milestone year, students will take part in related events as the ones who will carry on and connect the school's history and traditions into the future. We sincerely appreciate the cooperation and support of the local community and all parents.

〈Main Schedule〉	Contents
May 12 (Tue)	Aerial photograph, whole-school group photo, and class photos 【All students must attend】
October 29 (Thu)	Ceremony rehearsal (Afternoon: 5th and 6th grade students only) (Grades 1-4 will have morning classes only) *Parents may (observe) with prior registration. (Grades 1-4 students may not attend.)
November 4 (Wed)	School-wide commemorative assembly (scheduled for 1st period) 【All students participate】
November 7 (Sat)	• Ceremony and celebratory speeches (Morning: 5th and 6th grade students only) (Grades 1-4 have no school)
	• Jazz band performance on the school grounds and student activities *Parents and Grades 1-4 students (accompanied by a guardian) may attend with prior registration
	• Celebration gathering (Afternoon: invited guests, alumni, community members, and parents)

*A separate form will be distributed to confirm whether you consent to the use of your child's photos and name for the anniversary, along with other photo usage permissions.

(These may be used in the anniversary publication, displays within the school, and celebratory videos.) The form will be distributed on April 6 and collected on April 9.

*Applications for events that parents can attend will be distributed at the beginning of September.

*We would also like to ask parents to assist with preparation and event management. Those who are able to help will be invited to sign up at the beginning of September.