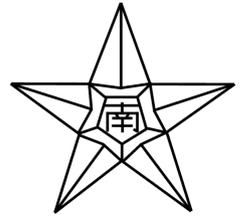


南山だより



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My Thoughts and Feelings during the Summer

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A wonderful summer break for everyone, full of new experiences and challenges

These words were part of the speech I made at the 1st term closing ceremony. For children, it is especially important to "try everything," which includes things like helping out at home, exercising, staying healthy, and studying. During this speech I tried to impart on the students the importance of considering all these different things over the course of the 42 days of summer break. How did your children spend their break at home this summer during the intense heat?

At the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, intense competition unfolded between the athletes in their respective events. I wonder how the students felt about watching world-class athletes perform in real time. By changing our perspective on how we view the competition, both children and adults can learn important things about life and relationships from things such as the fair play, words, and deeds of the athletes which show respect to their opponents from start to finish.

[Faster Higher Stronger Together]

This has been the slogan for the Tokyo Olympics. One word that has drawn my attention in particular is "Together." In any given event, athletes will compete against each other to determine the victor. In these competitions the athletes face internal struggles, but for many events they must somehow demonstrate superiority over their opponent, and this is how they win medals or improve their ranking. On the other hand, if we look at this from another perspective, if athletes do not compete "together" with each other, they have no way of demonstrating their mastery of the sport.

Japan's softball team took the gold medal at this year's Olympic Games. Not only has it been 13 years since the sport was included in the summer games, but it is also the 2nd consecutive gold medal that Japan has earned in the sport. It was certainly no ordinary achievement, as the athletes had to maintain their motivation and keep themselves in top physical condition during this time. It is my feeling that team Japan spent 13 years "together," never giving up, all the while striving to improve their teamwork, and the results of their hard work "together" with each other brought home the gold medal.

At school, it is necessary for all of the faculty to firmly grasp the school goal, "Nanzan ES, where every student grows by learning," and work "together" to raise each and every student over the course of their 6 years here.

[Performance]

At the opening ceremonies for the Tokyo Olympics, the performance consisted of kabuki actors making demonstrations of "mie" (poses) along with 50 different pictograms while 1,824 drones displayed the checkered pattern Olympic emblem in 3D, all of which connected with the traditions, art, and culture of Japan. I imagine that the impressions and reactions of those who watched the performance were varied, but for me personally, I felt that the opening ceremonies were exciting yet simple and easy to understand.

In our school, the faculty have high levels of specialization which make use of what they are skilled at. Within the New Nanzan Brand, those faculty give lessons and guidance constructed by leveraging their individual qualities and merits. Put simply, we are aiming for academic activities that are "understandable," "achievable," and "enjoyable."

In the 2nd term as well, we will consider how we can give students the power to learn through our day to day academic activities. We will develop lessons that fully demonstrate the performance of the teachers, and we will further enhance our academic activities. Thank you for your support.

The English Support Course

EST Chief

The English Support Course (ESC) at Nanzan ES was initially established in 2017. The program was established with the goal of giving students of foreign nationalities who do not have Japanese language skills the opportunity to more fully engage in the classroom environment of a Japanese public elementary school. This is accomplished through the efforts of the English Support Teachers (EST), who work with the homeroom teachers to provide simultaneous instruction for the ESC students in English. Conversely, when students are sharing their thoughts during class discussions, an EST will translate the students' comments from English to Japanese, and this allows for the free exchange of ideas without concern for language barriers.

This type of unique environment presents special opportunities for multilingual and cross-cultural exchange on a day-to-day basis that cannot be found in a typical classroom. During mathematics and language arts periods, the ESC students study in a separate room, while all other subjects are done in their homeroom together with the Japanese students. Japanese language studies in particular are conducted with the aim of giving students the tools necessary to mutually understand culture and ideas, thereby deepening exchanges with the homeroom teacher and Japanese classmates. With the foreign students using the Japanese language skills they have just learned, and their classmates using easy to understand Japanese, they can try to communicate their ideas and understand the ideas of others, which nurtures mutual understanding and consideration within the students.

Communication is core to every aspect of the ESC program; communication with students, faculty, parents, and members of the community. It is our hope that the communication-rich environment of our school will cause a ripple effect that overcomes language barriers, encourages open mindedness, and creates mutual understanding towards others.

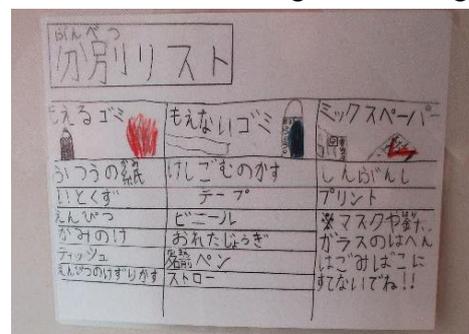
Committee Activities

Head of Committee Activities

Committee Activities at our school consist of 7 different groups, which includes the Representative, Library, Broadcast, Assembly, Health, Ecology, and Athletics committees. All of the 5th and 6th graders, and some of the 4th graders (in the Representative committee only) are participants, and all of them demonstrate a lot of motivation in their activities. The aims of committee activities are ① To participate proactively in the committee of which they are a part of while taking responsible actions; and ② To cultivate independence and sociality through activities focused on discussing and solving problems for the enhancement and improvement of school life.

For example, through various initiatives the Ecology committee works to create a better environment for everyone. These include things like checking that rules regarding AC use are being observed, giving reminders and ensuring that waste is being properly separated, and helping out the school custodians. Additionally, they make posters with the intent of raising everyone's eco-awareness.

Similarly, the students involved with the other 6 committees each have their roles for which they are responsible and take satisfaction in their day-to-day efforts.



September Calendar of Events

1 (Wed)	Opening Ceremony	22 (Wed)	Evacuation Drill
2 (Thu)	School Lunch Starts	22 (Wed)	Parent-Teacher Conference (Online)
4 (Sat)	Online Attendance	29 (Wed)	Club
16 (Mon)	Pick-up Evacuation Drill		

September Goal

Sit Up Properly When Writing