

The Kosei Grapevine

Volume 3

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Issue 6

Welcome!!

Hello everyone!! We hope you are all well and enjoying the cooler weather. It is now the middle of autumn and the autumn leaves will be starting to drop off soon.

The students are very busy at the moment studying for the Eiken Exams and the Midterm Exams. The students are studying really hard and we wish them all the best.

秋たけなわ、間もなく紅葉も始まる気持ちのいい季節です。英語検定試験。中間テストと忙しい時期でもあります。みんな頑張って力を発揮してください！



School Festival Performances

The Kosei Girls School Festival was held on Sept 25th and 26th this year. The weather was a bit overcast on the Saturday morning but it had fined up by lunchtime so there was no need to cancel anything out doors. On Sunday it was an absolutely beautiful day! Many people turned up on both days to see what the Kosei girls had made and also to watch the performances. All of the rooms had their own special themes and looked very impressive. The various clubs that performed all did very well and parents, friends etc who came really enjoyed. Special thanks must go out to a lot of the parents who help during the festival – without their help it wouldn't have been possible – thank you mum's and dad's! Look forward to seeing you all again next year!

学園祭

9月25・26日始め心配した天気も晴れ上がり全校生徒がそれぞれの持ち場でしっかり成果を上げました。来校された方々にも楽しんでいただけたと思います。ご父兄の方々ご協力感謝いたします。



English Oratorical Contest

During the school festival, fellow students, teachers and visitors had the chance to be amazed by the skills, talents and guts of the Kosei crew. While most people were enjoying the performances and activities here at school, one of our students represented Kosei and brought her skills, talents and guts to a very different event on the other side of town. Marie Mizuno had been practicing her speech for weeks, polishing her pronunciation, intonation and expression with the native teachers, as well as with the Japanese English teachers. On Saturday 25 September, she took to the stage around 4:30pm at the Prince Takamado 62nd All Japan Inter-Middle School English Oratorical Contest at the Yomiuri Shimbun Building in Otemachi. She sat through the speeches of the 47 fellow contestants before her – when it was her turn, it was clear she hadn't lost any of her energy and determination in the process. Quite the contrary, she delivered her speech very calmly, clearly, and confidently. In her speech, entitled "Do you enjoy watching *Sazae-san* on Sunday?", she spoke about how her involvement with the brass band at Kosei had changed the way she spent her time on Sundays, for the better. Everyone at the speech contest was fascinated by her personal account, but she was up against some fierce competition which proved too strong in the end. The next day, however, Marie was back at school, at the helm of the trumpet section in the brass band, blowing her lungs out. I don't know if she managed to catch *Sazae-san* that evening, but if she did, I'm sure she enjoyed it. Well done, Marie, and thank you for representing our school with verve and panache! Please enjoy her speech in the back.

高円の宮杯英語弁論コンテスト

学園祭が行われた25日に大手町の読売新聞社ホールで開かれたスピーチコンテストに中3の水野真里江も参加しました。47名もの参加者の中で「日曜日のTVサザエさんを楽しんでいますか」と部活と学業の両立をテーマに英語で話した内容は、翌日の学園祭にトランペットを仲間と楽しそうに吹く姿そのものでした。しっかり頑張りました！スピーチは裏に掲載されています。



Do you enjoy watching 'Sazae-san' on Sundays?

Marie Mizuno

What do you think about when you watch "Sazae-san" on Sunday evenings?

I am sure many people say "Sunday is almost over! What did I do today? Ah, another week will start." I was one of those people. I used to become sad when I watched Sazae-san, regretting that I had just wasted another Sunday. I did nothing special almost every Sunday. Some people say, "Doing nothing is also important. We can just relax ourselves and be refreshed." Many junior high school students spend long hours exchanging emails with their friends for a whole Sunday. When night comes, they realize they haven't finished their homework. They have to finish it even late at night. Many of my friends fall asleep during classes on Mondays. It is a bad cycle.

How about you? How do you spend your time, especially on Sundays?

I have been a member of the brass band since the 7th grade. Last year we started practicing on Sundays. When I didn't have club activities, I just stayed at home and did almost nothing. Now I am more satisfied with how I spend my time. Of course I sometimes want to go out with my friends, to watch movies and to go shopping at the weekend. But I know I can enjoy myself more when I am doing club activities on Sundays. I play the trumpet. I like playing the trumpet so much. In the brass band, teamwork is very important. I can't be absent from our weekly practice sessions. In order to build good relations between members, we need to understand one another. We talk a lot, discuss a lot and sometimes argue. I believe this makes our ties stronger and in the end, we can create good music. I also have to manage my time well. I have to get good grades to play the trumpet. I come to school early to do my homework because I fall asleep soon after I get home. I don't mind getting up early in the morning to play the trumpet.

Time passes and never returns! I don't want to waste my time any more nor feel unhappy about it. I can really enjoy Sazae-san now, because I have found my goal(s) in school life.

Important Dates This Term

- Oct 15 Half day for 9th Graders
- Oct 16-23 9th Graders go to New Zealand
- Oct 16 Eiken Written Exam
- Oct 27-28 Midterm Exams
- Oct.29 Halloween Party among 7th graders
- Oct 31 Halloween



Halloween

Halloween, which is celebrated on October 31, is a holiday celebrated in several countries around the world, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and even Japan. The origin of the holiday is the ancient European celebration called the Day of the Dead, when the spirits of the dead were believed to return to Earth to visit their family and friends. This was a happy holiday and had little in common with what has become the modern Halloween, associated with monsters and other scary things. The modern celebration, Halloween, is simply about children dressing in costumes and getting candy from neighbors. This custom is called "Trick-or-Treat", and has become a verb (*to trick-or-treat*, and *trick-or-treating*). Many adults enjoy the holiday as well, having parties, many also wearing costumes.

ハロウィーン

10月31日はアメリカ・イギリス・オーストラリア、近頃は日本など世界の国々でハロウィーンのお祭りをします。起原は死者の魂が地上の家族や友達のもとを訪れると信じられている“死者の日”で昔のヨーロッパのお祭りです。これは楽しいお祭りで怪物やその他恐ろしい物でにぎわう現代のハロウィーンとは異なります。今日のハロウィーンは子供たちが単に仮装してお菓子を貰いに家々回るお祭りです。この習慣が“Trick-or-Treat”と言われ、動詞(trick-or-treat)にもなっています。現代では大人も同様にパーティをしたり仮装をして楽しめます。



Around the world : 'Ireland'

Dia dhaoibh. (ジア・エイブ) Cen chaoi in a bhfuil sibh? (ケイス・クイ・イン・ア・ウェル・シブ?) This translates as "Hello", "How are you all?" in English.

I'm Caroline and I'd like to write a little about where I come from. I'm from Ireland which is a very small country next to Great Britain. Most people don't know where Ireland is and often mistake it with Iceland, which is to the north of Ireland!! The population of Ireland is only 4.3million. In relation to Japan, it is smaller than the area of Hokkaido but the capital Dublin, is a little bigger than Sapporo city. I guess you are wondering now what language my introduction is in?? It's in the Irish language, which originates from the Celts so it's a very old language. Today, the first language of Ireland is English, but almost 12% of the population speak both English and Irish fluently on a daily basis, especially in the west of Ireland. We study the Irish language at school from elementary school to high school, the age of 5 to 18, but don't always use it outside of school. However, nowadays many students choose to go to what we call "gael scoils" and receive their education entirely through the Irish language. As a result, there are more and more jobs available today in Irish radio and television using the Irish language only. (To be continued!)

今回はキャロライン先生の母国アイルランドです。知らないことばかり!

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