

The Kosei Grapevine

Volume 4

Saturday April 30th 2011

Issue 1

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony was held on April 8th this year. It was very different from previous years, because the large auditorium was unavailable, and with the safety of our students in mind, the school had decided to move the ceremonies to smaller but safer locations. The Opening Ceremony for the Senior High School first graders took place in the basketball court, and the one for the junior high kids was moved to one of the large classrooms. The calamitous events of the past weeks made these entrance ceremonies a more subdued and sober affair, but all present surely felt privileged to be there – standing in a large gymnasium, or squeezed into a classroom – but lucky to have a school to go to. Good luck with your studies at Kosei girls!



新学期

4月8日入学式は地震で講堂が使用不可になり高校・中学それぞれ安全なバスケットコートと多目的教室で開かれ、無事に新学期を迎えました。さまざまな活動を通して新学期を迎えたことを喜びと共に実感したと思います。これから充実した学校生活を送ることを期待します。

募金

世界中の人々からメッセージや援助の手が差し伸べられています。私たちもできることからしましょう。

Helping the Rebuilding Effort

Many famous people from around the world have sent out their condolences to the people of Japan after March's catastrophic earthquake. Clint Eastwood stated that "Our hearts go out to the people of Japan who've suffered through such a tremendous catastrophe. Our thoughts and prayers are with them." These sentiments were echoed all over the world.

Two months have already passed since this disaster, however we are still asking ourselves "What can we do to help the earthquake and tsunami victims?". The student council decided to collect donations in the hope that we can help to deliver a message of hope and provide some relief to the victims.

Kosei Junior High School English Immersion Program

イマージョンプログラム

Students of this program will learn communicative problem-solving skills in an English-rich environment while studying various subjects in addition to English and learning to cooperate and learn together.

このプログラムは英語で様々な学習活動を通して他教科を学びながら同時に英会話能力を高める学習方法です。

Junior high school students at Kosei Gakuen experience English in unique ways. One way is specialized English language classes. Another way is English immersion classes. Together, these courses make a program which gives students lots of time listening to English, many chances to use it themselves, useful skills involving music, art, sports, and a growing experience they can share together.

英語の授業以外に音楽・美術・スポーツ等の授業が英語で行われ、英語を長時間大量に聞いて会話をするさまざまな機会に恵まれています。

Specialized English Classes

In one kind of English class, students learn about and practice the nuts and bolts of the English language with Japanese teachers of

English. These classes give students the explanations and support they need in Japanese and build their confidence to try to use English.

英語の必要な知識を日本人教師と学び英語の基礎を固めます。

The other kind of English language class is led by native English-speaking English teachers. Here students practice English as a tool for communication with native speakers and each other. This way they can feel confident and satisfied that their skills are growing and can reach for the next level.

日本人教師による学習と並行して、外人教師と英会話の練習を重ね、実際に使える英語にしていきます。

Immersion Classes

There are four immersion subjects: Visual Art, Music, and Integrated Study. In these classes, the targets are the content and skills of *the subject*, not the English language itself. However, students receive all instruction in English, which is why it is called *immersion*. This instruction

is carefully designed so that students can use both what they are learning in English classes and their own problem solving skills to understand their teachers and successfully carry out the tasks.

イマージョン教科

美術・音楽・総合がイマージョン教科で、全て英語で授業が展開されます。英語の説明は生徒たちが理解して学習できるように周到に準備され、英語能力を高めるためにも役立ちます。

Challenges and Difficulties

These classes are challenging, but students can succeed if they are patient, listen carefully, trust their teachers and always do their best. Students who do their best and never give up will gradually become more and more comfortable with listening to and using English to communicate and accomplish many different things.

授業が全て英語で展開されるため、しっかりと聞き粘り強く学習することが必要です。努力する生徒のみが徐々に慣れて会話力や英語を使いこなす力を身につけていきます。



Junior High Immersion

Music

The year is already in full swing, and it seems like there's an abundance of genuine musical talent among the new first graders! They will be focusing on welcome songs, singing in English and will start grappling with that huge (for their fingers!) beast called the "alto recorder". The second and third grade of junior high will attempt to perform some J-pop classics (AKB48 for starters) on the recorder. They will also continue to develop their singing skills. We're starting off the first term with songs of a more gentle nature: John Lennon's "Love" (for the second graders) and a beautiful Maori classic ("Hine e hine") for the third graders, in preparation for their trip to New Zealand later this year. We're also continuing to sharpen our ears with music from all over the world. It promises to be another exciting year in the music room!

Art

Grade one will be learning about color, they will make a color wheel, experiment with line and pattern and create an abstract painting. This is a great chance for them to focus on the connection between shapes and feeling. We will introduce them to the work of some abstract artists such as Kandinsky and Briggette Riley.

Grade Two are going to make self portraits with a twist! They will be half angel, and half devil faces! Students will learn about how to draw realistic facial proportion and strengthen their existing knowledge of color theory.

Grade Three are doing the International Peace Tile Project. Students create mind maps and designs to help them think about what "Peace" means. These ideas are then made into a visual form on the wooden tiles using paint and collage. It is a great project designed to help Japanese students learn how to use text and image together and about the importance of design in thinking about world issues.

New Teachers

This year three new native English speaking teachers have joined Kosei's team!



David Stefan Robert Sara

Robert

Hello, I'm Robert Morel. I'm from Chicago, in the U.S.A. I have lived in Japan for six years and like it here very much. I enjoy cycling, writing, travel, and photography. In my free time, I like exploring different parts of Tokyo. I especially like the shitamachi area. Although this is my first year teaching at Kosei, I met some of you at the 2009 English Summer camp. I look forward to getting to know you all this year!

音楽

多くの才能に恵まれた新入生を迎えて授業が快調に始まりました。中1は入学にちなんだ英語の歌やアルトレコーダーの練習開始、中2・3は去年に引き続きアルトレコーダーをAKB48の曲を用いて練習していきます。中2はジョン・レノンの“LOVE”、中3は修学旅行に向けてNZ・マオリの歌“Hine e hine”の歌を学び、更に世界中の音楽を聴いて音感を高める学習も継続し、今年も楽しい授業を目指します。

美術

中1は色彩をカンデンスキーやリレーの抽象画家の鑑賞し線やパターンを用いて抽象画を描きながら特に感情を形を通して表現する学習をします。*



Immersion Staff

Sara

Nice to meet you! My name is Sara Jespersen. I am from Auckland, New Zealand. I have just moved to Tokyo from Yugawara-machi in Kanagawa prefecture. I loved life in the countryside but decided to move to Tokyo when I heard about Kosei's New Zealand Ryugaku course. I love my home country and am very excited about teaching Kosei's students all about New Zealand!

If you have any questions about life in New Zealand, or just feel like a chat then you can find me in the Global Centre at lunchtime. I will look forward to seeing you there!

David

Hi. I'm David Handley. I come from Manchester, England and I now live in Tama ward, Kawasaki city, on the Odakyu line. There is a big park near my house, and I often go for long walks there. The cherry blossoms have been out in full bloom so my walks have been even more enjoyable recently. Manchester is famous for being the world's first modern industrial city. For many years it was the centre of the world's cotton industry, earning it the nickname of 'Cottonpolis'. It is now a thriving business and commercial centre, the second largest in the UK.

In my spare time I like to read, listen to many different kinds of music, go to the cinema, go for long walks, surf the internet, go to karaoke and follow my favourite sports, football (I'm a proud Manchester City fan), cricket and rugby.

I'm very much looking forward to meeting you all and hope to have a great time teaching here.

* 中2は色彩理論の学習を深めて、天使と悪魔の表情を併せもった自画像を描きます。

中3は世界で展開されているピーススタイルに作品を参加します。マインド・マップを書いてピースについて考えを深め、それを元に木片に色付け、写真を貼って作品にします。自分の考えを元に素材にイメージを膨らませていく学習です。

Important Dates

May 1	Change to summer uniform
May 10	Sports Festa Rehearsal
May 14	Sports Festa
May 25-27	High School Midterm Tests
May 26-27	Junior High Midterm Tests

Thank you for reading our newspaper. Please contact us if you have any questions or comments. fujimura_y@girls.kosei.ac.jp

