

The Kosei Grapevine

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Issue 9

Chorus Contest a Great Success

The Kosei Chorus Contest was held on January 28th this year. It was the 6th one, and I think everyone agreed the standard was higher than ever before. All junior high classes sang the Disney-classic "A Whole New World" in English and a Japanese song of their own choice. The 7th graders had chosen bright and upbeat songs and they impressed everyone with their energy. Many students had been absent from school during the weeks leading up to the chorus contest due to illness, but this did not stop them from making a very strong debut. Everyone knew the 8th graders would be looking to raise the bar after getting second and third prize last year, and they did not disappoint. They made a huge impression, not only in terms of sheer numbers, but also in terms of musicality and expression. As every year, the 9th graders had been busy because of their school trip to New Zealand, so they saved their energy for the last week, but during that week they really outdid themselves and grew stronger day by day. The 3-2 class took the third prize with Marika Miyasako taking best pianist as well; 1-2 took the second prize; but the indisputable winners were 2-2 who brought a powerful rendition of the song "Yell" led by Mayu Sasagawa, who also took the best conductor award. Well done! The senior high competition was no less exciting and the level was incredibly high. The 2E class took the top prize there with "Akashi", a song that proved to be very popular indeed (it was heard no less than three times!). The amazing Ai Shimada took the best pianist award, and best conductor went to Marina Shinme of the 2F class, quite a feat considering the 2F girls had just come back from a year in New Zealand at the end of December. As with any competition, there must be winners, but I like to think everyone won that day. Music has this amazing power to bring people together, to share emotions and to focus energy and make it bigger than the sum of its parts. For weeks, everyone bathed in that power, and on the day, I'm sure everyone felt they had grown as a class and as people individually.



第6回合唱コンクールが1月28日開催され、年々歌唱力が上がってきていると実感しました。中学生は課題曲のデズニーの「A Whole New World」と自分たちで選んだ曲を歌いました。中1は風邪などの体調不良で欠席が多い中で若い力を発揮、リズム感あふれる歌を披露し、中2は昨年の入賞から更に磨きをかけ生徒数の多さにも力を借りて文句のつけようのない歌になりました。中3はNZの修学旅行以来大変な忙しさでしたが、発表が近づくにつれて気持ちを高め、3-2が3位に入り、1-2が2位。そして「Yell」を歌った2-2が優勝を勝ち取りました。ピアノは3-2の宮迫真理佳、指揮は2-2の笹川真優が最優秀者に選ばれました。



Left: Our 2nd Year Winners, Right: Our 3rd Year Winners

Students Shine in End of Term Speech Contest

The school year is coming to an end and what better way to finish than with speech contests for the junior high students!

First, we had the 7th grade speech contest. The students brought one of their most special and precious items to school and told us all about it. We were shown such wonderful things as a selection of Kewpies and a nice dress! The winner was Marina Nishio who showed us her Harry Potter and Twilight books. Well done, Marina!

Next, for the 8th grade speech contest, each student presented their book report. They did an excellent job of summarizing their books and giving their own opinion about the stories and characters. The decision was very difficult but, in the end, Kozue Nakajima was the winner with her interesting and clear report. Good job, Kozue!

Then, to finish the school year, we had the 9th grade speech contest. The theme was 'Memories of my junior high school life'. There were some sad memories, some funny memories but mostly good memories! The number one place went to Erika Ishigaki for her excellent speech. Well done, Erika! Congratulations everyone on having a great year at Kosei. Enjoy your spring break!



First year speech contest winners!

学年末は恒例のスピーチコンテストです。中1は自分の宝物を見せながらその話をしました。かわいいドレスを着たキューピーのキュートな事！1位は自分の愛読書「Harry Potter と Twilight」について話した西尾満里奈に。中2は英語の物語の感想を発表しました。それぞれ頑張り、賞を決めるが大変でしたが、その中で中嶋梢が明快で面白い発表をして1位にきました。中3は「中学校3年間の思い出」と題して楽しかったこと、悲しかったことなどを発表し、石垣彫華が1位になりました。皆良く頑張った1年でした。しばらく春休みを楽しんでください！

高校生の部も優秀な楽しいものになりました。過去に少なくとも3度は歌われた人気の「証」を歌った2-Eが優勝しました。同クラスの嶋田愛が伴奏者賞、NZから昨年末に帰国したばかりの2Fの新目真梨奈が指揮者賞を獲得しました。コンクールですから賞を決めますが、皆がもらってもおかしくないほどこれを機会に成長しクラスとしてまとまりを深めました！

Immersion Art

This term the first grade students learned 3-D modeling techniques. Their project was to design and make an original character (animal/person/vegetable) using air dry clay. This taught them about the process of 2-D to 3-D design as well as teaching them a new skill. This is a very short term and many students were sick, so I think they all did really well to finish this project. The final characters heads balance on springs and they are very fun.

中1は立体の学習をキャラクターを粘土で製作して学びました。短い学期の中で風邪で休む生徒も多かったのですが、しっかり取り組みました。ばねの上に頭を釣り合うように取り付けて楽しみました。

The second grade students worked on a copper relief. Using the idea of typography and Illuminated manuscripts students designed their own name. The process of creating the relief is very simple but the results are very effective. Using a hammer and small chisels the students made a texture. The last step is to treat the surface with Oxidizing chemicals to darken the color. Students have been able to learn about different materials and how to take a simple structure and make something visually interesting.

中2は英語の飾り文字を用いて名前の銅版浮き彫りをしました。金づちで小さな棒を叩いて銅板を浮き上がらせ、いぶし液につけて光沢を出す作業は単純ですが工夫でユニークな作品になる工程を学びました。

This term students were finishing their landscape painting and creating a Memory Album. It has been a great chance for them to reflect on their Art class and develop a visual language through collage and drawing. The students had to include a letter to their 20 year old future selves as part of a pop up page thus integrating with the English program. They also added titles and backgrounds to color copies of their Art work from grade 1 to grade 3. A good end to their time at Junior High School.

中3は思い出帳を製作しました。カラーコピーにして保存されていた中学1年からのこれまでの作品を整理しながら張ったり、修学旅行の風景を水彩で描きコラージュを加えました。また20歳の自分へ書いた英語のメッセージをポップアップを用いて頁にしたり、3年間学習した内容を振り返りました。



Artworks completed in JHS Immersion Art Class.

Kosei Students Win Second Prize

This year not one, but two, Kosei students won prizes at the 8th District Speech Contest on February 18. After weeks of practice, three Kosei students—Mizuki Saito (HS 2), Erika Ishigaki (JHS 3), and Karen Shiose (JHS 2)—arrived at the contest prepared and excited. Many schools entered, so it was a difficult competition. All three students gave excellent speeches. In the junior high recitation contest, Erika gave a recitation of “The Boy and The Wolf” and Karen recited “Can Anybody Hear Me?” In the high school speech division, Mizuki spoke about the people she met in New Zealand and the importance of friendship. In the end Karen and Mizuki each took home second prize. It was a proud day for the girls, the teachers who coached them, and Kosei Girls Junior and Senior High School.

英語スピーチコンテスト 2位

2人の校成の生徒が2月18日に世田谷・目黒・町田地区の私立中学・高校生によるスピーチコンテストで2位に輝きました。多くの参加者が出場して激戦でしたが、高2の斎藤瑞姫、中3石垣彫華、中2塩瀬花蓮は長い練習の成果をしっかりと発揮しました。彫華が「the Boy and the Wolf」、花蓮が「Can Anybody Hear Me?」を暗唱し、瑞姫はNZで出会った友人や友達の大切さについて話しました。

結果、花蓮と瑞姫が2位を獲得し教師と喜びを分かち合いました。



Important Dates This Term

Mar 1-3	Final Exams
Mar 8	High School Graduation Ceremony
Mar 9	Exams returned
Mar 22	Junior High School Graduation Ceremony
Mar 24	Closing Ceremony
Apr 9	Opening Ceremony

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