

The Kosei Grapevine

Volume 6

Friday, 30th April 2013

Issue 1

New Students Come to Kosei

Spring is a very exciting time here in Japan. It's a time for a new, fresh start. The cold winter weather makes way for warmer and longer days and we can enjoy seeing the beautiful cherry blossoms. But, the most exciting part of spring for many young people is entering their new junior or senior high school.

This year Kosei Gakuen welcomed more than 50 junior high school students into grade 7 and more than 200 high school students into grade 10, including 46 students entering the Study Abroad Course. An entrance ceremony was held for each group of students who arrived full of enthusiasm for what will be one of the biggest adventures of their lives so far. Many proud parents also came along to celebrate.

After the ceremonies, the new students were joined by their teachers for welcome parties and had a chance to meet and get to know their classmates. Everyone had fun and could make many friends.

Now that classes have started, I hope you are all settling in well, studying hard and having fun. Don't forget to stop by the English room and say "Hello!"



Miss Kanae Aiba takes the stage.



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 and a growing experience they can share together.

英語の授業以外に音楽や美術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 three 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 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. 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。



Two New Native Teachers Join Our Team

Lucy Newlands

English Department

Lucy started in April. She will be teaching English to both junior and senior high school students.

My name is Lucy and I come from Edinburgh in Scotland. I am the new English teacher at Kosei. I am really excited to be working here, everybody is so nice and friendly and there are so many fun activities for the students. I think it's great that there are so many English classes as the students will have so many opportunities to work and travel when they grow up. Not only that, they can also make so many new friends by speaking English!

I have lived in Japan for four years now - time flies when you're having fun! Before coming to Tokyo, I studied Russian at University and lived in Moscow for one year. I had such a great time and really enjoyed learning a new language and living in a different culture. I hope you can all do the same! If you see me please come and say hello, I look forward to spending time with you.



Lucy is from Edinburgh.

新しい英会話の先生、ルーシー先生です。スコットランド出身で、来日される前は、大学でロシア語を学ばれ、ロシア留学の経験をお持ちです。

Lee-Ann Haslam

Art Department

Lee-Ann is our new art teacher. She will be working with Ms. Tonobe. They will teach art to the junior high school students. She is also teaching a course for the girls who will go to Brighton.

Hello I am Lee-Ann Tiffany Haslam. I am 33 years old. I am from Kingston Jamaica but my grandmother and brother live in England. I have three younger sisters and two older brothers. My favorite seasons are spring and summer and I have lived in Japan for a little over eight years. I like Kyushu, Okinawa (because it reminds me of Jamaica), and Kyoto very much. I also like Japanese arts and culture. I studied art here in Japan at Tokyo University of the Arts. Glass is one of my favorite mediums. Some artists I like are Tsuji Fujita, Pollock and Vincent Van Gogh.

If you see me in the hall please say hello. Let's have fun studying art and speaking in English!



An artwork by Lee-Ann.

新しい美術の先生、リーアン先生です。出身はジャマイカで、日本滞在期間は8年以上。東京芸術大学で芸術を学ばれたそうです。

Important Dates

- May 3-6 - Golden Week Vacation
- May 11th - Sports Day
- May 27th - June 8th - Eiken Festival

Kosei Gakuen Girls' Junior & Senior High School

Kyuden 2-1-1 Setagaya-ku Tokyo Japan 157-0064

Tel: (03) 3300 2351 Fax: (03) 3309 0617

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

Music with Stefan

The year is already in full swing, and it seems like there's an abundance of genuine musical talent among the new first graders! In one of the classes, more than 75% of the students play some sort of instrument! 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 grade of junior high will attempt to perform some J-pop songs (AKB48 for starters) on the recorder. They will also continue to develop their singing skills with the American folk song "Across the fields" before moving on to the Beatles' "Yesterday". The third graders will start by playing classical music from different periods on the recorder. This year, we'll try out some songs from musicals (The Phantom of the Opera, Les Miserables), and work on "Go the Distance", the song they'll be singing when they visit Peachgrove Intermediate School in Hamilton, New Zealand. We will also continue to sharpen our ears with music from all over the world. It promises to be another exciting year in the music room!

音楽の授業 (ステファン先生)

今年も、音楽の才能に溢れている一年生が多いようです。あるクラスでは、生徒の75%以上の生徒が楽器を演奏することができます。一年生は、英語の歌から音楽の授業を始めます。二年生は、AKB48の曲を始めとしたJ-popの曲をリコーダーで演奏します。三年生はクラシック音楽の曲からリコーダーの練習を始めます。その後、ミュージカルの曲(オペラ座の怪人やレ・ミゼラブル)で歌の練習をします。

