

The Kosei Grapevine

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Issue 7

Chorus Contest Joy



第8回合唱コンクール開催！

佼成学園女子3大イベントの合唱コンクールが1月25日（土曜日）、本校講堂にて盛大に行われました。各クラスとも、練習の成果を発揮し、今年もすばらしい合唱コンクールとなりました。

Students Sing Their Hearts out at the 8th Chorus Contest

Our school's 8th Chorus Contest was held on January 25, 2014. It was the culmination of weeks of intense practice and all classes gave it their absolute best on the day of the contest. The junior high school girls kicked off the event and sang two songs, as always: an English song ('Believe' by Lin Marsh) and a free song in Japanese. The 7th grade classes had the difficult task of opening the contest but they made a very powerful debut. They had also chosen quite challenging 3-part songs, which shows they're not afraid of a challenge. The 8th graders gave energetic performances, full of energy as always, and the 9th graders raised the bar even more and were absolutely brilliant in their last performance as junior high students. 3-2 took first prize; second place went to 2-2 and 3-1 came in third. The best conductor and pianist awards went to Ayako Tatsuta (3-1) and Sayaka Tanno (3-2), respectively. After a music interlude, courtesy of the chorus club, the senior high girls took to the stage. Everyone agreed the level was higher than ever before and it turned out to be a very tightly contested event. First prize went to 2C, second to 1C and the 1F girls, who had just come back from a year in New Zealand, came in third. Ayano Nakashima led her class with panache and got a well-deserved 'Best Conductor' award, whereas Momone Kon repeated her win of last year as 'Best Pianist'. Congratulations! We can't wait for next year's contest.

Follow Your Dreams!

Here in Japan, every time we turn on the TV or read a magazine we can see many different idols, popstars and tarento. But how many of these are known to people in other countries? Not many, right?

Now there is one Japanese man taking America by storm with his amazing dance performances. His name is Kenichi Ebina and he recently won 'America's Got Talent,' a TV programme which aims to find the most interesting and talented people in the USA.

With his natural talent and hard work, Kenichi impressed the judges and came away from the show with one million dollars in prize money and a headlining show in Las Vegas, America's entertainment capital! And most interestingly, he is an alumnus of Kosei Boys' School! What a surprise! So, we can all be proud of Kenichi for his great achievement. Let's cheer him on! Go Kenichi!





STUDY ABROAD COURSE NEWS

Farewell 1F & G

On the 18th of January the girls of 1F and 1G finally departed for New Zealand! After a year of preparation for this day, the girls were both nervous and excited at the thought of getting on the plane and heading off to start their lives abroad.

Several members of the international relations department including Dean Shishido travelled to Narita to wish them a safe journey. Before this, on the 8th of January, a farewell party was held in the school's cafeteria. This party was attended by both parents and teachers, all of whom were moved by the speeches that the girls made stating their determination to succeed abroad. We look forward to welcoming 1F and 1G back to Japan in December, and to hearing them recount their memories of their time abroad in fluent English!



Kiwi Teen Singing Sensation Wins Two Grammys!

Have you ever heard of Lorde? If not, you soon will! Pronounced "lord", this 17 year old Kiwi is taking the world of pop music by storm with her catchy ballads. When asked about what musicians were popular with their Kiwi classmates, all of the girls from 2F immediately replied "Lorde". Her single "Royals" topped the charts in New Zealand, the US and many other countries. It also won her two Grammy awards in the US, a rare honor for a Kiwi! Girls from 1F and 1G had the chance to listen to some of Lorde's songs before they left for New Zealand... All of the students enjoyed the songs, and are looking forward to listening to them with their Kiwi friends!

Important Dates

Tuesday 11th Feb: National Founding Day
Tuesday 11th Feb: Karasuyama Festival
Sunday 23rd Feb: Eiken Day (Interview)



Student Voice

In NZ, KGGs students join social studies classes with their Kiwi classmates. These classes are very different from history classes in Japan. In this column we will showcase some of the work KGGs students do in NZ.

Dear Anne,

Hello. My name is Yurari Ikeda. Nice to meet you. Let me introduce myself. I'm a 16 year old half Brazilian, half Japanese girl. I came to NZ to study abroad. I am learning about you in social studies.

I'm living in the year 2014. We have many useful things. For example, we have the internet, which has so much information on everything. Many people use social networks. If we use these, we can have a conversation with anyone in the world.

We have learned from the experiences of your family and other Jewish people about how awful war is. It makes people fearful. Your diary shows the horrors of war. I think you were so brave. You are covered in glory. Your diary told us the terrors of war. I think it was a very terrible two years when you were hiding in the house. You had to be quiet every day, and you didn't know when your enemy would come for you. Your experiences teach us that we must on no account have wars. We can't get anything from war. I would like to thank you for teaching me that war is wrong.

World War Two finished in 1945. It was much more peaceful after the war, but we still have wars in some countries. People still have wars because of religion, colour prejudice and discrimination. It is really sad. I hate war. I hope that there will be a world without war someday.

Thank you so much for reading this.

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

