

The Kosei Grapevine

Volume 7

Friday, 16th May 2014

Issue 1

Napier Girls' High School Students Visit Kosei Gakuen Girls'

This April a group of 13 students and two teachers from Napier Girls' High School arrived in Japan on a weeklong school trip. As the first formal arrangement of our new sister school partnership, the girls spent two nights on home-stay with families of Kosei Gakuen students. Their home-stay sisters then brought them to our school for a day of cultural exchange. The day started with a moving assembly hosted by KGGGS 9th intake students Chisaki and Naho who returned from Napier Girls' in December last year.

At this assembly the group from Napier were welcomed with a rousing performance of the Maori song Pokarekareana performed by all of the students of Kosei Gakuen. The girls from Napier then performed two songs of their own in Maori and English. A representative of the group, also delivered a thoughtful and moving speech in Japanese which greatly impressed all of our students and staff members.

While here the girls participated in tea ceremony, calligraphy, art and music classes and had the chance to mingle with the girls of 1F for an Oral communication class. The KGGGS 11th intake students took this opportunity to ask as many questions as they could about life in New Zealand. They also chatted about the Kiwi students' impressions of Japan and introduced various aspects of Japanese culture to them. At the end of the day, our students presented their new friends with a traditional Japanese toy, either a Kendama or a Koma, and the classroom was filled with laughter as the students attempted to master these games together.

After leaving our school the group from Napier travelled on to other destinations in Japan including Universal Studios in Osaka and the Peace Park in Hiroshima. Their visit proved to be a memorable experience for all at Kosei Gakuen. We hope that the girls who visited us on this trip enjoyed experiencing Japanese school life first hand and we look forward to welcoming another group from Napier Girls' High School in the near future.



ネイピア・ガールズ・ハイスクールの生徒が本校を訪問

本校の姉妹校であるニュージーランドのネイピア・ガールズ・ハイスクールの生徒 13 名が先月、本校を訪れました。初日には全校集会を行い、歓迎の意をこめてニュージーランドの歌『ポカレカレアナ』を披露しました。ネイピアの生徒は本校生徒の家庭に 2 泊 3 日のホームステイをし、最終日には茶道、書道などの文化交流や美術や音楽の授業、そして 1 年 F 組のオーラル・コミュニケーションの授業に参加しました。

入学式

今年度は新たに約 40 名の中学生と 200 人の高校生を本校に迎えました。希望に胸を膨らませた新入生とそれを誇りに思う保護者の方々をお迎えして入学式が執り行われ、式の後には最初のホームルームが行われました。新入生はそこでクラスの先生方や友達を知ることができ、少しずつ緊張を解いていくことができました。

New Students Welcomed in Moving Entrance Ceremony

In March, Kosei held graduation ceremonies for the students in grades 9 and 12. We will really miss those students that left and wish them luck as they go on to pastures new. However, April is a time of new and exciting beginnings. This year Kosei Gakuen welcomed more than 40 junior high school students into grade 7 and nearly 200 high school students into grade 10, including 40 students entering the Study Abroad Course. An entrance ceremony was held for both groups 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 ceremony, 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!"



Two New Native Teachers Join Our Team

Siggy

English Department

Hi there, my name is Signe (Siggy) Johnston. I am very excited to meet and speak English with you all!

I was born in the UK in a place called Surrey (where Harry Potter is from!), near London. I lived in the UK until I was 18, then I moved to Melbourne, Australia with my Mum and Dad. My Mum grew up in Australia so I am very lucky and have 2 passports, a British one and an Australian one. I have one older brother who still lives in the UK. He is 3 years older than me and is an officer in the British Army.

This is the 2nd year of my third time living in Japan and I am very happy to be living in Tokyo again. Last year I lived in Niigata. It is very pretty there but colder than Tokyo!

If you have any questions, please ask me. I am looking forward to meeting you all!

This April, we welcomed two new foreign teachers to the English department. They will be teaching a wide range of classes at both our junior high school and senior high school.



Siggy



Ksenia

Ksenia

English Department

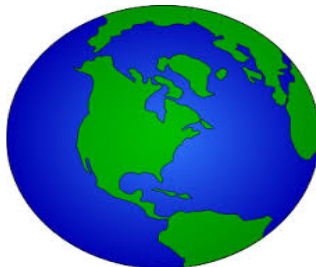
Hello everyone!! How is the new school year going? I hope you have all settled into your new classes and made some good friends. As you all know, I am one of your new English teachers this year! My name is Ksenia (pronounced Senia, NOT Kenya) Astashkina, and I've come from the United States of America. I was actually born in Russia, but have lived most of my life in Tucson, Arizona, which is a very very hot place. And I really, really don't like heat. So for my last year in America, I moved to Chicago, Illinois, which is a wonderful place! If you ever have a chance to go to America, please go to Chicago! I have one younger brother, who has a dog and is a very good painter. My father is a physicist and my mother was once an engineer. My whole family loves Japan, and in fact, my brother came to visit me during last spring break! I was very excited!! My favorite places in Tokyo are Kichijouji and Odaiba. Where do you like to go out? Please don't be afraid to talk to me, I am waiting for you!!

Read the above articles and find the words!

Clues:

1. Siggy's mother is from _____.
2. Harry Potter is from _____.
3. Siggy's brother is _____.
4. Ksenia's brother is _____.
5. Ksenia was born in _____.
6. _____ is in Illinois.
7. Ksenia's mother was an _____.
8. Siggy lived in _____, in Australia.
9. Ksenia's brother has a _____.
10. Ksenia likes _____.

E Y J P Q D U R R A
 Y N O W G B E E R I
 E Z R U W E D V U L
 R W E U N L O A S A
 R Z F I O G K W S R
 U J G K D B E V I T
 S N D O G F L R A S
 E A B I A D O E B U
 C H I C A G O V M A
 I I W Z H K Y F L P



新しいネイティブ講師

今年度、新しくネイティブ講師の先生が2名着任されました。シギー先生とセニア先生です。シギー先生はイギリスとオーストラリアに住まれた経験があり、セニア先生はロシアで生まれアメリカで生活されていました。両先生とも日本での滞在経験が既にあり、日本についてとても詳しく知っていらっしゃいます。

Important Dates

- 26th May - Eiken Matsuri starts!
- 7th June - Eiken Examinations

Kosei Gakuen Girls' Junior & Senior High School

AUSTRALIA
 ENGINEER
 OLDER
 YOUNGER

CHICAGO
 MELBOURNE
 RUSSIA

DOG
 ODAIBA
 SURREY

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