

The Kosei Grapevine

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Issue 6


KGGS 10th Intake Students Welcomed Back to Japan

On Sunday the 7th of December, an excited crowd of parents and teachers gathered in the arrivals lounge of Narita airport to welcome back the forty-six girls of KGGS' 10th intake. These girls departed for New Zealand in January 2014 and have had many exciting adventures since then. The group had spent the previous two weeks studying at a language school in central Auckland, working to maximize their exam scores upon their return to Japan. While they were sad to leave their adopted homes across New Zealand's North Island, the students are also excited about embarking on the next stage of their journey, putting the knowledge that they have gained in New Zealand to use as they prepare to sit their university entrance exams.

A special assembly was held for the girls on the 13th of December in the school's main hall. At this assembly each student had a chance to make a PowerPoint presentation in English about her experiences in New Zealand. The presentations covered various topics, including living with a homestay family, Maori culture and the geography of various regions of New Zealand. Naturally, the girls were nervous about speaking in front of their parents, teachers and classmates, however they overcame their nerves to speak confidently and assertively. The girls of the KGGS 11th intake were also present and this was an invaluable chance for them to see just how much they can grow in a year.



留学コース 10 期生が 12 月 7 日、1 年間の留学を終えて日本に帰国しました。13 日の帰国報告会では NZ について英語でプレゼンテーションが行われました。



Study Abroad Course Girls Shine in Speech Contest

This year KGGS 11th intake students took part in a speech contest and with their departure date fast approaching, the theme was, of course, New Zealand! The girls worked in pairs and made a conversation where they discussed their goals for while they are in New Zealand, what they are looking forward to, what they will miss and what their New Year's resolutions were.

The girls did a great job and presented some very entertaining conversations. Four pairs were chosen from each half of the class. The eight pairs of finalists worked hard on making the final touches to their conversations and memorising all of it. The two classes then came together for the final contest which was attended by special guest judges; the Dean of Global Studies Mr Shishido and 1F's home room teacher, Ms Morooka. The girls did a great job and the final decision was really hard to make.

The winners were:

1st Place: Tomoko Uotani and Mai Katou

2nd Place: Marina Nishio and Mizuki Isaka

3rd Place: Sayaka Tanno and Naruho Mishima

An honourable mention went to Megumi Suwa and Mana Nagano for being wonderful performers and entertaining the crowd.

Chorus Contest Preparations

The third term chorus contest is a highlight of the school year for many students, parents and teachers. Many classes have already started preparing for next term's contest.

2015's compulsory piece for the junior high classes is "Go the Distance" (from the Disney movie 'Hercules') in a two-part arrangement. As always, the chorus club will be performing a few pieces between the junior and senior high section. They are currently working on "Sakura no Kisetsu" (by Exile's Atsushi) and will also be singing a chorus version of "Let it go".

We are all very much looking forward to hearing the students sing and hope to see a big audience again in 2015!

Christmas Party for Chu-2 Students

On November 29th, the 8th grade class enjoyed a Christmas party. Everyone was able to experience the Christmas tradition of writing a Christmas card to a family member, friend, teacher, and others while listening to Christmas music. The students designed the cover of their card and wrote a special message in English. In addition to writing Christmas cards, the students had fun playing games. There was a special karuta game where the students listened to hear a Christmas word and had to run to find the correct card. The other game was a skill game where the students had a pet bottle reindeer and had to build the reindeer's antlers with laundry clips. They must have fallen apart easily when the antlers became too long! The 8th graders enjoyed the Christmas party very much.

Merry Christmas and a happy new year!



中学生のスピーチコンテスト

12月には中学生のスピーチコンテストが行われました。中学1年生は物語”Hungry Lion”の暗唱、中学2年生は一枚の絵を描写するアートプロジェクト、中学3年生はニュージーランドと日本の類似点または相違点についてのスピーチを行いました。優勝者は以下の通りです。中1：山縣璃沙、中2：徳久愛華、中3：関口あかね



The proud winners of our 7th grade speech contest.

JHS Speech Contests

The end of the second term is fast approaching and, here at Kosei, we like to finish the term with speech contests for the junior high school students. It's a great chance for the girls to show off their English skills.

The 7th grade students were competing in only their second ever speech contest but they did a great job. They recited the story of the 'Hungry Lion' and were judged on their memorization and expression. The standard was very high and, in the end, the first prize went to Lisa Yamagata. Well done, Lisa!

The 8th grade students presented their art reports. Each student chose an artwork and described it in detail. This was a big challenge for the students but they tried really hard and gave some excellent speeches. Aika Tokuhisa was the winner, with her in depth report. Good job, Aika!

Finally, the 9th grade students spoke about the differences and similarities between Japan and New Zealand. The speeches covered many aspects of life in both countries and were very well presented. Congratulations to Akane Sekiguchi who triumphed in the close-run contest. Well done, everyone! Have a great winter vacation!



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Important Dates in January

January 1st – New Year's Day

January 8th – Opening Ceremony

January 8th – Farewell Party for KGGGS 11th Students

January 12th – Coming of Age Day

January 24th – Chorus Contest

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