

The Kosei Grapevine

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Special Lecture: Eradicating Nuclear Weapons and Creating a Peaceful World

On the 21st of February the students of Kosei Gakuen Girls' high school were lucky enough to have the chance to attend a special lecture by Akira Kawasaki of the Peace Boat organization and ICAN. Mr. Kawasaki told the students about how Peace Boat and ICAN are working to abolish nuclear weapons and create a more peaceful world. ICAN was the recipient of the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts towards nuclear disarmament, and this was an amazing opportunity for the girls to hear about ICAN's work first hand. The students also heard about how the Peace Boat gives people all over the world the chance to talk with survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. This helped them to appreciate how important it is to take in the words of such people, and to never forget what happened in 1945. The second year high school students will be travelling to Hiroshima on a school trip in mid-March. This important experience will no doubt have been made even more meaningful by the knowledge gained from Mr. Kawasaki's lecture.



You can see read more on our school's website!
<http://www.girls.kosei.ac.jp/>

Junior High School Trip to New Zealand

On the 14th of January Kosei Gakuen Girls' Junior High School's entire 9th grade class set off for a week long school trip in New Zealand. After a direct flight, it was straight on to the Waitomo Caves, one of the North Island's most popular tourist destinations. There, the students were able to see one of the world's most remarkable glow-worm caves before heading to Cambridge to meet up with their farm stay families. The students spent two nights staying on farms in the Waikato area. This gave them the opportunity to practice their English and learn more about family life in New Zealand. After saying good-bye to their hosts, the group moved on to Auckland, New Zealand's biggest city. Here they visited the famous Auckland Domain before meeting up with some local university students for a guided tour of the University of Auckland. The next day was a day that all of the students had been looking forward to; a day of free time to explore Auckland city! All too soon, it was time to return to Japan. However, nine of the students stayed behind as part of the 2nd "JHS Study Abroad Program." These students are currently studying at local schools in the Auckland area, and will return home before they become high school students in April.

In order to tell their teachers and family members about all of the fun they had during their school trip, the students made PowerPoint presentations in English talking about their experience. A special gathering was held on the 24th of February so that the students could share these presentations. It was wonderful to see the students speaking in English with a new found confidence and to hear their memories of this truly exciting trip.



Above: Students made presentations about their time in New Zealand in front of their parents and teachers.

中3 修学旅行・英語発表会

1月14日に中3生が修学旅行のためニュージーランドに出発しました。最初3日間はファームステイをし、ホストファミリーの仕事や家事を手伝いました。後半は班別研修をし、オークランドの様々な場所を訪れました。日頃磨いてきた英語力を存分に発揮し、有意義な修学旅行となりました。帰国後に英語発表会が行われ、パワーポイントを使って現地の文化や出来事についてすべて英語でプレゼンテーションしました。



Junior High School Speech Contests

スピーチコンテスト

今年度を締めくくる中1中2スピーチコンテストが行われました。1年生は英語で自分の宝物を紹介しました。彼女たちにとって自分自身のことについて長いスピーチをするのは初めてのことでした。優勝は平田茉那葉さん、準優勝は鈴木彩夏さんでした。

2年生は小説”Good Day, Bad Day”の要約や感想等を英語でスピーチしました。彼女たちは準備の段階で小説を熟読し、スピーチ原稿を書き上げていました。優勝は越田羽乙さん、準優勝は小川明日香さんでした。

今年度最後のスピーチコンテストではどの生徒もしっかりと準備をし、本番では自信を持って自分の意見を述べていました。皆さんよくがんばりました！



7th and 8th Grade Speech Contests

The JHS 7th and 8th grade students took part in English speech contests to mark the end of the third term. The theme for the 7th graders was “Show and Tell”, while the 8th graders wrote a book report. For the 7th grade students, it was their first time to make a long, personal speech in English. All of the 7th graders wrote touching speeches and shared them with their classmates during the preliminary round. It was wonderful to see these young students actively communicating their ideas in English. On the other hand, the 8th graders took on the challenge of summarizing the story, “Good Day, Bad Day.” Through this task, they learned how to prioritize and paraphrase information as well as how to express their opinions on a range of themes presented in the book. At the final speech contests, all of the girls spoke with confidence and conveyed their ideas clearly. The winning speeches were made by; Manaha Hirata, (7th grade) and Hao Koshita (8th grade). Well done everyone!



KGGS 14th Depart for New Zealand!

On the 20th of January the 32 members of the KGGS 14th intake of study abroad students set off for New Zealand. These students will study in pairs at high schools across New Zealand's North Island until November. After arrival in Auckland the girls took part in workshops to help them adjust to life in New Zealand. They learned essential life skills such as how to use the ATMs and buses. They also had the chance to explore Auckland and enjoy the summery weather! After this training camp, the students travelled to meet their host families in the Waikato, Hawkes Bay and Bay of Plenty areas. They had a week to adjust to their new life-style before heading to their local schools during the first week of February. Every year we look forward to the return of our “Kosei Kiwis.” It is amazing to see how much confidence the students gain during the year, as well as how much their English skills improve.

Global Village

Recently, the students for our SG (Super Global) class 2nd and 3rd intakes have been participating in special workshops through an initiative called “Global Village.” This initiative brings non-Japanese students of Japanese universities to high schools. This gives high school students the chance to share their ideas in English, and listen to the ideas of people of different cultural backgrounds. The theme of the most recent workshop was “Refugees.” More specifically, the students discussed how Japan could assist refugees from ethnic minority groups, such as the Rohingya people. Our students collated their ideas and made posters before the workshop, then presented them to the “Global Village” team. It was a great chance to hear what people from all over the world think and made a big impression on all of the girls involved. We look forward to the next event!

Important Dates

- 10th March High School Graduation Ceremony
- 23rd March Junior High School Graduation Ceremony
- 24th March End of Term Ceremony

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