

SCHOOL-PTC NEWSLETTER



JLS Article: Madoka Hull, Principal
Preschool Article: Keiko Damata, Director
Translation: Madoka Hull, Hiroco Ames
Layout: Hiroco Ames
Word Process, Edit, Print: Eri Nelson

NEWSLETTER FALL-2017

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A poem to share:

"The World is a Book"

By Hiroshi Osada
(Translation by M. I. Hull)

*Let's read books.
Let's read more books.
Let's read more and more books.*

*Written letters are not the only book.
Shining sun, twinkling stars, chirping
birds,
the sound of the river flowing
are all books.*

*Stillness in the beech forest,
white flowers of dogwood,
tall lonely Japanese zelkova trees,
are all books.*

*Everything is a book.
The world is an opened book,
and it is written with invisible words.*

*Urumqi, Messina, Timbuktu are
only tiny dots on the world map.
cities far away in countries from afar,
but they too are all books.*

*Books are the people who live in those
places,
busy thoroughfares,
throngs of people are books.
Each light of windows in the night is*

a book.

*Figures of the futures market in Chicago
are books.*

*A sandstorm of the Nefud desert is also
a book.*

*The two closed eyes of the Mayan rain
god are a book.*

*People cherish the books called life in
their hearts.*

One person a book.

*A facial expression of senile old person
is a book.*

*Grassland, clouds, and wind
Geisel and Nu, who are passing away
quietly, are all books.
Powerless people with dignity are all
books.*

*A small planet two billions light years
away,
a small existence, is a book.*

To live is to be able to think.

*Let's read books.
Let's read more
books.
Let's read more
and more books.*



Autumn is here. I hope JLS family members are doing fine. The days are getting shorter. We see many places with Halloween decorations and pumpkin patches. Halloween is one of the favorite events for many children. Autumn's cool crisp air calms and helps our students concentrate on studying and other activities.

Japanese autumn is described in many ways: autumn of reading, autumn of art, autumn of sports, autumn appetite, as well as tastes and flavors of autumn. We have an expression of "autumn with the sky

clear and blue, and horses growing stout," and "enjoy reading under the lamplight." Han Yu, a great Chinese writer (768-824) sent a letter to his son who was studying in a city. In the letter, Han Yu told his son that cool long nights of fall were good time for reading and studying. Japanese encourage children to read a lot, (at least used to.) From October 27 to November 9, we have "Book Weeks."

After long hot and humid summer in Japan, Japanese really appreciates the fall season that is so pleasant and agreeable.

Reading books is very important. On the other hand, my mother-in-law always told me that studying at school is not the only way to learn. Rather, it is very important for us to expose our children to many experiences in their life. Traveling, visiting museums and art galleries, going to theaters, and going to the beach and mountains, are all good activities that expand children's minds. My mother-in-law was a school teacher. She took her six grandchildren to Washington DC when each turned 10-years-old. She also took them to many places such as museums, and even operas that she loved. She gave my children so many fantastic experiences. She loves traveling. She has visited all the continents visiting places, meeting people and learning about different cultures.

We don't have to spend a lot of money. But, please take your children to different places and share nice time together.



In fall season in Japan, many people enjoy seasonal activities such as digging sweet potatoes, picking chestnuts, picking grapes and viewing autumn leaves. They go out and feel the season and nature. Everyone, please appreciate and enjoy this lovely season.

————— Madoka I. Hull, Principal

AWARD RECIPIENTS OF GRADUATE CLASS OF 2017

■ *Scholarship Award from Banking Institution:*

Graduates who worked hard for learning Japanese for many years. They have good records in academics and citizenship. The recipients completed either the High School Division or High School Advanced courses:



☆ **CA Bank & Trust Award**

Marvis Kurosawa Graves (Sat. Div. 11th Grade)

☆ **Nikkei Credit Union Award**

Brian Mitsuki Ishii (Sat. Div. 10th Grade)

☆ **Union Bank Award**

Raichi Ray Haneda (Sat. Div. 10th Grade)

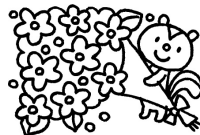
■ *Scholastic Effort Awards:*

Graduate of Elementary (6th) divisions who had good records in citizenship made a great progress academically:

☆ Hikari Robin Gregersen (Sat. Div. 6th Grade)

SERVICE AWARD OF TEACHERS 2017

- ☆ **5 years** Ms. Ryu Wanibuchi
- ☆ **10 years** Ms. Miyoko Nishiya
- ☆ **10 years** Ms. Naomi Inoue
- ☆ **15 years** Ms. Yuki Nayuki
- ☆ **20 years** Ms. Madoka Hull
- ☆ **25 years** Ms. Kumiko Hiraizumi
- ☆ **25 years** Ms. Akemi Sato



We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Banks for providing our students with scholarships and their support on our various events for last many years. We also thank the teachers for their many years of dedication.

Congratulations to all the award recipients!

NEW STUDENT'S PICK UP RULES

New rules for picking up students will be implemented soon. The Notice will be send to you at a later time.

Please read it carefully.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:



1) **SMOKING IS PROHIBITED** entirely on the school ground. (California State law)

2) **DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED** on the school ground. (any time and for any length of time)

Please do not bring your dog to the school or even keep your dog in the car while you are bringing/picking up your child/ren.

We appreciate your full cooperation on the above matters.

AP Test

Last May, our high school graduate, Kenny Nishio, passed the AP Test with the high score. *Congratulations, Kenny!* He made a great effort studying Japanese here for many years. We are all proud of his accomplishments.

◆ What are AP classes and AP tests?

The Advanced Placement program offers college level courses at high schools across the United States and Canada. Advanced students can take many AP subject courses such as math, English, foreign languages, science and others throughout the year. At the end of the year, they need to take AP tests and pass to get college credits. Grading is done through a rubric with a score of 1 to 5. Above 3 is passing and 5 is the highest passing grade.

AUTUM SALE

PTC FUND-RAISING

■ **Daily Cookie Sale**
Friday, November 17

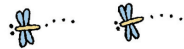
■ **Curry & Cookie Sale**
Saturday, November 18
\$5 / ticket

Tickets are
available
NOW!

We NEED
your heeeelp!



PTC NEWS



Welcome back to the new school year of 2017-2018 at Gardena Buddhist Church Japanese Language School and Nakayoshi Preschool! I hope all students find the beauty of Japanese language again this year, through their arduous work under the guidance of our experienced teachers.

This is my second year as the PTC president. I am blessed to have the brilliant PTC board members and advisors from last year – Mrs. Morimoto, Mrs. Kurokawa, and Mrs. Johnson as the board, Mrs. Hamasaki, Mrs. Kuwabara, and Mrs. Hikido as the advisors – back on board again. We are looking forward to meeting the fresh faces as well as the familiar ones at the PTC meetings and events.

The PTC will be coordinating our regular events again this year: fall curry sale, mochitsuki (rice cake pounding), spring chicken teriyaki sale, and year-end parties/activities. All PTC events require a lot of manpower and parental support. As a full-time working mother, I understand many parents are too busy to volunteer – but I hope you'll come to help with at least one of these events for our kids this year. Please remember that the proceeds from the fundraisers benefit all students of the JLS and preschool. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other parents, too.

If you haven't done so, please fill out and return the green PTC information form as soon as possible, so that the class representatives can send emails with various information to you in a timely manner. If your class doesn't have the class representatives, please consider becoming one!

The PTC meeting is to be held on the first Saturday of the month except for January and May. On October

21st, we are going to have the "Sawa-kai (tea party)" with class representatives and teachers. If you signed up as a class representative, please make sure to attend the meetings and the "Sawa-kai".

I'm looking forward to working with you!

———— Yoko Godinez, PTC President

Next PTC Meeting:

- Saturday, Nov. 4th at 8:45 am in the Cooling Room.
- Saturday, Dec. 2nd at 8:45 am in the Cooling Room.

Graduation Donor List

*Thank you very much
for your generosity!*

Ajifu, Masanobu
Au, Kenneth
Graves, Travis
Gregersen, Jeremiah
Haneda, Atsunori
Ishii, Takeshi
Kawaoto, Satoshi
Konishi, Yasuaki
Lee, Donghyun
Mackey, Jack
Miyamoto, Seiji
Nouchi, Wayne
Shimooka, Koji

Thank you !



If your name is omitted from the list or any correction, please report to the JLS office. Thank you.



SCHOOL CALENDAR



November

10th Fri Veteran's Day-JLS/P.S.-**No School**
17th Fri PTC Autumn Sale (Cookies)
18th Sat PTC Autumn Sale (Curry & Cookies)
23th~25th (Thu ~Sat)
Thanksgiving Holidays--**School Closed**

December

15th Fri JLS/P.S.(Daily Div.) PTC Mochitsuki
16th Sat JLS/P.S. (Sat. Div.) PTC Mochitsuki
22nd Fri JLS/P.S.(Daily Div.) 1st Trimester ends
23rd Sat JLS/P.S.(Sat. Div.) 1st Trimester ends
25th~Jan. 5th (Mon~Fri) **Winter Break**
(Saturday Div. 12/30, 1/6)

MARUKAI RECEIPT FUND-RAISING

Thank you very much for giving us Marukai receipts for the fund-raising over the last many years. After collecting receipts, we sum up the amount and bring them to the Marukai office. They then send back a check (2% of the total amount before tax) to this school. Mr. Matsu, the former owner of Marukai, kindly agreed to do this fundraising. Even after Mr. Matsu sold Marukai to Don Quixote, its President has agreed to continue supporting our school. We are so grateful to Mr. Matsu and the President of Don Quixote. We also appreciate everyone for bringing receipts to the school.



Recently, Marukai has made certain requests. Please pay attention to the following things:

1) We bring receipts monthly and not keep them for many months.

So, please bring your receipts as soon as possible, ideally within the same month of shopping.

2) The dates of any receipts need to be within 6 months. Please check your receipt date before bringing them to school.

3) Receipts they don't accept:

- Tokyo Central receipts
- Receipts for gift certificate purchases
- Receipts without dates (If you are worried about the last 4 digit credit card number, please black out with a black marker pen.)

Sorry for your trouble, but your continued support and cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

*** Ms. Linda Shimizu, a GBC member organizes and calculates Marukai receipts. Thank you very much, Linda-san!**

RULES FOR RECEIVING PERFECT ATTENDANCE & GOOD ATTENDANCE AWARD

《Saturday Classes》

- ◆ **Perfect Attendance Award:** Zero absences, Zero late arrivals, Zero early leaves
- ◆ **Good Attendance Award:** Up to one absence on one Saturday **OR** up to 3 late arrivals **OR** 3 early leaves (up to 4 hours)

《Daily Classes》

- ◆ **Perfect Attendance Award:** Zero absences, Zero late arrivals, Zero early leaves
- ◆ **Good Attendance Award:** Up to 5 absences (5 days) **OR** up to 5 late arrivals **OR** 5 early leaves (total of 5 arrivals and early leaves, **NOT** 5 late arrival and 5 early leaves)

- Students **MUST** attend the graduation ceremony in order to receive perfect attendance award.
- In case of mourning and a funeral for a student's parents and siblings ONLY: Saturday students can miss one Saturday, and daily students can miss up to 3 days.
- The above rules have been applied last many years, and they are not newly created.

Some students are so eager to get perfect attendance awards. We do appreciate those very enthusiastic students. However, if students get sick, please have them stay home. We want them to get good rest and recover quickly. Sick children do affect others too. Everyone's health is very important to us. When students have to miss Japanese classes because there are more important things that should be taken care of, please be absent. There is always a next Ms. Linda Shimizu, a GBC member organizes and calculates Marukai receipts. Thank you very much.



精勤賞・皆勤賞について

精勤賞、皆勤賞の受賞条件は左記の通りです。

【土曜部】

皆勤：無欠席、無遅刻、無早退。
精勤：一日欠席、又は遅刻、又は早退三回まで。
(但し、トータルで四時間まで)

【平日部】

皆勤：無欠席、無遅刻、無早退
精勤：5時間欠席、又は早退、遅刻5回まで。

★ 両部共に、卒業式に参加する事が受賞の必須条件である。

★ 忌中の場合は出席とする。

(但し、両親、兄弟のみ)
土曜日は1日、平日部は3日間休みを認める。

尚、病氣や発熱をしても休まずに学園に来る生徒もいますが、生徒自身の健康のみならず、他の生徒への感染等心配もあります。頑張つてトロフィーを受賞したい気持ちは分かりますが、病氣の時は自宅でしたり療養する様にしましょう。いろいろな事情で欠席をやむなくし、受賞をのがしても来年、再来年と次の機会に向けて頑張りましょう。