

SCHOOL-PTC NEWSLETTER



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NEWSLETTER 3RD TRIM 2018

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



*Form a strong bond
with all your family.
Always remember
they may be in a differ-
ent place.*

*Make times together fun and memorable.
Ignore the petty differences.
Love them while you can – life can be short.
You can be the glue that keeps them
together.*

-- Dan Mount

We now see so many beautiful flowers like wisteria, carnation, and tulip. It is almost the end of the school year. All the teachers are focusing on finishing up the semester, and the office staff is busy preparing for the promotion/graduation ceremony and the summer school.

In May and June, mothers and fathers are celebrated. Those days are not only for us to be grateful to our parents, but also to realize the importance of our family. Everyone is busy with work, school, and so many other things. So, unless we make a point to spend time with our family, we end up not talking or hardly ever see each other. Some become estranged. Parents may not be able to notice the trouble their children may be in. The same situa-

tion happens between married couples or any relationship. In order to keep a strong family bond, what do you do each day?

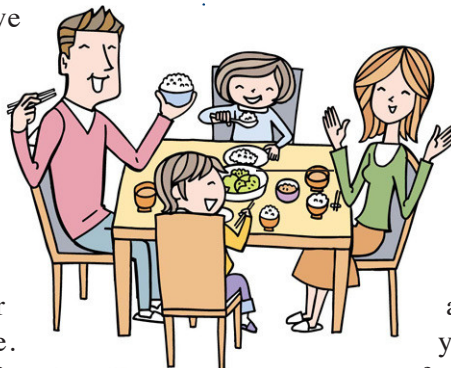
For instance, these are some examples that you may consider doing:

- Family members eat at least one meal together everyday.
- Turn off the TV during mealtime.
- Restrict cell phone use when together.
- Everyone takes turn to talk about a highlight of the day.
- Have children help set up the table.
- Have children bring their own dishes into the kitchen after meals.
- Assign each child chores to help out the family.

While I was growing up, my family were five siblings and our parents. When I was very small, my grandmother was living with us, too. When a mealtime came, my job was to help my two older sisters set the table. During meals, five of us children reported interesting events we experienced that day. Each of us could not wait to talk about our own stories of the day. But, each one had to be very patient and had to wait for his/her turn to talk. We had such lively discussion and so many different topics to cover. When the fifth child, my younger brother's turn came, the topic often had moved onto another one, but he was still talking about the old subject. He was the youngest, and he could not keep up with the older sibling's fast pace. We all burst into laughter sometimes because he was off the beam. Yet, he was so cute. We all ate a lot of food, talked a lot, and

laughed a lot. I remember to this day, we had a blast around the meal table. There were no computer games or cell phones. It was a very nice daily routine for all my folks to gather around the table and to talk. My mother was a family counselor. We all talked to her about our problems. My father was strict, a bit scary and hard to approach, but he was considerate and fair.

Despite your busy daily life, please listen to your children and spouses whenever you have a moment. You can take a walk around the neighborhood or on the beach. If you have more than one child, you may want to spend a time with only one child sometimes by doing some simple activity like going to a supermarket. Children appreciate undivided attention from parents sometimes.



The school year is closing, and summer is approaching. Please try spending much time together as a family. I hope you create a strong family tie and keep

a healthy relationship with all family members.

—— Madoka I. Hull, Principal

APPRECIATION:

1) Graduation Trip

On April 21st, the sixth grade through high school students went to the Disneyland. We are grateful to all the



parents who helped the PTC fundraising events. The proceeds from the two annual events helped generate money for this trip. Recently, the cost of admission tickets jumped.

Our students are very lucky. Since we avoided the most crowded day, waits for the rides were relatively short and students enjoyed the day. Thank you to Ms. Uehara, Mr. Yashiro and Ms. Nelson for chaperoning the students.

2) Shamisen & Minyo Concert

On May 12th, the Shamisen (Japanese traditional instrument) and Minyo (Japanese folk songs) concert was held in the Social Hall. The entire school listened to the wonderful Japanese music performed by Mr. & Mrs. Baisho Matsumoto. They were very kind to have such a nice concert for our students. Thank you, Mr. & Mrs. Matsumoto.



3) We received a monetary gift from Dr. & Mrs. Tom Ikeda for the Speech Contest.



2018-2019 NEW SCHOOL YEAR ENROLLMENT

We are still accepting fall registration. If you have not submitted the registration forms to your class teachers, please do so A. S. A. P. Please, tell your friends and relatives about the summer and regular school programs.

LOST AND FOUND

The cubby hole in the JLS office is full with lost-found-items. Please come and check the items that may belong to you before we throw them out at the end of June.



MARUKAI RECEIPTS

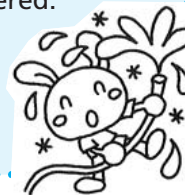
The main Marukai store in the Gardena city has been changed to Tokyo Central. However, we still collect receipts from the following stores: Thank you for your continued support.

Tokyo Central in Gardena, Little Tokyo and Torrance

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN SUMMER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT?!

If you study Japanese daily during summer school for 6 weeks, your Japanese will improve tremendously. If you are not confident in Hiragana, Katakana or Kanji, summer school is a great place to review. Art & Crafts, field trip, Fun Day (watermelon breaking and other games), cooking, morning exercise, Nagashi somen and many more fun events will be offered.

Please come to the office and enroll TODAY!



SCHOOL CALENDAR



June

- 15th Fri (Daily Div.) 3rd Trimester Ends
PTC Pizza Party for JLS
- 16th Sat (Sat. Div.) 3rd Trimester Ends
(Sat. Daily.) Graduation Ceremony (9am)
PTC Pizza Party for JLS
- 25th Mon (Daily Div.) Summer School Begins

☆ Regular class schedule on 15th (Fri) and 16th (Sat).
Please make sure not to be late.

July~August

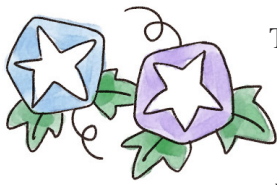
- 7/4th wed **School Closed** (Independence Day)
- 7/7th Sat (Sat. Div.) Summer School Begins
- 8/11-12th Sat, Sun **Obon Carnival (GBC)**
- 8/13th Mon **School Closed** (Obon Clean up)

September

- 6th Thu (Daily Div.) First Trimester Begins
- 8th Sat (Sat. Div.) First Trimester Begins



PTC NEWS



The end of the school year is rapidly approaching. Thanks to the strong support from many parents and guardians, we could successfully complete

various PTC events, such as the Curry Sale in October, the Mochi-Tsuki in December, and the Spring Sale in March. I am truly grateful for the capable and dedicated PTC board – Mrs. Kurokawa, Mrs. Morimoto, and Mrs. Johnson – and the knowledgeable advisors – Mrs. Hamasaki, Mrs. Kuwabara, and Mrs. Hikido. I couldn't have done this without their diligent support.

At the Speech Contest in March, I was quite impressed by the interesting speeches by all contestants in fluent Japanese. Each speech was unique, well composed and expressively presented. They made me smile, laugh, cry, and think – I loved it.

In May, PTC sponsored the annual Disneyland field trip. 19 children of 6th grade above enjoyed one full day at the “Happiest Place on Earth”. I'd like to thank the teachers who chaperoned the children from early morning till late night, and the GBC for taking care of the transportation of this trip.

In June, we are going to have the last PTC event, pizza party, to conclude this year's activities. For daily kindergarten pupils, we are going to rent a jumper to have the “Fun Jump” day. I hope the children would enjoy these events as part of the fun memories of Japanese school.

Have a safe and memorable summer! See you in September!

—— Yoko Godinez, PTC President



* Please see Japanese page 4 for more field trip pictures.

2018 FACTRETRIEVER - INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT JAPAN

- The imperial family of Japan descends from an unbroken lineage of nearly 2,000 years. No other royal family in history has held its position for so long. The first Japanese emperor, Jimmu Tennō, ruled about the time of Christ.
- The Japanese religion of Shinto is one of the few religions in the world with a female solar deity.
- Today, fewer than 200 people in Japan can claim both parents with exclusively Ainu, perhaps the original human inhabitants of Japan, descent. The Ainu do not possess the Y chromosome typically found in the rest of the Japanese population.
- Anime, or animated Japanese films and television shows, account for 60% of the world's animation-based entertainment. Animation is so successful in Japan that there are almost 130 voice-acting schools in the country.
- Ninety percent of all mobile phones sold in Japan are waterproof because youth like to use them even while showering.
- Ninety-eight percent of adoptions that take place in Japan are of male adults, so family businesses can stay within those families.
- In Japan, Kit Kat candy bars come in flavors like grilled corn, Camembert cheese, Earl Gray tea, grape, and wasabi. The Japanese pronounce Kit Kat like “Kitto Katsu,” which sounds like “You are sure to pass” in Japanese, and so they make a popular gift to students during entrance exam season.
- The world's largest Pokémon memorabilia collection belongs to Lisa Courtney of the United Kingdom. She has 14,410 items as of October 14, 2010, collected over 14 years. Items from her collection come from Japan, the UK, the U.S., and France.
- Many hot springs and onsen (public bathhouses) in Japan ban customers with tattoos from entering because the tattoos remind the public of the yakuza, or Japanese mafia, whose members sport full-body tattooing.
- The biggest Japanese community outside of Japan is in Brazil.
- While Westerners regard the heart as the center of emotions, the Japanese regard the hara (belly) as the center of emotions and thoughts. They value silent communication, which they call haragei (“speaking from the belly”).
- In 1993, Japanese author Yume-Hotaru wrote the world's first novel written entirely on a cell phone: Maho No I-rando (Magic Island).

<https://www.factretriever.com/japan-facts>