

SCHOOL-PTC NEWSLETTER



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NEWSLETTER FALL-2019

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The New School Year started nicely. Many parents accompanied students for the New School Year assembly, and the Social Hall was filled with their enthusiasm. After a long relaxing summer, our students are well rested and ready. They seem to be an inch taller. It was very nice to see them back in school.

Recently, I happened to watch the TV series titled "Miracle lessons – the world's strongest coaches and children" aired by NHK. NHK is a Japanese national broadcasting company. The program contents moved me emotionally. I suppose some JLS parents watched them, too. World-renowned sports coaches and artists visit elementary, middle or high schools in Japan. They give students instructions for sports, music and other for one week. I watched basketball lessons by Muggsy Bogues, soccer lessons by Miguel Rodrigo, rugby lessons by Eddie Jones, and music lessons by Mark Scattarday.

They used to be great players of the sports or music, and are currently coaching teams or orchestra. These coaches not only improve children's skills, but also help students grow mentally and have fun. They give stu-

dents countless helpful and valuable messages. Their messages include:

- Players need to think and consider their teammates as well as themselves.
- A team has a chemistry to change its weakness to strength.
- It is important to communicate with your teammates during practice and games.
- As orchestra members, players need to listen to other players' play.
- Help players develop the ability to think themselves.
- Help players make a habit of thinking fast. Think about 2 seconds ahead of opponent's player's moves and flow of the game.
- Coaches share information with their players to improve their motivation.
- When players learn new techniques, their eyes sparkle.
- Don't make players fear making mistakes.
- In order to strengthen players' mental condition such as confidence, strong offensive play and dealing with stress well, players need to understand and process information and use it correctly.
- Help strengthen the players' minds.
- You need to believe yourself. In order to believe in yourself, have the mindset that "everything's possible."
- Coach's critical words affect players' confidence, and hinder them from playing aggressively.
- Teach the correct way of playing, and if they can play well, praise them.
- Praise players generously.
- Having fun playing is important.

What impressed me the most about those coaches are their coaching styles, the way they deal with young players, and their warm and kind heart. In only one week of instruction, students not

only improved their skills, but also gained confidence, became more aware of their teammates, improved their communication skills with others and were able to enjoy playing. Those coaches never scolded players from a distance, never criticized the players negatively, nor took their frustration out of their players. The coaches were always stand right beside them, point out mistakes, taught them the right ways of playing right then, and taught to make right judgment of the situation of games. They kept encouraging the kids like "Well done! Well done!" and "Good job!" throughout practices and games.



Children always wait to hear adults' approval, recognition and their praises. I wish all our students to meet great teachers, coaches and fantastic leaders growing up, and receive a lot of positive and encouraging words and gain a lot of confidence. So, they can excel in the many different fields in studying, sports and many other areas. They also grow spiritually well. I wish all our parents the best and success for this school year.

Madoka I. Hull, Principal

APPRECIATION

1) GBC volunteers, who are in charge of the building maintenance, not only take care of big projects to enhance the school and church, but also they work diligently around the premises everyday.

The work includes repairing, changing light bulbs, tending the garden and many other things. The church

and school are supported by so many dedicated volunteers. As a result, we can run a very nice school here. Thank you everyone.

The Building Maintenance Crews & other helpers:

Alan Miwa, Brian Imada, Steve Tsuge, Wallace Yuki, John Nakamura, Ken Nishida, Joe Nishihira, Daniel Iwamoto, James Yokota, Tom Sasaki, Tom Fukukman, & Charlene Hirotsu



2) Mrs. Nakatsukasa, the former pre-school Director, keeps record of student's tuition every Saturday over many years. Thank you, Mrs. Nakatsukasa for giving up your Saturday and help us.

AWARD RECIPIENTS OF GRADUATE CLASS OF 2019

Scholarship Awards:

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:



* PTC Award

Leon Daichi Ito (Sat. Div. 10th Grade)
Rachel Tamae Aratani (Sat. Div. 11th Grade)

* Nikkei Credit Union Award

Camille Kiyono Fujimoto (Sat. Div. 10th Grade)

* Union Bank Award

Stephanie Miyo Ajifu (Sat. Div. 10th Grade)

* Kiyoshi Ota Award

Megumi Emily Kurokawa (Sat. Div. 11th Grade)

* Gardena Buddhist Church Award

Sarah Kaori Nelson (Sat. Div. 11th Grade)

SERVICE AWARD OF TEACHERS

* 10 years Ms. Kae Miyoshi (Preschool Div.)

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 Ms. Miyoshi for her many years of dedication.

Congratulations to all the award recipients!

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.

3) The speed limit on the premises is strictly under 5 miles/hour. Please hold your child's hand when you go through the parking lot.

PTC BOARD MEMBERS & ADVISORS

This school is supported by great help of PTC volunteer organization. Every year, PTC organizes a lot of Fun events such as curry and chicken teriyaki sale, mochitsuki, graduate trip and etc.

We really appreciate their support and warm volunteer spirit towards our school and students. we would like to thank all members, the President, board members and advisors.



VOLUNTEER QUOTE

"Volunteers DO NOT necessarily have the time: They have the heart." - Elizabeth Andrew

"A volunteer is a little pencil in the hand of God who is writing a love letter to the world." - Mother Teresa

"Every action in our lives touches on some chord that will vibrate in eternity." - Edwin Hubbell Chapin

"To make a difference in someone's life, you don't have to be brilliant, rich, beautiful or perfect. You just have to care."

"Volunteering teaches you to be grateful for the things you take for granted in life and widens your perspective on how lucky you are to be you." Elizabeth Z. Twin Cities

PTC NEWS

Welcome back to the new school year of 2019 – 2020 at Gardena Buddhist Church Japanese Learning School and Nakayoshi Preschool!

I hope all students are excited to start the new school year of learning Japanese from our experienced teachers who spend a lot of time developing curriculum.

My name is Noriko Morimoto, and I have been supporting PTC as one of class reps. Starting this year, I have accepted to lead PTC as a president. Because I am new to this role, I am very fortunate to have excellent PTC board members. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce them. Mrs. Jocelyn Johnson supports PTC as a vice president. Mrs. Fukue Kurokawa is our accountant and supported PTC for number of years. Mrs. Tomoko Kelly is our newest member to the board and is a secretary. I also have experienced advisors who are dedicated to provide continuous support and guidance to PTC. They are Mrs. Nancy Hamasaki, Mrs. Lisa Kuwabara, Mrs. Francis Hikido, and Mrs. Yoko Godinez. 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 multiple events again this year: fall curry sale, mochitsuki, spring chicken teriyaki sale, and year-end parties/activities. All PTC events require a lot of "manpower" and parental support. I would like to ask that each parent to come out to help at least one event during this year. Please remember the events are for our kids and the proceeds from the fund-raisers benefit all students of the JLS and preschool. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to see kids during the

events and get to know other parents, so please join us!

Thank you for returning the green PTC information form. The class rep. will communicate via emails on events information to you. Please be kind to support your class rep. by volunteering events and responding to their requests. For those of you who are class reps for this year, we appreciate your support to PTC and our events. We hold our meeting on the first Saturday of the month except few months. Please attend the meetings and work with us on planning and preparing for events. The PTC board members and I look forward to working with you.

Noriko Morimoto, PTC President

"Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything burst with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale." - Lauren Destefano

AUTUM SALE

PTC FUND-RAISING EVENT

- Daily Cookie Sale
Friday, November 1
- Curry & Cookie Sale
Saturday, November 2
\$5 / ticket

Tickets are available
NOW!

We NEED
your heeeelp!

SCHOOL CALENDAR

October

18th Fri Photo Sessions (Daily Div.)
18th Sat PTC Tea Party
19th Sat Photo sessions (Sat. Div.)

November

1st Fri PTC Autumn Sale (Cookies)
2nd Sat PTC Autumn Sale
(Curry & Cookies)
11th Mon Veteran's Day-School Closed
(JLS/PS)

28~30th (Thu ~Sat)

Thanksgiving Holidays--School Closed

December

13th Fri JLS/P.S.(Daily Div.) PTC Mochitsuki
14th Sat JLS/P.S. (Sat. Div.) PTC Mochitsuki
20th Fri JLS/P.S.(Daily Div.) 1st Trimester ends
21st Sat JLS/P.S.(Sat. Div.) 1st Trimester ends
23rd~Jan. 4th Winter Break
(Saturday Div. 12/28, 1/4)

TOKYO CENTRAL RECEIPT FUND-RAISING

Thank you very much for giving us Tokyo Central (TC) receipts for the fund-raising. After collecting receipts, we sum up the amount and bring them to the TC office. They then send back a check (2% of the total amount before tax) to this school. We really appreciate everyone for bringing receipts to the school.

When you bring receipts to the office, please pay attention to the following things:

1) We are asked to bring receipts monthly. So, please bring your receipts as soon as possible, ideally within the same month of shopping.

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



3) Receipts they don't accept:

- 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.)

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.



AP-ADVANCED PLACEMENT TEST

Last May, Stephanie M. Afiji, Camille K. Fujimoto and Atom Hashimoto in the high school class, passed the AP Test with the highest score of "5". They made a great effort studying Japanese here for many years. We are all proud of their accomplishments.



PASSED!

*Congratulations,
Stephanie, Camille and Atom!*

▲ 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.