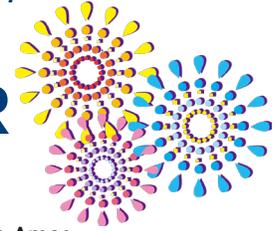




GBC JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL/NAKAYOSHI YOCHIEN

May & June 2014

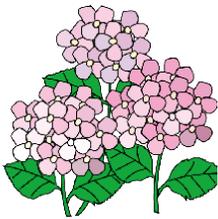
SCHOOL-PTC NEWSLETTER



JLS Article: Madoka Hull, Principal
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Principal's Message



We are now in the month of June.

Japanese language has many names for each month. The names for June are Roku-gatsu (6th month of the year), kaze-machizuki (month of waiting wind), Yoen (blazing sun), suzukure-zuki (month of cool twilight), seminoha-zuki (month of cicada wings), mina-zuki (month of water), to name a few. According to the Wikipedia site, sixteen different names are listed for June. Each name is very poetic and beautiful.

Shortly after I came to America, I remember my English professor said that "English has the largest vocabulary among languages in the world." I had a big objection to that bold statement. In Japanese, even for each month, there are so many names. Even with this simple example of names for each month, it is impossible to compare languages. Each language has so many layers and depths that it takes many years to learn.

Recently, I read the original book of "The Catcher in the Rye" by J. D. Salinger for the first time. Back in

college, I read the book which was translated in Japanese. At that time, I couldn't find the value of the book nor I could find it very interesting. But, this time, I truly enjoyed reading it. The way Holden Caulfield, the main character, narrates his thoughts and feelings about his experiences, was especially fascinating to me. It was interesting to know how teenagers talked, back then, too. I realized that this kind of book cannot be translated into any language because it will lose his way of talking or expression that is uniquely his and is the essence of the book.

Living in the U.S. for many years helps me to appreciate American literature. Along with many years of studying English, I now have a much understanding of this country. In order for foreign language learners to understand literature and novels written in a language, learners not only must have good vocabulary, but also they have to know the culture, history, politics, religion, life value and other social issues of that country. Therefore, it takes time to acquire foreign languages. I also think that foreign language learners must gain experiences living in the country where the language is spoken.

Most of our students are learning very basics Japanese. But, I hope that students continue on, and one day, they will be able to enjoy Japanese novels and literature reading in Japanese. I hope they will be able to get a deep understanding of the wonder, beauty and fascination of Japanese language and be able to study various subjects such as art, history, etc. in Japanese. It is a long-term goal, but I hope our students keep learning and never give up.

This school year is near to the end. We are grateful to all the parents who bring their children to our school and encourage them to learn Japanese throughout the year. We often hear some people saying that they wish their parents did not give in and pushed them to keep studying Japanese. They are regretful for quitting school when they were young. Others say they are happy for their parent's persistent support



and encouragement. Now their Japanese is proficient for work. It is fun to be able to speak second language and know the culture. We know that parents often have difficulties bringing their children to school and making them study. However, once students quit, they will forget what they have learned so easily and quickly. With busy schedules, students may have to miss classes, but it is better to keep at it. Please don't give in. Some day, your children will appreciate you. Thank you for all you did for this year.

_____ Madoka I. Hull, Principal

PTC News

This will be the last PTC newsletter for this academic year. In mid-May, 38 upper-grade students from both the Daily and Saturday divisions (grades 5-12) went to California Adventure for our annual "ensoku" (school field trip). All the kids seemed to have a good time at this new venue. The PTC would like to thank the Gardena Buddhist Church for providing the bus transportation and a special thank you to the adult chaperones who accompanied the students all day at California Adventure. All students who attended had their park entry ticket and meal allowance provided by the PTC.



Our annual pizza party on June 20 and 21 for both divisions of the Japanese Language School will complete this academic school year. The Daily Yochien had their "jumper day" earlier this month and had a great time.

At this time, we would like to thank you for your support and contributions to the PTC on behalf of our students. These events certainly cannot happen without parent volunteers and your dedication – thank you all very much. Enjoy your summer vacation and we look forward to seeing you all in September!

_____ Nancy Hamasaki, President

Chaperons

- Teachers ... Mr. Aratani, Ms. Uehara, Ms. Mizoguchi
- Parents ... Ms. Nancy Hamasaki, Ms. Fujiko Aratani, Ms. Eri Nelson
- School Representative ... Ms. Phyllis Maruyama

✳ Please see Japanese page 5 for the field trip pictures.

Appreciation

■ Thank you Mr. Robert Fukunaga for Osei.bo donation.

2013-2014 New School Year Enrollment

We are accepting fall registration now. 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.

SUMMER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT!

Summer School is FUN!!

Language study, art & craft, field trip, kakigori-making, cooking and much more. Please join us!



SCHOOL CALENDAR

June

- 9th Mon (Daily Div.) Fun Jump- P.S.morning
(Daily Div.) Fun Jump- JLS afternoon
- 20th Fri JLS/P.S. (Daily Div.) 3rd Trimester Ends
PTC Pizza Party for JLS
P.S. (Daily. Div.) Graduation Ceremony
- 21st Sat JLS/P.S. (Sat. Div.) 3rd Trimester Ends
PTC Pizza Party for JLS
P.S. (Sat. Div.) Graduation Ceremony
JLS (Daily/Sat.) Graduation Ceremony

June~August

- 6/30st Mon JLS/P.S. (Daily Div.) Summer School Begins
- 7/4th Fri **School Closed** (Independence Day)
- 7/5th Sat JLS/P.S. (Sat. Div.) Summer School Begins
- 8/4th Mon **School Closed** (Obon Clean up)

September

- 4th Thus P.S. (Sat. Div.) First Trimester Begins
- 6th Sat JLS/P.S. (Sat. Div.) First Trimester Begins
- 8th Mon JLS. (Daily Div.) First Trimester Begins

★ P.S. --- Preschool
JLS ---- Japanese Language School