



Young leaves of the persimmon tree at Gardena Buddhist Church are in full bloom. They are very beautiful and powerful just like the energetic children who attend the Nakayoshi Preschool.

Looking back over the past year, I am happy to see that each child has grown a lot at one's own pace. Some children who were bewildered in the new environment at the beginning of September now seem to be very comfortable and lively. In the two-year-old classrooms, the children sing songs in a joyful manner as their teacher plays piano or listen with a serious look as their teacher reads from books or picture story cards. In the three-year-old classrooms, the children are confident of being helpers, and they role play and act responsibly. In the four-year-old classrooms, the children create their own play and solve problems by themselves. The children in the Saturday class (three-year-old and four-year-old are combined) also put a sticker of "Helper" on their chest and role play as well as do a lot of creative play.

Our staff is appreciative that some of the children who graduate from our preschool subsequently enroll in the Gardena Buddhist Church Japanese School to learn Japanese. They keep studying through Kindergarten, elementary, middle, and high schools with similar expressions as when at Nakayoshi Preschool. We are moved by their dedication. We hope that your child continues to study Japanese after he/she graduates from our preschool. To the parents/guardians of the graduating children, we have appreciated your past understanding and cooperation. To the parents/guardians whose children will return next year, we will continue to support your child's healthy development.

Director Keiko Damiata

Messages from the Teachers

Daily 2-year-old classrooms

Although there were some tears in them on the first day of September, our children soon thereafter came to school in cheerful moods. Some children who initially played alone soon began interacting with other children. They learned how to play together and share toys. They learned how to paint and to properly use scissors. They also learned how to draw their faces. They have shown appreciable physical and mental growth.

Daily 3-year-old classrooms

The way our children play with other children has changed after the third term began. They connect strongly, cooperate to make things, and role play with a lot of conversation. Also, they can borrow and properly play with toys. We will introduce numbers and letters little-by-little from now on before they move to the four-year-old classrooms. We anticipate their interest in learning them.

Daily 4-year-old classrooms

There are only a few weeks remaining in the school year. Over the past year, our children laughed together, and sometimes cried or fought; however, we are satisfied with their growth when we reflect on their school life. The children are mature and dutiful about practicing for graduation. There is but a little time left before the graduation; therefore, we will use it wisely to create more fond memories.

Saturday 3-year-old and 4-year-old classroom

The children of Sakura and Kiku classes play a lot with their classmates. All of them have shown much growth. They share toys with their friends and have warm feelings towards them.

To the PTC Representatives

We would like to give thanks to Yoko Godinez (PTC president), Fukue Kurokawa, Noriko Morimoto, Jocelyn Johnson, Ai Inoue (daily presentative), Satsuki Shirao, Marie Clark, Saori Witkin, Pornwaragorn Parnitnun, Wendy Arima, Yuka Wong, Yukiko Bobillo, Yoko Cudal, Haruko Froeb, Cathy Uechi, Hilda Young (Saturday representative), and Reiko Asai. Thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to volunteer at the preschool.

To the GBC Volunteers

We would like to say thanks to Brian Imada, Daniel Iwamoto, Michael Tsuge, John Nakamura, Ken Nishida, Joe Nishihira, Alan Miwa, Wallace Yuki, and James Yokota for your support during this school year. They repaired things in the classrooms, trimmed the garden at the Church, replaced the canopy over the sand box, and did a lot of other things for us. Mr. Yuki also donated vegetable and flower plants, soil, and fertilizer. He helped our children plant them in our garden. The garden is now full of beautiful flowers and vegetable plants.



From left: Wallace, Ken, John, Daniel, and Joe

June School Calendar

June 10 (Mon) Daily classes
Fun Jump
June 14 (Fri) Daily classes
3rd Semester ends, Graduation Ceremony
No classes in the afternoon
June 15 (Sat) Saturday classes
3rd Semester ends, Graduation Ceremony
Pizza Party
June 24 (Mon) ~Aug 16 (Fri) Daily classes
Summer Session

July School Calendar

July 4 (Thu) Daily classes
Independence Day **School Closed**
July 5 (Fri) Daily classes
"Tanabata-Matsuri" (Star Festival)

August School Calendar

August 1 (Thu) Daily classes
"Watermelon Breaking" Game (Fun Day)
August 12 (Mon) Daily classes
Obon Carnival Clean Up **School Closed**

Important Announcements

- 1) There will be no classes in the afternoon on June 14th (Friday) after the 3rd semester ends with the graduation ceremony.
- 2) School will be closed on August 12th (Monday) due to the Obon Carnival clean-up.
- 3) Teachers, classmates, and class names may change in September. Regarding name tags, please use the ones that you were given last semester for this coming summer.

School Year 2019 - 2020 Starts:

Daily classes - September 4th (Wednesday)
Saturday classes - September 7th (Saturday)

