

# JAPAN SCHOOL NEWS

Caroline Pover, Inc.

1 Evergreen Outdoor Center

February 2014, #45

## Happy Valentine's Day from St. Alban's Nursery



Decorations made by the children of St. Alban's Nursery in preparation for Valentine's Day. ST. ALBAN'S NURSERY

The weather in January was lovely and mild, so the children at St. Alban's Nursery had lots of creative outdoor play. They spent time learning about the continents of the world, and the people and creatures that inhabit them.

This month, everyone is really looking forward to their "Daddy's Valentine's Party" on February

11, when daddies will come into school and make beautiful presents for mummy, such as jewelry, photo frames, cookies, and place mats. The children have already started making decorations for the classroom and singing wonderful "love you" songs. — GILMA YAMAMOTO-COPELAND

## Cinderella at NewIS



A scene from last year's musical at NewIS. NEWSIS

New International School's NewIS Players' annual English musical production directed by Timothy Stearns will be Roald Dahl's expandable cast version of Cinderella. About 80 children from ages 3–17 will participate as actors, vocalists, and/or instrumentalists, and the Taiko Drum Club will also perform. There will be both a matinee and evening performance on March 11, held at Theater Green's Box in Box Theater, Minami-Ikebukuro. Tickets are ¥2,000 and available in advance only (none will be available at the door). For further information or tickets, call 03-3980-1057.

## Horizon's winter dreaming

This year, Horizon Japan International School Yokohama's winter performance was called "Winter Dreaming." It was a wonderful event and a joy for the teachers and parents to watch the proud students on the stage. The students practised very hard and provided great entertainment for the audience. The Drama Club performed an original play by Mr. Otis, called "A Gift for Mr. Brittle." The school band also provided music, which — along with all of the other singing, dancing, and playing — helped to bring to life the "Winter Dreaming" theme.

The school sends a big thank you to all the parents for their support, and special thanks to the ELC parents and PTA for all the work they put into making this year's winter performance a success. — KEMAL TEKIN

## New international daycare and learning centre in Aoyama

Aoyama International Daycare and Learning Center (IDLC) has got off to a great start, with 16 new families enrolled in just the two months that have passed since opening day. The school has been happy to welcome many of the students' parents as "Parent Assistants," and is enjoying their participation in classes.

Aoyama IDLC offers a variety of hourly and monthly daycare and educational options for parents of children up to six years old. The school also offers a unique space for parents so that enables them to do their work nearby their children, if required. See <http://www.aoyama-idlc.com> for more information.

## JSN reader survey

*Japan School News* would like to invite readers to participate in an online survey about the publication. The 13 questions can be completed in under a minute and you do not need to leave any personal information, but if you choose to do so, you will be entered into a prize draw as a token of appreciation. The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P2LJQQT> and any further comments can be directed to [caroline@carolinepover.com](mailto:caroline@carolinepover.com).

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## Open days and tours

Contact schools directly to confirm availability and details of open days and tours.

<b>Feb.</b>	<b>School</b>
4	Tokyo YMCA International School British School in Tokyo
5, 6	New International School of Japan
6, 7	British School in Tokyo
8, 11	American School in Japan Chofu
11	Christian Academy in Japan Horizon Japan (Yokohama) British School in Tokyo
13	ASIJ Early Learning Center
13, 14	British School in Tokyo
18	Tokyo YMCA International School
22	Nishimachi International School Horizon Japan Int'l School Sendai
25	British School in Tokyo
27	New International School of Japan
27, 28	British School in Tokyo

<b>Mar.</b>	
4	Tokyo YMCA International School British School in Tokyo
5	New International School of Japan
6, 7	British School in Tokyo
11	Tokyo YMCA International School British School in Tokyo
12	New International School of Japan
13, 14, 18	British School in Tokyo
18–20	Azabu Music Together
20	ASIJ Early Learning Center
20, 21, 22	British School in Tokyo
22, 24	Azabu Music Together
25, 27, 28	British School in Tokyo

<b>Apr.</b>	
1, 3	British School in Tokyo
8	Tokyo YMCA International School
9, 10	New International School of Japan
10	ASIJ Early Learning Center
22	Tokyo YMCA International School
24, 25	British School in Tokyo
29	American School in Japan Chofu British School in Tokyo

<b>May</b>	
1, 2, 6	British School in Tokyo
8	New International School of Japan
8, 9, 13	British School in Tokyo
13	Tokyo YMCA International School
15	New International School of Japan
15, 16	British School in Tokyo
20	Tokyo YMCA International School
20, 22, 23	British School in Tokyo
24	Horizon Japan (Yokohama)

## St. Mary's students at home in school ski lodge

Every year St. Mary's International School sends three classes of third, fourth, and fifth graders up to the school's ski lodge in Gunma for a week of fun and ski lessons. To fuel those busy snow- and ski-filled activities, Cezars Kitchen whips up three meals a day and also a couple of goodies throughout the week.

Some student favourites like the ebi-fry and karaage are selectively paired with healthy green vegetables and wholesome soups throughout the week. Even though the students are on a mini-vacation, a balanced meal is provided. Cezars staff

are up at dawn and in the kitchen preparing fresh eggs, sausage, local breads, salads, and soups, in order to ensure that the kids can get the most out of the busy day ahead.

The ski lodge that houses the students is a four-storey building filled with special memories; a unique place where lasting bonds between classmates have been formed for many years. "By the time they are in fifth grade, they have been up to the lodge several times and practically feel at home here," ski lodge staff member Ichiba-san said. — GREGORY FERRIS



St. Mary's fifth grade students start their day with breakfast by Cezars Kitchen. GREGORY FERRIS

## TELL's Exceptional Parenting Program 2013–2014

TELL's Exceptional Parenting Program (EPP) launched its series of 2013–2014 academic year workshops with great success.

On October 15, Rachel G. Klein, who has a Ph.D from New York University School of Medicine, presented "When Should Parents Seek Professional Consultation for Their Child". Dr. Klein discussed the various difficulties that children typically might experience, with an emphasis on school-age children, and at what point ordinary nuisance behaviour would become a concern.

Vickie Skorji, Executive Officer and Director of TELL Lifeline, and Mica Henderson, new Assistant Director of Lifeline, presented the TELL Bully Project on November 18. They discussed some of the myths and statistics regarding bullying in Japan as well as overseas, introduced the "Social Emotional Learning Model," and lead a discussion by showing short clips from "Bully" directed by Lee Hirsch, and "Cyberbully" starring Emily Osment and Kay Panabake. This workshop's goal was to begin a discussion about how schools, teachers, parents, and the community could start to make changes to prevent bullying in their schools, classrooms, homes, and communities.

Yuria Kawachi, MA, Bible Study Fellowship area adviser and Wheelchairs of Hope board member, presented the third workshop, "Helping Young Adults with Exceptional Needs in the Japanese System," on December 3. She spoke about what was both publicly and privately available in Tokyo for preschoolers to adults in general. In that context, she shared her own experience with raising her daughter, who is mentally challenged and currently living independently.

Due to popular demand, last year's workshop "Grow and Learn Together: Helping the Child with ADHD," will again be presented by Eriko Kobayashi, Ph.D, Psychologist at TELL, on February 7 from 10am–midday. Participants will learn how Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) is defined, indicators of ADHD, treatment options, cognitive/behavioural skills that children can learn, and how the environment can provide support for children.

For more information on the Exceptional Parenting Program (EPP) or if you would like to attend future workshops, please contact the EPP coordinator at [excep.parents@telljp.com](mailto:excep.parents@telljp.com). — CHIE SAWA



## The sky's the limit for Gregg International School

Gregg International School went on a field trip to the Japan Airlines Sky Museum last month.

Visiting the museum was a fantastic experience for the elementary school students, who enjoyed being pilots as they pushed buttons in a mock cockpit, and also being maintenance engineers as they learned how jet engines work.

They also experienced being ground staff by directing a video game plane to the gate. There was an interesting array of past JAL uniforms on display and some great premium-class seats for those wishing to have the ultimate flying experience.

The students really enjoyed the museum and the activities they got to do: Mfonobong said, "I liked playing with the switches in the cockpit," and Alex said that he enjoyed being the flight captain, sitting in the cockpit seat in his uniform and pressing a massive array of buttons! Changing into cabin-staff uniforms had everyone laughing, which Leo especially liked. And Saikarthik enjoyed watching a movie that showed how a plane is made.

The trip also included a visit to a hangar, where students walked around a real 777 as it was being serviced. The engines looked enormous from

up close, and one engine was partly open and showing hundreds of wires. It all looked extremely complicated.

Students loved standing by the hangar door and watching airplanes on a nearby runway. Takeru said, "It was exciting to see real planes land and take off so close to us." But Noah liked the model airplanes best — his favourite was a giant two-metre, remote-control model 777 that has real jet engines and a licence from the FAA!

Abdul enjoyed putting together a "fact file" on JAL. He discovered that tires get changed after 300 landings; and that the average plane is 74 metres long. For more information about the museum see <http://www.jal.co.jp/kengaku>. — SUE SOUTHERN



**Noah, Alex, Saikarthik, and Haruki at the JAL Sky Museum last month.** GREGG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## Dinosaur cookies at J's!

Last month's theme at J's International School was "Roaring, Stomping Dinosaurs!" Students have been learning about when dinosaurs roamed the earth, what different types there were, and what their bones looked like. They have been learning about dinosaurs that only eat plants and dinosaurs that only eat other dinosaurs! Students were amazed to see how different all the dinosaurs looked, and marveled at the different colours, shapes, and sizes.

There was a special cooking day where children even got to make their very own dinosaur cookies. They cut out dinosaur cookie shapes, baked them, then decorated them by drawing their skeletons and giving them patterns. Not only did they turn out as pretty impressive dinosaurs, but they the children thought they tasted super yummy, too!

The children loved learning all about dinosaurs and getting a treat to eat at the end! — ERIKA CABULOY



**Nonoka from J's International School making dinosaur cookies.** J'S INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## Tokyo school communities continue to support Tohoku

Almost three years after the 2011 earthquake and tsunami that devastated communities throughout the Tohoku region, the international school community in Japan is still offering to support the recovery.

Azabu Music Together recently agreed to sponsor a landmark clock for children on the Oshika Peninsula, at a cost of ¥400,000. This clock will give parents the reassurance they need that their children will know when to return "home" to the temporary housing communities.

Tokyo International School PTA has pledged

a portion of the money that will be raised at their upcoming cherry blossom fair. This money will be used to fund a project supporting the fishing communities on Oshika.

And Kspace is again sponsoring the uniforms for the incoming students of Oshika Junior High School. They are in the process of raising ¥1,000,000 so that every student joining the school in 2015 will have all uniform items supplied. Kspace has already raised almost ¥900,000 in sponsorship for the uniforms for the students that joined the school last year.

## Tokyo Association of International Preschools

TAIP provides networking, marketing, and professional development opportunities for teachers, staff, and administrators. Current regular membership includes:

ABC International School  
Aoba-Japan International School  
ASIJ ELC  
Ayla International School  
The British School in Tokyo  
Canadian International School  
Central Forest International School  
Chateau School  
Columbia International School  
Gregg International School  
Happy Days International School  
Hello Kids Preschool & English School  
Horizon Japan International School  
International School of the Sacred Heart  
Jingumae International Exchange School  
Joy to the World American Int'l Preschool  
J's International School  
K. International School Tokyo  
Kailua International School  
Keiki Intercultural Preschool  
Kincarn International School  
Komazawa Park International School  
Kunitachi Kids International School  
Learning Tree  
Makuhari International School  
Mitsui Gardens International Preschool  
The Montessori School of Tokyo  
New International School  
New World International School  
Nishimachi International School  
Ohana International School  
Poppins International Pre-School  
St. Albans Nursery  
Saint Maur International School  
Seisen Int. Sch. — Montessori Kindergarten  
Shikahama English Adventures Int. Preschool  
Summerhill International School  
Tokyo International Kindercare  
Tokyo International School  
Tokyo YMCA International School  
Victory International Preschool  
Waseda International School  
Willowbrook International School

See <http://tokyopreschools.org> for membership information.

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# Hakuba Hero's Race & Freeride Club for teens

Remember when you were a kid and your parents dropped you off at the hill to ride the pow and hit up the slalom gates for the day? You don't?? Well here's how to NOT let that happen to your kids!

Get your youth out riding the mountains this winter with professional ski coaches to provide them with those memories! You can set the stage now for them to have skills that you only dreamed about when you were their age. At Evergreen we are steadfast on getting youth out into nature to learn more about themselves and the world around them.

This winter, Evergreen is running eight weekends of our "Hakuba Hero's Race and Freeride" sessions for children 13–18 years of age. We are looking for high school students that know how to ski and snowboard but are looking to get some serious technical coaching from professionals. The Hakuba Hero's Race and Freeride Club is set up so that students

from Tokyo, Yokohama, and Nagoya can join us in February or March in Hakuba for five weekends, for two days and one evening of ski or snowboard sessions, along with four meals and one night's accommodation.

These weekend getaways to the Japanese alps are a great way to provide your child with greater independence as well as turn them into a real ripper on the snow! The good people at Evergreen are parents themselves, and professionals in the snow industry, as well as having over a decade of experience taking care of international school groups and students from all over the world. You can feel confident knowing that your child is in caring hands from their arrival at Hakuba to their departure.

At Evergreen, we know the importance of sparking real passion in youth so as to drive them forward into the future. Feel free to give us a call or send us a note to ask us about our youth programs over winter and summer. Remember: the time is now and the medium is pow!! — DAVE ENRIGHT

## Saturday:

07:30 Depart Shinjuku on the Super Azusa Express bound for Minami Otari  
11:30 Arrive Hakuba; pick up at Hakuba Station  
11:45 Lunch at Roots Cafe  
12:30 Get gear on  
13:00 Get on the lifts; freeride technique training starts  
14:30 Gate training  
16:00 Off the hill; video analysis  
17:30 Dinner  
19:00 Night training  
20:30 Off the slopes  
21:00 Shower and prep for bed  
22:00 Lights out

## Sunday:

07:00 Rise and shine; breakfast  
08:00 Get ready  
08:30 Shuttle to the lifts  
09:00 Start morning training; hopefully some powder technique!  
10:00 Gate training  
11:00 Free ski with coach  
12:00 Lunch  
13:00 Onsen  
14:00 Shuttle to Hakuba Station  
14:30 Depart for Shinjuku  
18:30 Meet parents at Shinjuku



Cost: ¥157,500 for all ski training and Evergreen services. Includes: certified coach/instructor/chaperone, two extended half-day sessions and one evening session for five weekends, video analysis, healthy meals, accommodation, onsen, transportation within Hakuba, sports insurance, and sales tax.



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# FREE TICKETS TO MATINEE PERFORMANCE OF CINDERELLA

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## FREE TICKETS TO MATINEE PERFORMANCE OF CINDERELLA

New International School of Japan is offering ten sets of two tickets to the school's 3:30pm matinee performance of Cinderella, on March 11, at a theatre near the school. Tickets are usually ¥2,000 each. This promises to be a very enjoyable show for children (even young children) and adults alike. Contact the school for tickets.



**New International School of Japan**  
Tel. 03-3980-1057  
Email [sparr@newis.ed.jp](mailto:sparr@newis.ed.jp)  
URL [newis.ed.jp](http://newis.ed.jp)

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