

# JAPAN SCHOOL NEWS

Caroline Pover, Inc.

Evergreen Outdoor Center

August 2014, #51

## New International School of Japan extends to grade 12



**Upper and Senior School students at NewIS celebrating the completion of a special project with the Andy Warhol Museum in March 2014. ADAM HOSMER**

New International School of Japan (NewIS) is looking forward to its expansion to grade 12 from August 28, which is the start of the 2014–2015 school year. The core program is fully dual language and multi-age by design, as is the rest of the school, but advanced classes in either Japanese or English are also offered, together with an extensive choice of exploratories, which are held once a week on topics as varied as hip hop dance, acoustic guitar, Photoshop, culinary arts, horticulture, community

service, topics in language and society, and drama.

The program through grade 12 has already been fully accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, so graduates will have access to colleges worldwide and to Japanese Colleges as well, as indicated on the website of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). [http://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/koutou/shikaku/07111314/006.htm](http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/shikaku/07111314/006.htm)

Most importantly, the long-term students at NewIS have sufficient language skills in both Japanese and English to navigate these options to their advantage as they study all subjects in both English and Japanese, using a thematic approach and the Scottish curriculum guidelines.

NewIS remains the only international school in Japan to offer a fully dual-language program in English and Japanese, now from age 3 all the way through high school.

## New lending library for Nagoya families

Since April, Playpourri has been open one Sunday morning a month for families to visit and take advantage of the school's lending library. This is a great opportunity for homeschooling families, and Japanese and international families alike to access and borrow a multitude of books.

For a low annual membership fee of ¥540 per family, parents receive a free Scholastic Library Book Bag, are able to borrow monthly from the book and DVD library, can have their children participate in craft activities and story time, and talk with trained professionals about educational, developmental, and parenting concerns while relaxing with a morning tea or coffee.

The school library includes board books, storybooks, audio read-along books, chapter books,

levelled readers, fiction and non-fiction, and lots more. The school also has a large selection of educational DVDs including Baby Einstein, Dora the Explorer, Go Diego Go, Barney, Barbie, The Magic Schoolbus, Word World, and many, many more.

Playpourri wants to help parents as much as possible with the wonderful but hard task of raising children, so the school also makes available its extensive parenting resource library with educational, special needs, developmental, and parenting books.

For further information about this program and Playpourri courses, please visit <http://www.playpourri.com> or call 052-761-3188. Information is available in English and Japanese. — ROWENA PIKE-MCFADDEN



**A local boy popping into Playpourri's lending library to choose a book. ROWENA PIKE-MCFADDEN**



# NEW INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF JAPAN

- Preschool age 3 to Grade 12, established 2001.
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- Graduates may enter universities either in Japan or abroad.
- Check website for monthly orientations in English or Japanese, and seminars open to the public.
- Visitors are also welcome by individual appointment.



<http://newis.ed.jp>

3-18-22 Minami-Ikebukuro Toshima-ku Tokyo 171-0022  
Tel: 03-3980-1057

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## The aloha spirit at Kailua International School



**Ruka (4) and Hinata (9) feeling the aloha spirit while holding hands on a school trip.** KAILUA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

"Aloha" is considered to be one of the most important words in the Hawaiian language. This word is to be felt in the heart and should be verbalized with sincerity.

"Aloha" means hello and goodbye, love and respect, mercy and compassion, kindness and sympathy, grace and charity, sharing and gratitude, understanding and forgiveness, among many other meanings. Aloha forms the basis of Kailua International School's guiding spirit. Any good action that comes from the heart — no matter how

simple or small the deed — is "aloha."

Kailua children begin their early celebration of the aloha spirit in various ways. They start circle times or whole school assemblies with a "generic" prayer (in Hawaiian and English), usually led by a child chosen at random on the spot. In every school activity and in the pupils' individual and group actions, aloha instantly becomes a positive reinforcement.

The Kailua children say that they can see the aloha spirit in everything they do; for example, "When my mum and I touch hands before she leaves me at school in the morning — I feel happy," and "When I come to school early, have fun doing my work, sing, and I do not cry." Other children say they feel it when they hold hands together on school trips, eat nicely together, apologize for hurting another person's feelings, greet others, wait politely, share toys and play nicely, clean up after themselves, listen respectfully to others, and offer assistance.

All of these qualities can easily be seen in most schools, and each school may have its own name for the spirit behind such qualities. Regardless of how they are referred to, the Kailua community believe that they are values that fill a child's school days with joy. Aloha! — ROBERT GOMEZ

## Gregg International students graduation celebrations



**Grade six graduating students with staff from Gregg International School.** GREGG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Gregg International School's recent celebrations marking the K5 children leaving to join first grade were very special. The students worked hard on their speeches and songs, and were thrilled to receive lovely gifts before their graduation party. Proud parents watched their children talk about their expectations for the next stage of their education, with Yoon Ji happily announcing that she thought the work would be "easy"! The students sang their own version of "New York, New York," and "Goodbye Kindergarten," complete with a special dance routine, which was a resounding success and resulted in loud applause.

Finally, it was the grade six students' turn to take the

floor with Master of Ceremonies Kai Alex Watanabe (grade 5) displaying great skill as he announced the program of events. The older students also performed songs, singing along with great gusto, with "Heal the World" being their favourite.

Kai and Noah showed off the skills they had performed at the spring concert earlier this year, and incorporated a bit of juggling too. Haruki and Brian recited some poetic prose ("The Bridge" by Shel Silverstein) and Ruruka and Brian showed off their expertise on the piano.

The event was a great success, and everyone wishes the graduating students the best of luck for their futures. — SUE SOUTHERN

TEL: 0261-72-5150

Evergreen 0



## JIES preschoolers on the stage for graduation



**JIES graduating students performing a piece inspired by their final studies for the year.** KENAN ULU

On Thursday, 19 June, Jingumae International Exchange School (JIES) students presented "Attitudes To Learn By," a celebration of their learning in this year's final unit of inquiry, the theme of organizing oneself.

In addition to riveting performances by the after-school program dance groups, each class chose an attitude from the Learner Profile on which to create a performance based on their

inquiries. Everyone enjoyed the dancing, drama, music, graphic design, and speeches, as well as other entertainment, before wishing farewell to the graduating sixth graders. The graduating students expressed their appreciation to the school community and the audience enjoyed a memory-filled slideshow and farewell video. It was truly a heartwarming way to end another year of fun-filled learning. — KENAN ULU

## Aoyama kids celebrate the Tanabata festival

Aoyama International Daycare and Learning Center (AIDLC) celebrated Tanabata (the Star Festival) on July 7.

The children enjoyed listening to storytelling about the origins of Tanabata, where legend says that Orihime (a weaver, represented by the star Vega) and Hikoboshi (a cowherd, represented by the star Altair) are allowed to cross the Milky Way to meet just once a year on the seventh evening of the seventh month.

AIDLC students had fun decorating the school with bamboo branches festooned with colourful origami, and their written wishes. It was a great opportunity to review colours and shapes, and to practise following instructions.

Aoyama International Daycare and Learning Center opened in November last year to provide families with an affordable educational option that also gives parents the opportunity to either join their children in activities, or conduct their own activities at a nearby workstation with wi-fi while their children are kept occupied by experienced, qualified teachers.

The school is open to children up to six years old, although younger children tend to require more parental participation. The school is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm. Please see <http://www.aoyama-idlc.com>. — ANA GERVACIO



**One of the decorations made by Aoyama International Daycare and Learning Center students in celebration of Tanabata.** ANA GERVACIO

## Evergreen Outdoor Center



### Summer Activities

Canyoning

Rafting

Downriver Canoe & Kayak

Canadian Canoeing

Kayaking

Canoe Picnicking

Firefly Canoe Tours

Mountain Biking

Climbing

Hiking & Nature Walks

Summer Camps

Team Building

### Winter Activities

Ski & Snowboard Lessons

Guided Backcountry Tours

Avalanche Skills Training

Snowboard Instructor Courses

CASI ACMS

### Children's Daycare Service

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## Edogawa international kindergarten for sale

A kindergarten and English school in Edogawa ward is available for purchase; the owners are returning to their home country for personal reasons.

The school has been running for ten years, and was established as a low-cost alternative to other schools in the area. It currently has 20 students in the kindergarten (with a capacity of 25), and around 35 in the English school (with a capacity of 50). The school is run by one owner, with three kindergarten assistants, all of whom are local and have high level English abilities and appropriate academic backgrounds, as well as motivation and commitment.

The school currently takes a Montessori approach to education, and the current owners would prefer to hand the school over to someone who has some understanding of this approach.

This opportunity would suit someone who is keen to start their own school; for the same amount of money they might spend on establishing a new school, they would receive a school that is well-established, well-known in the local area, and has a number of children already enrolled for the coming academic year. This opportunity might also suit someone who is looking to expand their network of schools — enrolment has increased significantly in the past two years and it is likely that a waiting list will be necessary for the upcoming school year. The school has generated an annual profit of around ¥4 million per year for the past five years.

The current owners would like the actual handover of the school to occur in March 2015. Please contact the *Japan School News* publisher by email at [caroline@carolinepover.com](mailto:caroline@carolinepover.com) for an introduction.

## Announcements

### Teaching positions

**Qualified Early Childhood Teacher** wanted to teach children aged 18 months–3 years old. Work in a new classroom and be part of a fantastic team. Great benefits ... this is your lucky chance to be a part of an amazing school and an awesome team. Contact Shelley Sacks at Ohana International School by email at [Ohana.International.Sch@gmail.com](mailto:Ohana.International.Sch@gmail.com).

### Dance programs

Aloha! The **Hulabootie Keiki** program is spreading aloha in Tokyo! This program focuses on movement, music, and performance. Hula enriches keiki (children's) growth, builds confidence, and creates a community for families who celebrate Hawaii. Please ask your international school about hula! Hulabootie also offers entertainment for special occasions and birthday parties. Let's dance! Contact us by email at [hulabootie@yahoo.com](mailto:hulabootie@yahoo.com), or by telephone at 090-8508-2497.

## Tokyo Association of International Preschools

TAIP provides networking, marketing, and professional development opportunities for teachers, staff, and administrators. See <http://tokyopreschools.org> for membership information. 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  
Eton House International Preschool  
Gregg International School  
Happy Days International School  
Hello Kids Preschool & English School  
Honey Tree Tots Cooperative Preschool  
Horizon Japan International School  
International School of the Sacred Heart  
Jingumae International Exchange School  
Joy to the World American Int. 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  
Orange International Preschool  
Poppins Active Learning International School  
St. Albans Nursery  
Seisen Int. Sch. — Montessori Kindergarten  
Shikahama English Adventures Int. Preschool  
Summerhill International School  
Tokyo International Kindercare  
Tokyo International School  
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Tokyo CPR & First Aid  
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## Aoyama International Daycare & Learning Center

**Aoyama IDLC welcomes applications from families of all nationalities.**

Designed to help families with their children's daycare and English education needs at an affordable rate and with an easy-to-use system.

Parents are welcome to stay anytime to play and work with their children along with other families and staff. Wi-fi and a comfortable workspace are provided for parents who want to stay and work near their children.

Professional, highly experienced English-speaking teachers or staff will be on hand for support and conducting learning center activities throughout the day.



**This is where it begins! Let's have fun!**

### AGE REQUIREMENTS

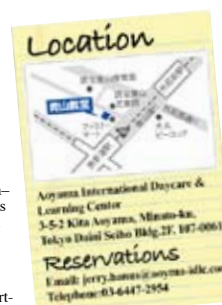
Age requirements will vary depending on parents' participation. 0 to 2 will require more parent participation. Ages 2 to 6 is our base range and older children are accepted on a case-by-case basis.

### OPERATION HOURS

Monday to Friday from 9am–3pm. Weekends and holidays are being considered as well as longer days until 6:30pm depending on demand.

### ATTENDANCE

You may participate on a part-time or full-time basis.

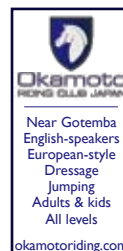


Produced by the loving families and Jerry Hanus of Jerry's Home English operating Joy to the World American International School and KES Lepton.

## What is Kanon excited about?

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 Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-10:30, 10:30-11:30, 11:30-12:30

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 Age 3 to Elementary Monday to Friday

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 Age 3 to Elementary Saturday 9:00-12:00

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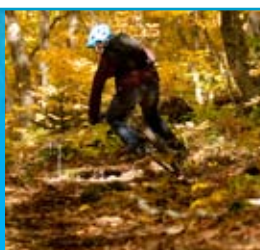
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# Kids' summer program



Maddie shows Chris her dribbling skills in Academy class. BRITISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION



Having fun in the summer sun at Gregg International School. GREGG INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## Chiba

**Kailua International School's** summer program runs until August 29. Limited places are available. Contact the school by phone on 047-479-7272 for more information.

**Nanbo Discovery Camp's** English-language, residential summer camp, opened in 1999, is located in Chikura, Chiba prefecture. Five- or six-day sessions include snorkelling, swimming, discovery, activity, science, cooking, campfires, and more. Contact David Green at [info@discoverjapan.co.jp](mailto:info@discoverjapan.co.jp) or by phone on 090-7716-0102 for more information.

## Hyogo

**Ashiya International School** is hosting its summer school program until August 22. Open to children two years old through elementary school age. Students may choose to enroll by the week. Also open during Obon week! See <http://www.aischool.ed.jp>.

## Nagoya

**Playpourri International** will be holding its annual summer school on the theme of "camping" during the weeks of August 4-8, 18-22, and 25-29, for children aged 1 to 12 years. Applicants can choose morning, lunch and/or afternoon sessions. If choosing all three, applicants will receive the lunch session FREE. Applicants can also choose summer school dates on a daily basis, allowing more flexibility. Morning and after-school care is also available. Visit [http://www.playpourri.com/Summer\\_School.html](http://www.playpourri.com/Summer_School.html) or call 052-761-3188 for more information.

## Okinawa

**Santa Monica International School** is accepting applications for 2014 summer school in Okinawa, Japan. See <http://www.santamonicainternationalschool.com>.

## Sendai

**Tohoku International School** summer school runs until August 8. It is a superb English course in Sendai for students from kindergarten to secondary school. See <http://www.tisweb.net>.

## Tokyo

The **British Football Academy** is offering two August Soccer Camps in Tokyo for children aged 4-14, to be held at British School Tokyo, Showa Campus. Camps run from August 18-22 and 25-29. All children will be presented with an official BFA Camp T-shirt and certificate. See <http://british-football-academy.com/e/pages/camp.html>.

**Gregg International School's** summer program runs until Friday, August 8. Email [balloon@gis-j.com](mailto:balloon@gis-j.com) or phone 03-3725-8000.

**Hello Kids Myogadani** is running an activity-filled trip to Canada August 2-10 for children aged 6-10 years. See <http://www.hellokids-myogadani.jp>.

**Jingumae International Exchange School** 2014 Summer Open School, August 4-8, from 9am-3pm. Tuition: ¥40,000 per week. Age group: Junior Class, 4-6 years old; Senior Class, 7-12 years old. For more information and to download an application, please go to <http://www.jies.jp> and click on "Summer Open School" from Quick Links.



# ns in Japan this August

**New Hope International School's** summer program will run until August 22. There is a preschool division (3–6 years old) and an elementary division (6–12 years old). Children can come for a week at a time, or as little as one day. See <http://newhopecl.jp/summer-courses.html> for more information.

**PAL International Preschool and Kindergarten** is holding alphabetical activities during their summer school in Minato-ku until August 15. Download an information pack at <http://www.pal-school.com>.

**Poppins Active Learning International School** summer school runs until Friday, August 29. For students aged 18 months to six years old. Contact [palis@poppins.co.jp](mailto:palis@poppins.co.jp) for more details.

## Yokohama

**Horizon Japan International School's** summer school program is designed to provide an opportunity for children to enrich their language skills and socialize with new friends through various enjoyable activities. In the program's relaxed academic environment, students will focus on a variety of activities such as language arts games, art, drama, outdoor play, group games, and projects. The program is divided into four week-long sessions and runs until August 8.

**Hitokoe Yokohama International School's** "Summery Summer 2014" provides creatively engaging enjoyable adventure activities that

transform your child's summer vacation to one that is fascinatingly memorable! Just join us! Open for children aged 1 year and 5 months to elementary school age. Monday to Friday, 9am–3pm. Call at 045-363-3356 or send an email to [contact@hyis.org](mailto:contact@hyis.org). Early fall term registration is also being accepted for children aged 17 months to four years old.

**Kanagawa International School's** Summer Course of 2014 will be held in two of their schools — Kanagawa International School in Totsuka, Yokohama and in the new school in Fujisawa. The course will be six weeks long, running for five days per week from 9am–2pm. Classes will end on Friday, August 29. This summer course is an opportunity for children aged from 2–8 years to enjoy arts and crafts, dancing, and show and tell, and to learn phonics, reading, writing, and maths. For more information, please visit <http://www.kischool.com>.

**Treehouse Montessori School's** Summer Fun Program will run until the end of August. Applicants wishing to join earlier may do so after consulting the head of school. We accept applicants from ages 1–7 years old. At Treehouse, we have a program designed for both learning and fun, held in a nurturing and stimulating Montessori environment. The program also includes pool time and water play, with daily activities organized by weekly themes. Call 045-622-5804 or email at [jenny@tms-school.com](mailto:jenny@tms-school.com) for inquiries.



Amelia and Somali Rose enjoying making and decorating a vase out of paper clay. TREEHOUSE MONTESSORI

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# Dog-friendly summer breaks with Evergreen Outdoor Center

You might be thinking that *you* need a break from Japan's hot and humid weather — and this is most probably true — but your four-legged friend definitely needs a break from air-conditioned days and late-night humid walks in the park. This summer, treat the family and Fido with a trip into the Japanese Northern Alps for an escape from the city sweat and take a dip in the crystal clear waters of Hakuba.

Lake canoeing is one of the best ways to have a wonderful family day in the great outdoors during summer — dogs love gliding across the water just about as much as they do jumping into it! Dogs have a way of making the activities we share with them more fun. When you join one of Evergreen's professional canoe guides, your mind will be at ease, you'll know that your family is in good hands. We have new and clean equipment for you and even for your canine buddy. We have four sizes of life jackets for people and dogs alike, providing greater safety,

floatation, and fun for all. We have found it best not to provide paddles for the dogs, because wooden paddles usually just end up becoming a midday snack! So instead we treat them to a Scooby Snack, while the humans are provided drinks and freshly baked cookies from our very own Roots Cafe.

If you are new to canoeing, you'll need a bit of training, too. But don't worry; anyone can pick up the four easy strokes that it takes to navigate around beautiful Lake Aoki. Just three more paddle strokes than your dog! Evergreen's canoe and kayak guides are ever so happy to teach you everything you need to know to be safe and thoroughly satisfied. There just isn't anything quite as enjoyable as a swim in this crystal clear lake with your kids and family dog.

There are some dogs that just aren't water dogs, however, and for them we recommend a refreshing walk around the cool and shaded Himekawa (Princess River) Headwaters Park. This can be

combined with a paddle on Lake Aoki or a private bicycle ride. The headwaters of Himekawa and Lake Aoki are pure enough to drink from so it is imperative that you bring ways to clean up after your dog so that these water sources, which truly are a treasure of the Japanese Northern Alps, do not become contaminated.

Whether it's canoeing, kayaking, rafting, picnicking, walking, or bike riding, time in the outdoors offers us limitless opportunities to explore our horizons, bask in the serenity and hypnotizing effect of Hakuba's spring waters, and get outside with our families and our dogs.

So what are you waiting for? Come join us in Hakuba's Northern Alps for a summer that you will never forget!

*Dave Enright  
Director / Chief Guide  
Evergreen Outdoor Center*

