

Japan School News

ISSUE 57

MONTHLY NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN JAPAN

FEBRUARY 2015



BFA Jaguars line up for the start of the new International Junior League FOOTY JAPAN

Junior Football League Kicks Off

Sid Lloyd

FOOTY JAPAN, owner and operator of the highly-popular British Football Academy (BFA), are proud to announce the start of the inaugural season of the International Junior League (IJL).

Kicking off on January 13th and running throughout this term, the league will comprise four teams playing each other twice. BFA's very own 'Jaguars' are joined in the league by the British School Tokyo, Nishimachi and FC Nomade who have links with Lycee Franco (the French international school in Japan).

The league will consist of two age groups: U10s and U12s and both age groups will compete on the same match days.

The league will be looking to expand after the summer and run through

both the autumn and winter terms as more teams join and the IJL becomes a benchmark of international youth football competition in and around Tokyo, enabling children from the international community to enjoy and benefit from competitive football year round.

Sid Lloyd, Footy Japan's founder and Managing Director, is thrilled with the prospect of the league.

"The adult 'Tokyo Metropolis League' has been running for 12 seasons (years) very successfully now, but I have always wanted to have a league for the international children to play in. Now, with the start of the IJL, I hope we can build this competition into something young footballers can truly enjoy, benefit from, improve as players



BFA Jaguars (red) & Nishimachi prepare to kick off the first matches of the IJL

and grow as young sportspeople," Lloyd enthused.

Any schools or teams wishing to join or know more about the IJL, please contact Footy Japan at: competitions.ops@footyjapan.com

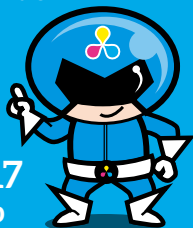
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British Football Academy

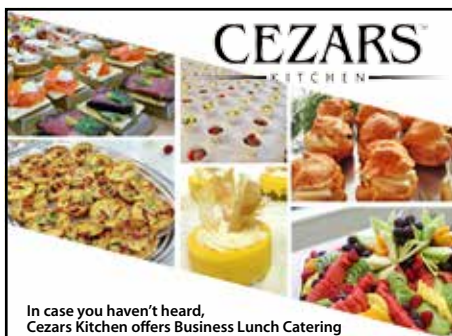




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Cupid's Cakes

Gregory Ferris

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Saint Maur students get in line to get their first taste of cupid's cakes. CEZARS KITCHEN

Spring holiday sessions

Hitokoe Yokohama International School

HITOKOE YOKOHAMA International School welcomes registrations for its "See Spring!" Special Spring Sessions running from **March 25th-April 7th** (Monday-Friday from 9:00-15:00). There are differentiated classes from ages 1.5-6 years old, ESL students and Elementary students from 7-12 years old. There is also English After-School Care from 15:00-18:00.

Contact HYIS at 045-363-3356 during office hours or at contact@hyis.org

HJIS Open House

Horizon Japan International School

HORIZON JAPAN International School in Yokohama will hold an Open House event this month, on **Wednesday, Feb 11th**, between 10am-12:30pm. The day will include a presentation and tour of the school facilities with an opportunity to speak directly with teachers and staff and ask questions throughout. Following the information session light refreshments will be available for visitors and teachers to mix and talk freely.

If you would like to join, please email hjis@horizon.ac.jp or call 045-584-1945. For more details see: horizon.ac.jp.

Free seminar for parents

TELL's Exceptional Parenting Program (EPP)

What Can Adults Do to Help Children with Unhealthy Dieting?

Presenter: Aska Aoshima, Ed.M, LMSW, TELL Eating Disorders Program Coordinator

Date: **Wednesday, February 25, 2015**

Time: 10:00am-12:00pm

Location: Wesley Center 2F, Seminar Room #205,
6-10-11 Minami-Aoyama, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 107-0062

Fee: Free (donations are highly appreciated)

RSVP: Chie.Sawa@telljp.com

For more information, please contact Chie Sawa, Exceptional Parenting Program Coordinator.



Winter Performance at JIES. JINGUMAE INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE SCHOOL

Winter Performance at Jingumae International Exchange School

Kenan Ulu

THIS YEAR'S Winter Performance, our second Celebration of Learning, was an exciting and collaborative presentation which included music, video, dance, drama, science, history, and culture. Each class created performances based on their inquiries in the themes of 'Who we are' and 'Where we are in place and time' and the results were impressive demonstrations of their commitment to learning. We also enjoyed selections from some of our after school arts classes. It was a fantastic way to end 2014 and an inspiring conclusion to the first term of our school year.

Dads get busy at St.Albans

Gilma Yamamoto Copeland

FEBRUARY IS one of our favorite months of the Year. It will begin with the annual visit from the Atago Police. Our friendly officers will teach the children about traffic safety, and as an exciting addition we will have police cars and motorcycles for the children to explore! Our traditional "make gifts for mommy" Valentine party will be on February 11th. All the daddies and their children will get busy making fabulous presents and cookies to take home for mommy and spoil her !!

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY EVERYONE FROM ALL OF US AT ST. ALBAN'S. We hope you enjoy this loving and fun day.



Dads help their children make presents for Valentine's gifts to mum.
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Kailua 4 and 5-year old kindergartners perform their dance version of Jingle Bell Rock.

KAILUA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Building Confidence via Performing Arts

Robert L. Gomez

"BUTTERFLIES IN the tummy?" This was the principal's question as he walked around the waiting rooms 10 minutes before the start of the Christmas concerts. The children's replies were; "No butterflies at all"; "Just a little", and only a sprinkling of "Yes". The children were "oozing" with confidence. So the principal's own "butterflies in the tummy" fluttered away. He knew that the shows would be great, and as he walked into the hall for the welcome address, he heard the young actors and actresses exclaim, "Let's break a leg!"

The first concert starring the regular homeroom classes was on Friday, December 12. The concert opened with a short "generic" prayer in Hawaiian and English led by Nagomi Ebine, a pre-first grade girl. The Oyako (mother and child class) then presented a cute opening number - Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star with original Christmas lyrics and Winter Wonderland. This was followed by a short musical, a Christmas version of the popular children's story, "The Gingerbread Man". It had a happy ending with Santa Claus hiding the Gingerbread Man from the characters chasing and wanting to eat him - a hungry reindeer and groups of carollers. Santa Claus baked gingerbread man cookies that he shared with everyone thus concluding

the story with everyone filled with the Christmas spirit of sharing and joy.

Saturday School classes and after school students performed the second Christmas concert a week later before an SRO audience. It was a two-part concert, the first part consisting of group performances: "Let It Go" from the movie, Frozen, Santa Is His Name O, Jingle Bell Rock, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bell Rock II, It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas and Deck the Halls. The performances had the parents and guests singing along, clapping and swaying, and some mothers of the youngest children misty-eyed with joy.

The highlight of the concert was a full musical, "The First Christmas", telling about the story of how Christmas started some 2,014 years ago. The narrator was, Haruka Kurimoto, a Kailua kindergarten graduate who attends the school's Saturday school and after school programs. A children's choir complemented the beautiful acting of the main cast - Mary, Joseph, Angel, innkeepers, shepherds and the three kings. The grand finale was the community singing of John Lennon's "So This Is Christmas", a message of JOY, LOVE and PEACE.

kailua-international-school.info

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K2 students observing science experiments in the chemistry lab.
K. INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL TOKYO

Shared learning opportunities at K. International School Tokyo

Craig Larsen

AT K. International School Tokyo, students have various opportunities during the year to share learning experiences with students from different grades. One such opportunity was provided recently when grade 12 students in their final year of the IB Diploma Programme hosted K2 students who visited the secondary chemistry laboratory as part of their science topic on "Change."

The grade 12s conducted five different experiments that demonstrated to the K2s a physical or chemical change. In one of the experiments, the K2s observed what happened when food coloring and liquid hand soap was mixed with milk.

Other experiments included burning sugar and blowing up a gum candy. For each experiment, the K2s were required to describe the change they observed.

In observing the experiments, the K2s not only gained knowledge about topics unfamiliar in their daily lives, but also learned that chemistry is fun. The grade 12s were also impressed to see the younger children's reactions and their passion to learn more about the world around them. As one grade 12 student commented: "Currently, the kids may not know much about chemistry, but as they learn many more things in the future, they may have the opportunity of advancing to the path of chemistry."

How to get your school in JSN

JAPAN SCHOOL News publishes news and reports from International Schools across Japan, completely free of charge.

To have news about your own school included, simply submit your article to us before the 15th of the month, together with any accompanying images you'd like to be considered. Space permitting, your article will be published in the following month's issue.

Please keep submissions below 400 words and send sharp, high resolution images for the best chance of being published.

Send submissions to: info@japanschoolnews.com



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kailua-international-school.info
Tel. 047-479-7272

Busy bees in Tokyo

Tokyo Bees

TOKYO BEES, the Tokyo chapter of the Internationally renowned Helen O'Grady Drama Academy, is currently enrolling new students as they prepare for their annual Spring Performance in May.

The international curriculum, developed over 30 years and operating in 27 countries, covers all aspects of drama in education, based around verbal communication and use of language. The aim is to develop clear articulation, diction, creativity and confidence through speech exercises, improvisations, creative movement games, rhythm and rhyme. Children benefit by tapping into their own creativity, helping them to be positive about themselves and the world around them.

The Academy is already working with many schools in Tokyo to help all children develop the social and communication



Students on stage in the 2014 Spring Performance TOKYO BEES

skills they will need in everyday life. For a chance to find out more about this unique and affordable program, they offer free, fun drama workshops for local schools, lasting from 30 mins to one hour. These are offered on a first come, first served basis, so please contact the Principal, Tenie Sangma (tenie@tokyo-bees.com) to discuss availability.

Tokyo Association of International Preschools

TAIP PROVIDES networking, marketing, and professional development opportunities for teachers, staff, and administrators. See 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
- CFIS Sports & Music Kindergarten Tachikawa
- 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 International 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 International School — Montessori Kindergarten
- Shikahama English Adventures Int'l Preschool
- Summerhill International School
- Tokyo International Kindercare
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Host Calvin Grosshuesch is shown with 2015 winners of the National Geographic Bee (Geobee). From left, first place winner; Madison McCartney (grade 5) and second place winner; Kenshin Dean (grade 5). Josiah De For (center) was the winner in the homeschool division. STEVE PARKER

Geobee held at Sullivans Elementary

Steve Parker and Calvin Grosshuesch

Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan The National Geographic Bee (or informally, the Geobee) local final rounds were held on Jan. 8 at Sullivans Elementary School. The first place winner will now take a written examination to qualify for advancement in the worldwide competition.

This year's first and second place winners were Madison McCartney (grade 5) and Kenshin Dean (grade 5). Josiah De For took first place in the Home School division. Josiah and Madison each get a trophy for their accomplishments. National Geo Bee T-shirts were awarded to all three competitors, and National Geographic books were awarded to the top eight finalists. This year's prizes were donated by the Sullivans PTO.

The Geobee is an annual geographic contest for American elementary and middle-school students. The Geobee, held every year since 1989, is open to students in the fourth through eighth grade in participating American schools. More than four million students a year begin the geography competition locally by competing for a spot in the finals, which culminates in a national competition of the winners from each state every May in Washington, D.C. Alex Trebek has moderated the final round since the competition began twenty-six years ago.

At Sullivans, fourth and fifth grade

students answered questions in the opening round by tuning in their classroom televisions as Mr. Calvin Grosshuesch, Sullivans' Geobee sponsor for the last 18 years, read out 30 questions over SSN, The Sullivans School Network. SSN is a student-staffed school television network at the Sullivans. The top 28 scores, competed at an assembly in the Sullivans Multipurpose Room on Dec. 18. From that Pool, seven fifth graders and one fourth grader competed in the School's final round on Jan. 8.

The questions, even at the beginning level are quite challenging. For example, one of the first round questions was, "Kangaroo Island, south of the Yorke Peninsula is the third largest island in what country?" Another question from the second round of competition was, "The Somali Basin lies off the east coast of which continent?"

Grosshuesch stated he enjoys sponsoring the Geobee because, "Every year I learn something new...and I always wanted to be Alex Trebek."

By the way, the answers to the above 2 questions were Australia and Africa, respectively. So study up on your orology and your eremology, don't neglect your geography, and you could win the next Geobee! Or if you're too old to qualify, perhaps you can impress your friends at your next trivial pursuit party.

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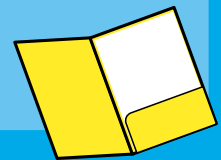
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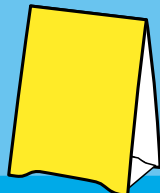
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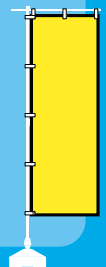
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