



THE SUZUKA TIMES

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School-wide Art Appreciation Trip to *Ghost & Lady*

Students visited the Nagoya Shiki Theater as part of the school's art appreciation program. (Go to Page 8)



Osaka Expo 2025

Sixth-Grade students had the exciting opportunity to visit the Osaka Expo, where they explored different pavilions showcasing future technology, culture, and innovation from around the world. (Go to Page 4)



Friends from Australia

What happens when Australian students spend a week living with Japanese families in Suzuka and attending Suzuka Secondary School? (Go to Page 6)

SSS Qualifies for 15th National Science Koshien Tournament, First in School History

By Akimi Fujiwara and Yumeno Fukamizu

5th Grade Class 5



4th and 5th-grade students (from upper left) Mai Tomoto, Akimi Fujiwara, Koshi Uchida, Sota Kobayashi, Keitaro Matsumoto, and (from lower left) Madoka Hayakawa, Sota Yamanaka, and Yukimichi Kiyokawa

Suzuka Secondary School students won first place in the preliminary round of the Science Koshien National Tournament, which was held on October 19, 2025, at Suzuka University of Medical Science.

Five 5th-grade students, Koshi Uchida, Mai Tomoto, Keitaro Matsumoto, Sota Kobayashi, Akimi Fujiwara and three 4th-grade students, Sota Yamanaka, Madoka Hayakawa, and Yukimichi Kiyokawa participated in the contest and won first prize. Six students were in charge of written examinations in Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geoscience, Mathematics, and Information Technology. Also, there were three practical skills competitions, which included a Chemistry experiment, a Geoscience experiment, and a Multi-skills competition... (To be continued on page 2)

Interview with Mr. Watanabe: What happened between Suzuka Kyohei Educational Institution and the University of Cebu?

By Haruka Tokuda, 3rd Grade Class 4



(from left) University of Cebu Ms. Maleen Grafilo-Ordiz and Dean Ofelia G. Mana, with SKEI President Hisataka Watanabe and Global English Program Coordinator Gerardo Olea

Suzuka Secondary School and the University of Cebu became sister schools. The signing of the contract happened at the UC High School Banilad Campus. An SGSS member interviewed Mr. Watanabe, the school principal and SKEI president, about... (To be continued on page 5)

SSS holds Open English Classes and Symposium

By Kosuke Nitta, 5th Grade Class 5



5th-grade students in their Final Debate

On November 11th, a symposium was held at Suzuka Secondary School. The organizers were Mr. Hisataka Watanabe, President of Suzuka Kyohei Educational Institution and Principal of Suzuka Secondary School; Mr. Yukiya Okumura, English

Department Head, and Mr. Gerardo Olea, Global English Program Coordinator and Head of the Foreign Language Teachers (FLT). All the FLTs and Japanese Teachers of English (JTE) assisted them. The event was hosted by Mr. Sadanori Komatsu, Associate Principal of Suzuka Kyohei Educational Institution. Teachers involved in English education at elementary, junior, and senior high schools, juku (cram schools), English schools... (To be continued on page 2)

Japan Model United Nations (JEMUN) Review

By Sawa Muraoka, 6th Grade Class 2



Diplomacy Award winner Sawa Muraoka

I attended the Japan English Model United Nations (JEMUN) last summer, and it was a great opportunity to interact with students from diverse backgrounds. JEMUN is an event held at Kindai University where students from across Japan, as well as participants from abroad, come together to debate assigned global issues. Students participate as "delegates" representing different countries and work together to write resolutions, which are proposed solutions to the topic being discussed. (To be continued on page 2)

SSS Qualifies for 15th National... (Continued from page 1)

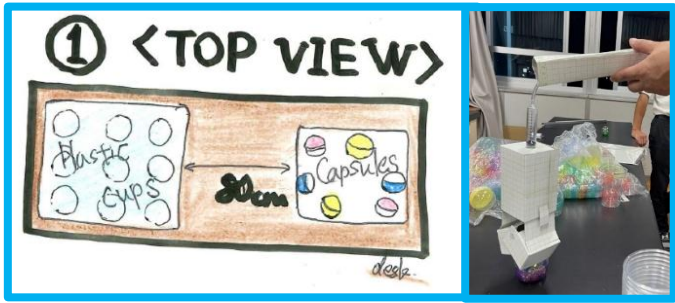
Before introducing the details of the contest, let's go over the outline of the Science Koshien National Tournament.

Science Koshien aims to foster students' interest in science and mathematics, develop problem-solving and teamwork skills, and encourage creativity through collaborative, practical scientific challenges. Preliminary tournaments are held in each prefecture, and the top team that scored the best advances to the National Science Koshien, where teams from 47 prefectures compete through experiments, problem-solving, and presentations to demonstrate creativity, teamwork, and scientific thinking.

Now, 5th-grade student, Akimi Fujiwara, who was in charge of the physics written examination and one of the members of the multi-skills competition, looks back on the days leading to their victory and speaks about the details of the contest.

"I cooperated with Sota Kobayashi and Mai Tomoto in the multi-skills competition. I would like to tell you especially about the multi-skills competition since the result of that competition contributed to our victory.

The theme of the multi-skills competition this year was to make a tool for transporting capsules using craft paper and syringes, and to convey information without vocal communication in order to move capsules into plastic cups 80 cm away. (Diagram 1)



SSS holds Open English Class... (Continued from page 1)

international schools, as well as members of the board of education, participated in this symposium.

First, Mr. Watanabe gave the opening remarks, while Mr. Okumura and Mr. Olea explained the school's English language education programs.

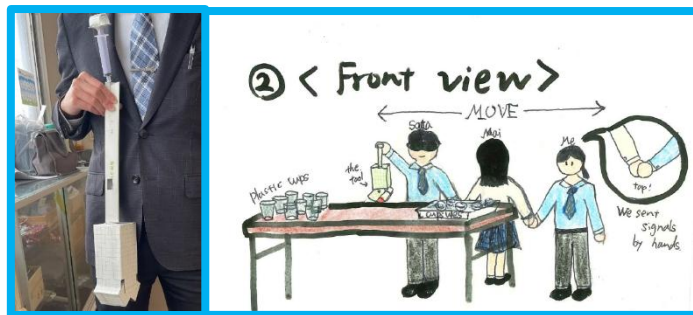
The following subjects held the open lessons:

- 1st Year English with Ms. Maaya Kurata, JTE
- 2nd Year Introduction to English Communication 2 (IEC 2) with Ms. Ashley Geradela, NET from Canada and Mr. Ohara, JTE
- 5th Year English Logic and Expression 2 (ELE 2) Debate Lesson with Mr. Olea, Mr. Okumura, And Ms. Jessica

The Debate Teams consisted of the following members:

Pro Team: Kodai Ishikawa, Koshi Uchida, and Kosuke Nitta

Sota, Mai, and I were standing in a line holding our hands with Sota's eyes closed, who operated the tool. Since Sota had his eyes closed, and Mai was standing with her back turned, only the third person, myself, could see and had to convey the information correctly about where to catch the capsules and where to drop them into the cups by tapping Mai's hand. Then Mai told the information to Sota, and he operated the tool. (Diagram 2)



We prepared for this competition for about two months, including the duration of the second midterm exams. We tried and tested over and over, made the tool over and over, and considered various situations. Finally, thanks to the practice we did and some luck that the actual situation was the easiest one to do, we got a perfect score, 80 points! We later heard that other school teams could only get 30-40 points, so we were proud of ourselves and our team. We overtook other teams by getting a full score in the multi-skills competition."

Student members proceeded to the National Contest, which was held in Tsukuba City from March 20th to the 23rd. There were also written examinations and practical skills competitions, including a multi-skills competition. It was harder than the

prefectural tournament, but they tried their best in the next stage. Once again, Akimi Fujiwara gives her reflection on the national tournament.

"Participating in the National Science Contest was truly a valuable experience for me. Our final result was 23rd out of 48 teams, and we ranked 10th in the multi-skills competition.

Since only the top eight teams could advance to the final, we were so close, and it was really frustrating. However, we did our best and achieved our highest score in the qualifying round. The three fourth-grade students worked so hard in the geography experiment competition, and my classmates in the chemistry experiments competition placed 8th out of 47 teams, which was amazing!"

JEMUN Review (Continued from page 1)

This was my second time attending JEMUN, so I was also able to reconnect with some of the students I had met the previous year. The experience was not only educational but also extremely enjoyable. This year's topic was "Education 4.0: Digital Innovation in Learning," and I represented Uganda as a delegate. I mainly focused on solutions for developing countries and worked to persuade other delegates to support nations struggling with educational inequality and limited access to technology. Through these discussions, I could broaden my perspective on education and many other global issues.

Thankfully, I also received the "Diplomacy Award" during the conference. I learned a lot from my previous experience attending JEMUN and tried to encourage quieter participants to contribute while also taking initiative and leading the group when necessary. I believe this balance between cooperation and leadership was what led me to receive the award. *(To be continued on page 3)*

Con Team: Sakura Ito, Yumeno Fukamizu, and Akimi Fujiwara

Debate Topic: University education should be free for everyone.

The Pro team favored the topic, and the Con team opposed it, and they discussed their opinions using data and other evidence. After that, they responded to each other's ideas with arguments they thought of right there.

After the Open Lessons, an Open Forum was held. Some ideas and plans for the future of English language education in Japan were discussed.



Mr. Okumura, together with Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Komatsu, and the FLTs, explains the school English education programs

Keywords! SSS Qualifies... preliminary 予選 chemistry 化学 physics 物理 biology 生物 geoscience 地学 foster ～を養成する collaborative 共同のな capsules カプセル syringes 注射器 duration 期間 frustrating 悔しい qualifying 予選	against に対して forum フォーラム JEMUN Review... JEMUN 模擬国連 interact 交流する diverse 多様な delegates 代表者 resolutions 決議案 reconnect 再接続する educational 教育的 extremely 非常に digital innovation デジタルイノベーション developing countries 発展途上国 persuade 説得する struggling もがく inequality 不平等 broaden 広げる perspective 視点 Diplomacy Award 外交賞 encourage 奨励する initiative 主導権 highlights ハイライト committee 委員会 passionate 情熱的な
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First-Grade Students Go on Overnight Trip

By Chien Tei, 1st Grade Class 4 and Yuna Shibata, 1st Grade Class 3



1st-grade students preparing to cook curry-rice

The first-grade students went to Suzukato for a school trip and stayed there for one night. Before the trip, roles and ideas for the activities were decided at school.

Suzukato Day 1

On the first day, the students made curry as a group activity. Making fire was especially difficult. Some groups rubbed the tools hard, but the fire did not start easily. Many groups had trouble at first. However, the groups helped each other and shared advice. By working together, all groups successfully made curry.

In the evening, students spent time in their rooms preparing for the next day and talking with friends. Before and after bathing, voices could be heard from various rooms, and people were talking happily. The lights were turned off at the scheduled time, and everyone rested for the activities planned the following day. These moments were one part of the experiences on the first day of the school trip.

Suzukato Day 2

On the second day at Suzukato, first-year students spent the day making charred cedar boards.

They got up early, so everyone was pretty sleepy, but it was really fun to make!

Using fire to char the cedar was a bit scary at first, but the finished pieces turned out beautifully shiny and cool.

Second Grade Company Visits

By Mihana Hattori and Monami Shimizu, 2nd Grade Class 4

During the summer vacation of 2025, 2nd-grade students went on company visits. There, they learned about things that will be useful in the future and things people in those companies wished they had done as students.

The students visited a wide area, from Suzuka to Yokkaichi and even Nagoya. They were in groups of four or five, and one or

two students from each class were chosen to work with students from other classes, which allowed them to deepen their interactions with each other. Monami Shimizu, a second-grade student, explains her experience.

“We went on a company visit during the summer vacation. I visited a construction company and was able to learn not only

about the company but also about unrelated things like student life. Also, the members of my company visit group were all students I had not spoken to much before, so I was a little nervous, but I think we got along a little better afterward, so it was good. The people at the company were very friendly, and although I was very nervous before the visit, I quickly relaxed and was able to



2nd-grade students presenting their company visit

have a fun conversation.”

This company visit was a rare and valuable experience, and it will become a cherished memory for the 2nd-grade students.

Visit Report: The University of Tokyo Campus Tour

By Sakura Ito, 5th Grade Class 5

On November 29th, students joined a campus tour at the University of Tokyo. On this tour, they learned about the history of the university, the features of the campus, and the students who study there.

First, the students listened to a talk about the history of the university. Akamon is a red gate



Tokyo University

that was built by a lord of the Kaga Domain to celebrate a marriage. It is the only red gate from the Edo period that still remains today. However, it was under repair on that day. On the other hand, the ginkgo trees were very beautiful. Many visitors, tourists, and people walking their dogs were on the campus. This showed that the university is open to the local community.

Next, the students learned about the campus buildings. After the Great Kanto Earthquake, many buildings were lost. After that, Professor Uchida helped rebuild the campus and made the style of the buildings seen today. This style is called “Uchida Gothic.” The students also heard a story among students. They say that if you slip near Sanshiro

Pond, you will fail your entrance exams.

Through the tour, meeting current students was also an important experience. The student guides were easy to talk to and kind. One student guide said that one good point of the University of Tokyo is that students can meet many people from different backgrounds. The students also had a chance to hear about entrance exam study from a graduate of our high school and from the guides. They said that there is no special study method and that daily effort is important. One guide also said that hard-working students succeed.

This campus tour helped the students understand universities better and gave them motivation to keep studying in the future.

Keywords!

JEMUN Review...
opportunities 機会
overall 全体
valuable 貴重な
society 社会

First-Grade students go on...

roles 役割
rubbed 擦る
tools 工具 (木材)
advice アドバイス
successfully 無事に、うまく
various 様々な、いろいろな
charred 焦げた
cedar boards 杉板
to char 焦がす
scary 怖い

Second Grade...

company visits 企業訪問
valuable 貴重な
construction 建設
unrelated 無関係
nervous そわそわ
fondly remembered 懐かしい

Visit Report: The University of...

features 特徴
lord 藩主
domain 藩
repair 修理
Uchida Gothic 内田ゴシック
slip 滑る
backgrounds 背景
a graduate 卒業生
method 方法
succeed 成功する

JEMUN Review... (Continued from page 2) Although the main focus of the event was the MUN conference, the Met Gala was also one of the highlights of the experience. There was food, drinks, music, and opportunities to dance and sing together with other participants. I made new friends with students in my committee, and it became one of the most memorable and enjoyable moments of the entire event.

Overall, attending JEMUN was a valuable experience that allowed me to learn more about global challenges in digital education. More importantly, it gave me the chance to connect with passionate students from different cultures and backgrounds. The event inspired me to continue learning about international issues and to become more actively involved in discussions about the future of education and society.

First Step for the Future: A Visit to Mie University

By Sae Ito, 3rd Grade Class 4

Mie University welcomed junior high school students on October 24th for the first time. The university is located about a 15-minute walk from Edobashi Station. Students were divided into four groups to tour different courses. The tour was as follows.

Cafeteria
They serve affordable and warm foods, like curry, noodles, tonkatsu, chicken, and so on. Seasonal specialties are also prepared.

Library Center
Shelves are filled with new and specialized books. The library

has more than 900,000 books at the three-story facility and is open to both students and the public.

Student Interviews
Three university students who graduated from SSS participated: one from the Faculty of Engineering (Applied Biology), one from the Faculty of Bioresources, and one from the Faculty of Medicine. Talks about campus life and studies were held. For example, the students learned that all faculty are based in the one campus of Mie University and the size is as large as Tokyo Disney Land!

CeMDS (Center for Mathematical and Data Science)
Students enjoyed playing original games that university students created with VR glasses.

Advice from Seniors
“Go to as many open campus events as possible. It will help you to find your way.”
Before this visit, some students thought university was only about studying in classrooms. However, they learned that students also go outside and study very specialized topics. The wide



3rd-grade boy trying out VR games

range of ages on campus was also attractive. While researching universities, the senior students emphasized the importance of experiencing different campuses. Meeting the seniors gave third-grade students a clearer picture of what university life is really like and how to better prepare for their future.

Wish for World Peace

By Natsumi Hamaguchi and Kaho Sakurai, 2nd Grade Class 3



2nd-grade students taking photos under torii gate

Second-grade students from Suzuka Secondary School went to Hiroshima on November 6th and 7th for a peace study trip.

Day 1
The students rode the bullet train to Hiroshima. For some

students, it was their first time. When they arrived in Hiroshima, they took public transportation, such as trains and ferries, to reach Miyajima. There were many foreign tourists on the ferry as well.
In Miyajima, the students formed groups and interviewed foreigners. At first, they were very nervous, but everyone was very kind and answered their questions.
Itsukushima Shrine was also in Miyajima. The tide was out at that time, so students were able to walk under the large torii gate.

By visiting Miyajima, the students realized that it is loved by people all over the world, and they learned about the warmth of the people and its history.
In the evening, everyone had a buffet-style dinner together. It was their first experience eating together as a grade, and they had a lot of fun. Many students spent a lot of time talking with their friends in their assigned hotel room. They had a good experience and became closer.

Day 2
On the second day, the students visited the Atomic Bomb Dome

and Peace Museum. They looked at a lot of materials and learned about the atomic bomb. For example, there were actual items and photos of when the atomic bomb was dropped. The students were also able to hear about the actual bombing from atomic bomb survivor Sadae Kasaoka. She told her story and expressed her wish for peace. It was a very valuable experience.
In the afternoon, each class had free time at Hiroshima Station, where they enjoyed buying souvenirs.
Although there are many wars in the world today, this study made students realize again that war should never happen.

Osaka Expo Visit

By Sawa Muraoka, 6th Grade Class 2



6th-grade students at one of the pavilions

This year, the 6th-grade students went to the Osaka Expo on July 11th. Students were given

about four hours to visit pavilions of their own choice. They formed groups freely, and most groups reserved their pavilions two months before the visit. However, since the most popular pavilions were difficult to reserve, some students were unable to make any reservation.
One group managed to reserve the PASONA NATUREVERSE pavilion. It was filled with futuristic displays

centered around the theme of appreciating life. The iPS heart and future healthcare area showed possible technological advancements in healthcare. They also visited the African pavilion, where several countries had displays and shops. After that, they went up the Grand Ring, where they could see many of the pavilions from above. The view was amazing, and the breeze felt refreshing since the temperature was quite high that day.

To wrap up, the Osaka Expo was a great experience overall because it allowed students to see many things that they do not usually experience in their daily lives. Visiting different pavilions helped them learn about future technology, healthcare, and cultures from around the world. The trip was not only fun but also educational, and it made students think more about the future and how technology may change their lives. Overall, it was a memorable and meaningful experience.

Keywords! First Step for the Future... divide 分ける affordable 手頃な価格の participate 参加する Faculty of Bioresources 生物資源学部 CeMDS 数理・データサイエンス館 emphasized 強調した	Wish for World Peace... bullet train 新幹線 public transportation 交通機関 ferry フェリー buffet ビュッフェ assigned 割り当てられた	Atomic Bomb Dome 原爆ドーム materials 資料 survivor 生存者 expressed 表現した valuable 様々な souvenirs お土産	Osaka Expo Visit... reserve 予約する reservation 予約 futuristic 未来的な technological 技術的な advancements 進歩 memorable 印象的な
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Unforgettable Okinawa Trip

By Kosuke Nitta, 5th Grade Class 5



The 5th-grade students took a four-day school trip to Okinawa from February 3rd to 6th. During the trip, they participated in peace studies, cultural experiences, and group activities planned by each group.

On the first day, the students gathered at the airport at noon. They arrived at Naha Airport and went to the hotel by bus.

They had dinner in the hall, and later, during their free time, many students bought snacks and drinks at the Family Mart in the hotel.

On the second day, they visited the Himeyuri Tower and the Peace Memorial Park. They also looked around the museum and learned about the history of the Battle of Okinawa through the exhibits. In particular, many students seriously watched a video featuring a survivor of the Battle of Okinawa. While examining the exhibits, they had the opportunity to reflect deeply on the tragedy of war and the importance of peace.

After that, they headed to Okinawa Fruits Land, where they tried local dishes such as taco rice and soki soba, and bought souvenirs. Later, they visited the Churaumi Aquarium and saw whale sharks and many kinds of colorful tropical fish.

On the third day, they joined a program called “HELLO WORLD (Machinaka Homestay),” in which students stay with foreign residents living in Okinawa for one day. Some students were taken to tourist spots in Okinawa, and others played board games at their host families’ homes. By trying to speak in English and talking about cultural differences, they were able to experience cultures from various countries

and learn about English and different cultures.

On the final day, the students had free time and visited places they had chosen by themselves in their groups, mainly around Kokusai Street. It was supposed to be a fun day. However, starting on the third day, many students caught the flu. Because of this, some students went to the airport earlier than planned to rest.

Although the spread of the flu caused some difficulties, students were able to learn many important things, like peace, social manners, and different cultures. In a way, it became a memorable school trip for the fifth-grade students.

Interview with Mr. Watanabe... *(Continued from page 1)*



the new partnership.

SGSS Member: Hello, Mr. Watanabe.

Mr. Watanabe: Hello.

SGSS: I heard we have a new sister school in Cebu. How will that affect the Cebu study trip?

Mr. Watanabe: Usually, students stay at a hotel all day and take classes just like a normal school, but because of the contract we signed, the students now have a full day to play with the students in the University of Cebu.

SGSS: I see. Can you tell me more about the study trip?

Mr. Watanabe: Yes. The Cebu study trip was planned seven or eight years ago, but due to COVID 19, it started last year. Originally, our school was planning for all fourth-grade students to go to Cebu, but prices have become twice as expensive. Instead, we focused more on the students who want to improve their English skills. Also, the reason

why we made the students stay in the hotel all day is that it can be dangerous at night. If we eat dinner at the hotel, then they won’t have to go outside late at night.

SGSS: What are you looking forward to about the relationship with the new sister school? And do you have anything you’re worried about?

Mr. Watanabe: I hope the students in Cebu will come to Japan so we can deepen our relationship even more. But I am worried about the prices. I still want the students to have fun and experience many things, but that may become harder in the future.

SGSS: Right. Thank you so much for your time.

Mr. Watanabe: You’re welcome.

SSS Band Dazzles New Audience By Kairi Sugimori, 2nd Grade Class 3 and Kotaro Iwata, 1st Grade Class 4

Suzuka Secondary School Brass Band students attended two festivals in 2025, the Kameyama Jazz Festival and the Bentenyama Festival. As members of the brass band club, Kairi Sugimoto, a second-grade student, and Kotaro Iwata, a first-grade student, give their reports on each event.

Kameyama Jazz Festival

The students of Suzuka Secondary School attended the Kameyama Jazz Fest 2025 on September 28th.

This was the first time the school had attended the event, and what made it special was that a sixth-grade student joined, which meant that there were students from every

grade in attendance. The brass band performed various types of jazz songs, for example, songs by Glenn Miller and even “Yume wo Kanaete Doraemon”.

The band teacher spoke to the audience between songs, which included students from Suzuka Secondary School, students from other schools, and locals. The brass band students said that it was a fantastic opportunity and would love to attend again next year.

Bentenyama Festival

Suzuka Secondary School brass band members participated in the Bentenyama Festival on October 19th for the second year in a row. Like last year, the event was held at Bentenyama Park near Suzuka Hunter. There

were a lot of amusements at the festival.

Once again, the students performed a lot of types of songs while wearing a Japanese traditional festival shirt, Happi, as their uniform. Before performing, they ate a delicious lunch given to them by the organizers of the festival. The day of the event was a little cloudy, so it wasn't hot. Everyone could enjoy the weather and the good music that day.



Keywords! Unforgettable Okinawa... exhibits 展示品 tragedy 悲慘さ souvenirs お土産 foreign residents 在住外国人 flu インフルエンザ	sister school 姉妹校 affect 影響する contract 契約 sign サインする plan 計画する due to~ ~によって originally 元々は	instead その代わり、 improve 向上させる skill 技能 look forward to 楽しみにする relationship 関係 deepen 深くする future 未来	SSS Band Dazzles New Audience... in attendance 出席 Glenn Miller グレン・ミラー fantastic 素晴らしい participated in ~に参加した in a row 続けて amusements 楽しみ operation 運営
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Third Grade Goes to Singapore

By Haruka Tokuda, 3rd Grade Class 4



3rd-grade boys with their Singaporean University buddy

Third-grade students traveled to Singapore from September 30th to October 3rd for their overseas language training trip. They gathered in the Access Plaza in Centrair. After checking in their luggage, they boarded the plane and arrived at Changi Airport about seven hours later.

They had seafood for dinner after leaving the airport. Afterwards, they spent some free time in Merlion Park. Students took pictures with the Merlion and Marina Bay Sands and watched a fountain show. Everyone was mesmerized by the beautiful water and lights, as well as Singapore's stunning

night view. Finally, they arrived at the hotel and their first day ended.

On the second day, they visited SMK Dato Usman Awang, their sister school in Malaysia. Both schools presented a performance about their culture. SMK Dato Usman Awang's performance showed the diverse culture of Malaysia. Suzuka students performed Soranbushi and other traditional Japanese performances that they practiced for days. After that, the students went outside to experience Malaysia's culture and socialize with other students. When it was time to leave, students received handmade faux flowers.

The next stop was in a small village to eat food at a Malaysian home. Everyone was divided into multiple groups and ate lunch at different homes. In Malaysia, people eat with their hands, so the students did too. The students and the teachers also wore traditional Malaysian clothes and played games.

On the third day, they visited Japanese companies in Singapore and learned how people expanded their businesses abroad. Then, they went back to their hotel to meet a university student who would show them around the city. Everyone was divided into groups of five and started exploring Singapore freely. Some people visited the Gardens by the Bay, a futuristic nature park that has over 1.5 million plants, while others shopped at Chinatown and Arab streets. After five hours of sightseeing, they went back to the hotel and said goodbye to the university students who helped them have a good time.

The last event of their trip was the night safari. After they arrived at the zoo, everyone got on a bus and saw animals in the dark. Because the bus was very open, people could feel closer to the animals.

After the night safari, they headed to Changi Airport. By the time they passed through security, everyone was exhausted. They boarded the plane at 1 a.m. and flew back to Japan. They were able to arrive safely.

It was a tight and hard schedule, but everyone was able to experience new cultures and improve their English skills. It was truly a trip that will remain in their hearts forever.



Japanese and Malaysian students and teachers together during the SSS Experiential Learning Trip

Fourth-Grade Students Go to Australia

By Ryota Kondo, 4th Grade Class 4



4th-grade students taking a pose in Australia

From August 8th to 19th, fifteen students from Suzuka Secondary School and Suzuka High School went to Brisbane, the third-largest city in Australia, for a language study program.

During the program, the students visited their sister

school, Wellington Point State High School, and took part in local classes. They also stayed with host families and communicated with them in English. With the goal of improving their English skills, many students tried to speak English actively.

There were two main types of sightseeing: going out with host families and going out as a group with all the students.

When students went sightseeing with their host families, they enjoyed talking together and learning about local

life. They visited a hill to see beautiful views and went to zoos to see animals such as koalas and kangaroos. These experiences were special and unique to Australia.

When all the students went sightseeing together, they visited famous places such as Brisbane City Hall, the University of Queensland, and North Stradbroke Island. At the same time, students were able to build stronger friendships with each other.

Both kinds of sightseeing were valuable experiences and became unforgettable memories for the students.

Keywords!

Third Grade goes to...

overseas 海外

Centrair セントレア

gather 集まる

luggage 荷物

board 乗る

afterwards その後

was mesmerized 魅了された

present 発表する

diverse 多様な

socialize 交流する

handmade faux flowers 手作りの造花

divide 別れる

multiple 複数の

traditional 伝統的な

expand 拡大する

business ビジネス

abroad 海外

explore 探検する

freely 自由に

futuristic 近未来的な

security (空港の) 保安検査

be exhausted ひどく疲れた

safely 安全に

truly 本当に

remain 残る

forever 永遠に

Fourth-Grade Students...

unique 特有の

valuable 貴重な

unforgettable 忘れられない

Friends from Australia...

incredible もの凄い

opportunity 機会

Ninja Village 忍者村

interact 交流する

Friends from Australia

By Yukimichi Kiyokawa, 4th Grade Class 4

In the winter of 2025, students from Wellington Point State High School in Australia came to Suzuka. They spent a week staying with a host family, the Suzuka Secondary School students' families. They studied Japanese at their school and were interested in Japanese culture.

During this homestay, the meals became one of the most memorable experiences for them.

The meals were an opportunity to communicate with their host families. This experience of eating in Japan must have been a special memory.

Also, they visited the Ninja Village in Iga and Suzuka Circuit with students from Suzuka Secondary School. Through this sightseeing, they could interact with students while enjoying different areas of Mie.

From this homestay, students from both schools could learn not only about language but also how to make good relationships with others. Daily meals and sightseeing taught them about Japanese culture and made them understand the differences from their culture.

Suzuka students hope to see their Australian friends in the future.



Australian students with their Japanese host brothers

Successful Culture Festival



SSS Brass Band performing at the Culture Festival

On Friday, September 12th, and Saturday, September 13th, Suzuka Secondary School held Reiseisai, the school culture festival.

On the 12th, it took place at the Isu no Sankei Hall in Suzuka. Various groups, mainly composed of 5th-grade students, performed on stage. The students who performed were able to show the results of their practice through their dances. Also, the audience seemed to be enjoying themselves, cheering and applauding the students during their performances.

On the 13th, the second day was held at the school. There was live

By Eito Kakehi, 4th Grade Class 2

music and special game events by 4th and 5th-grade students, an exhibition of research conducted by 1st to 3rd-graders, and club activities, with wonderful events taking place in many locations around the school. Shooting games, photo spots, quiz competitions, festival stalls, and food trucks were just a few of the things students could enjoy on the day. Each event featured a wide variety of content packed with innovative ideas and large



amounts of effort put in by each person involved. Students could be seen enjoying themselves with their friends as they went around and viewed the displays of each class. Overall, it was a great success.

Third Grade Surprises with “Cin · K · Derella”

By Yutsuki Kawato, 3rd Grade Class 2

3rd-grade's stage play title on their slide

Reiseisai, the school's cultural festival, was held on September 12th and 13th. Like the other years, the students enjoyed themselves for two days. Students were able to enjoy stage events on the first day and

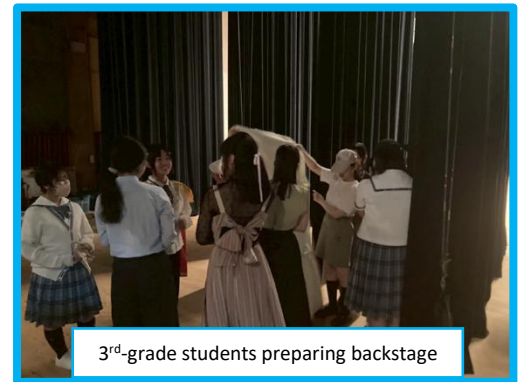
exhibitions, band performances, and other stage events on the second day. Many clubs and students prepared a lot of interesting things.

This year, some third-grade students did a play on the first day. They performed “Cin · K · Derella”. It was different from other plays because it combined “Cinderella” and “K-pop”. The students started preparing for it during school classes in May. First, they wrote the script. It was everyone's first time writing a script, so it was difficult.

However, they were able to write a good script.

Next, students made many props that were used on the stage and practiced the lines and acting. It was very hard for them to make the props, especially the pumpkin carriage. Practicing the lines with emotion was also a challenge.

Third, slides were made for the background during the play, and lines were recorded. These were the hardest parts of the preparation, but also the most interesting. It was the first time

3rd-grade students preparing backstage

performance to many people, but the audience looked happy! The third graders were very happy as well. There were some failures, but it became a wonderful memory for everyone.

Most Exciting Event of the Year

By Fatima Mahrosh, 1st Grade Class 3

English Club musical on the 1st day of Reiseisai

The two-day cultural festival was held from September 12th to 13th. On the first day, students gathered at Isu no Sankei Hall near Suzuka City Hall, arriving by train, bus, bicycle, or even on foot. The large hall was filled with excitement as students enjoyed many amazing performances, including Soran Bushi and a special English Club production of Alice in Wonderland.

This year's version of Alice in Wonderland had a unique Disney theme. Alice, played by third-grade student Riko Inagaki, was transported to Disneyland, where she met Minnie Mouse, played by Haruka

Tokuda. The performance also featured popular Disney princesses such as Elsa and Anna from Frozen, Moana from Moana, and Rapunzel from Tangled. Club members worked together to make the show successful by acting, singing, dancing, moving props, and performing with light sticks during the musical scenes.

The audience especially enjoyed the exciting final part of the play, where Alice was chased around the crowd, creating a fun but tense atmosphere. Throughout the performance, students cheered loudly for the characters, songs, and dances. The English Club members worked very hard preparing for the event by practicing their performances and creating props such as the Disney Castle. Every performance received great

praise from the audience.

On September 13th, the festival continued at the school campus. Students visited different exhibitions, including the first-grade Mie industry posters, and explored booths and attractions prepared by various student groups. They enjoyed games, food, music, dances, and funny skits while spending time

English Club musical on the 1st day of Reiseisai

with friends. The festival was not only entertaining but also a wonderful opportunity for students to experience Japanese culture and create unforgettable memories together.

Keywords!

Successful Culture Festival

composed 構成された

applauding 拍手する

exhibition 展示

conducted 行われる

featured 展開される

content 内容

packed 詰められる

innovative 斬新な

Third Grade Surprises with...

exhibitions 展示会

Cinderella シンデレラ

script 台本

props 小道具

carriage 馬車

slides スライド

audience 観客

failures 失敗

Most Exciting Event of...

excitement 興奮

transported 輸送された

featured 注目の

successful 成功した

scenes シーン

atmosphere 雰囲気

props 小道具

praise 賞賛

exhibitions 展示

explored 探検した

skits 寸劇

entertaining 面白い

unforgettable 忘れられない

Choral Competition 2025

By Kanon Okamoto, 4th Grade Class 2



5th Grade Senior High School Winner Class 4

On December 12th, Suzuka Secondary School held a choral competition in Isunosankei Hall. It was the final event of the second school term. This was a time for each class to showcase its efforts.

The process before the competition is different for each grade. First, second, and third-grade classes had assigned songs. They practiced in their music class. However, fourth graders and fifth graders could choose which song they wanted to sing. How they chose their song was different in each class. Some classes had a discussion, while other classes chose by majority decision.

Each class must choose a pianist and a conductor as well. The conductor would be the leader, so they had to think carefully. Once the song was chosen, the conductor told their teacher what they chose and gathered the sheet music to start practicing.

To sing the chorus, students separated into three groups. Each group had its own part to sing: soprano, alto, and bass. Let’s explain the difference between sopranos and altos. Sopranos sing the melodies and have to sing the highest parts of the song. The alto is lower than the soprano, but it’s not the melody. In general, they are in charge of the harmony part. The notes are different from the melody, so it is hard to practice. If alto students sing with soprano students, in many cases, alto students may start to sing the soprano part without realizing it.

There were days when they could use the piano. On those days, the class could borrow a piano to practice. Pianists could use it to practice the song while their classmates sang along with the piano. The way each class practiced was different, but usually followed the same pattern.

First, they separated by part and practiced by themselves. This was a practice for students to check if their pitch was correct. They also used

videos on the Internet to check their sound. Second, they sang with the whole class. Third, a conductor and a pianist told the students where they were wrong or how to improve.

On the day of the chorus competition, each class performed their song on stage in order from 1st grade to 5th grade. The first grade’s song was “My Ballad”. Second grade did “Taisetsu Na Mono” while third grade sang “Praise for the Earth”. After a short break, fourth grade began singing. Class 4-1 did “Story” by singer AI, class 4-2 “Bridge of Glory” by Yuzu, class 4-3 “Seikai” by Radwimps, and class 4-4 finished with “YELL” by Ikimonogakari. Fifth grade finished the competition with the following songs. Class 5-1 sang “Seikai” by Radwimps, class 5-2 “Fate” by Official Hige Dandism, class 5-3 “Ai Wo Komete Hanataba Wo” by Superfly, class 5-4 “Rain of Cherry Blossoms” by halyosy using Vocaloid Miku Hatsune, and class 5-5 with “To You - A Message on Your Departure” by Masako Tsutsui. For first grade, it was the first time. They seemed shy, so their voices were a little quiet. On the other hand, for fifth grade, it was their last time. That fact inspired them. Their songs were impactful, and they seemed to have a lot of fun while singing.

After all classes finished, the brass band club played some songs. First, fourth graders played a Disney Princess medley. Next, two Christmas songs were played by three different saxophone and percussion groups. After that, all of the brass band club students played together. They played “When You Wish Upon a Star,” Fantasia and a Christmas song. At last, they played “Kirari,” which is sung by Kaze Fuji. The brass band club played the accompaniment while a fourth-grade student sang. Some first-grade students handed out tissues in Santa Claus costumes.

Finally, the judges announced the results. The awards were separated by junior high school and senior high school levels and included a best pianist and a best conductor award.

First, the junior high school results were as follows. First prize went to class 2-3, second to class 3-1, and third to class 1-4. In the senior high school level, first prize was awarded to class 5-4, second prize was given to class 5-5, and third prize was given to class 4-2.

Good Times at Asobi to Manabi

By Kanon Kondo, 4th Grade Class 2

Asobi to Manabi was held by Suzuka Secondary School on July 26th. Elementary school students and parents took part in this event.

Students and teachers held activities such as science experiments, programming, and musical instrument performance. SGSS made three booths where participating people can learn about foreign things, culture, and

greetings.

At the first booth, SGSS members taught greetings and in which countries the greeting is used. After that, participants found a card for the country that uses that greeting.

At the second booth, they gave participants quizzes about famous places in the world using a PowerPoint game. At the last booth, they gave participants

quizzes based on a country's food, characters, and sports. The participant had to present the correct country flag for each illustration.

For each of the activities participants took part in, participants would receive a small flag. Anyone who collected three small flags would receive prizes. Participants thought about answers to quizzes and



SGSS hosting one of the booths called “SSS Expo”

were happy when they got the answer right.

SGSS students tried to do their best to make Asobi to Manabi enjoyable. Everyone seemed to enjoy the event and is looking forward to next year.

Schoolwide Art Appreciation: Trip to Ghost and Lady

By Miyu Fukumoto, 5th Grade Class 5

On May 29th, all Suzuka Secondary School students visited the Nagoya Shiki Theater as part of the school’s art appreciation program. They watched the musical Ghost & Lady, performed by the Shiki Theatre Company.

This art appreciation program is held once every three years. Since the school has a six-year system, students are able to take part in this program twice during their school life. The previous program was held three years ago, when students watched the musical CATS.

Ghost & Lady is a musical based on the life of Florence Nightingale and a fictional ghost character. The story combines historical elements with original ideas, making it both educational and entertaining. The performance featured strong vocals, detailed stage sets, and expressive acting, which helped clearly convey the story.

By watching a professional musical in a theater, students were able to experience the atmosphere of live performing arts. This opportunity was meaningful for both the junior and senior high school students.

Keywords! Choral Competition... 合唱コンクール process プロセス、過程 assigned 割り当てられた majority 過半数 conductor 指揮者	without realizing~ 知らず知らず pitch ピッチ inspired インスパイアした impactful 影響力 accompaniment 伴奏	Good Times at... participate, take part in 参加する experiment 実験 Schoolwide Art... art appreciation program 芸術鑑賞 Shiki Theater Company 劇団四季	six-year system 6年制 previous 前の fictional 架空の combine 組み合わせる historical elements 歴史的な要素	feature ~を特徴とする detailed stage sets 細部まで作り込まれた舞台装置 expressive 表現豊かな convey 伝える
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My Exam Success Story

By Shunki Ito, 6th Grade Class 2



I, Shunki Ito, was accepted into the Faculty of Medicine at Mie University.

Until I became a third-year high school student, I lived a very busy school life. I belonged to the English club, SGSS, the team whose members do activities in English, such as writing this article, and a video editing team

that we founded, so I had to find time to study even though I didn't have enough time. I always carried something to study.

Eventually, I became a third-year high school student. I studied a lot, but I saw my classmates studying much harder than I did, so I sometimes thought I didn't want to go to school. I felt scared when I saw them study. What changed the situation was words from my teachers and my friends. One of my teachers, whom I had never seen crying, told me he would cry if I passed the exams. Also, one of my friends said, "I saw you study hard!" I was encouraged by them, and I recognized once again the bonds between me and others. Through those words, I could focus on studying much more than before.

After many months had passed, we had our departure ceremony. Many teachers said wonderful words that encouraged us. After that, we had to study at home because we had to keep ourselves from infections. It was the hardest time because I couldn't meet friends or teachers, so I couldn't release my negative feelings. The day before the test, I put all my letters and printed all the messages that encouraged me, such as those I heard at the departure ceremony, into my bag in

order to calm myself down.

Finally, the day came. I saw the police officer guiding the students inside. I met my friends at the examination hall and felt indescribable feelings. I took the test one after another for the two days. Once I finished, I thought that the results were...bad. However, I was at the border score for the medical course just barely, so I continued studying.

On the result announcement day for Mie University, I was restless. I tried to read books to distract myself, but I couldn't. When we could look at the number of those who passed the exam, I checked with teachers because I wasn't confident enough. However, as I looked at the page, I saw my exam number. Yes, I passed the exam!

Now, I want to give you three pieces of advice from my experience. First, you have to be able to handle the subject you don't like. The reason why I could get into medical school, although I suffered a crushing defeat from the common test, is that I was able to do all the subjects I took on the exam.

Second is that you can't tell what the results are until you actually see them. There are times when you feel a mix of emotions during tests. I think it is OK if you feel joy or sorrow when you finish. However, you should understand that you don't know the true results at that time. For me, I got a low score at the university, although I had always received a high score in the mock tests. The thing you have to do is not stop studying because of those negative feelings, but instead study and go ahead.

The last thing is that you should rely on someone. You should consult with classmates, teachers, seniors, juniors, parents, or anyone you can believe in. If you can't rely on anyone, you may hurt yourself. I think I wouldn't have passed the exam if I didn't rely on my friends and teachers.

I, Shunki Ito, will continue to visit SSS (Suzuka Secondary School) after I graduate. Please tell me what you think about my advice.

I hope you pass all your exams and have a good university life!

Fourth and Fifth-Grade students participate in the Mie Prefecture High School English Composition Contest

By Koshi Uchida, 5th Grade Class 5

Six fifth-grade students and two fourth-grade students from SGSS participated in the Mie Prefecture High School English Composition Contest held at Tsu-Nishi High School on September 7th. Participants were in groups of three to five and had two hours to respond to a prompt in English. Koshi Uchida, Saho Asada, Miyu Fukumoto, and Yukimichi Kiyokawa participated as members of "Team Kossy(チームこっしー)", and Kosuke Nitta, Sakura Ito, Kotori Kato, and Ryota Kondo participated as members of "Team Nitta(チームにった)". They were only allowed to use dictionaries, and they consulted with each other in their groups while writing their compositions. Using electronic devices was prohibited, so they had to write everything by hand, from the first draft to the final copy.

Here is the theme:

A great Japanese scientist, Dr. Togo, has finally invented a "time machine", which can send a letter to the people in the future. He calls it a "future post". With the "future post", everyone can send a letter to who he or she will be in the future. Therefore, you can send a letter even to someone you will be in the future.

Your task:

- ① Write a letter to someone in the future.
- ② Write a reply from the person in the future, using your imagination.

Team Kossy's work was a story about a mother who passed away and her 18-year-old daughter who

connected with each other across time using a "future post." The mother, who was 18 years old, wrote a letter to her unborn daughter, expressing her wish that her daughter would be happy. The daughter took this feeling to heart. Admiring her mother, she decided to become a doctor too. She also talked about their memory of the cherry blossoms they saw together when she was in elementary school. The cherry blossoms represent the memories connecting the mother and daughter. One of the team members said that they focused on making the story easy to read and mixing reality and fiction.

As a result, Team Kossy took 3rd place out of 11 teams. This is the second year in a row that Suzuka Secondary School has won an award. They attended the award ceremony on October 4th.

Team Nitta's work was a story about a couple exchanging feelings through a "future post." It features a man facing death and his partner, who continues to live after losing him. The young man passed away, hiding his incurable illness. He writes down his love and gratitude for the days they spent together. Three years later, his partner wrote a reply that cannot be reached. She wrote about her sadness and her current life as she tried to move forward. In the end, it is revealed that his life eventually led to a future where many people can be saved. One of the team members said that they wanted readers to connect with the boyfriend's emotion by repeating "Thank you" at the end of his letter.



Keywords!

My Exam Success

faculty of medicine 医学部

found 設立する

bond 絆

suffer (苦しみなどを) 被る, 被害にあう

departure ceremony 出陣式, 毎年6月では高校3年生1月、共通テスト前に出陣式を行い、先生方からの激励の言葉をいただく。

indescribable 説明できない

barely ほとんど

restless 落ち着かない

distract (注意を) そらす

confident 自信がある

crushing defeat 惨敗。

rely on 頼る

Fourth and Fifth-Grade students...

composition 作文

prompt 指示(この場合はテーマ)

consulted 相談した

prohibited 禁止されていた

unborn まだ生まれていない

features 描いている

incurable 不治の

gratitude 感謝

The First Step into a New Life: SSS Graduation

By Yumeno Fukamizu, 5th Grade Class 5

On March 1st, the 6th-grade senior students graduated from Suzuka Secondary School.

As they began entering the hall, the audience applauded with music. Principal Watanabe gave his annual speech filled with words of congratulations. After that, Yuna Yamanaka from Class 6-2, as the alumni representative, said that they experienced



SGSS students and graduates celebrating after the 2026 Graduation Ceremony

many things over their six years at Suzuka Secondary School. She said many memorable things, such as believing in decisions. It made the audience proud of the 2026 graduating year of Suzuka Secondary School.

Finally, Saku Watanabe from Class 5-4, as the current student representative, expressed words of gratitude and congratulations to his seniors. He also spoke of his pride in his seniors and the moments he remembers with them. After the speeches, the ceremony ended, and the graduates left the hall. The audience sent them off with smiles and happiness.

You may have worries in the future. However, if you have good experiences, you can get over them just like the graduating class! Congratulations on your graduation!



2026 Graduation Ceremony held at the school's Bell Arena with Principal Watanabe and Yuna Yamanaka, alumni representative on stage

SGSS Year-End Meeting and Awarding Ceremony

By Eita Hamaguchi, 6th Grade Class 4

On March 18th, SGSS held an end-of-the-year meeting, serving as a wrap-up of the entire year as well as a celebration for the 6th-grade members. The meeting consisted of speeches from all the teachers, including our principal, announcements regarding next year, and an award ceremony for the 6th-grade students. At the end of the meeting, we had a farewell party where the younger members talked a lot with the 6th-grade students, asking for advice and sharing their favorite memories from the past years.

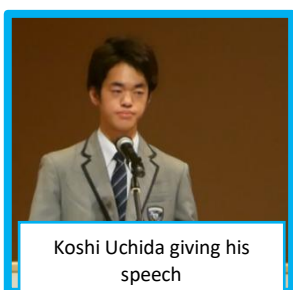


SGSS graduates holding their certificates with Mr. Olea and Mr. Watanabe

As a 6th-grade student, it made me so happy that the teachers and all the SGSS members worked so hard to prepare such a wonderful event for us. I felt truly grateful for their kindness, but I also felt sad that my six years of working with SGSS were coming to an end. However, the time I spent here will always be a special memory in my heart, and I will never forget the experiences we shared together.

SGSS 5th-Grade student wins 4th place in Mie Prefecture English Speech Contest

By Koshi Uchida, 5th Grade Class 5



Koshi Uchida giving his speech

Koshi Uchida, a 5th-grade student from SGSS, won fourth place in the Mie Prefecture English Speech Contest. The contest was held at the

Mie Prefectural Cultural Center on October 4th. In this contest, participants deliver an English speech of 4 minutes and 30 seconds to 5 minutes and 30 seconds on a free topic. Before the final round, a preliminary round was held in September using recorded speeches and scripts. Eleven students passed the preliminary round and participated in the final round. This is the fourth year in a row that a student from Suzuka Secondary School has won an award. Furthermore, Uchida will give a model speech at the school English speech contest for lower-grade students on February 16th.

In his speech, he warned about the low voting rate among young people in Japan. Because Japan has a large elderly population, “silver democracy” has developed, in which

the younger voice is not likely to be reflected in politics. Many young people feel that politics is something difficult or distant from their daily lives. However, he quoted the idea that “It is easy to be indifferent to politics, but no one can live without being affected by it,” and explained that politics is essential for our lives. He also cited examples from Sweden and Germany, where students discuss real politics and participate in mock elections at school. He said that Japanese high school students should also learn deeply about politics, express their own opinions, and talk about them with others.

An English speech contest is not only a place to demonstrate English ability but also a place to learn how to express one's ideas and communicate them to others. Talking about



Koshi Uchida receiving his award

social issues or familiar topics and speaking about them in English is a valuable experience. Such contests should be continued as opportunities for students to have and share their opinions.

Keywords!

The First Steps...

senior students 先輩方
graduated 卒業しました
applauded 拍手しました
annual 年に一度
congratulations お祝い
alumni representative 卒業生代表
current student representative 在校生代表
look forward to 楽しみにする

SGSS Year-End Meeting...

wrap up まとめ

award ceremony 授賞式

grateful ありがたい

SGSS 5th-Grade student wins...

Mie Prefectural Cultural Center

三重県総合文化センター

final round 本選

preliminary round 予選

voting rate 投票率

silver democracy シルバー民主主義(高齢者人口が多く、政治が高齢者の利益を優先しやすくなる状態)

quoted 引用した

indifferent 無関心

essential 不可欠

mock elections 模擬選挙

compete 競う

valuable 価値のある

opportunities 機会

The Final Sports Festival

By Sawa Muraoka, 6th Grade Class 2



Orange Team doing their best during the Tug of War event

This year's sports festival took place on June 15th, at Chuou Ryokuchi Kouen. Students from all grades came together to compete in a variety of activities.

As in previous years, the day began with a dance performance. Each color team had its own song and choreography, which were decided by the sixth graders—some of the dances were even choreographed by the sixth graders themselves. Students in fourth and fifth grade had three days to practice the choreography, which was taught by the sixth graders. For the dance performance, the yellow team won first place. Students from first to third grade also performed a dance; however, unlike the upper grades, they danced together regardless of team color.

This year, there were a total of eight competitive events: tug of war, 50-meter race (girls), 100-meter race, 200-meter race (boys), bucket relay, obstacle race, and the six-color relay. The activities were divided into two sections: morning and afternoon. At lunchtime, the intermediate results showed the yellow team in first place, with the purple and green teams tied for second place. In the final results, the yellow team placed first, followed by the purple team in second place and the red team in third place.

To conclude, this year's sports festival was filled with enthusiasm and excitement. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the teachers, student council members, parents, students, and everyone else who contributed to making this event possible.



6th-grade students posing at their final sports festival

Suzu6 Cup 2026

By Ryota Kondo, 4th Grade Class 4



3rd-grade students watching the Puyo Puyo final match

On March 18th and 19th, first to fifth-grade students held the annual Suzu6 Cup.

The student council committee made changes to create a more enjoyable tournament compared to last year's cup. In addition to the previous year's dodgeball, basketball, table tennis, UNO, and Rich Man, Poor Man, new competitions such as a general knowledge quiz and Puyo Puyo were added to this year's events.

In this tournament, the classes united and fought for the championship as the year's final event to determine the ranking based on the total number of points for each class in each grade. When students won the game,

they were overjoyed with high-pitched voices and praised the performance of their friends. Even if they lost and felt frustrated, they could also see each other encouraging each other.

There is no doubt that the winning classes and the losing classes have made good memories. The following are the first-place classes for each year: Class 1-3, 2-3, 3-4, 4-4, and 5-3.

Congratulations!



What game do you think they are playing?



Suzuka students...Ready! Set! Go!

Running to Win

By Manami Shima and Shiki Tsujiyama,
2nd Grade Class 3

On February 10th, Suzuka Secondary School held a marathon event at Suzuka Circuit. Suzuka Circuit is Japan's first full-fledged international racing course, opened in 1962 in Suzuka City, Mie Prefecture. The girls ran 4.4 km in two laps around the East course, while the boys ran 6.6 km in three laps around the East course. The winners for the boys and girls this time were second-grade students Kousuke Hayashi and Manami Shima.

We interviewed Manami, who took first place among the girls, about her experience.

Shiki: First of all, what were your feelings while you were running?

Manami: I was a little worried about the ups and downs on the course, but I ran with the intention of doing my best to aim for the top spot.

Shiki: Thank you. Second, what did you do to run better?

Manami: I ran while paying attention to my pace and breathing. Also, I was conscious of trying not to slow down as much as possible.

Shiki: I see. Finally, how did you feel after finishing the race and winning?

Manami: I am also a long-distance member of the track and field club, so I was a little disappointed that I couldn't be that far away from the second-place finisher, but I was also filled with joy.

Shiki: Wow! That's great! That's all. Thank you very much for the interview. Have a nice day.

Manami: You too. Bye.

Through this interview, students can learn that even if they come in first place, it is important to reflect on themselves. This is what makes someone a winner.

Keywords!

The Final Sports Festival...

variety 様々な

choreography 振り付け

regardless 〜に関係なく

competitive 競争の

Tug of war 綱引き

intermediate 中盤の

enthusiasm 情熱

gratitude 感謝

Suzu6 Cup 2026...

annual 年に1回の

in addition 〜に加えて、

Rich Man, Poor Man 大富豪

competitions 競技

determine 決定する

united 団結した

high-pitched 甲高い

Running to Win...

full-fledged 本格的な

intention 意図

aim 目指す

conscious 意識的な

long distance 長距離

track and field club 陸上競技クラブ

reflect 反省する

SGSS Pulse

OPINIONS-VIEWS-BELIEFS-THOUGHTS-FEELINGS-JUDGMENTS-OUTLOOKS

Topic: Should social media be banned for children until 16 years old?

Banning social media altogether may be excessive and could cause more harm than benefit; therefore, it should not be prohibited for children. Social media platforms are widely used around the world and have become a common tool in everyday life. However, without learning how to use them appropriately, users may encounter serious problems. To help prevent these issues, children should be introduced to social media at a young age, when adults can guide and support them in developing responsible habits. Furthermore, if children experience challenges while they still have access to adult supervision, they can learn how to handle these situations safely and effectively. Additionally, if children appear to be using social media excessively, adults can limit their usage rather than banning it completely.

By Sawa Muraoka, 6th Grade Class 2

I don't think that social media should be banned for children until 16 years old.

In our generation, people like to use social media (like Instagram, TikTok, and more) for a lot of purposes. If they ban children under sixteen, not many people will have fun. This is why social media should not be banned.

By Fatima Mahrosh, 1st Grade Class 3

I agree with this. Most children are easily affected by the internet and depend on it. So social media should be banned.

By Yumeno Fukamizu, 5th Grade Class 5

I agree with this opinion. Now, most children have their own smartphone. Using social media is a waste of their time, and before they know it, the day is over.

Furthermore, it prevents children, especially students, from thinking deeply about themselves. It is said that the more time students spend on social media, the lower their grades become. Therefore, I think the government should force children under 16 years old not to use social media.

By Sae Ito, 3rd Grade Class 4

No, I don't think social media should be banned for children until 16 years old because social media is convenient. For example, if you don't know something, you can look at social media easily. With social media we can also talk to anyone anytime, so I don't think social media should be banned for children until 16 years old.

By Kaho Sakurai, 2nd Grade Class 3

I think social media should be banned for children until 16 years old. It is dangerous for children to use social media. For example, they could get involved in crime, might be slandered, and might have difficulties with interpersonal relationships. In conclusion, it is sufficient to ban social media for children until 16 years old.

By Kanon Kondo, 4th Grade Class 2

Yes, because they can be involved in crimes if they use social media.

By Haruka Tokuda, 3rd Grade Class 4

I disagree. I'm under 16, but I haven't had any particular problems. I could agree if they were under 12.

By Natsumi Hamaguchi, 2nd Grade Class 3

I don't think social media should be banned for children until 16 years old because it becomes a way to stay in contact, so parents can keep children safe. Also, if people take pictures and share them on social media, they can enjoy their lifestyle more. Therefore, I don't think social media should be banned for children until 16 years old.

Anonymous

NEW

A short message from the founder of Suzuka Global Students Society: It shares ideas, hopes, and the purpose of our group, and encourages students to learn and grow.

Letter from the SGSS Founder



"Seven Years of Growth"

When we started the Global Students Society, our goal was simple—to create a place where students can learn, share, and grow through English and global experiences.

This seventh year, I am proud to see how far we have come. Through school events, trips, and exchanges, students challenged themselves, built friendships, and learned about the world beyond the classroom.

This newspaper reflects those experiences. Each story shows the effort, courage, and growth of our students.

To our graduating students, thank you for your hard work and for guiding others. To the younger members, continue to be curious, brave, and open to new experiences.

Let us keep learning and growing together.

Sincerely,
Mr. Olea

Great job everyone!

SGSS

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5th Grade Class 5

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