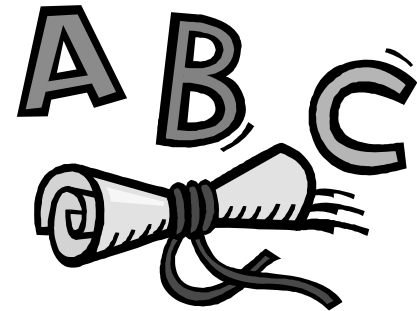


February Students of the Month

The students of the month for February, 2009 were:

- ★ Elementary – Mai Hatanaka and Sera Yoshida
 - ★ MS – Yuri Yamamoto
 - ★ HS – Ryo Hirose
- Congratulations and keep up the hard work!



2009-2010 school year starts April 13th!

The 2009-2010 school year will soon start! And here's what's happening:

We start things off on April 10 at 1:00 with New Student Orientation. At this time, new students and their parents will meet the teachers and administration. They will also receive the Parent-Student handbook, with a brief explanation about some of its key points.

April 13 is the official start of the 2009-2010 school year. There will be separate homerooms for elementary and secondary students. At this time the administration will welcome the students. New teachers and new students will be introduced.

From Monday, April 13, to Thursday, April 16, all elementary students and some middle school and high school students will be taking the Stanford Achievement Test. We use the results of this test to measure students' academic progress and

to determine the strength of our curriculum.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, April 15, the elementary students will have a BBQ/picnic to celebrate the beginning of the school year. On Thursday, April 16, the middle school and high school students will do the same.

On Saturday, April 25, we will have our annual Open House from 2:00-4:00. Parents are invited to attend school on that day, follow an abbreviation of their children's schedule, and meet their children's teachers. Tentatively after the open house, from 4:15-5:00, we are planning to have a brief presentation explaining the credit system for graduation for all interested parents. This will be done by our guidance department.

Please check the calendar included with this newsletter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school.

Elementary End-of-the-year activities

After a brief ceremony to say goodbye to the 5th graders, the 1st through 4th graders went to the Kyoto Disaster Prevention Center where they experienced earthquakes, typhoons and trying to escape from a smoke-filled room. The 5th graders enjoyed batting practice, roller skating, and a variety of other sporting

activities at Round 1 in Fushimi. After everyone returned to school, students were able to buy snacks using some of the bonus bucks they saved this year. Thank you to all the parents who brought snacks for the children to buy that day. It was a fun way to end a good school year.

Logo Design Contest

A committee of parents, students and KIU staff members has chosen Mr. Haroldo Simoes' design pictured here as the winner of the KIU Academy logo design contest. This logo will be used in such places as the Torch newsletter and on t-shirts and other items to be sold

during the next school year. Thanks to all who submitted designs and to the committee which selected the winner.



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The Torch

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- Included with this issue:
- ◆ 2009-2010 Calendar
 - ◆ April, 2009 Calendar
 - ◆ School supplies list

Graduation, 2009

On March 21, KIU Academy held its annual high school graduation ceremony. 19 students received graduation certificates. This year's high school graduates included:

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| ★ Hosanna Sillavan | ★ Mary Hutton | ★ Su Jin Choi |
| ★ Ibuki Yanase | ★ Miki Takauchi | ★ Taku Kuribayashi |
| ★ Itaru Mitsuta | ★ Minae Lee | ★ Takuya Kuwahara |
| ★ Kent Barrera | ★ Nea Blommen-dahl | ★ Timothy Momose |
| ★ Kevin Uchida | ★ Nozomi Sato | ★ Tomoharu Mori |
| ★ Kiyoko Futami | ★ Sam Myers | ★ Yesl Han |

We ask for God to bless them as they move forward in their lives.

2009 MS/HS Awards Ceremony

The MS/HS Awards ceremony was held on March 19. It was a time to honor students who have performed well academically all year as well as those who have shown significant improvement. Awards for outstanding achievement, most improved in a subject, and top student in a subject were given. All awards were based on the recommendation of the classroom teachers.

The following students were awarded Best in Department awards in their respective subjects. Congratulations on your hard work!

Christina Rohrer	HS Art
Nathanael Gaub	MS Art
Irene Blocksom	HS English
Margaret Hutton	HS English
Inori Hayashi	HS ESL
Taku Kuribayashi	HS Japanese
Ayumi Takemoto	MS Japanese
Anna Nakaji	HS Math, Social Studies
Joe Taylor	MS PE
Yesl Han	HS PE
Ramita Thawonmas	MS Math, Science, Social Studies
Sumire Hayashi	HS Science

Great job!

KIU Academy

Mission Statement:

To provide, from a Biblical perspective, a safe, nurturing environment where students can develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually, and an academically challenging environment where students can potentially become people of academic excellence.

KIU Academy

Vision Statement:

To be the leader in quality bilingual education based on Christian principles

Administrator's corner -- by Steve Rohrer, vice principal



Every year during the first week of the spring trimester, KIU Academy administers the Stanford Achievement Tests (SAT), which are standardized tests from America. These are different from the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) which is used for admission to American universities. This year, students will take these tests from 9:05 to 11:30 on April 13-16, which coincides with the dates when they are administered by schools all over America. This enables us to compare KIU Academy students' academic progress with that of their peers at both public and private schools in America. The tests are all in English, and no Japanese translation or explanation is allowed, so they do not always

accurately reflect the ability of those students who have difficulty reading English. However, as students improve in English, their scores often show improvement from year to year. At KIU Academy, the following students usually take these tests:

- ⇒ all native speakers of English,
- ⇒ students who have studied at English-speaking schools overseas,
- ⇒ students who took the SAT last year,
- ⇒ elementary students who studied at KIU Academy in 2008.

Middle school and high school students who do not fall into these categories will have intensive preparation classes for the TOEFL test during the time when the tests are administered. If you have questions about these tests or what your

Farewell to departing staff members

With the end of this school year, not only do we say good-bye to the graduating seniors, but we also say good-bye to some dedicated teachers: Ms. Satomi Ueno, Ms. Yuki Takeji, and Mr. Nathan White.

on her.



Ms. Takeji has taught a variety of classes while at KIU Academy for the last eight years. These have included math, computer, and Japanese. She is leaving us to pursue her graduate degree in clinical psychology at Kobe University. Takeji-sensei, you will be greatly missed! Thank you for your service and God bless you.

Mr. White has been teaching social

studies and PE for three years. He has put a lot of energy into all he does and has left some wonderful memories. He and his wife and daughter will be spending time in China before returning to New Zealand. We have been blessed to have him here as a member of the staff and will miss him very much,



too.

We are grateful for all that these staff members have done for the students, and they will be missed at KIU Academy.



Ms. Ueno has been teaching Japanese classes mainly to middle school students for the last three years. She returned to Nagoya where she will be closer to her parents. We will miss her and wish God's continued blessing

KIU Academy Sports



HS Boys' Soccer

The HSB soccer team completed their season March 13-14 at the CA tournament. Some of the members were also able to compete in the OIS international futsal tournament on March 21. Overall, it was a good season, with our seniors leading the way. Seniors Taku Kuribayashi, Joshua Cox, Tim Momose, and Tomoharu Mori helped the team to reach the finals at the Nagoya tournament at the end of February. The younger members also contributed greatly. Naoya Okumura received many positive



compliments from the coaches of the other schools for his great play and effort. Michael Momose was our leading striker for the tournament, and for the season,

while Hyebin Lee contributed to the scoring. In addition to the second place trophy, the Flames received the Fair Play award at the NIS tournament.

Looking to Spring

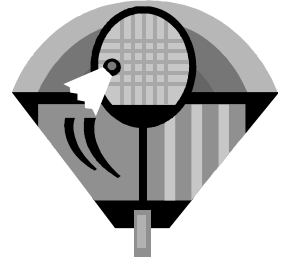
Spring sports are boys volleyball for both MS and HS. Coach Blocksom is preparing the boys for matches with the MS boys starting at CA on Satur-

School Supplies



We think it would be helpful for parents to know what supplies their children need before school starts. So we are including a school supplies list. We realize that there may still be things that children will need after the year has started. It will be important to talk to

day, 4/4. The HS boys will play against Osaka, Nagoya and some Japanese high school teams depending on scheduling. Badminton is underway right now for the HS boys and girls. They will have a tournament at Osaka on Saturday, April 4. HS girls and MS girls are invited to come out for a chance to play softball! The other international schools play girls softball during this and KIUA has been encouraged to put together at team. Coach Yoshiaki Harii is happy for the opportunity to coach the girls.



To the Parents

I would like to thank the parents of our KIUA athletes for their support of the sports program and teams throughout the 2008 school year. Your support is very important—from making lunches, driving your child to meet the bus, to coming to support the teams in matches and tournaments. THANK YOU! One final request is that you help your child to return the uniforms that they have borrowed and used during the school year to the team's coach. We would like to use them for the coming seasons. Thanks to all of the KIUA family for your support of the sports program. KIU Flames are well-known and represent the school well in competitions here in western Japan.

Gregg Hutton, KIU Academy Athletic Director



the teachers to find if anything else is necessary. We hope that this will help students start the new school year well. They will be able to start their learning right away because they have all the equipment they need.

