

## Upcoming Events

- Dec.5 - HSB BB,MSB BB,M SGS@CA  
HSG BB@MBIS
- Dec.10, 11 - MS/HS Finals
- Dec.11 - End of fall trimester  
HSB BB,HSG BB@NIS  
MSB BB@MBIS
- Dec.12 - Elementary Christmas Program  
HSB BB, HSG BB @ NIS  
MSB BB @ MBIS  
MSG Soccer@CA
- Dec.19 - HSB BB@ Ide vs. KCS
- Dec.25 - Christmas
- Jan.1 - New Year's Day
- Jan.4 - New student orientation
- Jan.5 - First day of winter trimester
- Jan.11 - No school - national holiday
- Jan.12 - MS/HS  
Science Fair



## College Presentation

On Friday, November 20, the KIU Academy guidance department hosted a presentation about different college options for students graduating from KIU Academy. Mr. Blocksom and Mr. Goto presented information to students considering an overseas college, particularly in North America, and information

## KIU Corner

The mission of Kyoto International University (KIU) is to educate individuals from a Biblical worldview in the western-style liberal arts tradition. To fulfill KIU's mission, KIU is seeking to build partnerships with other like-minded international Christian institutions. Potential partnerships allow for student exchanges and expand educational opportunities for KIU students across cultures as well as bring greater value to the overall KIU educational experience.

Based on a KIU survey this fall, top regions for students to study overseas include the United States, Canada and Korea. We are now acting on the results. In November, we hosted and visited Handong Global University. Handong Global University is well-known for its distinctive Christian education and international focus. On November 11<sup>th</sup>, we signed a memorandum of understanding with Handong Global University to facilitate

## More Calendar Notes

Many of you may have noticed the mistake in the 2009-2010 calendar. It mistakenly shows two MS/HS finals and two end-of-term dates. The correct dates for the MS/HS finals are March 24 & 25. The last day of the term is March

for students considering a Japanese university. This was followed by a time for parents to talk with the speakers about individual cases or situations. If you were unable to attend but would still like information, please contact the school to make an appointment.



student, faculty and cultural exchanges. In December, President Blocksom and

Dean Taylor will travel to the United States and Canada to meet with university presidents as well as directors for international studies to explore additional potential partnership opportunities. KIU is on the move.

This is an important and exciting time for the university. Please pray for the leadership as well as staff, and we will do our best to keep you updated on these and other initiatives. In the meantime, if you want to learn more about KIU or know of a prospective student that might like to visit KIU, please contact Ms. Yuki Bito ([yuki.bito@kyotoiu.ac.jp](mailto:yuki.bito@kyotoiu.ac.jp), 0774-64-0804, Monday – Friday).

25. We apologize for the confusion.

At the November executive board of directors meeting, the 2010-2011 calendar was approved. It is included with this month's newsletter.

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KIU ACADEMY

December, 2009



# The Torch

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Included with this issue is the

☆ December, 2009 calendar

☆ 2010-2011 calendar

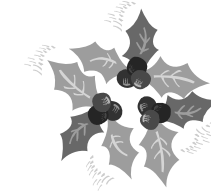
### KIU Academy Mission Statement:

*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*

## Elementary Christmas Celebration



The elementary students will have their annual Christmas party on the afternoon of the last day of school, December 11. During the party, they will have opportunities to use their bonus bucks to buy food and other items at the flea market and to play a variety of games. Items for the flea market are being accepted now, so if you have toys or other items you would like to donate which elementary students would enjoy, please give them to the receptionist by Wednesday, December 9. We will also need parents' help in the kitchen and with games during the party. If you would like to help, please tell the receptionist or Mr. Rohrer.

## MS/HS Finals

This term's finals for middle school and high school students will be on Thursday, December 10, and Friday, December 11. On December 10, students will take their finals for Japanese, English, and social studies. They will be dismissed at 2:45. On December

Students  
October  
Of the Month

The elementary students of the month for October were Ibuki Goto and Lucah Ueno. The MS student of the month was Ekaho Maekawa, and the HS student of the month was Rachel Song. Congratulations and keep up the hard work!



Saturday, December 12, the elementary Christmas program will be held at 10:00 at the Community Hall next to the Kyotanabe City Office. There will be music presented by all of the elementary students. Parents who would like to may also stay to watch the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade history video, "Around the World: the Voyage of Magellan." Photos taken during this year's KIU elementary events will also be on display for parents to order. We hope to see many of you at the Christmas program.

11, students will take their finals for science and math. Afterward, there will be year-end cleaning and homeroom parties. Students will be dismissed at the regular time. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

## 2009 Culture Festival



On November 13, after delaying it because of the effect of influenza, KIU Academy had its annual Culture Festival. The

theme was "victory" with the idea that students and staff at KIU Academy experience victory in many situations and develop character along the way. Students in grades 6-12 all worked hard to make this a very memorable time, performing plays, musical numbers, fun activities, and others. Special thanks go to the Culture Festival committee and the homeroom teachers. Thank you for all you did to make this year's Culture Festival a huge success!



## Elementary Fall Camp

On November 5-6, the elementary students went to Yamashiro-cho Shinrin Koen for our annual fall camp. On Thursday, students participated in canoeing,



Frisbee golf, a rock throwing contest and drawing of the scenery at the park. They also had free time to play near the stream and play sports. Friday included a candy hunt and canoe races for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders. This year, 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys Hiroshi Bu and Josh Hutton won the canoeing finals over 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls Chikako Sakamoto and Nano Maekawa. We thank God for the good food, beautiful weather, fun, and safe time we enjoyed together at fall camp this year. Unfortunately, several kids came down with the flu at camp, and it spread to others resulting in elementary classes being canceled from November 9-13. We are now discussing how to inform parents more effectively concerning the spread of sicknesses like the flu before camp to try to help avoid situations like this in the future.

## No Calendar Change Due to the Flu

You may be wondering whether KIU Academy will change our calendar and add more school days because classes have been canceled due to the flu. At this time we do not plan to add more days for the following reason. The international school association we are affiliated with (ACSI) recommends that we have at least 172 school days each year. This year we have scheduled 178 days, so even though students have missed some days, we still have enough to meet expectations. However, if there are further days missed due to the flu or other circumstances, we will have to reconsider the possibility of adding more days.

## Elementary Snow Camp?

Some elementary students and their parents have been asking about whether we will have snow camp this year since it is not scheduled on the calendar. In recent years, there has not always been snow nearby at the time we have planned to go, so sometimes we have not gone to play in the snow but have done other activities like ice skating and bowling. Other years the roads have been dangerous with too much snow. This school year, we plan to look at the situation with the snow (and the flu) in January and will then decide whether we will go to play in the snow and stay overnight at school or just have an outing during the school day. This being the case, there will probably only be a few days notice before we would go. If you have any questions about these plans, please feel free to talk to your child's homeroom teacher any time.

## Lost and Found

We accumulate a lot of items in our lost and found like textbooks, notebooks, shoes, clothes, pencils, lunch boxes, and more. We would really like the students to claim their lost items and take them home. So, we will be exhibiting all lost and found items in room B102 on December 11 from 8:45-4:30. Please encourage your children to look at the items and see if they have lost anything that we have found. Anything left over will be disposed of.

## MS Winter Camp

February 3-5, 2010, we are planning to send the middle school students to the National Outdoor Youth Learning Center in Soni, Nara Prefecture for the annual winter camp. Since the high school had a sea camp, it is the middle school students' turn for a camp. We hope that it will be a good time for them to further relationships with each other and with the accompanying teachers.

## Philippine Pig Project

There has been much in the news this fall about the powerful typhoons that have caused terrible flooding and destruction in the Philippines. What you may not realize, however, is that Allan Alipio, who started teaching science and math at KIU Academy this spring, is from the area in the northern Philippines that was hit by Super Typhoon Pepeng for almost a week in October. Allan's relatives and neighbors lost most of their rice crop and livestock in the floods.

When we see the news about such disasters, it is easy for us to feel that there is nothing we can do to make a difference. In this case however, we have a personal connection with the people suffering in the Philippines, so we would like to give the members of our KIU community an opportunity to get involved at this Christmas season.

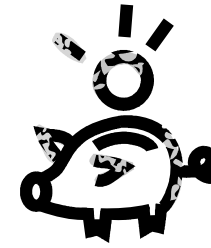
We are in contact with the pastor of Allan's church in Batac City, and he has suggested that rather than just sending money for food which will soon be eaten and forgotten, we can start a project that will have continuing benefits for the typhoon victims. For 3000 yen each, young pigs

## High School Volleyball Season Review

This was without a doubt the best year for the boys' team. Coming off of the spring tournament win on our home court, the team went through the fall season with a sense of mission. That was fulfilled on October 16-17 with an undefeated victory in the CA Spiker Classic. The boys hoisted the championship trophy with a straight set victory over Osaka. The KIU Flames finished second to the Sabers in a number of finals, but this year, the team was not to be denied. Seniors Tomoki and David, along with Joel, led the way with great offensive and defensive play. The whole team was able to play at different times in the tournament, and with the seniors on the court

The camp will be three days. During these three days, they will participate in a variety of activities. Permission letters have been passed out and need to be returned to the homeroom teacher by December 11.

Although the H1N1 influenza should have subsided, winter is still flu season. If too many students have the flu prior to the camp, we may decide to cancel it. Please be sure that your children practice good hygiene and eating and sleeping habits.



will be bought and given to families there to raise. After three months, the pigs will be old enough to sell, and the proceeds will be used to buy another pig as well as to supplement the income of those whose crops have

been destroyed. In this way, the families can have a continuing source of income and the livestock in the community will be replenished.

Donations of any amount are welcome and can be given to the receptionist until Saturday, December 12. All of the money donated will go directly for buying pigs. You can see pictures from Allan's city on the bulletin board in A building near the reception desk. As donations come in, we will also be posting pictures of pigs on the board to show how many we will be able to give. We hope in the future to also post pictures from the Philippines of the ongoing results of your giving.

We hope that at this Christmastime, we who have so much will be generous in sharing with those who now have so little.

and everyone else cheering from the bench, it was a special feeling to clinch the final set. CONGRATULATIONS!

The girls' team played at Osaka in their WJAA tournament. The team lost a close match in the quarterfinal round but was able to bounce back and win the 5th place match to end the season with a victory. Coach Peter Blocksom said that it was probably their best match of the season and everyone played and cheered with spirit. With many new players on the team, next year should be a good opportunity to improve and continue enjoying volleyball.