

Upcoming Events

- Jan. 1— New Year's Day
- Jan. 4 — New Student Orientation
- Jan. 5 — First Day of Winter Term
- Jan. 8 — HSBBB, HG BBB @OIS
- Jan. 11 — National Holiday
- Jan. 12 — MS/HS Science Fair
- Jan. 15-16 — WJAA Big School Tournament@CA
- Jan. 29 — Kanji Kentei Proficiency Test

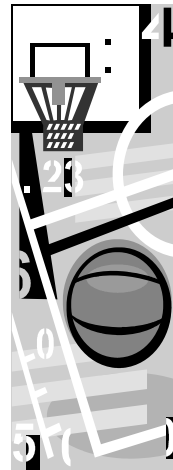
KIU Academy Sports

MS Sports

The MS girls' soccer season came to an end at the tournament last Saturday. They played 3 games, lost 2 and won 1. Even though the team scored a total of 3 goals, it was not enough to take them to the final. Their last game ended in a victory for their side, so we were able to come back home in high spirits and ready for a new challenge.

The MS boys' basketball team traveled to MBIS. With a young team and a young coach, it turned out to be a good experience. Congratulations to Chris Blocksom for coming in second in the shooting contest!

The next season for the middle school includes girls' basketball and boys' soccer. Practices will start the first week that school is back in session. You can contact Mr. Hutton, the athletic director, for more information.



HS Sports

Recently, the boys' and girls' basketball teams traveled to Nagoya to play NIS and E.J. King from Sasebo. They also played KCS at Ide, another fun match. The big news is that the boys' and girls' teams have been invited to play in

the WJAA Big School Tournament at CA in January. This is an honor for us since we are not a big school. Regardless of the results, it should be a great experience for our players.

KIU Corner

For KIU to grow and develop, KIU needs to partner with other like-minded international Christian institutions in Asia as well as North America. 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.

In November, KIU signed a memorandum of understanding with Handong Global University to facilitate student, faculty and cultural exchanges. In December, President Blocksom and Dean Taylor traveled to the United States and Canada to meet with university presidents as well as directors for international studies at Cedarville University,

Redeemer College University, Letourneau University, The Masters College, Azusa Pacific University and Point Loma Nazarene University.

We will keep you updated on these and other university developments and appreciate your prayer support. Also, 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, 0774-64-0804, Monday – Friday).

May you and your family have a healthy and happy holiday season as well as a wonderful 2010!

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Kyotanabe, Kyoto 610-0311



The Torch

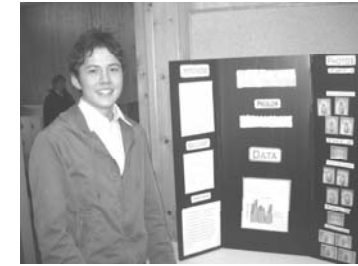
Inside this issue:

Administrator's Corner: Mr. Myers	2
Elementary Christmas Events	2
Upcoming Program in January	3
Philippine Pig Project Update	3
Kanji Proficiency Examination	3
KIU Academy Sports	4
KIU Corner	4

Included with this issue is the

☆ January, 2010 calendar

Annual KIU Academy Science Fair



On Tuesday, January 12, 2010, all middle school and high school stu-

dents who are taking science classes will participate in the annual KIU Academy Science Fair. Students have been working on experiments they designed themselves, testing their hypotheses, collecting data, and making conclusions. The projects will be divided into a number of different categories, including botany, biology, environmental sciences, chemistry, and physics.

The fair will start at 9:00 with students setting up their project displays. Because of the magnitude of the fair, all middle school and high school classrooms will be used to

display projects. Therefore there will be no regular classes for middle school and high school students. From 10:00 to 12:00, judges will be interviewing the students, evaluating their projects, and assessing points for the projects based on a list of pre-determined criteria. From 12:00 to 1:00, students will have lunch; all display rooms will be closed. From 1:00 to 2:30, the displays will be open for public viewing. At 3:00, all students will gather in A-B1 for an awards ceremony, giving certificates and awards to the fair participants.

Parents and visitors are welcome to come and see the displays, talk with the students about their projects, and see who receives which awards.

November SOTMs

The elementary students of the month for November are Hikaru Hirata and Hiroshi Bu. The middle school student of the month is Emi Saeki.

And the high school student of the month is Tsugumi Sugimoto. Thanks to you and all others who were nominated for their enthusiasm, hard work, great attitude, and perseverance.

US University Trip

Mr. Blocksom, one of our guidance counselors, is putting together plans for a trip to visit US universities during the spring vacation. The tentative plans include visiting at least six universities. During some of those visits, students may be able to stay in dormitories to experience what US university dorms are like. They will have the opportunity to visit classes while they are in session, so they can get a better idea what to expect. Any interested students are asked to contact Mr. Blocksom for more information.

Administrator's Corner – Mr. Myers

We are in the second year of a three-year process to earn our ACSI accreditation. One of the integral parts is the self-studies. The self-studies cause us to examine every facet of the school's organization, operations, and procedures to make sure we are doing all that we can to be the most effective school we can be. The teachers have been working hard collecting information, analyzing that information, answering questions, and asking more questions before they write their reports. The process has been enlightening. We have learned what we do well and what we need to improve. This will help the school become an even better school.

Another integral part is our foundation. In addition to the mission, vision, and philosophy, we have developed the school-wide learner expectations (SWLE's). These may also be referred to as graduate profiles. The faculty and administration have been working on this for a long time. In our SWLE's, there are five categories. Each category has four components: physical, academic, social, and spiritual. The five categories are effective communicator, self-directed learner, critical thinker, redemptive problem-solver, and responsible steward. Upon graduation, in order to be an effective communicator, our students should be able to:

(physical) communicate through such vehi-

cles as drama, dance, music, art, or athletic activities,

(academic) articulate ideas and opinions in a clear, concise, and convincing manner, using content-relevant information gained through research or classroom instruction,

(social) practice effective listening and sensitively sharing views and opinions, respectfully taking into consideration ideological differences, and

(spiritual) express the main points of a Biblical worldview and compare and contrast it with other worldviews.

This is only a sample. Once the board has approved them, we will be able to share the rest of the expectations with the KIU Academy community and others.

These are exciting times for the school as we continue along the accreditation process. We are thankful that God has provided us with all that we need to accomplish these things so that KIU Academy can be the school that He wants it to be.



Elementary Christmas Events



The elementary students had their annual Christmas party on the afternoon of the last day of school, December 11. During

the party, they had opportunities to use their bonus bucks to buy food and other items at the flea market and to play a variety of games. Although the weather was rainy, the students enjoyed playing games in the basement and other rooms in A building, ending the day with bingo in which all who participated won prizes.

It was a great way to finish the trimester and celebrate the birthday of the Lord Jesus.

Saturday, December 12, the elementary Christmas program was held at 10:00 at the Community Hall next to the Kyotanabe City Office. A musical "Christmas Q & A" (Question and Answer) was presented by all of the elementary students, followed by a dance performance by the 4th and 5th grade dance club to the song "Joyful, Joyful." Many parents and students stayed to watch the 4th and 5th grade history video, "Around the World: the Voyage of Magellan." DVDs of the music program and history video will be available to order next trimester.

Upcoming Programs in January

In January, KIU and KIU Academy will have a variety of programs which will be of interest to the KIU/KIU Academy community and to others. For more information, please contact the school.

Preparation for going to US colleges (Part 2) - January 8, 2010 (Friday)

The president of Kyoto International University and KIU Academy, Mr. Peter Blocksom, will be presenting topics on the issue of entering a US college that were not covered at the first presentation in November. The response to the last presentation was very positive, so Mr. Blocksom believed more detailed information would be important for interested families.

How to Raise Children: Perspectives from the Bible - January 24, 2010 (Sunday)

Whether one is a Christian or not, there is a lot of valuable advice in the Bible on how to raise a

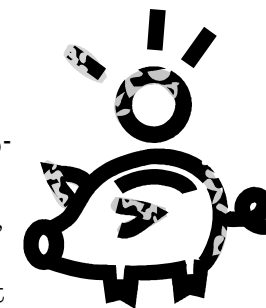
child in a loving and proper way. Having four boys of his own and many years of experience in counseling people (Christian and non-Christian) as a pastor, Mr. Blocksom has much knowledge and wisdom that many parents would benefit from hearing. If you have friends who are facing challenges with their children, this might be a good opportunity to help them by inviting them to the seminar.

Creation Research Japan seminar series - January - March 2010

Between the end of January and the beginning of March we will be holding a series of six seminars on creation research and human origins. All of the speakers who will be giving the lectures are experts in their field of research. The lectures will be in Japanese only and limited to a small group of 50. The seminars will be held at KIU. More detailed information will be sent out later.

Philippine Pig Project Update

In last month's newsletter, we told you about the Philippine Pig Project. If you remember one of our teachers, Mr. Alipio, is from a village in northern Philippines that was devastated by Typhoon Pepeng in October. As a means of helping them, we decided that we would collect money to help families buy pigs that could be used to compensate in some way the income lost from the destroyed rice crops. Through your generosity, we collected ¥300,000, enough to buy 100 pigs! Thank you! Over time, we will keep you updated on the results of your donations and how they have helped Mr. Alipio's village.



Kanji Proficiency Examination For Middle School And High School Students

Research for our Japanese language arts program using the Kanji Proficiency examination finished in January, 2009. According to our original plan made in 2006, we held the official test for grades two to twelve for the past three years. Therefore, starting in January, 2010, we will continue administering the test for grades six through twelve only. This test will be administered January 29, 2010. The elementary classes will take a mock test once a trimester, starting in April.

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