

Concord Corner



On June 14th, the students in Concord had their closing ceremonies. It was also Flag Day (a day when the American flag is celebrated), so many people wore our national colors of red, white and blue. In Thoreau Elementary School, the graduating 5th grade students paraded through the halls while the students in the lower grades clapped for them. American elementary schools teach kindergarten through 5th grade. This September, the 5th graders will move on to one of Concord's two junior high schools. After the parade for the 5th graders, the whole school assembled in the cafeteria. Everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance and sang our American national anthem, the Star Spangled Banner, together. There was a special ceremony to thank the retiring teachers for all of their hard work. Then, the yearbooks were handed out. Yearbooks are annual publications that document school events and club activities. Every student and teacher has a photo in the yearbook. This year, the yearbook was dedicated to the school librarian, my mother. She was so surprised and happy! Afterwards, the principal, Mrs. Charles, said she would do cartwheels if the all of the students were quiet for 30 seconds. The students stayed quiet and she kept her promise – she did cartwheels across the cafeteria while everyone cheered. School in America has finished for the academic year. The students and teachers now have two and half months of summer vacation!



Anna Pettyjohn

Spring Picnic

On Tuesday, May 2nd, we were blessed with great weather and we able to safely hold our Spring Picnic event. The 1st and 2nd graders hiked to Kotobuki Park, which is a 2.8km hike one way. The 3rd and 4th graders went to Koyo Kid's Park, which is a 3km hike. This year, we received the full support of the Nanae Park Golf



Association, and the 3rd and 4th graders had a wonderful time playing golf in the park with the organization's support. When they arrived at their destinations, the kids spent the spring day energetically playing around and enjoying their lovely boxed lunches.

<Fujishiro ES>

Does It Look A Little Cleaner Now?

We held a cleaning activity of the Higashi Onuma Campsite on Tuesday, May 9th. The purpose of this annual activity is to raise our students' interest in enjoying and protecting the nature around Onuma, which is their home. The kids were divided into two groups. One group went to the



area between the parking lot and the reservoir, and the other went to the campsite. They picked up and separated the burnable from the unburnable garbage. They all worked together and tried their best to pick up the area. In the end, they collected 5 big bags of trash.

<Higashionuma ES>

Blooming Flowerbeds



On Sunday, May 14th, we planted some flowerbeds. Despite some rain showers, we were able to finish the project earlier than we had expected due to the help of our community members. We also want to thank everyone who gave us flower plants as gifts. From this point forward, our students are going to carefully look after our flowerbeds by watering and weeding them. In the fall, we're planning on installing more flowerbeds. Please come and enjoy Ikusagawa ES' new flowerbeds while you take a walk.



<Ikusagawa ES>

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The Importance of Eating

On Wednesday, May 17th, and Friday, May 19th, the nutrition teacher, Ms. Ito Ayako, gave a food education lesson to four classes of 1st graders. The aim of the lesson was "Let's Learn About the Secret of School Lunch!" The students learned where school lunch is cooked and what kinds of kitchen tools are used. Also, they once again learned about how to set the plates and chopsticks. The 1st graders looked surprised and said, "Wow! They are so big!" in response to seeing the huge rice scoop and colander that are used in the School Lunch Centre. From Now on, Ms. Ito will visit other grades' classes and give good education lessons suitable for each grade.



<Onakayama ES>

Grow Bigger! Farming Activity and Rice Planting Experience

On May 23rd, our whole school participated in a rice planting activity during 3rd and 4th periods. Once again, Mr. Abe Takahashi lent us his rice field this year. We also received lots of support for the preparation of the seedlings and the soil.



Thank you very much. Mr. Matsuda is name of the school support volunteer that taught the kids how to set out rice plants. The kids enjoyed the feeling of the soil and setting out the plants, and they held a few of the plants as they learned. We're going to keep watching it and praying for a good harvest until the Harvest Festival in autumn.

On May 23rd, our whole school spent 3rd and 4th period planting rice.

<Togeshita E S>

The Start of After School Support Study!

Our school has an After School Support Study Meeting, which both establishes what the students have learned and also fills in the gaps where their knowledge might be lacking. Tuesday in the 4th graders' meeting, Thursday in the 5th graders', and Friday is the 6th graders'. As long we don't have any other events, we will hold this meeting every week. The man in charge of academic development, Mr. Tanaka, the homeroom teachers, the Lesson Ability Development Team, and other teachers cooperated and worked on this meeting with the goal: "Understandable, capable, enjoyable." We have been calling for students' participation in this meeting.



<Nanae ES>

Traffic Safety Lesson

On May 1st, the traffic Safety Lesson was held. We welcomed a traffic safety advisor, police officers, and staff members from Nanae town hall. We were all taught how to ride bicycles correctly. For a practical demonstration, students were divided into a walking group and a bicycle group, and they received directions on how to walk and ride bicycles properly.



<Onuma ES>

Speech Contest in Every Grade

During general study, students studied how to make statements and how to express their views effectively. Every speaker from each class expressed their views in a stately manner. The champions in each grade will give speeches at the school festival and at the speech contest, which will be held at Onuma Junior High School.



Yuma Kudo 1C
<Nanae JHS>

Students Had a Wonderful Time



Vice-Principal Ryuji Mitani
On Saturday, May 27th, we held our 9th Sports Day in the Onuma Junior High School gym rather than on the playground due to inclement weather. Because of the change in location, the sporting events were modified a little. Despite everything, the students still brought their best athletic abilities and had a good time. Many people came to see our Sports Day events and cheered for the students' performances. I hope the warm cheering of the spectators will linger in our students' minds.



<Suzurandani Branch S>

School Athletic meeting

~ Seriously to Vivid Memory ~

On May 26th, we held the School Athletic Meeting. Under cloudy skies, our students spent the whole day vigorously participating in activities to break their own athletic records and strengthen their solidarity. Tears of regret and joy, cheering voices, and the strong-minded, competitive attitudes defined the event. Around 120 parents, guardians, and locals came to cheer on the students. This year, it was especially heartwarming and impressive that the students eagerly cheered on the competitions of the other graders and other class students, in addition to their own. It is expected for students to put the abilities that they have cultivated through this even into their school lives from now on.



Declaration: Ymamaguchi 3rd Grade

<Onakayama JHS>

Memorable School Excursion

Let's make many memories
~たくさんの思い出を作ろう~

Beginning on Thursday, May 25th, our 3rd graders went on a three-day school excursion to Tohoku Prefecture. We had three enjoyable and substantial days that went by without any injuries, sicknessness, or accidents in spite of the unfavorable weather. The students' attitudes during this excursion were impressive. They acted with concern for their classmates and with a



willingness to study and to learn. They represented Onuma well in both Sendai and Matsushima, well as during their visit to the Chuson-ji Temple and in all other recreational activities. We expect the students to remember how powerful close-knit connections can be, and we expect them to put this knowledge to use in their school lives. This school excursion will be an unforgettable memory for them.



Jumping by Tanpo's signal : Performances of dolphins
at Sendai Umino-Mori Aquarium

<Onuma JHS>