



Tokyo International Exchange Concierge
Fiscal years 2021 - 2024
Cultural exchange activity highlights

**Tokyo Education Promotion and Support
Organization (TEPRO)**

Cultural exchange activity highlights

Letter, card, and email exchanges

Elementary Schools

Card Exchange

1. Posted to counterpart

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

2. Participants

19 English Club members in grades 4 to 6

3. Counterpart

Taiwan Private Tsai Hsing Elementary School, ,
Taipei City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Prepare cards

2. Mail the cards from Masuko Elementary School to the Concierge

3. Send the cards to Taiwan

- Mail the cards from the Concierge to the counterpart school

Masuko Elementary School Card exchange with Taiwanese school



Cards made by students

5. Additional information

- ◆ Japanese illustrations and origami were attached to the cards, which might be delightful for Taiwan students.
- ◆ Japanese students wrote the cards in English by hand, with their names and favorite things.
- ◆ The guest school commented, "The cards are very cute, and the English writing is very beautiful!"

Card Exchange

Oizumi Nishi Elementary School Card exchange with Hong Kong school

1. Posted to counterpart

Tuesday, December 27, 2022

2. Participants

59 students from two third grade classes

3. Counterpart

St. Margaret's Co-Educational English Secondary & Primary School, Hong Kong



Students in pairs made cards

4. Schedule

1. Prepare cards
2. Mail the cards from the school to the Concierge
3. Send the cards to Hong Kong
 - Mail the cards from the Concierge to the counterpart school

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students in pairs each prepared a New Year's card.
- ◆ Students wrote greetings such as, "A HAPPY NEW YEAR!" with their names and their other favorite items. They also drew pictures representing traditional Japanese New Year's scenes on the cards.

Video Exchange

Shinsen Izumi Elementary School, Suginami Izumi Gakuen Video exchange with Australian friends

1. Posted to counterpart

Thursday, July 20, 2023

2. Participants

33 fifth grade students (Class 3)

3. Counterpart

Oakleigh South Primary School,
Victoria, Australia

4. Schedule

1. **Create a video** (Shinsen Izumi Elementary School)
2. **Upload the video** (from the Tokyo side)
 - Concierge will receive the video from the School
3. **Make a reply video** (Oakleigh South Elementary School)
4. **Upload the reply video** (from the Australian side)
 - The Concierge will receive the reply video from the School



Video introducing Suginami Izumi Gakuen
(Elementary and junior high schools)



Student giving a self-
introduction



Australian students intently watching the
video from Suginami Izumi Gakuen

5. Additional information

- ◆ Both sides exchanged self-introduction videos as a prelude to the planned online exchange.
- ◆ Australian students learning Japanese introduced themselves in both English and Japanese.
- ◆ Messages from the Australian students included, “You all speak good English!” and “We look forward to seeing you!,” which made the upcoming online exchange more promising.

Card Exchange

1. Posted to counterpart

Thursday, December 21, 2023

2. Participants

22 fourth grade students
(Class 1)

3. Counterpart

Huai Sheng Elementary
School, Taipei City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Prepare cards
2. Mail the cards from the school to the Concierge
3. Mail the cards to Taiwan
4. Receive cards in response from the counterpart school
5. Mail the cards to Kashima Elementary School

Kashima Elementary School Card exchange with Taiwanese school



Colorful Christmas cards prepared by
Kashima Elementary School students



Cards prepared by
Huai Sheng Elementary School

5. Additional information

- ◆ This card exchange was a follow-up to an online cultural exchange conducted in the previous year between the two schools.
- ◆ The Taiwan side made groups of 2-3 students to prepare 22 cards in response to the students who participated from Kashima Elementary School.
- ◆ Some cards from the Taiwanese students touched upon a specific amusement park and mountain near Kashima Elementary School, with their wishes to visit the places in the future.

Card Exchange

1. Posted to counterpart

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

2. Participants

53 fourth graders from
Classes 1 and 2

3. Counterpart

Xing-An Elementary
School,
Taipei City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Make greeting cards

- 53 fourth graders from Ozakudai Elementary School made cards and sent them to the Concierge

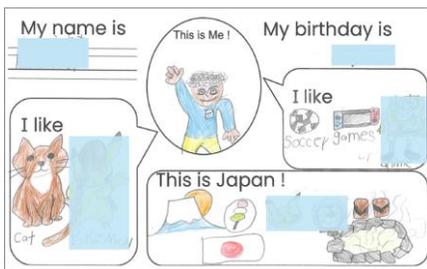
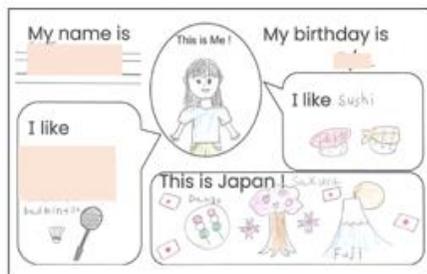
2. The Concierge finds a counterpart school and posts the cards

- Coordinate with Taiwan's Xing-An Elementary School for card exchange.
- Send Ozakudai cards to Xing-An via postal mail

3. Cards made by Xing-An and sent to Ozakudai via Concierge

- Concierge receive cards from Xing-An Elementary School
- Concierge sends cards to Ozakudai Elementary School

Ozakudai Elementary School Card exchange with Taiwanese friends



Cards made by Ozakudai students



Cards made by Xing-An students

5. Additional information

- ◆ Using a pre-made card format, the Ozakudai students wrote their names, birthdays, favorite things, and a little about themselves and Japan on the cards. They also drew colorful illustrations on the cards.
- ◆ The Xing-An students wrote their names, likes and dislikes, favorite sports/foods/animals/colors, what they wanted to become in the future and more on their cards. They also wrote about well-known Taiwanese foods and beverages such as stinky tofu and bubble tea. Some students also wrote, "Come visit Taiwan."

Junior High Schools

Card Exchange

1. Posted to counterpart

Thursday, April 20, 2023

2. Participants

16 first to third year students

3. Counterpart

Be Van Dan Secondary School,
Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

4. Schedule

1. Apply to the Concierge and prepare cards
2. Decide on counterpart school
3. Send cards to the Concierge
4. Send cards to the counterpart school
5. Receive reply cards from the counterpart school

Mita Junior High School Card exchange with Vietnamese school



Cards prepared by
Mita Junior High School students



Cards prepared by Vietnamese students

5. Additional information

- ◆ Mita Junior High School students prepared cards in English with photos and vivid illustrations.
- ◆ Vietnamese students who were studying Japanese wrote their cards in Japanese.
- ◆ Cards were exchanged online using Google Drive.

Card Exchange

1. Posted to counterpart

Thursday, November 7, 2024

2. Participants

Seven students

3. Counterpart

Otago Girls' High School
Dunedin, New Zealand

4. Schedule

1. Create exchange folder on exchange server

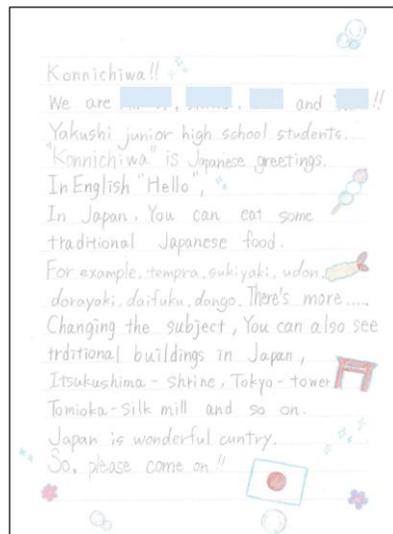
2. Write and post cards (Yakushi)

- Write cards
- Upload cards to the exchange folder
- Post physical cards by international mail

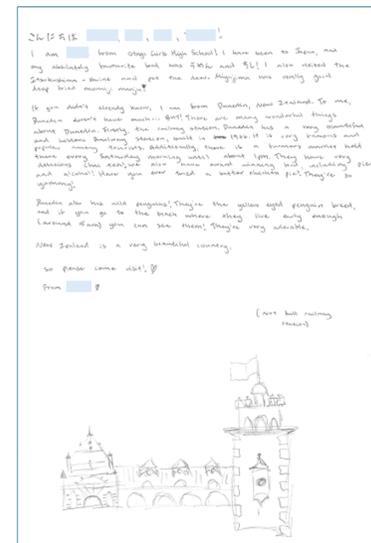
3. Create reply cards and share (Otago)

- Write reply cards
- Upload cards to the exchange folder

Yakushi Junior High School Card exchange with New Zealand friends



A card made by a Yakushi student



A card from an Otago student

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Yakushi students wrote cards by themselves and in groups. Students wrote their names, and about their favorite video games, anime, movies, and questions for the New Zealand students.
- ◆ The replies sent from the Otago students were written so that the Yakushi students could tell whom the card was for. They also answered the questions from the Yakushi students.
- ◆ The Yakushi students were delighted to receive replies and to have their questions answered.

High Schools

Card Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Itabashi Yutoku High School Card exchange with Polish high school

1. Posted to counterpart

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

2. Participants

Seven students who helped lead international exchange

3. Counterpart

Zespół Szkół Ogrodniczych i Ogólnokształcących,
Republic of Poland

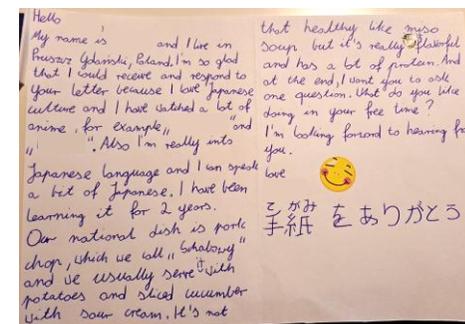
4. Schedule

1. Prepare cards
2. Send cards from the school to the Concierge
3. Mail cards from the Concierge to Guest School

5. Additional information

- ◆ During a previous video chat, there were requests from students to do a Card Exchange at a future occasion.
- ◆ Japanese students prepared traditional cards with handwritten messages.

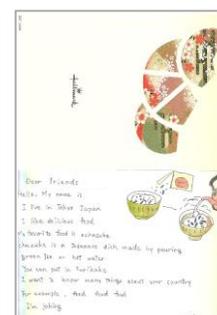
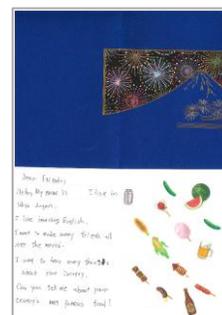
Cards prepared by Itabashi Yutoku High School students



Cards prepared by Polish students

6. Card exchange with high school in Australia

- ◆ Following the cultural exchange with a high school in Poland, Itabashi Yutoku High School had another Card Exchange with a high school in Australia.



13 students from Itabashi Yutoku High School created cards with a traditional Japanese motif

Itabashi Yutoku High School received 15 greeting cards from Australia

Card Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Josui High School Card exchange with American school

1. Posted to counterpart

Wednesday, November 22, 2023

2. Participants

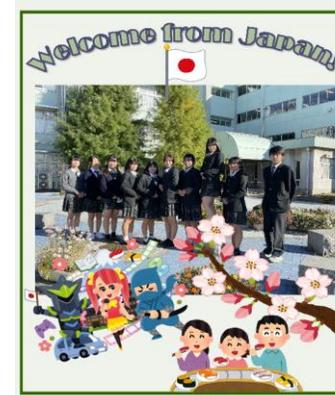
10 students in a cross-cultural exchange elective

3. Counterpart

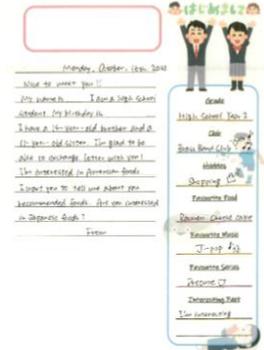
Edgewood High School,
Wisconsin, United States



Edgewood High School students



School photo and self-introductions by Josui High School students



Card from student pair in America

4. Schedule

1. Prepare cards
2. Upload cards to the shared cloud
3. Make pairs with students at the counterpart school, and upload the prepared cards to the cloud
4. Exchange greeting cards

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students grouped into pairs and made cards with information about cultural events and ceremonies.
- ◆ The student members of Edgewood High School's Smile Group, which does volunteer local activities such as music and crafts making, participated in this card exchange.

Video Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Higashiyamato Minami High School Video exchange with Taiwanese school

1. Posted by counterpart

Friday, April 12, 2024

2. Participants

30 third year students

3. Counterpart

Daan Vocational High School,
Taipei City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Create video (Higashiyamato Minami High School)
2. Upload video (Tokyo side)
3. Make reply video (Daan Vocational High School)
4. Upload reply video (Taiwanese side)



Video from Taiwanese school



5. Additional information

- ◆ The video from Higashiyamato Minami included student self-introductions, a tour of things typically found in a Japanese school (such as shoe boxes and vending machines), and introduced extracurricular activities. It also showcased popular Japanese sightseeing spots such as Tokyo Skytree Tower and the city of Nara.
- ◆ The video from the Taiwanese students included student self-introductions (hobbies and favorite school subjects), as well as a tour of their school and the local area. Some students demonstrated how to cook fried noodles and played the guitar.

Special Needs Schools

Card Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Kita Special Needs School Card exchange with Taiwanese friends

1. Posted by counterpart

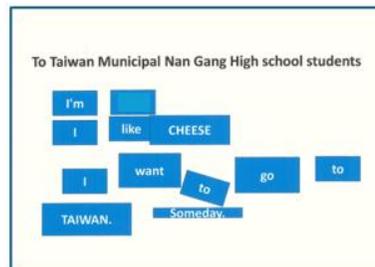
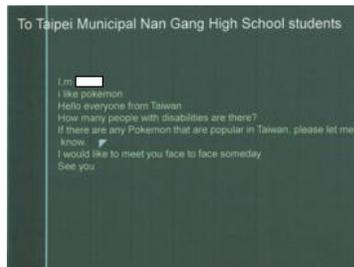
Friday, April 12, 2024

2. Participants

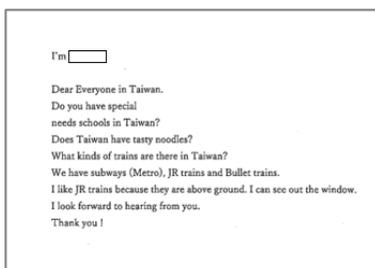
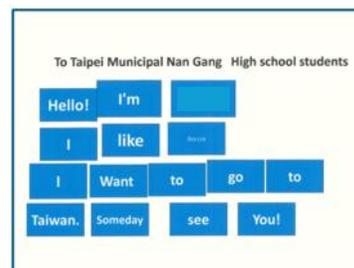
11 high school students

3. Counterpart

Nan Gang High School,
Taipei City, Taiwan



Cards prepared by Kita Special Needs School students



Cards prepared by Taiwanese students



4. Schedule

1. Prepare cards (Kita Special Needs School)
2. Upload cards from the Tokyo side
 - The cards from Kita Special Needs School were uploaded to the cloud shared with Gang High School
3. Prepare reply cards (Nan Gang High School)
4. Upload reply cards from the Taiwanese side
 - Nan Gang High School uploaded reply cards to the shared cloud

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Kita Special Needs School students digitally created cards, wrote their names and favorite things (such as basketball and boccia), as well as some questions to their Taiwanese friends.
- ◆ Reply cards sent from Taiwanese friends included the students' names, likes (such as sushi) and dislikes, and their wishes (such as to visit Japan someday).

Cultural exchange activity highlights

Online exchanges

Kindergartens

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, September 9, 2024

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Venue: Akabane Kindergarten

2. Participants

22 four- to six-year-old children

3. Counterpart

18 four-year-olds from
Ipswich Grammar School
Queensland, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

- The principals of both kindergartens gave greeting speeches
- Children said hello to each other

2. Singing and dancing in English

3. Picture book read by the Australian teacher

4. Origami demonstration by Akabane Kindergarten teacher

5. Closing remarks

Akabane Kindergarten

Online cultural exchange with Australian friends



Preparing to sing



Commemorative photo

5. Additional information

- ◆ The children's first greeting was, "Hello!" in English. They were able to greet each other cheerfully and in unison without being nervous.
- ◆ The children seemed very happy when watching each other sing songs and dance over the PC displays.
- ◆ The children seemed very intrigued by the story time and origami-making.
- ◆ After the meeting, the Akabane Kindergarten children gathered around a world map displayed in the corridor, tried to find the continent of Australia with their teacher, and chatted about the country.

Elementary Schools

Online Cultural Exchange

Kashima Elementary School Online Exchange with Australian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021

10:30 am – 11:10 am

Venue: Kashima Elementary School

2. Participants

20 fourth grade students

3. Guest school

Holy Rosary Catholic School
Tasmania, Australia



Rock-paper-scissors
tournament



Equipment for the online
exchange



Kashima students raise their hands to answer
questions from the Holy Rosary students

4. Schedule

1. Presentation on Australia (Concierge staff)

2. Presentation on Tasmania (Holy Rosary)

- Explanation of where Tasmania is located, etc.

3. Group presentations for each theme

- Students from each school took turns presenting on topics such as: Favorite anime, foods, animals, and dance

4. Rock-paper-scissors tournament

5. Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students enjoyed finding common interests between their two countries.
- ◆ Students from both schools thoroughly enjoyed the dance by the Kashima students.
- ◆ The rock-paper-scissors tournament was a big hit.
- ◆ Exchange went smoothly due to support by staff members serving as interpreters and hosts.
- ◆ The Kashima students expressed their enjoyment in participating in the event after it ended.

Online Cultural Exchange

Akatsuka Shinmachi Elementary School Online Exchange with Australian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, June 6, 2022
11:00 am – 11:45 am
Venue: Akatsuka Shinmachi
Elementary School

2. Participants

33 fifth graders from Akatsuka Shinmachi
Elementary School in Itabashi City

3. Guest school

Grand Avenue State School,
Queensland, Australia



An enthusiastic greeting



A round of applause for a Japanese-language presentation by Australian students

4. Schedule

- 1. Presentation on Australia (by concierge)**
- 2. Topic presentations by groups**
Students from each school took turns presenting about such topics as: Favorite foods, anime, video games, the seasons, school subjects, and animals
- 3. Rock-paper-scissors tournament**
- 4. Singing of the birthday song for birthday students**
- 5. Closing remarks**

5. Additional information

- ◆ Although this was the first time for Akamatsu Shinmachi Elementary to have an online exchange, students enjoyed talking with the Australian students.
- ◆ During the exchange, students became especially energetic during the presentations on anime and video games.
- ◆ Students learned a famous hamburger restaurant was popular in both of their countries.
- ◆ When the Grand Avenue State School students learned that two Akatsuka Shinmachi students were celebrating their birthday's that day, they sang the birthday song.

Online Cultural Exchange

Eastern Shibamata Elementary School Online Exchange with Australian friends

1. Date and Venue

Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2022
11:00 am – 11:40 am
Venue: Eastern Shibamata
Elementary School

2. Participants

25 fifth grade students

3. Guest school

Holy Rosary State School,
Western Australia, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Presentation on Australian schools (Concierge staff)

2. Group presentations

- Students from each school took turns presenting on topics such as:
Tourist spots, animals, local products, crafts, anime, and sports

3. Rock-paper-scissors tournament

4. Closing remarks



Group presentation



Japanese Den-den Drum

5. Additional information

- ◆ Eastern Shibamata students presented on Japanese tourist spots such as Horyuji Temple and Kamakura. Holy Rosary State students introduced Australia's beautiful nature and animals such as the Tasmanian Devil.
- ◆ When the Australian students introduced a Japanese Den-den Drum, the students at Eastern Shibamata were surprised to see how much Japanese culture has penetrated Australia.
- ◆ After the exciting online exchange, the Eastern Shibamata students expressed their interest in joining a similar exchange in the future.

Online Cultural Exchange

Jonan Elementary School Online Exchange with Australian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, June 17, 2022
11:00 am – 11:40 am
Venue: Jonan Elementary School

2. Participants

58 second grade students

3. Guest school

Grand Avenue State School,
Queensland, Australia

4. Schedule

- 1. Presentation on Australian schools (Concierge staff)**
- 2. Group presentations**
 - Students from each school took turns presenting on topics such as:
Their schools, games, anime, extracurricular lessons, snacks, and holidays
- 3. Rock-paper-scissors tournament**
- 4. Closing remarks**



Introduction of traditional Japanese holidays while wearing Happi coats



Students demonstrate traditional Japanese games

5. Additional information

- ◆ The exchange was held in Japanese and English. Some of the Jonan students tried to communicate in English.
- ◆ After the exchange, Jonan students made a presentation on similarities and differences between Japan and Australia. Long-running and popular animated programs were common in both countries.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, June 23, 2022,
10:30 am - 11:15 am

Venue: Mukoudai Elementary School

2. Participants

37 fifth grade students

3. Counterpart

Holy Rosary Catholic School,
Tasmania, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Presentation on Australia (by the Concierge)

2. Topic presentations by group

- Students from each school took turns presenting about such topics as:
- Their favorite foods, sports, games, and countries/places they wished to visit

3. Rock-paper-scissors tournament

4. Closing remarks

Mukoudai Elementary School Online cultural exchange with Australian friends



Papers on the classroom floor act as place markers for students



A student demonstrates how to play *Kendama* (catching a ball on a stick)



Students enjoying a game of rock-paper-scissors

5. Additional information

- ◆ Before the start of the online exchange, Mukoudai Elementary School students appeared relaxed, chatting and practicing their specialty performances.
- ◆ Mukoudai Elementary School students introduced themselves using the phrase, “My favorite (food/sport/game) is...”
- ◆ The Australian teacher showed pictures of the Great Barrier Reef to Mukoudai Elementary School students since it was ranked as the students’ top destination wish.

Online Cultural Exchange

Funabori No. 2 Elementary School Online cultural exchange with Hong Kong friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023,
11:30 am - 12:15 pm
Venue: Funabori No. 2 Elementary
School

2. Participants

39 sixth grade students (Class 1)

3. Counterpart

About 40 sixth grade students
from Tang Shiu Kin Primary School
(TWGHs), Hong Kong

4. Schedule

1. Topic presentations by group

- Both schools, each divided into six groups, took turns in making presentations and asking questions
- Topics from both sides included their names, birthdays, and favorite things

2. Questions and answers

- Questions were asked about favorite foods, school subjects and events, summer vacations, and visits to Hong Kong

3. Closing remarks



Students gave their presentations in groups



Students waved goodbye at each other

5. Additional information

- ◆ Hong Kong students showed pictures of Hong Kong's scenery, such as double decker buses and train stations, and they held a taekwondo demonstration.
- ◆ The presentations from both schools had many common themes such as sports, Japanese anime, and how they spend their free time.
- ◆ At the end of the event, the students waved goodbye and looked very satisfied.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023,
8:50 am – 9:35 am
Venue: Higashine Elementary School

2. Participants

35 fifth grade students (Class 2)

3. Counterpart

Seven students in first to third grade from SMA Darul Ulum (High School), Republic of Indonesia

4. Schedule

- 1. Greetings by both schools** (in their native languages)
- 2. Presentation by Higashine Elementary School**
 - Students gave presentations on topics such as school life and Japanese culture
- 3. Presentation by Indonesian school**
 - Students gave presentations on topics such as Indonesian culture
- 4. Questions and answers**
- 5. Closing remarks**

Higashine Elementary School Online cultural exchange with Indonesian friends



Higashine students listened carefully to the presentation by the Indonesian students



Presentation by Higashine School students

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students became more and more proactive in their interactions as the exchange program progressed. Students waved and clapped hands in response to each presentation.
- ◆ Higashine Elementary School students seemed very happy and satisfied seeing the positive response from the Indonesian side to their video on *Nanchu Soranbushi*, a traditional Japanese dance.
- ◆ Higashine Elementary School students were intrigued by the presentation on Indonesian food, since food is always a major interest for the youth.

Online Cultural Exchange

Shinden Elementary School Online cultural exchange with Australian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, June 16, 2023,
11:15 am – 12:15 pm
Venue: Shinden Elementary School
(part of Shinden Gakuen)

2. Participants

29 sixth grade students

3. Counterpart

Grand Avenue State School,
Queensland, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Topic presentations by group

- Students from each school took turns presenting about such topics as Japanese anime, online games, manga comics, and sports

3. Free discussion

- Questions and answers
- Both schools sing their school songs

4. Rock-paper-scissors tournament

5. Closing remarks



Shinden Elementary School students showcase their athleticism

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Shinden students were divided into five groups to introduce themselves and present on their favorite topics. The group that presented on sports also demonstrated how to play each sport.
- ◆ After seeing the Shinden students' class pet rabbit, the Australian students explained that there was a law in the State of Queensland that prohibits keeping rabbits as pets.
- ◆ Shinden Elementary School students sang their school song; and in return, the Australian students sang theirs.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, September 26, 2023,
10:50 am – 11:30 am
Venue: Minemachi Elementary School

2. Participants

30 fifth grade students (Class 3)

3. Counterpart

42 fourth graders and 30 fifth graders
from Tsai Hsing Elementary School,
Taipei City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

- 1. Greetings**
(in English by the Tokyo side and in Japanese by the Taiwan side)
- 2. Presentations by the Tokyo students**
 - Self introductions and quiz about Tokyo
- 3. Presentations by the Taiwan students**
 - Self introductions and quiz about Taiwan
- 4. Free conversation**
- 5. Questions and answers**
- 6. Closing remarks**

Minemachi Elementary School

Online cultural exchange with Taiwanese friends



Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) made many comments on students' presentations.



Minemachi Elementary School students explaining in English how to play the quizzes.

5. Additional information

- ◆ Before the exchange, the Minemachi Elementary School students practiced their quiz presentations with Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs).
- ◆ The practice with the ALTs helped the students feel more confident before meeting the Taiwanese students.
- ◆ Five groups from each school took turns introducing themselves and giving quizzes.
- ◆ A commemorative photo was taken in front of the monitor.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, November 29, 2023,
9:30 am – 10:15 am
Venue: Kamishakujii Elementary School

2. Participants

30 fourth grade students

3. Counterpart

McDowall State School,
Queensland, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Presentation on McDowall State School

- Used Google Maps and then segued to the exchange

2. Greetings from the teachers in charge

3. Group presentations for each theme

- Students from each school took turns presenting on topics such as, culture, food, hobbies, famous places and Japanese anime characters

4. Closing remarks

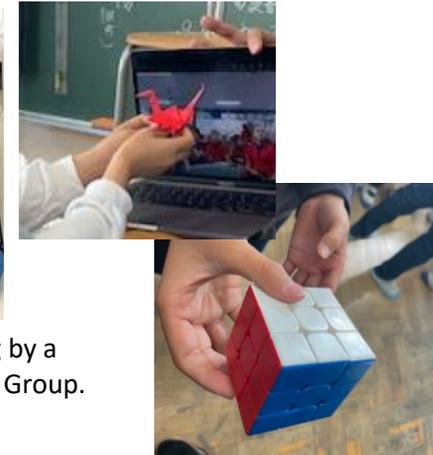
Kamishakujii Elementary School Online cultural exchange with Australian friends



Students actively participating in the class



Hand-made cloth bag by a student in the Hobby Group.



Rubik's Cube solved on the spot!



Each topic was written on paper

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students followed the reminder written on the blackboard to make eye contact and responded cheerfully throughout the online exchange.
- ◆ Since the Australian students were learning Japanese, both English and Japanese were used in the online exchange.
- ◆ During the group presentation on famous places, Australian student introduced MOVIE WORLD, which is a popular amusement park in Australia.
- ◆ The Australian students exclaimed, "Cute!" every time a familiar Japanese anime character was shown on the screen.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, June 6, 2024
10:05 am - 10:40 am

Venue: Ichinotani Elementary School

2. Participants

23 sixth grade students

3. Counterpart

15 fourth to sixth graders,
Japanese Language Club members,
Birkdale State School, Queensland, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks
2. Introduction of schools
3. Self-introduction by students
 - Favorite food, sport, animal, etc.
4. Japanese drum and traditional dance performance by the Ichinotani students
5. Dance performance (Australian students)
6. Closing remarks

Ichinotani Elementary School Online exchange with Australian friends



Tokyo students listening to Australian friends' speeches



Japanese drum performance



The Tokyo students asked, "What is your favorite animal?"

5. Additional information

- ◆ Australian animals such as koalas were shown as examples of one's "Favorite animal."
- ◆ The Australian students improvised a dance when the Tokyo students performed a traditional dance with Japanese drums.
- ◆ The Ichinotani students explained what the chimes were when they rang during the exchange and found out that the sounds were unique to Japanese schools.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024
10:20 am - 10:55 am
Venue: Hekizan Elementary School

2. Participants

28 fifth grade students

3. Counterpart

16 third grade students
Carisbrook School
Dunedin, New Zealand

4. Schedule

- 1. Self-introductions by the Hekizan Elementary School students**
 - Introduction of their names and favorite things, such as recommended places, animals, food, sports, and hobbies
- 2. Self-introductions by the New Zealand students**
 - Introduction of their names and favorite things, such as recommended places, animals, food, sports, and hobbies
- 3. Farwell and closing remarks**

Hekizan Elementary School

Online cultural exchange with New Zealand friends



Listening to self-introductions by the New Zealand students



Self-introductions by Hekizan elementary students



Lively reactions from the Hekizan elementary students



Hekizan Elementary students talk about their hobbies

5. Additional information

- ◆ After introducing themselves, the Hekizan Elementary students utilized their tablet computers to show photos and illustrations of their favorite things.
- ◆ The New Zealand students prepared hand-drawn illustrations full of personality and introduced their favorite things.
- ◆ When talking about sports, the Hekizan students were surprised when the New Zealand students said, "Soccer is the most popular sports in New Zealand, but the school grounds are turned into a skate rink during the winter."

Junior High Schools

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022

1st session 9:50 am -10:30 am

2nd session 10:45 am -11:30 am

Venue: Kojimachi Junior High School

2. Participants

120 third year students

3. Counterpart

75 students from Hougang Secondary School, Republic of Singapore

4. Schedule

1. Greetings by Hougang Secondary School
2. Greetings by Kojimachi Junior High School
3. School introduction by each representative student
4. Free talk session
 - Students discussed hobbies, interests, and more during their group self-introductions
5. Closing remarks

Kojimachi Junior High School Online cultural exchange with Singaporean friends



Cultural exchanges by group



5. Additional information

- ◆ All third year students participated in the two sessions.
- ◆ Students were divided into 18 groups for each session and interacted with the Singaporean students.
- ◆ Laptops were distributed to each student. Despite initial connection issues, the event went smoothly.
- ◆ Communication was prioritized over using perfect vocabulary and grammar, allowing everyone to participate proactively.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, October 6, 2023,
4:00 pm – 4:50 pm
Venue: Aoyama Junior High School

2. Participants

4 students from the
International Exchange Club

3. Counterpart

7 students from
Dongbang Middle School, Incheon
Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea

4. Schedule

1. Greetings from all students
2. Self-introduction by each student
3. Feedback and questions and answers
4. Free conversation
5. Closing remarks

Aoyama Junior High School Online cultural exchange with Korean friends



Listening to the presentation by the Korean students



Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ The online exchange started with a cheerful greeting, "*Konnichiwa!*" from the Korean students who were learning Japanese.
- ◆ The Korean students were also pleased to hear the Aoyama Junior High School students' self-introductions in Korean.
- ◆ The Aoyama Junior High School students gave a presentation on Tokyo Tower.
- ◆ Much of the conversations centered on food. Since Incheon faces the sea and is known for seafood, the Korean students explained that *kalguksu*, hand-made noodles, with shrimp, crab, and shellfish were popular.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023,
3:50 pm – 4:30 pm
Venue: Shinozaki Junior High School

2. Participants

4 first to third year students
from the English Club

3. Counterpart

6 seventh to ninth grade students from
Shinsong Middle School, Incheon
Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

2. Presentations by both schools

- The Tokyo side was given five minutes for self-introductions and questions and answers
- The Korean side was given 10 minutes for self-introductions and five minutes for questions and answers

3. Free conversation

4. Closing remarks

Shinozaki Junior High School Online cultural exchange with Korean friends



Online exchange using three languages:
English, Japanese and Korean



A large monitor and laptop were used for the
online cultural exchange

5. Additional information

- ◆ This was the first of the two-week consecutive online exchange, focusing on self-introductions and questions for each other.
- ◆ Students from both sides took turns asking and answering questions one-by-one.
- ◆ Popular questions were concerned with each country's culture and lifestyle such as, "Do you like spicy foods?" and "What are your recommendations on things sold in Japanese convenience stores?"

High Schools

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Suginami High School Online Exchange with Taiwanese friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, October 6, 2021
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Venue: Suginami High School

2. Participants

First-year students: 7 classes
Second-year students: 8 classes

3. Guests

Taichung Municipal Taichung Home
Economics and Commercial Senior High
School (TCHCVS), Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Opening greetings by principals of both schools
 2. Opening remarks by student representatives from both schools
 3. Presentation on Taiwanese food culture
 4. Presentation on Japanese culture
 - Traditional instruments, food, greetings, traditional clothing, school lunch
 5. Musical Performance by TCHCVS
 6. Choral performance by Suginami High
 7. Commemorative photographs
- (The exchange event was conducted in English)



Presentation on Japanese school lunches



Musical performance by TCHCVS students



5. Additional information

- ◆ In previous years, second year students would visit Taiwan and had exchange programs with TCHCVS.
- ◆ Students eagerly listened to the presentations.
- ◆ Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, students were unable to visit Taiwan as in previous years. However, access to technology allowed the students to enjoy a cultural exchange from their classrooms.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Adachi West High School Online Exchange with Korean friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, June 13, 2022
5:20 pm – 6:30 pm
Venue: Adachi West High School

2. Participants

10 first to third-year students from
Adachi West High

3. Guest school

Todong High School,
Gyeonggi-do, Republic of
Korea



Ice breaker at the start of the exchange event



Small group video chat

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

- Ice breaker with self-introductions in Japanese

2. Small group chat

- In groups of two to three, the students chatted in Korean and Japanese using the video app's breakout rooms.

3. Closing remarks

- All students rejoined the main chatroom and gave their good-bye speeches.

5. Additional information

- ◆ Each student was given a device to use, and they carried out their online exchange with the video app's breakout room function.
- ◆ Although Adachi Nishi High does not offer Korean classes, teachers brought together 10 students who were interested in Korea and Korean language for the exchange event.
- ◆ This opportunity motivated the Adachi West High students to study Korean.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, December 9, 2022,
4:00 pm - 5:05 pm
Venue: Wakaba Sogo Senior High School

2. Participants

4 second and third year students
from the English Club

3. Counterpart

Zespół Szkół Ogrodniczych i
Ogólnokształcących
Republic of Poland

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

- Greetings by the Wakaba Sogo High School English Club and Czech Republic School students

2. Self-introductions and presentations by topic

- Topics included: Future dreams, favorite foods, Polish culture, favorite things, and favorite spots in Japan

3. Closing remarks

Tokyo Metropolitan Wakaba Sogo Senior High School Online cultural exchange with Polish friends



Polish students showing their recommended spots in Poland



Learning Polish hand gestures

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Wakaba students used their smartphones and spoke on various topics by showing the screens. They chatted excitedly about many other topics.
- ◆ When the topic of *Wagashi* (Japanese traditional sweets) came up, the Polish students responded by showing their local sweets. To which, the Wakaba students exclaimed, "It looks delicious!" and the conversation became more animated.
- ◆ While this was a small cultural exchange, it turned out to be a very peaceful and fulfilling experience.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, May 12, 2023,
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Wakaba Sogo Senior High School

2. Participants

5 second and third year students

3. Counterpart

Zespół Szkół Ogrodniczych i Ogólnokształcących,
Republic of Poland

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Presentation by Wakaba Sogo Senior High School

- Students made presentations on topics such as hobbies and traditional Japanese culture
- Questions and answers

3. Presentation by the Polish students

- Students made presentations on topics such as school facilities, exams, and music
- Questions and answers

4. Closing remarks

Tokyo Metropolitan Wakaba Sogo Senior High School Online cultural exchange with Polish friends

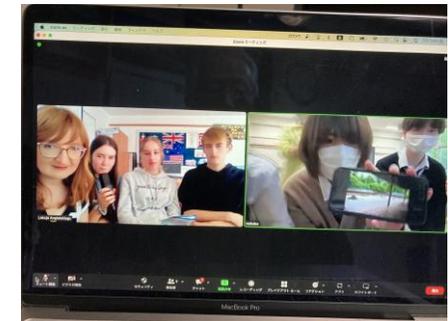


Video created by Polish students for a dance contest



The Polish students showed their school's garden

The Wakaba students introduced *Karesansui*



5. Additional information

- ◆ The Wakaba students spoke in English about the Japanese garden, *Karesansui*, which is in Kyoto's Ryoanji-temple. They used their smartphones to show photos of the garden.
- ◆ The Polish students showed some of their actual English exams. They asked the Wakaba students about their exams and studies in Tokyo.
- ◆ The Polish students also showed a video they prepared for an upcoming dance contest. They danced to a song by an artist the Wakaba students said they liked.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Josui High School Online cultural exchange with Thai friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, July 10, 2023,
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Venue: Josui High School

2. Participants

10 second year students

3. Counterpart

19 third year students from
Saipanya Rangsit School,
Kingdom of Thailand

4. Schedule

1. Greetings by both schools

- Greetings exchanged in their native languages

2. Presentation topics

- The Tokyo side spoke about school uniforms and Japanese culture.
- The Thai side spoke about food, festivals, traditional clothes, and Muay Thai

3. Feedback and questions and answers

4. Free conversation

- 10-minute discussion in two groups

5. Closing remarks



Students explaining their school uniforms.



Watching a Muay Thai performance



Online exchange by a group

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Josui High School students used hand-drawn illustrations for their presentation on Japanese culture in the hope that it would aid the Thai students' understanding.
- ◆ During the presentation on Thai food, the Thai students introduced a popular sweet called "Tokyo Sweets." The Josui High School students were eager to know the reason behind the name.
- ◆ Thai students performed both the male and female *Muay Thai* dances.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Igusa High School Online cultural exchange with Malaysian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, October 2, 2023,
3:15 pm – 4:40 pm
Venue: Igusa High School

2. Participants

14 first to third year volunteer students

3. Counterpart

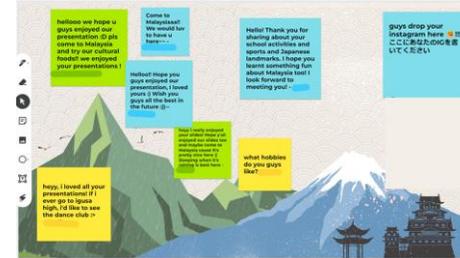
About 20 third year students from Sri KDU Secondary School Selangor, Malaysia

4. Schedule

1. Self-introductions
2. Introduction of both schools
3. Group presentation by Igusa High School students
 - The students presented on topics including Japanese food, traditional sports, and sightseeing spots
4. Presentation on Malaysia
5. Jamboard session
6. Commemorative photos



Igusa High School student explaining *Kyudo*



“Jamboard” filled with shared opinions

Commemorative photo after the event



5. Additional information

- ◆ The Malaysian students presented on Malaysia’s sightseeing spots which was welcome information for Igusa High School’s school excursion planned for the following year.
- ◆ During the Jamboard session, a collaborative digital whiteboard quickly filled with opinions and impressions by the students on both sides.
- ◆ Many of the participating Igusa High School students mentioned that their motivation to learn English increased through this online exchange.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Katakura High School Online cultural exchange with Singaporean friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, October 13, 2023,
1:20 pm – 2:10 pm
Venue: Katakura High School

2. Participants

39 first year students from
the Sculpture and Art Course

3. Counterpart

About 20 third year students
from the School of the Arts,
Singapore (SOTA),
Republic of Singapore



Listening to the SOTA side explain the exchange

Katakura High School students
explaining the works of their Sculpture
and Arts Course



Students, divided into 8
groups, chatted using the
app's breakout rooms



Padlet filled with shared posts



4. Schedule

1. Greetings from both sides
2. Overview of the day's exchange program by SOTA
3. Presentations on art works from both schools
4. Students chatted using the app's breakout rooms
- Katakura High School students were divided into 3 breakout rooms, gave self-introductions and explained their art works
5. Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ Prior to the online exchange, two meetings were held, and students posted their art works on Padlet, an online virtual bulletin board.
- ◆ The Singaporean side showed off the designs for candy packages they created in class, and the Tokyo side spoke in English to show pictogram designs they created for nearby facilities.
- ◆ The students bonded over their shared focus in the arts and being of the same age.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Miyake High School Online cultural exchange with Korean friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2023,
3:50 pm – 4:40 pm
Venue: Miyake High School

2. Participants

13 first to third year students

3. Counterpart

11 first and second year students
from Hak Ik High School,
Incheon Metropolitan City,
Republic of Korea



Geographic location of Miyake Island and introduction of school facilities



While the Hak Ik High School students sang a song, the Miyake High School students accompanied with tambourines and maracas.

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentation on Miyake Island and Miyake High School
3. Introductions and presentation on Incheon by Hak Ik High School students
4. Questions and answers
5. Japanese songs sung by the Korean side

5. Additional information

- ◆ This was the second round of exchange between the two schools and students were friendly and relaxed from the very start.
- ◆ Since this exchange included students of different ages, students seemed excited when they found other students of the same age.
- ◆ In addition to verbal communication, students used gestures to talk lively on their shared topics of interest, such as anime, video games, and music.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Honjo High School Online cultural exchange with Polish friends

1. Date and venue

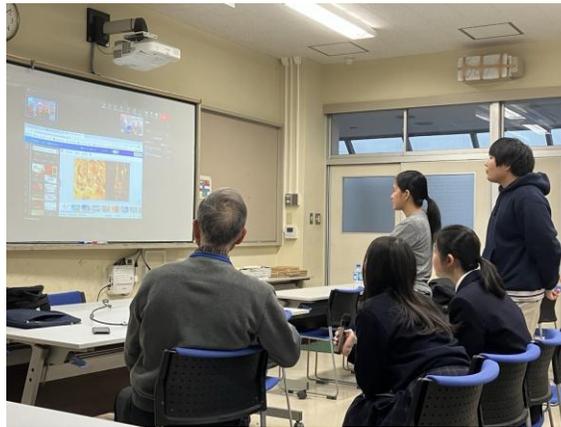
Date: Friday, December 8, 2023,
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Venue: Honjo High School

2. Participants

4 student members of the
English Club

3. Counterpart

5 students from the School of
Horticulture and General Education,
Pruszcz Gdański, Republic of Poland



Honjo High School students listening attentively to the presentation



The Polish side wore Santa Claus outfits

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Self-introductions/Presentations by Tokyo students

- Students introduced themselves and made presentations about their hobbies
- Questions and answers

3. Self-introductions/Presentations by Polish students

- Students gave presentations on Christmas in Poland
- Questions and answers

4. Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Polish side gave a PowerPoint presentation that focused on Christmas in Poland.
- ◆ Due to a smaller number of participants from both sides, every one of the students got enough time to enjoy a friendly talk about topics such as Christmas in their country and hobbies.
- ◆ The Honjo High School students also touched upon their previous online exchange experience with another high school in Poland.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Fussa High School Online cultural exchange with Korean friends

1. Date and venue

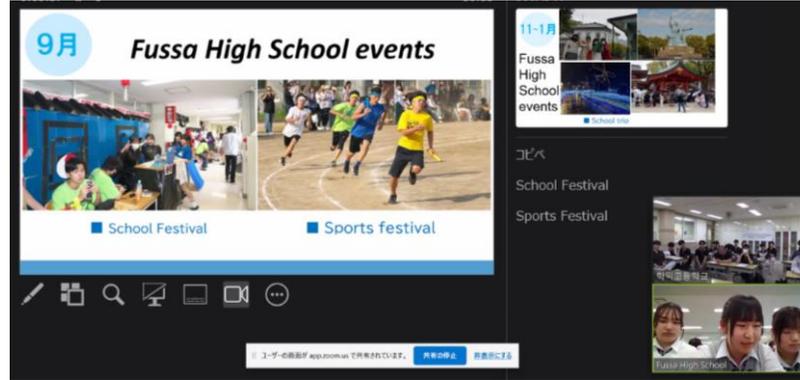
Date: Friday, May 31, 2024
3:50 pm – 5:00 pm
Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan
Fussa High School

2. Participants

15 students from the
English Club

3. Counterparts

19 students from
Hak Ik High School,
Incheon Metropolitan City, Republic of
Korea



School introduction
by Fussa students



Introduction of Incheon
by the Korean students



Farewells from
the both sides

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks
2. Self-introductions by the Korean and Tokyo students
3. Presentation on the school and the local area by both schools
4. Free discussion, and questions and answers
5. Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ Four of the participating Korean students used to live in Japan and gave their self introductory speeches in Japanese.
- ◆ During self-introductions by the Tokyo side students, K-pop music became a hot topic.
- ◆ During the free discussion and Q&A time, the students asked each other in depth questions about their countries and about music.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, June 10, 2024
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Venue: Josui High School

2. Participants

15 second year students from the Cross-Cultural Exchange Class

3. Counterpart

20 second year students learning Japanese from Saipanya Rangsit School Pathum Thani Province, Kingdom of Thailand

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

2. Presentations

- Presentation on school and Japanese *bento* (lunch boxes) by the Josui students
- Introduction of school and local area by the Thai side

3. Free conversation

4. Closing remarks

Tokyo Metropolitan Josui High School Online exchange with Thai friends



Presentation on Japanese lunch box (Tokyo side)



School introduction (Thai students)

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Tokyo students introduced their extracurricular club activities when presenting about their school. The Thai students introduced their school and local area.
- ◆ The Thai students were very intrigued by the presentation about Japanese bento.
- ◆ Free conversation was held in two groups. At the closing of this event, commemorative photos were taken in front of the PC displays.

Secondary Schools

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Minami Tama Secondary School Online Exchange with Vietnamese friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, July 19, 2021
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm
Venue: Minami Tama
Secondary School

2. Participants

4 fourth-year students

3. Guest school

Chu Van An High School
Hanoi, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

4. Schedule

- 1. Opening remarks by Minami Tama Secondary**
- 2. Presentation on popular treats and beverages by Minami Tama Secondary**
- 3. Presentation on popular Vietnamese treats and beverages by Chu Van An High School**
 - Popular beverages included iced tea and Vietnamese coffee
- 4. Japanese World Heritage Sites**
 - Sites introduced: Shiretoko, Himeji Castle, Horyu-ji Temple
- 5. Question and answer time**
 - Questions included asking where to visit in Japan.
- 6. Closing remarks**



Original background
created by Minami Tama
students



Chu Van An students show a
famous local beverage



Minami Tama Secondary students introduce
Heritage Sites

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students from both schools gave well-prepared presentations.
- ◆ During the question-and-answer session, Minami Tama students carefully listened to the questions from the Chu Van An students and came up with thoughtful answers as a group.
- ◆ After the online exchange ended, the Minami Tama students expressed a wish to answer questions more quickly in the future along with other positive comments.

Online Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Mitaka Secondary School Online Exchange with Taiwanese friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, June 1, 2022
2:00 pm – 3:05 pm
Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Mitaka
Secondary School

2. Participants

38 fourth-year students

3. Guest school

National Luodong Senior High
School, Yilan County, Taiwan



Divided into groups, the students speak with the Taiwanese students



Students enjoy taking photos before the end of the exchange

4. Schedule

- 1. Self introductions**
 - Group members briefly introduced themselves in the video application's breakout rooms.
- 2. Presentation on the attractions of Kyoto and Nara (Mitaka)**
 - Presentation using screenshare
 - Question and answer time
- 3. Pop-culture music video presentation (National Luodong)**
 - Presentation of student-made music videos
 - Question and answer time
- 4. Closing remarks**

5. Additional Information

- ◆ Each Mitaka student was given a tablet and participated in the cultural exchange using the video application's breakout room.
- ◆ Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Taiwanese students participated from their homes.
- ◆ Mitaka students were divided into groups spread across four rooms and used earphones in order to prevent audio feedback.
- ◆ The students, who were reserved at first, enjoyed chatting when the topic of pop culture came up. They enjoyed talking about their favorite singers and other topics.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2022,
3:45 pm – 5:00 pm
Venue: Oshukan Secondary School

2. Participants

5 students representing the
Student Council

3. Counterpart

Khuder Secondary School,
Mongolia

4. Schedule

1. Self-introductions by students
2. Introduction of schools
3. Presentation on extracurricular activities
4. Presentation on each region
5. Closing remarks

Tokyo Metropolitan Oshukan Secondary School Online cultural exchange with Mongolian friends



Students split in groups
and presented on Japan



Students held their laptop up to
show the surrounding scenery



Students worked together to facilitate the exchange

5. Additional information

- ◆ Five students each from both schools participated in this student-led cultural exchange.
- ◆ Using photo slides, the Oshukan students enthusiastically introduced their school, extracurricular activities, and the region to the Khuder students.
- ◆ In response to Khuder students' showing the interior of their school, the Oshukan students also showed the surrounding scenery of the school from the windows.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023,
10:50 am – 2:00 pm
Venue: Kudan Secondary School

2. Participants

120 second year students
(Classes 2 to 4)

3. Counterpart

Eighth and ninth grade students
from Burwood Girls High School,
New South Wales, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

2. Presentations by the Tokyo side on *Yatai*, Japanese street food stalls

- Class 2: A group gave a presentation and held a Q & A session
- Class 3: Students were divided into 10 groups, each of which gave a presentation and held a Q & A session
- Class 4: Had both a representative presentation and group presentations, each followed by a Q & A session

3. Wrap up and closing remarks

Kudan Secondary School

Online cultural exchange with Australian friends



Asking each other questions in English



Students from Class 2 giving a presentation

Listening attentively to the Australian side's presentation



5. Additional information

- ◆ The Tokyo side gave presentations in English showing slides with pictures. They made a great effort in listening to and answering the questions from the Australian side. Students worked together to find answers in English, also utilizing their textbooks and the internet.
- ◆ The Australian students were learning Japanese; and wowed the Kudan Secondary School students by speaking Japanese.
- ◆ The students were nervous in the beginning, but both sides got closer throughout the exchange. At the end, the students cheerfully waved goodbye to each other.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and Venue

Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023,
10:15 am – 11:15 am
Venue: Kudan Secondary School

2. Participants

40 second year students

3. Counterpart

21 eighth grade students
from Burwood GHS,
New South Wales, Australia

4. Schedule

1. Group sessions

- Each group discussed topics such as food stall culture, their future dreams, and their families

2. Joint session

- Presentations by each group using their tablets
- Questions and answers

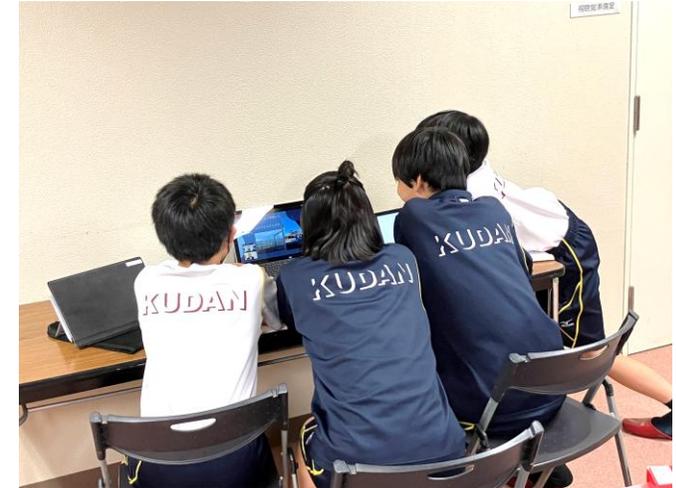
3. Closing remarks

Kudan Secondary School

Online cultural exchange with Australian friends



Each group practiced Covid-19 social distancing measures



Group session

5. Additional information

- ◆ The group sessions used the breakout rooms on Zoom where participants were divided into groups of four and introduced themselves.
- ◆ Students from the Kudan Secondary School prepared quizzes to make the cultural exchange more exciting.
- ◆ The exchange seemed very lively, thanks to some of the Australian students being familiar with Japanese pop culture.

Special Needs Schools

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021
11 am - noon
Venue: Adachi Special Needs School

2. Participants

9 second-year students from
Adachi Special Needs School

3. Guest school

9 second- and third-year students,
National Pingtung Special School,
Pingtung County, Taiwan

4. Schedule

- 1. Greetings by the principals of both schools**
- 2. Presentation by National Pingtung students**
 - Self-introductions, school life (school location, how students clean the school, animals raised at the school), singing of the school song
- 3. Presentation by Adachi students**
 - Self-introductions, introduction of Japan (Mt. Fuji, cherry blossoms, sumo, sushi, Okinawa), Taiko drum performance
- 4. Question and answer time**
(Conducted in Japanese and Chinese with the help of an interpreter)

Tokyo Metropolitan Adachi Special Needs School Online exchange with Taiwanese friends

Taiko drum
performance



Adachi students give their
greetings in Chinese



Introducing Japanese culture

5. Additional information

- ◆ Adachi students wore Olympic polo shirts representing various nations such as Australia, Singapore, and Japan.
- ◆ The students actively participated in and enjoyed the online cultural exchange.
- ◆ The students were thrilled to see their school emblem displayed in the presentation by the Taiwanese students.
- ◆ Some Adachi students were nervous before the start of the exchange but were able to participate with encouragement from their classmates.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, September 11, 2023,
9:00 am – 10:00 am
Venue: Tachikawa Gakuen

2. Participants

15 third year students

3. Counterpart

11 students, Transition Class,
Ko Taku Reo Enrolled School, Auckland,
New Zealand

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

- Greetings by Tachikawa Gakuen
- Greetings by To Taku Reo Enrolled School

2. Maori prayers from the New Zealand side

3. Self-introductions (in turns by school)

4. Showcase of creations by five Special Major students

5. Free conversation (including questions and answers)

6. Maori prayers from the New Zealand side

Tokyo Metropolitan Tachikawa Gakuen (High School) Online cultural exchange with New Zealand friends



Presentation by Tachikawa Gakuen

Giving a self-introduction



Students listening with the help of sign language interpretation

5. Additional information

- ◆ During the online exchange, Ko Taku Reo Enrolled School provided Japanese - New Zealand English sign language interpretation.
- ◆ The New Zealand students responded especially well to the fliers prepared by each of the Tachikawa Gakuen students, which introduced popular Japanese anime and illustrations.
- ◆ The New Zealand students introduced themselves by showing their names written in Japanese and by using gestures.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, November 8, 2024
11:00 am to 11:40 am
Venue: Hachioji School for the Blind

2. Participants

7 students in third to sixth grade

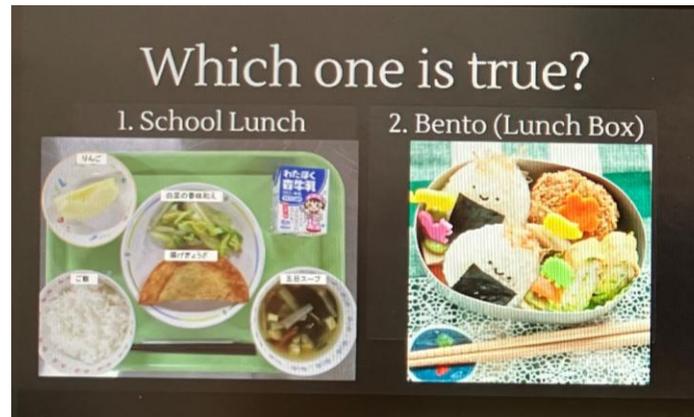
3. Counterpart

6 second to sixth grade students from
Taichung School for the Visually Impaired
Taichung City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks by the principal of Taichung School
2. Quiz on Japan and Hachioji
 - Japanese food, events, famous places
 - Hachioji and school activities
3. Taichung students' presentation on Taiwanese food, famous places, Taiwanese events, and lifestyle
4. Singing
5. Rock-paper-scissors tournament
6. Farewell

Tokyo Metropolitan Hachioji School for the Blind Online cultural exchange with Taiwanese friends



Quiz given by Hachioji students
to Taichung students



Hachioji students (top) and
Taichung students (bottom)

5. Additional information

- ◆ This was an exchange between students with visual impairments. The teachers on both sides facilitated in English and the students gave their presentations in English.
- ◆ The Taiwanese students enthusiastically answered the quiz questions and cheered when they got a correct answer. The abundance of their knowledge of Japan was impressive.
- ◆ Students from both schools sang songs. The Taichung students sang an anime song in Japanese that they had practiced in their school's karaoke room.
- ◆ The students became even closer once they knew they both enjoyed singing.
- ◆ The rock-paper-scissors tournament was held by having the students call out their hands in English. The students jumped for joy when they won.

Online Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, November 18, 2024

1:20 pm to 2:45 pm

Venue: Tachikawa Gakuen

2. Participants

10 third year students from the Class for Hearing Impaired Education

3. Counterpart

Taipei School for the Hearing Impaired
Seven 10th grade students,
Taipei City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks
2. Self introductions and presentation by Tachikawa students
Presentation on Tachikawa Gakuen, Japanese culture, and more
3. Self introductions and presentation by Taipei students
Presentation on Taiwan
4. Commemorative photos
5. Farewell

Tokyo Metropolitan Tachikawa Gakuen Online cultural exchange with Taiwanese friends



Self introductions
by Tachikawa students



Listening to self introductions
by the Taiwanese students

5. Additional information

- ◆ Exchange between two schools for hearing impaired students. Japanese and Taiwan sign language interpreters helped both sides to communicate.
- ◆ The Tachikawa and Taipei students presented using slides they had prepared in advance. The Tachikawa students noted that Taiwan Sign Language had signs that were similar to Japanese Sign Language.
- ◆ The Tachikawa students presented on topics of various themes such as *kaiten-zushi* (conveyor belt sushi), cherry blossom viewing, Japanese sweets, *karate*, *sukiyaki*, *washi* paper, and *tatami* mats. The Taipei students spoke on topics including greetings, Chinese language, and food.

Cultural exchange activity highlights

Cultural exchanges with foreign embassies and other organizations in Tokyo

Kindergartens

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, September 13, 2022,
10:30 am – 11:15 am
Venue: Izumi Kodomoen

2. Participants

34 children (class of 5-year-olds)

3. Counterpart

Ms. Thangeswary Paleswaran,
First Secretary, Embassy of Malaysia
in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Arrival of guest

2. Presentation by guest speaker

- Malaysian tourism video
- Presentation on Malaysia
- Read Malaysian picture books
- Play the *ukulele* and sing Malaysian songs

3. Commemorative photos and closing remarks

Izumi Kodomoen

Visit by the Embassy of Malaysia in Japan

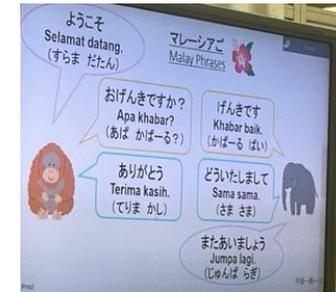


Singing a Malaysian song, "*Rasa Sayang*," while playing the ukulele



Children enthusiastically asked questions to First Secretary Thangeswary

Malay greetings



5. Additional information

- ◆ The children were greatly interested in the video, and made comments such as, "What's this bird?" and "We've never seen that in Japan!"
- ◆ The children asked various questions about animals and bugs, including, "Where do proboscis monkeys live?"
- ◆ At the end, Ms. Thangeswary played Malaysia's representative song *Rasa Sayang* on her *ukulele*, and the children asked for an encore. The children quickly memorized the lyrics and melody and sang along.

Embassy Exchange Program

Izumi Kodomoen

Visit by the Embassy of Mozambique in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, September 22, 2023,
11:00 am – 11:30 am
Venue: Izumi Kodomoen

2. Participants

Children in their final year of kindergarten

3. Counterpart

Mr. Francisco Boavida Zandamela,
Consular and Financial Attaché,
Embassy of the Republic of Mozambique
in Japan



The presentation was given both in Portuguese and Japanese



String phones made by embassy staff



4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Presentation by the Consular

- Brief presentation on Mozambique
- Games popular with children in Mozambique
- Presentation on folk dolls and musical instruments

3. Questions and answers

4. Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ Mozambique's geographic location and size, as well as its climate, national flag, and languages were introduced.
- ◆ When informed that it took 21 hours from Mozambique to Japan by air, one child was startled and said, "Only 3 hours left in the day!"
- ◆ String phones were introduced as an item Mozambique children use to play. Some children talked with the Consular using the handmade string phones.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, September 25, 2024
11:00 am - 11:40 am
Venue: Izumi Kodomoen

2. Participants

27 five- and six-year-old children,
two parents and three teachers

3. Counterpart

Mr. Maximiliano da Silva,
Second Secretary and Consul,
Embassy of the Oriental Republic of
Uruguay in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Talk by Second Secretary

- Self introduction
- Talk on Uruguay

2. Izumi Kodomoen children's performance

- Demonstration of Japanese finger play
- Thank-you song

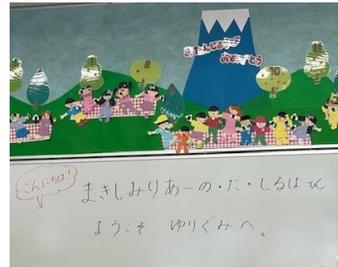
3. Commemorative photos

Izumi Kodomoen

Visit by the Embassy of Uruguay in Japan



Welcome board



Talk on Uruguay



Japanese finger play



Thank-you song

5. Additional information

- ◆ Second Secretary da Silva introduced himself by saying, “I come from Uruguay in South America,” and pointed the location of Uruguay on a map for the children.
- ◆ The children were surprised to learn that the number of cows were larger than that of people in Uruguay. The children were proactive in asking many questions to Second Secretary da Silva such as, “What is the most famous food in Uruguay?”
- ◆ The children demonstrated how to play a *Mochitsuki* (rice cake pounding) finger play in pairs. And some children played the game with the Second Secretary.
- ◆ Second Secretary da Silva was so cheerful all through the event that all the children became fond of him.

Elementary Schools

Lecture by International Instructors

Nagasaki Elementary School Lecture by JASSO Instructor

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, October 27, 2021
10:40 am – 11:25 am
Venue: Nagasaki Elementary School

2. Participants

39 fourth grade students

3. Counterpart

1 JASSO international instructor
from Bosnia and Herzegovina



Thank you speech



A student speaks with the lecturer in Bosnian



During the presentation

4. Schedule

1. Presentation on Bosnia and Herzegovina by the instructor

- Geography, population, religion, and nature
- Introduction of the capital city
(Cityscape, history with the Olympic Games)

2. Practice greetings and self-introductions in Bosnian

3. Question and answer time

- Questions included:

What subjects do students study in Bosnia?

Do Bosnian students wear school uniforms?

What kinds of Japanese things are well-known in Bosnia?

4. Thank you speech by students

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students listened intently to the presentation and enthusiastically engaged with the guest instructor.
- ◆ After learning greetings and introductions in Bosnian, students practiced with each other and with the instructor on stage.

Embassy Exchange Program

Shimomeguro Elementary School Exchange with Honorary Consulate-General of Tuvalu in Tokyo

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, November 17, 2022,
10:05 am - 10:50 am
Venue: Shimomeguro Elementary School

2. Participants

84 fourth grade students (Class 3)

3. Counterpart

Mr. ENDO Hisataka, Honorary Consul General, Honorary Consulate-General of Tuvalu in Tokyo



	ツバル	目黒
面積	25.1万平方キロメートル	14.67万平方キロメートル
人口	1.1万人	28.4万人
言語	英語・ツバル語	日本語
民族	大多数はポリネシア系	日本人
宗教	キリスト教	仏教
独立・区制	1978年(44年)	1932年(90年)

をしてみようと思います皆さんが住んでいる目黒区は1467km²ツバルは国土が全体で251万平方キロ

Comparisons between Tuvalu and Meguro Ward

4. Schedule

1. Introduction of the guest speaker and greetings by students
2. Brief presentation on Tuvalu by Honorary Consul General
 - Video message from Prime Minister Natano, brief presentation, and the current situation of Tuvalu, the “sinking country”
3. Questions and answers
4. Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ Before the guest speaker’s visit, the students studied the handouts they kindly received from the Consulate-General.
- ◆ Student representatives wore Tuvaluan traditional costumes borrowed from the Consulate. The students had valuable chance to hold folk crafts and coins.
- ◆ By comparing the size of Tuvalu to Meguro Ward and so on, the presentation was easy for the students to understand.
- ◆ Mr. Endo’s lecture referred also to the issues of climate change and SDGs, which gave students good opportunities to think globally.
- ◆ Student comments included, “I became eager to visit Tuvalu” and “I want to think about what I can do for the environment”.

Cultural Exchange with International Group

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2023,
10:45 am - 11:30 am
Venue: Sakamoto Elementary School

2. Participants

About 90 fourth to sixth grade students

3. Counterpart

National Folk Dance Federation of Japan member dance group, Valaška introduced by the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Tokyo:

Dancers: Ms. Jitka Bonušová, Mr. Jan Pumpř
Instruments: Mr. Ondrej Veselý, Mr. Tomas Fiedler
Interpreter: Ms. Yokoyama

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

- Greetings made in Japanese and Czech

2. Presentation on the Czech Republic (by the interpreter)

- Talk and quiz on the Czech Republic

3. Introduction to Czech musical instruments

4. Czech dance experience

5. Thank-you messages from the students

6. Commemorative photos

Sakamoto Elementary School Cultural exchange with Czech dance group



The instructors modeled dance steps for the students

Introduction of instructors



Formed a circle for each grade for the first song and made one big circle for the second song

5. Additional information

- ◆ During the opening, the students gave a greeting in Czech, “Dobrý den.”
- ◆ The interpreter’s talk on the Czech Republic included interactive quizzes.
- ◆ For the Czech dance experience, students learned two dance songs including *The Shoemaker*.
- ◆ Students practiced to dance the entire piece while being taught the meaning of the dance such as hitting shoes with a hammer.

Embassy Exchange Program

Juntoku Elementary School Visit by the Embassy of Egypt in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, July 14, 2023,
9:35 am – 11:25 am
Venue: Juntoku Elementary School

2. Participants

109 sixth grade students
(Classes 1 to 3)

3. Counterpart

Ms. MORISHITA Keiko, Secretary,
Department of Culture, Education, and
Science, Embassy of the Arab Republic of
Egypt in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

- Students gave welcoming greetings in Arabic

2. Presentation on Egypt by embassy official (in Japanese)

- A wide variety of topics were introduced such as Egyptian history, culture, food, clothing, and work the embassy does

3. Presentations by Juntoku Elementary School students (in English)

- 12 student representatives introduced Japanese summer traditions
- Embassy staff gave feedback on each presentation

4. Questions and answers (in Japanese)



Presentation on Egypt



Students presenting on Japanese fireworks



Students presenting on *Furin*,
Japanese wind chimes

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students listened attentively to the presentation on Egypt, which had photos and videos.
- ◆ Students spoke excitedly in English about their chosen topics using slides showing fireworks festivals, *furin* (wind chimes), watermelon splitting games, and summer festivals.
- ◆ During the Q & A time, the students asked many questions such as how summer is spent and what people wear in Egypt, transportation, sports, security, natural disasters, local prices, and which Japanese companies were well-known in Egypt.

Embassy Exchange Program

Kyosai Elementary School Visit to the Embassy of India in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, October 5, 2023,
10:00 am – 11:30 am
Venue: Embassy of India in Japan

2. Participants

106 third grade students and 4 teachers

3. Counterpart

H. E. Mr. Sibi George,
Ambassador of the Republic of India to
Japan and Ms. Kanika Agrawal, Director,
Vivekananda Cultural Centre

4. Schedule

1. Introduction of embassy guest speakers
2. Presentations by embassy officials
3. Yoga workshop
4. Kathak dance performance
5. Speech by the Ambassador
6. Commemorative photos
7. Introduction and performance of *tabla* (drums)
8. Closing remarks



Many hands raised during question-and-answer time



Commemorative photo with the Ambassador

Kathak dance demonstration



5. Additional information

- ◆ The students learned about India prior to the visit to the embassy.
- ◆ The students were taught yoga positions that could be done while seated and tried them together.
- ◆ The students were wowed by the elegance of the Kathak dancer adorned in beautiful costume and jewelry. They exclaimed, “Just as I imagined!” and “I am very glad I could see the dance with my own eyes!”
- ◆ *Tabla* (drums) in four different sizes were played by two players and students listened attentively to their performances.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2023,
11:30 am – 12:15 pm
Venue: Hekizan Elementary School

2. Participants

100 sixth grade students and
6 teachers

3. Counterpart

Mr. Shafraz Rasheed, First Secretary,
Embassy of the Republic of Maldives in
Japan

4. Schedule

1. Introduction of the guest speakers
2. Welcome greetings
3. Presentations by embassy officials
 - Greeting practice and quiz
4. Thank-you speech from student representative
5. Presentation of mementos
6. Commemorative photos
7. Lunch

Hekizan Elementary School Visit by the Embassy of Maldives in Japan



Students answering quiz question



Seeing off the embassy officials

5. Additional information

- ◆ Embassy officials gave an easy-to-understand presentation about the Maldives, including its geography.
- ◆ The Maldives is under threat from climate change, and First Secretary Rasheed hoped that the students would think about the issue and work on a response together.
- ◆ The embassy staff split up and each went to a classroom to have lunch with the students.

Embassy Exchange Program

Shimomeguro Elementary School Visit to the Embassy of Poland in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, November 22,
2023, 10:00 am – 11:00 am
Venue: Embassy of the Republic of
Poland in Japan

2. Participants

90 fourth grade students

3. Counterpart

Ms. Agnieszka Klaus, Counsellor,
Embassy of the Republic of
Poland in Japan



Question and answer time



Ponczki (pohnch-kee), traditional Polish pastries

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Introduction of guest speaker
3. Presentation on Poland
4. Quiz
5. Questions and answers
6. Tea break
7. Commemorative photos
8. Thank-you speech

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students gave an energetic greeting in Polish, "Dzień dobry (Good Day)!", which they learned before the event.
- ◆ The brief introduction of Poland included its popular tourist spots, food, music, and national costumes.
- ◆ The students asked many questions, such as, "What are the most common surnames in Poland?" and "What are the similarities between Japan and Poland?"
- ◆ The students were thrilled to receive Ponczki, traditional Polish pastries, as a souvenir.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023,
1:20 pm – 2:10 pm
Venue: Aogashima Elementary and
Junior High School

2. Participants

All 8 students from both schools, the principal and 20 teachers, and villagers

3. Counterpart

H.E. Ms. Melba María Pría Olavarrieta
and Ms. Jina Hernández,
Embassy of the United Mexican States in
Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. International exchange meeting (Part 1)
 - Presentations by students
 - Presentation by Mexico embassy official
3. Lunch with students
4. International exchange meeting (Part 2)
 - Workshop (piñata making)
 - Comments and questions from students
 - Chorus by students
5. Thank-you speech by students and commemorative photos

Aogashima Elementary and Junior High School Visit by the Embassy of Mexico in Japan



Commemorative photo with Ambassador Melba



Ambassador
talking with
students



A blindfolded student trying to crack the piñata made by everyone.

5. Additional information

- ◆ Ambassador Melba made a two-day trip to Aogashima Island.
- ◆ In Mexico, people make containers called *piñata* which are filled with sweets and fruits, and then broken as part of festivals and celebrations. Students and residents all worked together to make two piñatas.
- ◆ When it was time for cracking open the piñata, traditional Mexican perforated paper sheets called *papel picado* were decorated and everyone sang a piñata song together while the students tried to crack open the piñatas.
- ◆ Students, teachers and residents learned so much from this international exchange. Ambassador Melba mentioned that she was touched by everyone's warm hospitality.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2024
11:15 am to noon
Venue: Chuo Elementary School

2. Participants

67 third year students

3. Counterpart

Mr. Sachio Howoldt, Cultural Affairs
Embassy of the Federal Republic of
Germany in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Introduction of the lecturer
2. Lecture by Mr. Howoldt from German Embassy
3. Questions and answers
4. Presentation by the Chuo students
5. Comments on student presentations from Mr. Howoldt
6. Commemorative photos

Chuo Elementary School

Visit by the Embassy of Germany in Japan



Presentation by students

Lecture by Mr. Howoldt

5. Additional information

- ◆ When asked to share what came to mind when they thought of Germany, the students' answers included, "castles," "the EU," and "Beethoven."
- ◆ The lecture by Mr. Howoldt included information such as German people give their cars nicknames; the relationship between Germany and Japan; and Germany's daily SDG practices.
- ◆ The students spoke about their recommended places in Chuo Ward, including train stations, shrines, festivals, museums, parks, and popular restaurants. Mr. Howoldt commented that he would like to take German VIPs to Hamarikyu Gardens when they visit Japan.
- ◆ The students asked about German animation, the number of German World Heritage sites, and about the types of games German children play.

Junior High Schools

Lecture by International Instructors

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021
8:45 am – 10:35 am

Venue: Nerima Municipal Hikarigaoka
No. 2 Junior High School

2. Participants

Four classes of first year students

3. Counterpart

4 JASSO international instructors
from Kyrgyz, China, Laos, and
Bosnia and Herzegovina

4. Schedule

1. Students welcome the lecturers
2. Instructors introduce their respective countries
(Culture, history, language, currency, etc.)
3. Question and answer time
4. Closing remarks by students and presentation of
momento

Hikarigaoka No. 2 Junior High School Lecture by JASSO Instructors



A student presents a momento
from the class



A student leads an instructor to class



Presentation by the Laotian
instructor

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students wrote welcome messages on the chalkboards.
- ◆ Students made origami as a gift for the instructors.
- ◆ Students asked many questions during the question and answer time.
- ◆ Some students practiced the greetings taught by the instructors during their break time.

Embassy Exchange Program

Junior high school teachers from Tokyo's Nerima Ward Visit to the Embassy of Paraguay in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, November 4, 2022,
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Venue: Embassy of the Republic of Paraguay in Japan

2. Participants

6 teachers from 6 junior high schools in Nerima Ward, Tokyo

3. Counterpart

First Secretary and Ambassador's Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Paraguay in Japan

4. Schedule

- 1. Overview of the activities of the Tokyo International Exchange Concierge**
- 2. Exchange of opinions and Q & A session with embassy officials**
- 3. Closing remarks and commemorative photos**



Explanation of the national flag, which has a different emblem on each side

5. Additional information

- ◆ Teachers participating in study sessions on International Understanding Education in Nerima Ward expressed their wish to participate in an international exchange themselves. Which led to the realization of this exchange.
- ◆ The Q & A session covered a wide variety of topics including Paraguay's national character, living environment, thoughts on peace, and music.
- ◆ In response to questions about the Paraguayan education system, it was explained that in Paraguay, students chose to attend school either in the morning or afternoon, and that primary education covered ages 6 to 15.
- ◆ Participating teachers made comments such as, "I made a new discovery".

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Ryogoku Junior High School Visit to the Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in Tokyo

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, April 28, 2023,
10:30 am -11:30 am
Venue: Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in Tokyo

2. Participants

40 second year students (Class 3),
Tokyo Metropolitan Ryogoku Junior High School

3. Counterpart

Ms. Arshiyabi Inas, Second Secretary
Ms. KUBO Miki,
Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in Tokyo

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentation by Ms. Arshiyabi, Second Secretary
3. Questions and answers
4. Trying on traditional Oman costumes
5. Tasting of Oman's specialties
6. Singing the Ryogoku Junior High School song
7. Commemorative photos
8. Closing remarks



Burning Omani Frankincense



Second Secretary Inas places a hat on a student's head



Commemorative photo wearing national costumes

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students greeted the guest speakers in Arabic, "Assalamu Alaykum."
- ◆ The presentation covered a wide range of topics including Oman's geography, world heritage sites, and its relationship with Japan.
- ◆ Students enjoyed tasting dates and coffee, Oman's specialties, which had been prepared by the embassy.
- ◆ "I want you to be a bridge between countries and play an active role in the world," Second Secretary Inas said to the students.

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Ryogoku Junior High School Visit to the Embassy of Iran in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, April 28, 2023,
2:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Venue: Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Japan

2. Participants

40 second year students (Class 1), Tokyo Metropolitan Ryogoku Junior High School (affiliate of Ryogoku Senior High School)

3. Counterpart

Ambassador Payman Saadat,
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentation by Ambassador Payman Saadat
3. Questions and answers
 - Questions on Iran's culture, historical relationships between Iran and Japan, and cultural differences between the two countries
4. Singing of the school song by students
5. Commemorative photos



Students listen to an explanation about Iran's Persian carpets



Presentation by embassy officials

5. Additional Information

- ◆ Students observed the exhibits at the embassy and learned about Persian carpets.
- ◆ Ambassador Payman Saadat gave a presentation on Iran's climate, history, and culture.
- ◆ During the Q & A session, many students raised their hands and asked the Ambassador about the culture of Iran and the differences compared to Japan.
- ◆ Students listened and took notes eagerly.

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Ryogoku Junior High School Visit to the Embassy of Egypt in Tokyo

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, April 28, 2023,
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Venue: Embassy of Egypt in Tokyo

2. Participants

40 second year students (Class 4), Tokyo Metropolitan Ryogoku Junior High School (affiliate of Ryogoku High School)

3. Counterpart

Ms. MORISHITA Keiko, Secretary, Department of Culture, Education, and Science, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Tokyo



Presentation by embassy officials



Students enjoyed experiencing the colorful traditional costumes

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Introductory video of the Arab Republic of Egypt
3. Presentation by embassy officials
4. Questions and answers
 - Started with seven prepared questions and then added others
5. Trying on traditional costumes
6. Presentation of memento and a song of appreciation

5. Additional information

- ◆ Egyptian geography, climate, history, religion, ancient buildings, and culture were introduced with numerous photographs.
- ◆ During the Q & A session, additional questions were asked about Japanese food popular in Egypt, different lifestyles depending on the climate, and the meals during fasting.
- ◆ Students tried on “Galabeya,” local Egyptian costumes. Choosing from colorful costumes, students cheered here and there. The girls wore headscarves, and the boys wore hats. They also learned related Muslim customs.

Embassy Exchange Program

Junior high school teachers from Tokyo's Nerima Ward Visit to the Embassy of Singapore in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, June 30, 2023,
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Venue: Embassy of the Republic of
Singapore in Japan

2. Participants

4 teachers from 3 different
junior high schools in
Nerima Ward, Tokyo

3. Counterpart

Mr. Darrel Chua, Counsellor,
Embassy of the Republic of Singapore
in Japan



Casual discussion held in the Japanese-style
reception room



Speech delivered by
Counsellor Chua



Discussion about food

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentation by Counsellor Chua
3. Roundtable discussion about Singapore, questions and answers
4. Commemorative photos in the embassy entrance hall
5. Greetings by Ambassador, commemorative photos

5. Additional information

- ◆ Discussion was held in a casual and interactive roundtable style, between teachers and the Counsellor.
- ◆ Counsellor Chua kindly answered each of the questions received in advance from the teachers, covering topics such as the history of Singapore and its education system.
- ◆ Singapore is a multi-ethnic nation (70% Chinese, 12% Malay, 9% Indian, 9% Other) and its official languages are English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil. For this reason, the Counsellor reiterated the importance of English for communication among different ethnic groups.

Embassy Exchange Program

Yotsuya Junior High School Visit by the Embassy of Brunei Darussalam in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, July 13, 2023,
2:25 pm – 3:15 pm
Venue: Yotsuya Junior High School

2. Participants

About 280 students

3. Counterpart

Ms. Dayang Zalina binti Awang Rosli,
Attaché, Embassy of Brunei Darussalam
in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Introduction of Brunei's national anthem
2. Greetings
3. Presentation on Brunei Darussalam by embassy officials
(in Japanese)
4. Questions and answers
5. Introduction of traditional crafts
6. Thank-you speech by student representative
7. Embassy officials depart



Students taking notes and listening listening to the lecture



Showcasing traditional crafts

5. Additional information

- ◆ The presentation on Brunei Darussalam covered various topics such as the national flag, geography, and religions.
- ◆ Students learned that the population is mostly Muslim, and after *Ramadan* (fasting), *Hari Raya*, the biggest festival of the year, is held in a grand manner throughout the country. They also learned that the public wore new clothes when they were able to shake hands with the royal family at the royal palace.
- ◆ As for traditional crafts, *Shinjang*, a waistband worn by the men of Brunei, and the traditional game of *Chongkak* were introduced.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Day and venue

Date: Friday, December 8, 2023,
2:30 pm – 3:20 pm
Venue: Chofu City No. 6 Junior High School

2. Participants

143 second year students

3. Counterpart

H.E. Mr. Korkut Güngen,
Ambassador,
Ms. Esra Ozbek, First Secretary,
Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye
in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Ambassador arrivals at school

- Greetings and meeting

2. Opening remarks and introductions

3. Presentation on Türkiye by the ambassador

4. Question and answer time

5. Closing remarks

- A student gave a thank-you speech and presented a booklet to the ambassador

6. Commemorative photos

Chofu City No. 6 Junior High School Visit by the Embassy of Türkiye in Japan



Ambassador Güngen looking at a booklet presented by students



Welcome board in Turkish



Students listening to the lecture



Q&A time

5. Additional information

- ◆ The ambassador and the first secretary were led into the gymnasium by a student and welcomed by the loud applause of the other students.
- ◆ With Turkish-Japanese interpretation, the ambassador spoke about Turkey's geographic characters, its past and present close relations with Japan, and food culture.
- ◆ During the Q & A time, each student who had a question came to the front and asked it directly to ambassador.
- ◆ Students made a booklet binding letters written in English about things popular among Japanese junior high school students. They asked the ambassador to pass it onto Turkish students of the same age.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2024

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Venue: Embassy of Serbia in Japan

2. Participants

10 teachers from junior high schools in Nerima Ward, Tokyo

3. Counterpart

Ms. Tijana Nagato

Ambassador's Secretary

Embassy of the Republic of Serbia in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Presentation on Serbia

- Geography, religion, history, and more

3. Questions and answers

4. Commemorative photos

5. Embassy tour and free conversation

6. Closing remarks

Junior high school teachers from Tokyo's Nerima Ward Visit to the Embassy of Serbia in Japan



Talk by Secretary Nagato



Viewing exhibits at the embassy

5. Additional information

- ◆ Teachers participating in study sessions on International Understanding Education in Nerima Ward expressed their wish to participate in an international exchange themselves. Which led to the realization of this exchange.
- ◆ During the talk, Secretary Nagato explained how Serbian people spend January 7, the Orthodox Christmas Day (called *Božić*), along with many interesting Christmas anecdotes.
- ◆ Many questions were asked by the junior high school teachers, such as, “Are there any well-known Japanese people in Serbia?” Secretary Nagato answered and explained that Japanese anime and comics were very popular in Serbia.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2024

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Venue: Mita Junior High School

2. Participants

22 first- to third-year students from the International Understanding Club

3. Counterpart

Ms. Mamasupha Sole, Counsellor Embassy of the Kingdom of Lesotho in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentation by the embassy
 - Overview of the Kingdom of Lesotho
3. Questions and answers
4. Trying on the national costume of Lesotho
5. Closing remarks
6. Commemorative photos

Mitaka Junior High School Visit by the Embassy of Lesotho in Japan



Presentation by representative from the Embassy



Students ask questions in English



Lesotho hats and blankets



5. Additional information

- ◆ In his talk, the Embassy representative introduced the location, history, ethnicity, flag, geography, and educational environment of the Kingdom of Lesotho. Lesotho is called the "Kingdom of the Sky" because it is located at an altitude of 1,400 meters at its lowest point. It is the only country in Africa with a ski resort.
- ◆ During the question-and-answer session, the students asked questions in English. When asked about her favorite Japan food, the counsellor replied that she liked rice balls, *okonomiyaki*, fried chicken, and *yakiniku*.
- ◆ The students were given the opportunity to wear Lesotho hats and blankets. Africa is thought of as hot, but the students learned that Lesotho, which is at a high altitude, was cool enough to wear a blanket, even in the summer.

High Schools

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Komae High School Visit to the Embassy of Malaysia in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022,
10:00 am - 12:15 pm
Venue: Embassy of Malaysia in Japan

2. Participants

18 first and second year student
volunteers and 4 teachers

3. Counterpart

Embassy of Malaysia in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings, followed by an overview of the Embassy of Malaysia in Japan
2. Video of Malaysian sightseeing spots and presentation
3. Musical performance by embassy officials
4. Commemorative photos
5. Tour of the Embassy



Exterior of the Embassy of Malaysia in Japan



Presentation by the embassy officials

5. Additional information

- ◆ The students who participated in this exchange were highly interested in international exchange and enjoyed the presentation in English.
- ◆ The exchange included a brief presentation on Malaysia and its history, major tourist spots, cultural diversity, and climate.
- ◆ During the Q&A time, the students asked many questions.
- ◆ Embassy officials played a famous Malaysian folk song, “*Rasa Sayang*,” and received high praise and a call for an encore from students.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Day and venue

Date: Thursday, July 6, 2023,
2:30 pm – 4:15 pm
Venue: Embassy of India in Japan

2. Participants

12 first to third year students
and 3 teachers from the English
Club

3. Counterpart

Mr. Manoj Singh Negi,
First Secretary,
Embassy of Republic of India in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

- Greetings by the first secretary, and teachers
- Higashi High School introduction by student

2. Presentations on India by students

- Student representative made presentations on India

3. Introduction of India by First Secretary Negi

4. Questions and answers, quizzes

5. Commemorative photos

6. Closing remarks

Tokyo Metropolitan Higashi High School Visit to the Embassy of India in Japan



Students giving presentations on India



First Secretary Negi gave the students a fun quiz



Students asking First Secretary Negi questions

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students were told by the first secretary that the flower petals floating in the water at the entrance of the embassy had a welcoming meaning.
- ◆ Three representative students made presentations on their studies on India's Bengal tigers, food culture, and climate.
- ◆ The presentation on India by the first secretary covered a variety of topics including geography, history, architecture, performance art, and tourism.
- ◆ Students proactively participated in the Q & A session and quizzes.

Lecture by International Instructors

Tokyo Metropolitan Sumidagawa High School Lecture by JICE instructors

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, July 31, 2023,
9:00 am – 11:30 am
Venue: Sumidagawa High School

2. Participants

17 first to third year students

3. Counterpart

3 international instructors from Iran, Ecuador, and Viet Nam dispatched by the Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Icebreaker/ Self-introductions by students
3. International instructors presented and quizzed the students on their respective countries
 - Topics varied from geography, country name origins, local foods, crafts, and export products to Japan
4. Group work
 - Students quizzed the instructors on Japanese culture in English
5. Spanish language instruction by the Ecuadorian instructor
 - Students learned Spanish greetings to prepare for their visit to the Embassy of Mexico in Japan later the same day



Presentation by JICE instructors



Students practicing Spanish greetings



Students discussing each other to find answers to quizzes

5. Additional information

- ◆ During the icebreaker, students introduced themselves by sharing their names and favorite things, their club activities, and used hand-drawn illustrations to facilitate their conversations.
- ◆ While working in groups, the students quizzed the instructors in English about origami, folding fans, and festivals.
- ◆ The students made great group efforts to find the right English explanations and expressions prior to this event, and they were thrilled to find out that international instructors understood their explanations.

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Sumidagawa High School Visit to the Embassy of Mexico in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, July 31, 2023,
2:30 pm – 4:15 pm
Venue: Embassy of Mexico in Japan

2. Participants

16 students and 4 teachers

3. Counterpart

Ms. Jina Hernández and
Ms. KURIHARA Yukiko, Education, Science
and Technology Affairs, Embassy of the
United Mexican States in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentation on Mexico and its ancient culture
3. Group activities
 - Making Mayan calendar
 - Quiz on Mayan calendar
 - Questions and answers
4. Thank-you speech by student representative
5. Commemorative photos



Explaining how to make a Mayan calendar



Students made Mayan calendars in groups

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students learned that Mexico is the largest Spanish speaking country as well as the origin of its name, and the modern history of Japan and Mexico.
- ◆ Students broke into groups to make ancient Mayan calendars.
- ◆ Students learned about the differences between Mayan and contemporary calendars. They also learned to read the Mayan calendar by playing a quiz to find their own birthdays and Christmas Day.

Lecture by International Instructors

Tokyo Metropolitan Sumidagawa High School Lecture by JICE instructors

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, August 1, 2023,
9:00 am – 3:30 pm
Venue: Sumidagawa High School

2. Participants

11 first to third year students

3. Counterpart

5 international instructors from Kenya, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Malaysia, and the Maldives dispatched by Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)

4. Schedule

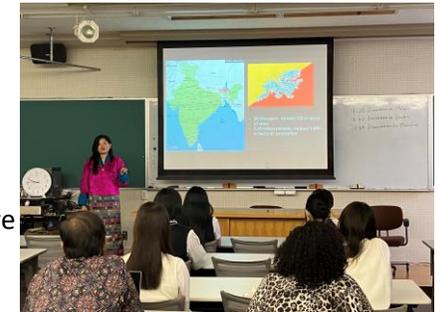
1. Icebreaker (Self-introduction relay)
2. Introduction of three countries by international instructors
3. Group work (1)
 - Student presentations on favorite places in school and reasons why
4. Introduction of two countries by international instructors and quiz game
5. School tour of places introduced in Group work (1)
6. Group work (2)
 - Presentations on similarities and differences between the schools in instructors' countries and those of Japan
7. Sharing of impressions of the day's event



Discussing similarities and differences



A game to find countries on the African continent



International instructor wore vividly colored traditional costume

5. Additional information

- ◆ For two days in a row students enjoyed international exchanges with five international instructors from Asian and African regions.
- ◆ During group work (2), students were very interested in the differences between the schools in the instructors' countries and those in Japan, such as the fact that school rules were stricter in other countries than Japan, and they proactively asked the instructors many questions.
- ◆ Many students found this two-day event worthwhile and were inspired to continue learning English.

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Komae High School Visit to the Embassy of Mexico in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, October 26, 2023,
10:00 am – 11:30 am
Venue: Embassy of Mexico in Japan

2. Participants

14 students and 4 teachers

3. Counterpart

Mr. Emanuel Trinidad, Counselor,
Education, Science and Technology Affairs,
Embassy of the United Mexican States in
Japan



Mr. Trinidad, Counselor



Commemorative photo

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentation by embassy official
 - 135th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Mexico
 - Quiz
 - Questions and answers
3. Thank-you speech by student representative
4. Commemorative photos
5. Paying a visit to "Day of the Dead" decoration in the Mexican Embassy

5. Additional information

- ◆ Mexico was the first western nation to sign an equal treaty with Japan in 1888. Counselor Trinidad made a speech commemorating the two countries' 135-year long friendship.
- ◆ During the quiz, students raised their hands to read aloud in Spanish the questions and answer options displayed on the front screen.
- ◆ During the Q & A time, students proactively raised hands and asked questions in English, such as, "Why did you become a diplomat?" and "How did you feel when you first heard that you were assigned to Japan?"

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Asuka High School Visit by the Embassy of India in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, October 26, 2023,
12:55 pm – 2:35 pm
Venue: Asuka High School

2. Participants

37 second year students

3. Counterpart

Ms. Kanika Agrawal, Director,
Vivekananda Cultural Centre,
Embassy of the Republic of India
in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Embassy official pays courtesy call to principal (Book donation)

2. Presentation

- Singing the national anthems of both countries together
- Introduction of cultural similarities between the two countries
- Poster-making contest

3. Indian folk dance

4. Yoga lessons



Learning a folk dance



Yoga lesson



Classroom lecture



Commemorative photo

5. Additional information

- ◆ In the first half of the cultural exchange, students listened to a presentation in their classroom, and in the second half, they participated in a more active exchange.
- ◆ Students danced to Indian rhythmic music and learned a folk dance.
- ◆ Students found it very satisfying to learn about India through the presentation and cultural experiences.

Lecture by International Instructors

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, December 18, 2023,
1:20 pm – 3:10 pm
Venue: Higashiyamato Minami High School

2. Participants

240 students

3. Counterpart

15 Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE) instructors from Cambodia, Kirgiz, Kenya, Sri Lanka, China, Bangladesh, Viet Nam, and Mongolia

4. Schedule

- 1. Students welcome international instructors to their respective classes**
- 2. Exchanges with instructors in five groups**
Two rounds of the following conducted:
 - Presentation in English by instructor
 - Questions and answers
 - Presentation in English by student
- 3. Move to other classes**
- 4. Exchanges with instructors in 5 groups**
Conduct the same activities as item 2 above.
- 5. Experiencing Japanese tea ceremony (*Sado*)**

Tokyo Metropolitan Higashiyamato Minami High School Lecture by JICE instructors



Students listening to instructors' presentations



Presentation by students



Exchange with instructors in groups



Explanation on making Japanese tea

5. Additional information

- ◆ Having one international instructor per group, students and instructors got to know each other quickly. Instructors talked about their respective countries and families.
- ◆ Students made presentations on anime, traditional Japanese sweets, snacks, New Year's cuisine, tourist spots, and history. Some groups also offered sweets, sang songs, and demonstrated origami and a *Fukuwarai* (Lucky Laugh) game.
- ◆ After the group exchanges, the *Sado* Club members held a Japanese tea ceremony in English for the international instructors. They were impressed by their first *Sado* experience.

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Hiroo High School Visit by the Embassy of Switzerland in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, June 26, 2024
1:15 pm – 2:05 pm
Venue: Hiroo High School

2. Participants

198 first year students

3. Counterpart

Ms. Sarah Bokman and Ms. HIROSE Ayako, Communications and Culture Officers; and
Ms. Lea Gerster, Political Officer
Embassy of Switzerland in Japan

4. Schedule

- 1. Explanation of the day's program by the embassy**
 - The topic: "Work Style Reform"
 - How to proceed with discussions
- 2. Workshop**
 - Discussion about a "three-day workweek" in groups
 - Presentation of the results of the discussion (pros and cons) by the representatives of each group
- 3. Resolution**
 - Announcement of the voting results after individual voting by the students
- 4. Feedback and closing remarks**



Explanation of the topic by the embassy



Students at the workshop



Voting results announced by student representatives



Announcement of voting results

5. Additional information

- ◆ The topic of "Work Style Reform" was discussed at the workshop with the goal of "constructive discussion while respecting each other from various perspectives and creating a platform for discussion."
- ◆ For the "three-day workweek" topic, each group expressed its position either for or against the system and reasons for it.
- ◆ The embassy staff expressed their hope that the students would make use of this experience to actively participate in discussions with the aim of realizing a better society.

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Higashi High School Visit to the Embassy of Portugal in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, July 4, 2024
2:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Venue: Embassy of Portugal in Japan

2. Participants

16 students from the English Club

3. Counterpart

Mr. Tiago de Brito Penedo, Deputy Head of Mission
Ms. Kinoshita Maho, Cultural Advisor
Embassy of Portugal in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Presentations on Portugal by students

- Four student representatives made presentations about what they studied about Portugal

3. Commemorative photos

4. Presentation on Portugal by embassy official

5. Questions and answers

6. Thank-you speech by student representative

7. Commemorative photos



Portrait of the poet Luís Vaz de Camões (paper-cutting art)



Presentation by Higashi High School students

Presentation by the embassy's cultural adviser



5. Additional information

- ◆ Four student representatives made presentations on Portugal's history, sweets, tourist spots, music, and more based on their research, and sung the national anthem of the Republic of Portugal.
- ◆ Portugal and Japan commemorated a 480-year long friendship in 2023. The presentation by Cultural Advisor Kinoshita covered the topics such as the history of the first Portuguese who introduced guns to Japan during the Age of Exploration.
- ◆ The students learned that the renowned Portuguese poet Luís Vaz de Camões had written an epic poem praising the Portuguese achievements during the Age of Exploration, and that the anniversary of the poet's death is designated as a public holiday.

Embassy Exchange Program

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, July 12, 2024
10:45 am – 11:35 am
Venue: Fuchie High School

2. Participants

450 first- and third-year students

3. Counterpart

Mrs. Xanthi Gousta,
wife of the Ambassador to the
Embassy of the Hellenic Republic in
Japan

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks by the principal
2. Presentation by Mrs. Gousta
 - Overview of Greece
3. Questions and answers
4. Thank-you speech by student representative

Tokyo Metropolitan Fuchie High School Visit by Embassy of Greece in Japan



Presentation by Mrs. Gousta



Answering questions from students



The principal in an ancient Greek-like dress

5. Additional information

- ◆ In her opening remarks, the principal explained that the students had studied the Venus de Milo, which is closely related to Greece, in their Japanese language class.
- ◆ During the lecture by the embassy, in addition to introducing words derived from the Greek language, the embassy gave a quiz with questions such as, "What is one kanji character that represents the country of Greece?"
- ◆ In Greece, which is susceptible to climate change, the problem of global warming is very serious. There are wildfires due to rising temperatures. The talk also explained that an experiment is being conducted on Halki Island to have the energy of the entire island covered by renewable energy.
- ◆ The students asked many questions, such as food recommendations and favorite stories, which were answered politely by Mrs. Gousta.

Lecture by International Instructors

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, August 2, 2024

9:00 am – 11:20 am

Venue: Sumidagawa High School

2. Participants

Seven first- and second-year student volunteers and four teachers in charge of international education

3. Counterpart

Three international instructors from South Korea, Germany, and Russia dispatched by the Japan Student Services Organization JASSO

4. Schedule

1. Greetings and presentation on the school in English
2. Self-introductions from international instructors in English
3. Presentations by international instructors and questions and answers (in both English and Japanese)
 - Presentations on South Korea, Germany, and Russia
4. Group work in English
 - Each group presented a specific Japanese recipe
5. Commemorative photos

Tokyo Metropolitan Sumidagawa High School Lecture by JASSO Instructor



Students present on their school



Presentation on *Suneung*, the annual university entrance exam in South Korea



Presentation by Russian instructor



Group work

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Sumidagawa students presented on their school emblem, which is over a century old. The international instructors seemed intrigued.
- ◆ Each instructor gave a 30-minute presentation on his/her country, covering topics such as geography, history, culture, language, and the educational system.
- ◆ The instructor from South Korea, for instance, introduced *Suneung*, the annual university entrance exam, with its social background, which was very intriguing for the students.
- ◆ During the group work, students introduced Japanese recipes such as *Miso* (bean paste) soup, *Nikujyaga* (potato and beef stew), and *Oyakodon* (chicken and egg over rice) and enjoyed the conversations.

Secondary Schools

Visit to the Embassy of Iran in Japan



1. Date and venue

Friday, October 21, 2022
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Japan

2. Participants

About 80 second year students from Minamitama Secondary School (Group B)

3. Schedule

1:25 pm Arrival at Embassy of Iran
1:30 pm Lecture by Embassy officials
2:30 pm Q & A session with Counselor
3:00 pm Commemorative photos
3:10 pm Departure from Embassy of Iran

4. Presentation



Counselor, and other embassy officials gave us a valuable talk on Iran's continuous cultural exchanges with Japan since ancient times.

Students proactively asked questions such as:

- Q. What is the national character of Iranian people?
A. Iranian people think positively of Japan, and they value their family and friends very much.



Visit to the Embassy of Sweden in Japan



1. Date and venue

Friday, October 21, 2022
Embassy of Sweden in Japan

2. Participants

About 80 second year
students from Minamitama
Secondary School
(Group A)

4. Presentation

The Embassy staff
presented on **Sweden's
geography, history,
and contemporary
social policies.**



3. Schedule

- 10:20 am Arrival at the embassy
- 10:30 am Presentation by the embassy staff
- 11:30 am Commemorative photos
- 11:35 am Departure from the Embassy



Students asked about
school life in Sweden.

The Embassy's dog welcomed us!
We saw that an environment for animal
welfare is deeply rooted in Sweden.



Special Needs Schools

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Adachi Special Needs School A visit by the Delegation of EU to Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, September 14, 2022,
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Adachi Special Needs School

2. Participants

50 students from six classes (first to third year), Department of Occupational Ability Development

3. Counterpart

Mr. Richard Kelner
Academic Cooperation Officer of the Political, Press and Information Section, the Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Japan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings by vice principal

- Introduction of the guest speaker

2. Presentation on the EU and an “EU Quiz”

3. EU *karuta* (cards with photos/drawings)

- Words of gratitude by a student representative

4. Commemorative photos



The winner of the quiz received EU-themed items



EU *karuta* question:
“Name famous Austrian composers”

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students did research on the EU in advance and listened to the talk with great enthusiasm.
- ◆ The guest speaker was happy to see the students participating proactively.
- ◆ For the EU *karuta*, each group of students made efforts to find the correct *karuta* card to match each question.
- ◆ It was a heartwarming exchange meeting, thanks to the speaker’s efforts incorporating a quiz and *karuta* cards to entertain students, as well as to the school’s thorough preparation.

Embassy Exchange Program

Tokyo Metropolitan Sumida Special Needs School Visit by the Embassy of South Africa in Japan

1. Date and venue

Date: Wednesday, May 29, 2024

1:20 pm – 2:10 pm

Venue: Sumida Special Needs School

2. Participants

100 first to third year high school students

3. Counterpart

Mr. Paul Siljeur, Counsellor Political
Mr. Tebogo Teke, First Secretary Political
Political Section,
Embassy of the Republic of South Africa in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Introduction of lecturers
2. Lecture by embassy officials
3. National anthem of South Africa sung by embassy officials
4. Questions and answers
5. Dance performance
6. Commemorative photos



English and Japanese emceeing by the students



Dance performance



National anthem of South Africa sung by embassy official

5. Additional information

- ◆ Students heartily welcomed the embassy officials with drum and dance performances. Two students acted as bilingual English and Japanese emcees..
- ◆ During the lecture by the embassy official, students responded actively towards the calls by the lecturer.
- ◆ During the Q&A session, students proactively raised their hands to ask questions such as, “What are the jobs of an embassy official?” and “What do you feel is the most demanding about your job?”

Cultural exchange activity highlights

Onsite cultural exchanges

Elementary Schools

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Kamishakujii Elementary School Visit by Spanish university professor

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, July 6, 2023,
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm

Venue: Kamishakujii Elementary School

2. Participants

34 sixth grade students

3. Counterpart

Dr. Ana Martínez Hernández,
CES Don Bosco University,
Kingdom of Spain



Explanation of “Canon”



Dr. Hernandez observing the class

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Observation of sixth grade music class

3. Questions and answers

- Q & A session with the music teacher

5. Additional information

- ◆ In the music class, the teacher gave a presentation on the musical canon and students played a canon on their recorders.
- ◆ Dr. Hernandez was impressed by the high level of music classes in Japan and the discipline of the students.
- ◆ In addition to questions about music classes, Dr. Hernandez also asked if there were home economics classes, as they did not have them in Spain.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Shinden Elementary School Cultural exchange with Kazakhstan teachers

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, July 14, 2023,
9:20 am – 12:40 pm

Venue: Shinden Elementary School
(part of Shinden Gakuen)

2. Participants

224 sixth grade students and eight teachers

3. Counterpart

33 teachers and 2 interpreters,
Delegation of BINOM School teachers,
Astana City, Republic of Kazakhstan

4. Schedule

1. Greetings
2. Presentations by teachers from Kazakhstan
 - Teachers talked about Kazakhstan schools, culture, etc.
3. Interactions between Kazakh teachers and sixth graders
4. Tour of the school
5. Observation of how school lunches are served
6. Closing remarks



National costume of Kazakhstan



Observing physical education class

5. Additional information

- ◆ Presentations by Kazakh teachers were shown to multiple classes over ZOOM. A presentation on Kazakh schools was given, accompanied by a performance of musical instruments and songs.
- ◆ The Kazakh teachers interacted with students individually in different classrooms. They answered questions from students and conducted cultural exchange through origami and other activities.
- ◆ The teachers from Kazakhstan also observed classes and how school lunch was served by students.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Kyosai Elementary School Visit by New Zealand teachers

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023,
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Venue: Kyosai Elementary School

2. Participants

Ms. SUGAYA Mariko, Principal

3. Counterpart

Mr. Michael Malins, Principal,
Ms. Ellen Chueh, Director,
Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School,
Auckland, New Zealand

4. Schedule

1. Greetings with the principal

2. School tour

- Tour of classrooms, swimming pool, gymnasium, and others

3. Exchange of opinions with teachers

4. Commemorative photo



Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School's
Japanese-language pamphlet



Commemorative photo at the entrance
gate of Kyosai Elementary School

5. Additional information

- ◆ Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School and Kyosai Elementary School plan to hold online exchanges. Details are to be decided.
- ◆ Teachers exchanged views on the education systems of both countries in the principal's office. There were many inquiries especially on Tokyo's school lunch system.
- ◆ They started the school tour by visiting lunchroom first at the request of Mr. Malins and Ms. Chueh.
- ◆ The New Zealand teachers seemed amazed to find that, in Japan, there were swimming lessons using a rooftop pool, that the students used cooking utensils in home economics classes, and that students were allowed also to use electric saws.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Shiraitodai Elementary School Cultural exchange with Taiwanese friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, May 17, 2024
9:35 am - 1:20 pm
Venue: Shiraitodai Elementary School

2. Participants

113 fifth grade and 81 sixth grade students, and 8 teachers

3. Counterpart

17 students, one principal and two teachers from Xinglong Elementary School, Taipei City, Taiwan

4. Schedule

- 1. Welcome ceremony (in Chinese, English, and Japanese)**
 - School anthem sung by each school
 - Presentation and performance by the Taiwanese students
- 2. Evacuation drills**
- 3. Intermission**
 - Demonstration of Japanese games in the gym and on the school playground
- 4. Cultural exchange session**
 - Student exchange sessions were held for each grade by class
- 5. School lunch**
 - Students ate together in the classrooms
- 6. Closing ceremony**



Welcome ceremony



Enjoying school lunch



Evacuation drills

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Tokyo students were excited by a traditional finger puppet performance by the Taiwanese students during the welcome ceremony.
- ◆ The Taiwanese students were dispersed into classes with the Tokyo students and participated in an evacuation drill with the whole school.
- ◆ The students from both countries enjoyed playing together in teams in the gymnasium.
- ◆ At the closing ceremony, the Tokyo students formed an arch with their hands to see off their Taiwanese friends.

High Schools

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Toyama High School Cultural exchange with American friends

1. Date and Venue

Date: Tuesday, April 4, 2023,
1:00 pm - 4:45 pm
Venue: Toyama High School

2. Participants

13 Student Council members

3. Counterpart

11 Student Council members,
Annie Wright Schools,
Washington, United States



Presentation on the school in English



Students enjoying conversations in groups

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. School introductions

- The Tokyo side used PowerPoint slides
- The U.S. side used a white board

3. Introduction of School Festival by Toyama High School

4. Questions and answers

5. Group discussions

- Students broke into groups of two to three
- Music video prepared by the U.S. students

6. Closing remarks

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Toyama High School students moderated the group discussions.
- ◆ The school introduction session presented a good opportunity for exchanging information between the two schools. The Q & A session was also lively.
- ◆ During the group discussions, students introduced snacks from their respective countries, played games, and enjoyed conversations in a relaxed atmosphere.
- ◆ The students became excited while watching the U.S. students dress up like famous artists and dance.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Honjo High School Cultural exchange with American friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Saturday, April 8, 2023,
9:20 am – 12:30 pm

Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Honjo
High School

2. Participants

10 students and 2 Assistant
Language Teachers

3. Counterpart

29 students and teachers,
Hillbrook Middle School,
California, United States



Observing Dance Club activities



Learning to play the *koto* at the
Japanese *Koto* music club



Commemorative photo in
schoolyard with Sky Tree in the back

4. Schedule

1. Welcome
2. Self-introductions
3. Presentation by Hillbrook Middle School
4. School tour in groups
5. Performance by the *Koto* music club,
followed by *Koto* playing experience
6. Traditional Japanese games
7. Closing ceremony
8. Commemorative photo

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Honjo High School students eagerly prepared for this event.
- ◆ The Honjo students gave explanations about their classes and school activities during the tour and visited club activities with the American students.
- ◆ When the American students visited the Dance Club, the members promptly gave a dance performance.
- ◆ After their performance, the *Koto* (Japanese harp) club members gave the American students an explanation in English on how to play *Koto*.
- ◆ The students enjoyed playing traditional Japanese games such as *Kendama* (cup and ball), *origami*, and *Otedama* (bean-bag ball juggling).

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Fuchu Nishi High School Cultural exchange with Malaysian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, September 18, 2023,
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
Venue: Fuchu Nishi High School

2. Participants

38 Chorus Club members

3. Counterpart

MARA University of Technology, Kelantan,
Kelantan State, Malaysia
Embassy of Malaysia in Japan

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks and introductions of both schools
2. Cultural exchange session by Malaysian students
 - Singing performances
 - Trying on traditional costumes: *Sumtar* (men's turban) and *Kain Batik Sarong* (women's skirt)
 - Traditional dance performances
 - Performance of traditional drums: *Kompang*
3. Welcome song by Fuchu Nishi High School
4. Questions and answers, free conversation
5. Closing remarks, commemorative photos



Learning traditional dances



Cultural exchange



Commemorative photo

5. Additional information

- ◆ This exchange was realized thanks to the Public Relations section of the Embassy of Malaysia in Japan.
- ◆ The Fuchu Nishi High School students were able to gain a good understanding of Malaysian culture by experiencing dance, musical instruments, and traditional Malaysian clothing.
- ◆ The Chorus Club members welcomed the Malaysian students by singing Malaysian folk songs. The Malaysian students were very impressed by the overwhelming performance of the choir which won the gold and silver medals at Metropolitan Tokyo Chorus Competition and National Chorus Competition, respectively, in 2023.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Takehaya High School Cultural exchange with Malaysian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023,
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Venue: Takehaya High School

2. Participants

Around 35 students from the Student Council, Koto Club, *Origami* Study Club, and Tea Ceremony Club

3. Counterpart

MARA University of Technology, Kelantan,
Kelantan State, Malaysia
Embassy of Malaysia in Japan



Traditional dance by Malaysian students



Japanese tea ceremony



Performance by Japanese Koto Club members



Commemorative photo

4. Schedule

- 1. Opening remarks and introduction of both schools**
- 2. Cultural exchange session by MARA University of Technology**
 - Singing performances
 - Trying on traditional costumes
 - Video of traditional musical instruments
 - Performance of traditional drums: *Kompang*
 - Traditional dance performances and experience with all students
- 3. Cultural exchange session by Takehaya High School**
 - Presentation on the *Origami* Study Club activities
 - Video by student council introducing the school
 - Japanese tea ceremony
- 4. Questions and answers, free conversation**
- 5. Closing remarks, commemorative photos**

5. Additional information

- ◆ During the Malaysian cultural exchange session, Takehaya High School students were able to experience traditional Malaysian dances and wore traditional costumes.
- ◆ At the invitation of the student council, the *Koto* Music Club, *Origami* Study Club, and Tea Ceremony Club members participated in Japanese cultural exchange session.
- ◆ The MARA University of Technology students seemed very happy participating in the Japanese tea ceremony performed by the Club members.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Shiba Commercial High School School visit by teachers from Taiwan

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, October 16, 2023,
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Venue: Shiba Commercial High School

2. Participants

Mr. KOMURO Yoshiyuki,
Vice-Principal,
Ms. TOMOMURA Yui

3. Counterpart

31 teachers from the Taiwan
Educational Delegation to Japan



Presentation on commercial high schools and
Shiba Commercial High School



Observing class on telephone manners

4. Schedule

1. Presentation on commercial high schools
2. Presentation on distinctive initiatives by Shiba
Commercial High School
3. School tour, questions and answers time

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Taiwanese delegation raised many questions about the presentation on Shiba Commercial High School, and a lively exchange of opinions took place.
- ◆ The Taiwanese teachers were interested in the fact that swimming classes at Shiba Commercial High School could be held for a longer term due to the pool being indoors.
- ◆ The Taiwanese teachers observed the Training Room where students could learn telephone manners.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, November 6, 2023,
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Venue: Shinobugaoka High School

2. Participants

45 second year students from the Department of Life Sciences, head teacher of second year students, and the Life Science Department head teacher

3. Counterpart

1 student and 1 teacher from Lycée Jean Aicard, and 3 students from Lycée Dumont d'Urville, France

4. Schedule

- 1. Self-introductions by the French students**
 - Greetings to principal and vice-principal
- 2. School tour led by the vice principal**
- 3. Learning about traditional Japanese culture**
 - *Bon* dance
- 4. Learning about Japanese culture**
 - Crafting a round paper fan with pictures of popular singers printed on the sides: *Oshi Uchiwa*
- 5. Presentation on French districts**
- 6. Commemorative photos**
- 7. Farewell ceremony**

Tokyo Metropolitan Shinobugaoka High School Cultural exchange with French friends



Self-introduction by French students



Learning the *Bon* dance
(Japanese folk dance performed at summer festivals)

5. Additional information

- ◆ The vice-principal and English teachers showed the French students around the school.
- ◆ A *Bon* dance demonstration was performed by students from two classes from the Life Science Department, and the French students learned to dance together in a circle.
- ◆ During the presentation on Japanese culture, students interacted actively while making decorative fans and origami together.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Honjo High School Cultural exchange with Qatari friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, April 15, 2024,
9:35 am – 11:30 am
Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Honjo
High School

2. Participants

154 students (Classes 2A/2E/3A/3E)
and four teachers (including 2 JETs)

3. Counterpart

27 students and four teachers from
Qatar Academy Al Wakrah, Qatar and
one moderator from J-MENA Office,
Kyushu University

4. Schedule

1. Greetings and confirmation of the schedule
2. Cultural exchange session 1
 - Student interactions in groups
3. Cultural exchange session 2
 - Student interactions with groups different from session 1
4. Commemorative photos
5. Closing remarks



Cultural exchange in the classroom



Students chatting in circles in the Judo hall



Commemorative photo

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Honjo High students made presentations highlighting the charms of their school and Japan to the Qatari students.
- ◆ In the Judo hall, the students sat in circles on the mats and communicated with their Qatari friends in English.
- ◆ The Qatari students used their smartphones to show pictures when making their presentations on the Arabic language and Qatari foods.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Asuka High School Cultural exchange with Taiwanese friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Friday, May 24, 2024
noon – 3:00 pm

Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Asuka High School

2. Participants

Two students from the painting class and
11 students from the industrial art class

3. Counterpart

18 students and 4 teachers
from Hsinchu County Chupei
Junior High School,
Hsinchu County, Taiwan

4. Schedule

1. Welcome ceremony by Student Council

- Exchange of gifts (such as Taiwanese tea, postcards, and folding fans with school logos) between the two schools

2. Visit to the painting class

- Viewing of student art pieces and sketching together

3. Visit to the industrial art class

- Watching the pottery-making class and talking with students

4. A tour of the art gallery in the entrance hall by the principal

5. Observation of the making of team flags used for Sports Day

6. Commemorative photo and farewell



Attending painting and industrial art classes



Touring the art gallery in the entrance hall



Commemorative photo

5. Additional information

- ◆ In the painting class, the Taiwanese students learned about *Ukiyo-e*, Japanese traditional painting, and sketched together.
- ◆ The Taiwanese students were divided into small groups in the industrial art class, and proactively asked questions to their Japanese peers.
- ◆ The Taiwanese students viewed student-made art at the school entrance and listened to an explanation by the principal.
- ◆ The Taiwanese students also observed the making of team flags and background boards for the school's upcoming Sports Day. They were moved by the enthusiasm of the participating students.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Otasukuradai High School Cultural exchange with American friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Venue: Otasukuradai High School

2. Participants

400 first to second year students

3. Counterpart

21 students (aged 15 to 18) from
Edgewood High School,
Wisconsin, United States



Welcome ceremony



Greetings from the American students



Classroom visitation



Japanese tea ceremony



Making tradition Japanese fans



Commemorative photos

4. Schedule

1. Welcome ceremony in the school gym (All students)
2. Classroom visitation
3. Short “homeroom” and school tour by students
4. Extracurricular club activities
5. Commemorative photos and farewell

5. Additional information

- ◆ Student representatives from both schools made presentations using large display screens.
- ◆ The American students, while explaining about their prom, performed dances on the stage, which led to applause from the Tokyo students.
- ◆ The American students took the tea ceremony experience seriously, asking so many questions that the scheduled end time had to be extended.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, July 8, 2024
12:45 pm - 4:30 pm
Venue: Yashio High School

2. Participants

All 600 students and 30 teachers from Yashio High School

3. Counterpart

10 students studying Japanese, two chaperons from the Education Ministry, State of Qatar and one moderator from J-MENA Office, Kyushu University

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

- Commemorative photos
- Self-introductions

2. Welcome ceremony

- Greetings from the principal
- Speech by a student representative and introduction of Japan and Qatar, performance of Japanese drums

3. Tour of classes

4. Participation in extracurricular club activities

- Japanese drum club, Japanese archery club, and Japanese tea ceremony club

5. Closing ceremony

Tokyo Metropolitan Yashio High School Cultural exchange with Qatari friends



Welcome placard



Japanese drum performance at the welcome ceremony



Sado (Japanese tea ceremony)



Discussion about education

5. Additional information

- ◆ The student representatives welcomed their Qatari friends at the school's entrance gate with a large welcome placard.
- ◆ During a tour of the classes, one class was discussing the geography of Qatar and Qatari friends willingly participated in the question-and-answer sessions in English.
- ◆ At one point, teachers on both sides gathered to exchange opinions about education.
- ◆ The Qatari students also enjoyed experiencing *Bukatsu*, extracurricular club activities, such as Japanese drumming, Japanese archery, and Japanese tea ceremony.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Shakujii High School Cultural exchange with American friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Venue: Shakujii High School

2. Participants

280 second year students and about six teachers and others

3. Counterpart

Eight students and four teachers, Roosevelt High School, Hawaii, United States



Hula dance by the students from Hawaii



Learning *kendo*

4. Schedule

1. Welcome ceremony
2. Participation in assembly for second-year students
3. Participation in English class
4. Lunch with buddy
5. Kendo experience
6. Farewell party with traditional Japanese games

5. Additional information

- ◆ After playing a video showcasing Shakujii High School during the welcome ceremony, Japanese students appointed as “buddies” to take care of American friends introduced themselves.
- ◆ The grade assembly for the second-year students was held in the gymnasium where the Roosevelt students introduced themselves and performed a hula dance. All the Shakujii High School second year students also tried to do a hula dance.
- ◆ The Roosevelt students took part in a kendo lesson as a way of experiencing Japanese culture.
- ◆ During the farewell party, the students enjoyed playing traditional Japanese games such as *daruma-otoshi* (knocking over wooden blocks) and *bozu-mekuri* (card game).

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Fuchie High School Cultural exchange with Korean friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024
1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Venue: Fuchie High School

2. Participants

About 240 students

3. Counterpart

Ten students from Wanju County, two officials from Wanju County Office, and two representatives of the Wanju County Assembly, Republic of Korea

4. Schedule

1. Opening remarks

2. Greetings and presentation on school

- Video
- The day's schedule

3. Participation in English class

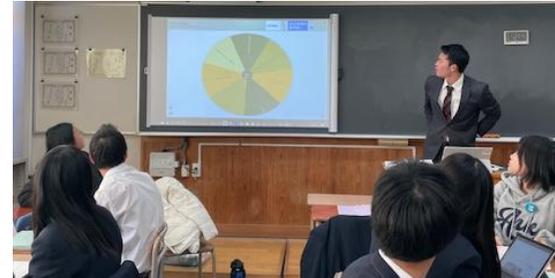
4. Participation in club activities

- Home economics
- Choral performance

5. Farewell ceremony



English class



Using a board game and roulette to decide presentation topics



5. Additional information

- ◆ In the English class, students used a roulette board made by teachers and a board game to decide presentation topics. They then gave their presentations in groups.
- ◆ The students cooked Japanese *okonomiyaki* and Korean *buchimgae* in the home economics club.
- ◆ For the choral performance club, the students practiced and then sang the theme song from an anime movie. The students harmonized well.
- ◆ After the exchange, the Korean students commented that it was an amazing exchange and that they would never forget the experience. Fuchie High School teachers expressed that seeing the students from both countries enjoying conversations together made for a fruitful exchange.

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Asuka High School Cultural exchange with Singaporean teachers

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, November 25, 2024

8:30 am to 11:00 am

Venue: Asuka High School

2. Participants

100 first year students

3. Counterpart

18 elementary to vice principal-level educators,
Academy of Singapore Teachers,
Ministry of Education, Republic of Singapore

4. Schedule

1. Presentation about Asuka High School

- Vice principal gives a presentation on Asuka High School
- Questions and answers

2. Class observation

- Logical expression I (English), Fundamentals of chemistry

3. School tour

- School facilities, school library, school vegetable garden, and more

4. Commemorative photo

5. Closing remarks



Observation of chemistry class



Commemorative photo in front of the school

5. Additional information

- ◆ The Asuka High School vice principal talked about the school using an interpreter. The Singaporean teachers enthusiastically asked questions.
- ◆ Asuka students were able to hold an exchange with the Singaporean teachers in English during the teachers' observation of English class.
- ◆ One representative for the Singaporean teachers expressed their thanks by saying that there were many things they could learn from the education style at Asuka High School and this was a very good experience.

Secondary Schools

Onsite Cultural Exchange

Tokyo Metropolitan Tachikawa Kokusai Secondary Education School Cultural exchange with Australian friends

1. Date and venue

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023,
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Venue: Tachikawa Kokusai Secondary School

2. Participants

Fourth and fifth grade student volunteers and Kendo/ Kyudo club members from Tachikawa Kokusai Secondary School

3. Counterpart

15 ninth to twelfth grade students from Australia Ipswich Grammar School Queensland, Australia



Australian student practicing Kendo (Japanese fencing)



Students with earnest expressions giving instructions

Welcoming the guest students at the front of the school entrance



Students were delighted to reunite

4. Schedule

1. Greetings

2. Orientation

- Self-introduction by all participants

3. Japanese cultural experience

- Australian students participated in Kendo/Kyudo club activities

4. Closing remarks

- Presentation of memento
- Commemorative photos

5. Additional information

- ◆ Seven out of the fifteen students from Australia had previously visited Tachikawa International Secondary School as part of 2022 Tokyo Experience School.
- ◆ Australian students who were studying Japanese gave their greetings in Japanese and received a large round of applause from the audience.
- ◆ The Australian students were divided into two groups and took turns participating in the Kendo and Kyudo clubs.



Tokyo Education Promotion and
Support Organization