



翔鷹

Japanese school of Abu Dhabi School Newsletter

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Editor:
Vice principal

Sharpen your dull sword

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It is said that it is useless that no matter how many times you sharpen a dull sword. But you don't have to listen to them. You can sharpen it just as hard as you want.

The sword may not shine, but the person who sharpens it will change. In other words, the sword will say, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry. But the person who sharpens the sword becomes shinier.

That is the world of when you observe the depths of things, even the most minute details, you will see what is important.

That is why I sharpen it diligently.



* Shinmin Sakamura "Sharpen your dull sword"

Since I came here to Abu Dhabi, few people know about it, but my speciality is kendo. It has been 47 years since I joined the kendo club in high school. I promoted to 1st dan when I was a second-year high school student. I promoted to 2nd dan, and then to 3rd dan in the university. After moving to Tokyo and becoming a teacher, I was in charge of the kendo club while teaching students, I promoted to 4th dan, and then to 5th dan. After getting married and having a family, I continued to practice kendo and promoted to Renshi 6th dan in my thirties, and Kyoshi 7th dan in my forties. In my fifties, I took the dan test for the highest rank of 8th dan in kendo (a very difficult test with a 1% pass rate), and failed every year. Feeling the limits of my physical and mental strength, I went on to retire as a teacher in Japan. Now, for the first time in three years, the kendo sports club at the Japanese School of Abu Dhabi has been resumed. For the first time in a long time, I grip a shinai (bamboo sword) with a group of lovely young kendo players.

I am just a kendo enthusiast who is neither good nor strong. However, I have a certain amount of pride in it. Since I was 30, I have been practicing kendo in earnest at the Nippon Budokan to learn the "Kendo Spirit". The Nippon Budokan, famous for its events and concerts, was built in 1964 as an assembly hall for Judo, modeled after the World Heritage Site, the Dream Hall of Horyuji Temple. It is the main headquarters of kendo, a traditional culture. And it is the best kendo dojo in Japan, where the best kendo expert in the world stands in front of us and teaches us the correct kendo by using the shinai as sword. In there he helps us who are lost in "win or lose", "pass or fail", "skill or skill is poor", to the right way of kendo.

I started kendo out of curiosity, but now it has become my spiritual and health support. **I know that I can enjoy kendo anytime, anywhere, with anyone if I want to!**

A friend of mine who does kendo with me sent me the poem at the beginning of this article via SNS. According to his message, the poem was introduced at a lecture after his training at the Nippon Budokan.

Well, I declared to my master and some friends that "When I leave Japan, I will continue to practice kendo! Even If I were regulated in Corona, I would at least continue to swing alone." Yet, I regret to say I have never been doing enough both of them.

The words that "**Sharpen your dull sword**" "Pokes" at my heart like the skills of kendo.

【 July 】

Date	Events
1 F	End Term Exam(JH)
2 Sa	
3 Su	Eiken 2nd stage
4 M	
5 Tu	
6 W	
7 Th	
8 F	EidHoliday
9 Sa	EidHoliday
10 Su	EidHoliday
11 M	EidHoliday
12 Tu	
13 W	
14 Th	Proficiency test(JH)
15 F	
16 Sa	
17 Su	
18 M	Parent-Teacher Individual Meeting
19 Tu	Parent-Teacher Individual Meeting
20 W	School Open Day Hyakunin Issyu
21 Th	Parent-Teacher Individual Meeting
22 F	Closing ceremony
23 Sa	
24 Su	
25 M	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; font-size: 2em; margin-right: 10px;">↓</div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Summer lesson (2-4days)</p> </div> </div>
26 Tu	
27 W	
28 Th	
29 F	Summer Holiday
30 Sa	
31 Su	

Summer lesson
August 23rd to 25th
Opening ceremony August 29th

EIKEN & KANKEN tests

We had the first Practical English Proficiency Test (EIKEN) on 5th June and The Japan Kanji Aptitude Test (KANKEN) on 19th June at school.



Emergency drill

An emergency drill was held to prepare for suspicious persons on Tuesday, June 7th. The photo shows our students gathering in the school yard for a secondary evacuation and checking for safety.



Cha-Do (the Japanese tea ceremony) class

G6 students tried to do Cha-Do at the Japanese culture center in our school on Tuesday, June 9th. Ms.Hiraiwa who is a teacher of Cha-Do Urasenke taught G6 students how to enjoy Cha-Do. In Urasenke, “茶道” reads as “Cha-do”. (Usually, it reads as “Sado”, means the Japanese tea ceremony) It was began with an explanation about “和敬清寂” which is a policy of Cha-do and it was advocated by Sennorikyu, and students were learned manners. It was a valuable experience for learning Japanese traditional culture.



Emirati graduate success

Ali Almansoori, G10 at Takanawadai High School, won the second prize in the Tokyo High School Speech Contest (Japanese Division). Ali is a G10 student who had been waiting and traveling to Japan under the Corona Regulation. He is having a fulfilling high school life. Congratulations!

Resuming Sports Classes

Sports classes resumed for the first time in three years on Monday, June 6th. After classes, students did soccer, basketball, kendo, and table tennis they chose in the school gymnasium and school playground under the planning and management of the parents. They started to do it with full of energy. The energy that existed before Corona returned to the school after school.

