



# 翔鷹

*Japanese school of Abu Dhabi School Newsletter*

2024  
March 1<sup>st</sup>  
Editor: Principal

## Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

**Principal : Kanda Satoshi**

Cherry blossoms that live within two lives

This haiku by Matsuo Basho describes the joy of reuniting with old friends and the beauty of cherry blossoms in full bloom. The cherry blossom season is approaching in Japan. I am reminded of this haiku by Matsuo Basho when the graduation ceremony, which is held while the cherry blossom season approaches.

I hope that the graduating students will be aware of themselves as "one life," as if they are the only one, irreplaceable, and precious existence, and that they will cherish their friends next door, and all the people, things, and events around them, as "two lives." We hope that each one of you will grow up to be a person who is active in the world, caring for the lives of self and others.

I believe this is true not only for ourselves and others, but also for the international community. Both Japan and the UAE are calling for the development of global human resources who can contribute to international peace while cherishing their own national identity. While valuing the unique cultures of both Japan and the UAE, students are expected to understand different cultures and communicate with people of any cultural background. At Japanese School in Abu Dhabi, students from both countries with different ethnicities, languages, religions, cultures, and customs study together. I believe that they are polishing their potential of "internationality" in their daily school life, which they should demonstrate to build an era of 2025, responding to the accelerated changes in society such as the progress of globalization and the rapid evolution of artificial intelligence (AI), overcoming all difficulties, and transforming the harsh realities. I hope that all the students of Japanese School in Abu Dhabi will cherish "two lives" and become a bridge between Japan and the UAE, and play a leading role in the future global society.

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This is an essay by G8 student. The essay is typical of the students of our school, where Japanese and UAE children study together. It shows the enthusiasm of the student as she will start final year of school soon. We would like to introduce to you.

### Summer of 2023

G8 student(girl)

In the first term, I came to school for no reason. I was lazy from G5 to G7 and saw no point in studying. I was counting the days of summer vacation. Summer vacation. I went to several countries and met people of different nationalities and values. Everyone I met had one thing in common: they were living the life they had chosen. Second term. I started prioritizing my studies, working through the second term to make up for the first term and finally the third term started to show what I had accomplished so far.

What changed me so much was the people I met during the summer vacation. I realized that I could fool around anytime I want, but I can only study and take classes at set times. So, I have found that it is important not to waste my time. Furthermore, I realized that it is also important to clearly define my goals and to work diligently toward them.

My main goal now is to expand my possibilities. I have learned to understand subjects well in Japanese, but I would like to be able to understand the content in other languages as well. I am planning to go to Japan next year, and when I get there, I will be so absorbed in my school life that I will not have much time to do anything else. So, I want to study Arabic and Japanese as well as other languages well while I am here. And I want to expand my world more and more.

I want to cherish the present and live a life that only I can lead in my own way.

Event in March			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Open class Parent-Teacher-Meeting	7 <sup>th</sup>	Graduation ceremony
5 <sup>th</sup>	Emirati meeting	8 <sup>th</sup>	Closing ceremony Farewell ceremony

Event in April (Not confirmed)			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
15 <sup>th</sup>	Opening ceremony Entrance ceremony	25 <sup>th</sup>	Student committees
17 <sup>th</sup> 18 <sup>th</sup>	Physical check	29 <sup>th</sup>	Open class Parent-Teacher-Meeting

Event in May (Not confirmed)			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Disaster-preventive and safety guidance	15 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming class
8 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming class	20 <sup>th</sup> 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Sports class
9 <sup>th</sup>	Student committees	21 <sup>st</sup>	Swimming class
13 <sup>th</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sports class	27 <sup>th</sup> 28 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-term exam(G789)
14 <sup>th</sup>	Career guidance	29 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming class

Event in June (Not confirmed)			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Eiken	10 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup>	Sports class
3 <sup>rd</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sports class	12 <sup>th</sup>	Student committees meeting
5 <sup>th</sup>	Disaster-preventive and safety guidance	13 <sup>th</sup>	Dental and medical check
6 <sup>th</sup>	Student committees	21 <sup>st</sup>	Hyakunin Issyu Open class

Event in July (Not confirmed)			
<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>	End term exam(G789)	8 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sports class
4 <sup>th</sup>	Student committees	15 <sup>th</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup>	Parent-Teacher Individual Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup>	Eiken speaking test	19 <sup>th</sup>	Closing ceremony

Remarks from teachers will be leaving.

At the end of the academic year 2023, seven teachers will be leaving.

Chika Akutsu

I am pleased to announce that my three-year period at the Japanese School of Abu Dhabi has come to an end and I will be returning home. During my period, I was able to spend my time safely with the support of the parents, the board of directors, and the school staff. I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart. As a grade 1 homeroom teacher for the past three years, I have had the opportunity to experience the growth and development of the children, and it has been a fulfilling experience. Three years ago, in the midst of the COVID-19, school life was greatly restricted. Even in such circumstances, I was supported by the children's openness and cheerfulness. I am happy that my small involvement had even a small positive impact on the children's future. I wish you all happiness, health, and growth for your children.

Keigo Arakawa

I would like to thank all the parents and guardians for your support over the past three years. It was my first overseas assignment, and although I was sometimes confused with the COVID-19 disaster at the beginning of my assignment, I was often encouraged by the warmth of the children at school. The experience at the only school in the world where Japanese and Emirati children learn together was very valuable. Emirati children say, "All Japanese children are serious and hardworking," and Japanese children say, "I am jealous of Emirati children because they have self-confidence and are good at presentations and self-expression. The mutual recognition of each other's good qualities made me realize that this is the ideal international society. I will continue to do my best based on this experience. Thank you very much for everything you have done for me.

Fumiko Osuka

When I joined this school three years ago, we had online classes and limited events due to the COVID-19. However, despite these circumstances, the children were positive and smiling.

It is the only school in the world where Japanese and Emirati children learn together, with its unique atmosphere and vibrancy, and I am very pleased to have been able to work in this environment for three years.

Thank you very much for the past three years. شكرًا

Mari Kihira

After 38 years of teaching in Japan, I was assigned to be an elementary school homeroom teacher for the first time in 35 years, and I spent the first two years thinking back to when I first became a teacher. I continued this job after retirement because I wanted to be a homeroom teacher for G9 again, so I was very moved to have my wish come true during the last year of my career. I have been involved in the career choices of many students, but I realized how difficult it is for Japanese school students to choose a career path. High school is just a passing point. I encourage each student to create his or her own path, while discussing it with their parents, for a bright future. I hope we can meet again someday somewhere in the world.

Momoko Noguchi

I have decided to return to Kagoshima. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those who have taken care of me. I learned from the children that we can be friends even if we come from different countries and environments, and that we can learn and improve together. I was energized by their smiles every day and looked forward to seeing their daily growth. I imagine what kind of paths the children I met at Japanese School of Abu Dhabi will take in the future. Thank you very much for the three years. When we meet again someday somewhere, I hope we can share our memories of the past three years together.

Daiki Matsunaga

I have been working at Japanese School in Abu Dhabi for two years as a NPO teacher. It was an amazing experience for me to work at the only Japanese school in the world where Emirati and Japanese students study together. I am wishing for everyone's success in the future from Japan.

I would like to thank once again all the people involved in the Japanese School of Abu Dhabi, including the parents, for their understanding and cooperation in our educational activities. Thank you very much.

Yuji Yamashita

“Sharing culture and oil, Prospering Together, Praising the Blessings, Joining Hands with Friends Around the World ♪ (Lyric from School song)”

I have often felt that the school song is exactly right. The sight of Japanese and Emirati students learning together in the same classroom was like a symbol of the bright future of both countries, and I got vitality from them. I am looking forward to the future of these students who are learning various things in a foreign country every day. I hope that one day, when you become an adult, you will be able to proudly say, “I am who I am now because I was in the UAE at that time” I know there will be many hardships, but I am sure that you will be able to overcome them!

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