

Head of School

NEWSLETTER



Our newest Grade 3 classroom from ... everywhere!



UPCOMING EVENTS



FEB 19–21 MIDDLE SCHOOL SKI TRIP

all MS Students overnight skiing

FEB. 19

G5 TO UKIYO E IMMERSIVE
ART MUSEUM

Grade 5 Unit Trip

FEB. 26

KINDERGARTEN- TOKYO
TOY MUSEUM

Kindergarten Unit Trip

MAR. 18

TERM 2 REPORT CARDS

Term 2 Reports Found on Toddle

MAR. 21

STUDENT-LED
CONFERENCES

No classes this day

MAR. 24–28 SPRING HOLIDAYS

no classes for students

MAR. 31

JINNAN CAMPUS OPENS

First Day for G. 3–8 on campus





NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious.

~ Albert Einstein

In the cold months of winter I appreciate the Tokyo climate and blue skies. When you come from a country nicknamed “The Great White North” you are thrilled with winter sun and any temperatures above 0c.

We are half way through our school year. There has been a lot of change but more aspects of the school that have stayed the same. This is very important.

Reflection is a critical part of the teaching role. Teachers are constantly reviewing what lessons went well and which need to be made better. Did the intended learning target get achieved and did the child who needed it most, get it?

This reflection process happens throughout the school. We are constantly looking at how we can serve our families better. Through surveys, parent meetings and your communication we collect feedback on our processes and performance. It is important that you celebrate what worked well and let us know where we can meet your needs better. This conversation is welcome and a right of your participation in the school. We will not all agree on how everything will get done but your thoughts need to be heard and collected with other parents, staff and students.

We collected parent opinion data through the CIS Survey in December. I will share those results later in this magazine.

We have a busy 2025 coming up with some really exciting things happening. Please participate as parents by showing up to meetings, asking questions and guiding us where you can. Your opinion is valued.

Kevin Haggith

Head of School

COMING SOON



THIRD TERM ASA

GYM CLUB

Supervised play and games at the Olympic center gym.

ART CLUB

Develop creative skills and expression with a variety of art resources.

WRITING

Developing writing and story skills through fun challenges.

PILATES

Build physical awareness, flexibility and control under expert guidance.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Explore photography while using light and focus around the school.

SOCCER

Learn the great game through drills and skills and friendly competition.

GRADE 3 SHARING THE CREATIVE COMMUNICATION CAFE



Grade 3 invited parents and students in to share their learning in the Creative Communication Cafe. The event was well attended and the interaction with everyone enhances their confidence and deepens their learning. The students were great thinkers and risk takers in choosing creative ways to share their learning from the unit, and used their self-management skills and communication skills to prepare and share.

We had some fantastic poetry performances at the end as well!



HOUSE SYSTEM FUN



Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 students had fun competing in some Cooperative Colour House Challenges last week at the Olympic Centre. Tug-of-war was a popular activity and all the students were excited about it. The Orange and Purple Colour Houses tied for first for the event, with the other houses close behind. A special thank you to all the parents who came to watch and participate in this event.



JINNAN CAMPUS

What are the gains for our community?

Improvements in the size, number, and quality of our instructional spaces will provide students with larger learning areas, a tech lab, expanded library space, and common areas for collaboration and sharing. Washroom facilities will be more spacious and accessible. All homerooms will now feature natural light and sky views. Additionally, student and bus entry points will be safely enclosed and weather-protected.

Next year, we will welcome approximately ten new staff members to enhance support, supervision, and student options. We will also be better equipped to facilitate parent visits and showcase student learning. Concerts will be held on-site, and, of course, there will be a coffee shop.

Will there be challenges? Absolutely.



1. PREPARATION

Staff continue to plan for the upcoming move to the Jinnan Campus. Schedules for classes and supervision need to be adjusted slightly to accommodate the new layout. We will be moving from three buildings to two buildings in two phases. Phase 1 occurs in March and opens the 9th Floor for the Grade 3-8 classes. The second phase opens the 10th Floor for the addition of the G. 2 classes with the 10 additional classrooms and multi-purpose room in August.

Next week we are building to final plans for student movement and safety.



2. MOVING

Before the move takes place, parents, staff and students will have an opportunity to tour the new campus. This will assist the dialogue between staff and students to mentally prepare for the move.

Grade 3-8 staff will begin boxing some resources the week of March 17. The full move will be conducted by a moving company March 22-23. Leadership will inspect and prepare the 9th Floor during the Spring Holidays.

March 31 will be the first day in the new building. There will be some adjustments as we go.



3. OPENING

March 31 will be the Opening Day for the 9th Floor of the Jinnan Campus. The 10th Floor will be open and added for use at the beginning of the school year in August.

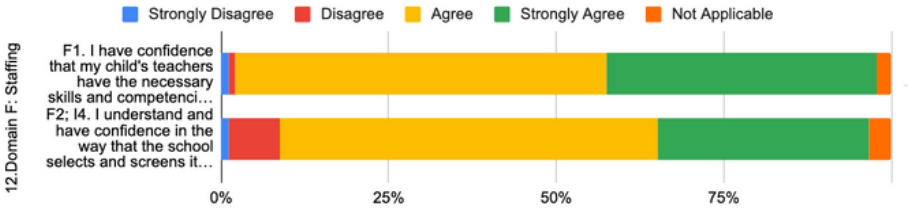
The quality of the student learning experience will not be reduced and the intent of the whole move is to increase the opportunities and overall quality of the educational experience for all of our students.

There will be some challenges and short term struggles until we are accustomed to our new space and the full benefits are fully realised.

CIS SURVEY DATA

The data from the CIS Staff, Student and Parent Surveys has been analyzed and summarized by the Survey Committee. We will then design action steps for improving the school to be shared later after CIS input. All parent data was shared at the last Yoyogi Friends Meeting and was very supportive with responses of 80-98% Agree and Strongly Agree.

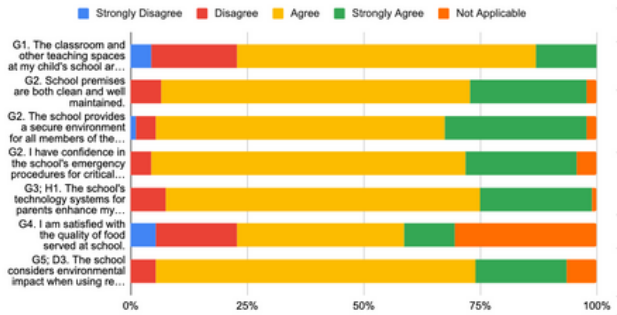
Domain F: Staffing



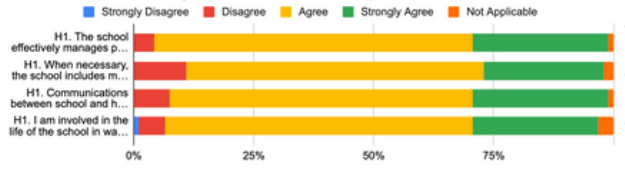
Domain F - Showed a high degree of support for the staff and staffing process.

Domain G - Indicated that an improvement should be made to classroom and learning spaces as well as the food served which would mean KIWI Kitchen or ...?

Domain G: Premises, Facilities, Technology Systems, and Auxiliary Services

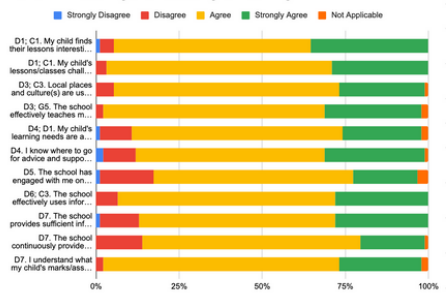


Domain H: Community and Home Partnerships



Domain D: Teaching and Assessing for Learning where communication and explanation of the curriculum, content and instruction could be shared more and clearer with parents. This is a good point and we are working on it now with better documents, web site additions and parent meetings focused on curriculum (beginning with the next Yoyogi Friends meeting).

Domain D: Teaching and Assessing for Learning



STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

Friday, March 21, 2025
8:15 am -1 pm (sign up for a time-slot)



In the first week of March, parents will be sent a link to sign up for a Student-Led Conference time. Although the time-slot will be only 15 minutes that you sign up for, in actual fact the Student-Led Conference in the Homeroom Classes will be 30 to 40 minutes long.

Students will also have the option of visiting their Specialist Class to share more learning with you on a drop in basis through out the Student-Led Conference time.

Student-led conferences involve the student and the parent. The students lead the conference and take responsibility for their learning by sharing the process with their parents.

Students share what they learned, what they do well, discuss work samples, identify what they need to work on, and reflect on their academic performance.

The conference will involve the students planning learning engagements and activities to share with their parents.

It enables parents to gain a clear insight into the kind of learning their child is doing and allows them to discuss it with their child.

The format of this conference will depend on the student's age. Students also have the option or opportunity to communicate with their parents in their native language to help facilitate improved communication and sharing.





JOIN OUR SUMMER CAMP COMMUNITY

More information is available on the website and in the registration form. Weekly cost is 68,000/week. Overnight Camps have additional cost. Extended hours are available.

Weekly Camp Themes

- 3 Day Osaka Trip to EXPO June 17-19
- YMCA Two-Night Camps June 25-27 and July 2-4
- Sports Camps at Olympic Center
- Pony Camp June 15-20, June 22-27
- Fun activities, outdoors and friends

Camps starts on:

MONDAY

15 JUNE, 2025

through August 1



SCAN FOR MORE
INFORMATION

www.yoyogi-is.com



2025-2026 CALENDAR

Aug 11-15 All Staff Training
 Aug. 11 National Holiday/ Staff
 Work Day
 Aug 18 School Open House
 Aug 19 First Day of School

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Feb 11-13 Mid-Term Break
 Feb 23 National Holiday/
 Regular School Day

Sep 15 National Holiday/
 Regular School Day
 Sep 23 National Holiday/
 Regular School Day

SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MARCH 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Mar 9 First Day of Term 3
 Mar 20 National Holiday/
 Student-Led Conferences
 Mar 23-27 Spring Holidays

Oct 13-17 Autumn Holidays
 Oct 24 United Nations Day

OCTOBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

APRIL 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Apr 29 National Holiday/
 Regular School Day

Nov 3 National Holiday/
 Regular School Day
 Nov 18 First Day of Term 2
 Nov 24 National Holiday/
 Student-Parent-Teacher
 Conferences

NOVEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

MAY 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May 4-6 Golden Week Holi
 No School

Dec 19 Last Day of School
 Dec 22-Jan 12 Winter Holiday

DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JUNE 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

June 10 Final Day of Classes
 June 15 Summer Camps Begin

Dec 22-Jan 9 Winter Holiday
 Jan 12 Staff Professional
 Development/ No School
 Jan 13 First Day of Classes
 2026

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

JULY 2026						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

July Summer Camps/ No
 School

180 school days