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Japanese School of Abu Dhabi School Newsletter

2024
April 17th
Editor: Principal

We look forward to working with you in 2024!

Principal Satoshi Kanda

In April, the Japanese School in Abu Dhabi welcomed the start of the 2024 school year with a fresh breeze and dazzling sunlight. Our school, which had been quiet until the 14th, came alive again with the cheers of the children. For the students, today is the day they meet their new homeroom teachers, new friends, new classrooms, and new textbooks. I am sure that the students are filled with joy in moving on to the next grade and with anticipation for the new school year under the new environment.

This year, Japanese School of Abu Dhabi will start with 9 classes with a total of 74 students (56 in elementary school and 18 in middle school): 46 students of Japanese nationality and 28 students of UAE nationality. The teaching staff consists of 28 teachers, including Arabic and English conversation teachers and ADEK teachers, and 8 administrative and staff members, for a total of 36 teachers and staff members. All the teachers and staff will work as one team, Team JSAD, to teach your child. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

I have reviewed the School Management Policy since 2024. In the introduction, it mentions its establishment background and the program for the reception of UAE nationals. It is the school management philosophy in our school, and I would like to ensure that everyone involved in the school and parents understand it. Therefore, we have included it in our school newsletter's April issue. It is a long article, but we would be happy if you read it.

The School Management Policy is also available on our school's website.

School Management Policy

R6 Theme: ***Collaborative practice by all teachers and staff as one team***

For students, parents, the Japanese community, relevant institutions and staff,

Good school to go to (students)

Good school to attend (parents/guardians, Japanese community, relevant institutions)

Schools that are good to work at (teachers and staff)

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan has accredited 94 Japanese schools worldwide as overseas educational facilities. The Abu Dhabi Japanese School is one of these schools, where teachers dispatched by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) are involved in students' daily education according to the curriculum guidelines set by MEXT.

Abu Dhabi Japanese School was established in 1978 as a Japanese school affiliated with the Embassy of Japan in the United Arab Emirates to provide the same level of education as in Japan to Japanese nationals living in Abu Dhabi. The Japanese Government dispatches teachers to educational establishments abroad, and the school promotes its curriculum in cooperation with the Abu Dhabi Japanese Association, which is the founding body of the Abu Dhabi Japanese School, the school's governing board, parents, and related institutions.



This school is the only Japanese school among 94 overseas educational facilities to officially accept students of foreign nationality (UAE nationality). The first students entered the kindergarten in 2006. After completing 12 years of kindergarten, elementary, and middle school education, UAE nationals who graduated from the school have gone on to high school and university in Japan. Although our school is unique as a Japanese school, both Japanese and UAE nationals are studying together. Many people have put their heart and soul into this program to nurture human resources who can serve as a bridge between Japan and the UAE. Looking back on this history, we, the successors of this program, cannot help but feel the significance and responsibility of this program.

Our school is a place where students of Japanese and UAE nationalities study together, and their daily interactions with each other provide opportunities for international exchange. The school is staffed by teachers sent by the Ministry of Education, teachers employed by the school, teachers sent by the NPO Japan-UAE Youth and Children Development Exchange and Cooperation Society, and teachers from the ADEK. The children need to be a learning group where they can learn, refine and improve each other across borders. The most effective educational activities are carried out when all teachers and staff work together as one organization, Team JSAD, beyond differences in appointment. It is important for students, teachers and staff to engage with and improve each other.

We believe that all children have unlimited potential. Therefore, we want each child to have his or her dream, to have a goal to achieve that dream, and to develop a high sense of purpose and the spirit to achieve it on his or her own. We also want them to acquire an internationality, sociality, intelligence and sensitivity that we can be proud of in the world as global human resources for Japan and the UAE. As the information society accelerates and the social situation changes drastically, we will strive to realize our school management policy, taking each wish seriously as parents' expectations of school education increase. We, the entire teaching staff, will work together as one, responding flexibly and practicing together at the same pace, and devote ourselves to educational activities to achieve the school's educational goal: the development of students with outstanding intelligence, strong bodies, generous minds and international outlook.

Introducing the new teachers

This year we welcomed nine new teachers. We will work all together to educate our precious students.

Takahiro Aibara (Ehime, Japan)

My name is Takahiro Aihara. Nice to meet you. I am from Ehime Prefecture. Ehime is a place of rich nature and Ehime's fish and fruits are delicious. After working as an English teacher in Japan, I worked at the Japanese School in Singapore and Ho Chi Minh City before coming here. At Abu Dhabi Japanese School, both Japanese and Emirati students from G1 to G9 study and live in the same school, so I think there is a lot to gain from this. I hope to remember your names and faces as soon as possible so that we can have a meaningful school life together. I also look forward to learning and respecting each other in a diverse culture and customs.

Shohei Okamoto (Tokyo, Japan)

My name is Shohei Okamoto and I started at the Japanese School Abu Dhabi in April. When I was traveling around the world, the United Arab Emirates was the country that taught me how interesting the Islamic world is. I am very happy to be back in such a favorite country of the United Arab Emirates, Abu Dhabi. Together with you all, let's find the excitement that you can only experience in Abu Dhabi, and make many memories of "Japanese school was wonderful"!

Tomiaki Takizawa (Niigata, Japan)

My name is Tomiaki Takizawa and I have been working at an elementary school in Niigata, a rice-producing region, for 31 years and at a Japanese school in Asunción, Paraguay, South America, for three years from 2003. My research subjects are science and foreign languages, and I am particularly interested in international understanding education and environmental education. Asunción was a hot city, but I am also looking forward to the heat of Abu Dhabi. I will make every effort to get along and communicate with all the students and staff at the school, and to help make this school a nice place to attend. My favourite things to do are volleyball, baseball, sports drives and watching football games. Let's have a meaningful school life.

Shintaro Tsujimura (Nara, Japan)

My name is Shintaro Tsujimura, and I will be starting my new position in April. I am from Nara, Japan, and until now I have been working as a music teacher at a high school in Asahikawa, Hokkaido. My favourite things to do are playing musical instruments, traveling and seeing plays, and I am very excited to be able to experience many new things in Abu Dhabi in the future. This is my first time working at an elementary or junior high school, but I will do my best to support students' school life to make it more fulfilling.

Takehiro Furutani (Okayama, Japan)

Hello, my name is Takehiro Furutani, and I have started working at Japanese School in Abu Dhabi. I have experience as a teacher in elementary and junior high schools in Japan. My favorite things to do are playing ball games, playing card games with friends, and reading comics. My hometown is Okayama Prefecture, famous for Momotaro. Momotaro is amazing. He can work with anyone. I want to work together with everyone. And I am looking forward to seeing what kind of school we can create together. Let's challenge many things together!

Rikuko Nishi (Iwate, Japan)

My name is Rikuko Nishi. I have been working as a Japanese teacher at a junior high school in Iwate. This is the second Japanese school I have taught. Previously, I taught at the Japanese school of Colombo in Sri Lanka. I was born in a small northern village facing the Pacific Ocean, but 20 years ago I left my footprints on a southern island overlooking the Indian Ocean, and now I am expanding my habitat to the Arabian Gulf coast of the Arabian Peninsula. My motto is "Ichigo Ichie". I have used this phrase as the title of classroom newsletters throughout my 40 years of teaching. I would like to cherish our encounters at the Abu Dhabi Japanese school and the days ahead as we learn together. I wonder what kind of colors the threads of our hearts that we will weave together. I am looking forward to it.

Atsushi Yamaguchi (Hyogo, Japan)

My name is Atsushi Yamaguchi. I have been assigned as NPO teacher. I have worked at an elementary school in Hyogo Prefecture for 14 years, and in 2018 I joined the JICA Overseas Cooperation Volunteers to work on improving math education in Paraguay. During that time, I felt the effectiveness of Japanese-style education and was looking for a place where I could utilize it in the world. I would be happy if I could help you all to learn in a lively way by using my experience and finding ways to adapt to the Japanese school in Abu Dhabi. I look forward to spending time with you all. I look forward to spending time with you all.

Marina Yamaguchi (Yamaguchi, Japan)

Hello Abu Dhabi Japanese School students, nice to meet you. My name is Marina Yamaguchi. I am from Shimonoseki City, Yamaguchi Prefecture, where the principal is also from. I worked as a junior high school health and physical education teacher in Chiba and Yamaguchi prefectures. My specialty is badminton, but I love all kinds of sports. I hope to have many conversations with you, exercise, and grow together with you. I will do my best to make your school life in Abu Dhabi as fulfilling as possible, while learning many things from you. I will do my best with a smile. Thank you.

Makoto Wani (Fukuoka, Japan)

Nice to meet you. My name is Makoto Wani. After graduating from university, I worked as a salesman for a recruitment agency and then as a Japanese language teacher at a high school in Thailand, a university in Vietnam, and a Japanese company in the Philippines. At the Abu Dhabi Japanese School, I would like to actively support Emirati students in connecting academic studies and Japanese language learning so that they can participate in class with confidence. We would also like to cooperate with other teachers and staff in this school to create a better Abu Dhabi Japanese School together. Thank you so much.

Main events in May

- 1 (Wed) Evacuation Practice 8 (Wed) Swimming class (1)
9 (Thu) Committee activities 14 (Tue) Career guidance
15 (Wed) Swimming class (2) 22 (Wed) Swimming class (3)
27 (Mon) 28 (Tue) Junior High School Mid-term Test
29 (Wed) Swimming class (4)

April		
1	Mon	
2	Tue	
3	Wed	
4	Thu	
5	Fri	
6	Sat	
7	Sun	
8	Mon	Eid al Fitr Holiday
9	Tue	Eid al Fitr Holiday
10	Wed	Eid al Fitr
11	Thu	Eid al Fitr Holiday
12	Fri	Eid al Fitr Holiday
13	Sat	
14	Sun	
15	Mon	Opening and Entrance Ceremony
16	Tue	
17	Wed	Physical Measurement
18	Thu	↓
19	Fri	
20	Sat	
21	Sun	
22	Mon	
23	Tue	
24	Wed	
25	Thu	Student Committee
26	Fri	
27	Sat	
28	Sun	
29	Mon	Open Class Class Meeting
30	Tue	

	Name	Subject and Grade in charge
Principal	Mr. Kanda	School Management
Vice-Principal	Mr. Kazunori	School Management • Social Studies (G9)
Chief Academic Officer	Mr. Suezawa	Academic Officer, Math (G5), Science (G4•5)
G1	Mr. Nakagaki	Japanese (G1) Math (G1) Life Study (G12) Music (G12) Social Studies (G5)
G2	Ms. Yamaguchi	Japanese (G2) Math (G2) Art (G12 • G34 • G56) P.E (G12)
G3	Mr. Taneda	Japanese (G3) Social Studies (G3) Math (G3) Science (G3) P.E. (G34) Foreign Language (G3 • G4) Integrated Study (G34)
G4	Mr. Tsujimura	Japanese (G4) • Social Studies (G4 • G7 • G8) Music (G34 • G56 • G789)
G5	Mr. Aibara	Social Studies (G6) Science (G6 • G7 • G8 • G9) Foreign Language (G6) Integrated Study (G56)
G6	Mr. Aizawa	
G7	Mr. Furutani	Math (G6 • G7 • G8 • G9) Art (G789)
G8	Ms. Yabata	Math (G4) P.E. (G5~9) H.E. (G56 • G78 • G9)
G9	Ms. Nishi	Social Studies (G6 • G7 • G8 • G9) Integrated Study (G789)
NPO	Ms. Ito	JLP, Emirati Support
NPO	Mr. Wani	JLP, Emirati Support
NPO	Ms. Hasumi	JLP, Emirati Support
NPO	Ms. Kiyomi	JLP, Emirati Support
JLP Supervisor	Mr. Kondo	JLP, Emirati Support
NPO	Mr. Okamoto	JLP, Emirati Support
NPO	Ms. Hara	JLP, Emirati Support
NPO Supervisor	Mr. Yamaguchi	JLP, Emirati Support
Arabic	Mr. Farag	Arabic for all grade
English	Ms. Elizabeth	ENG for all grade
ADEK	Mr. Ahmad	Islamic
ADEK	Mr. Yousef	Arabic
ADEK	Ms. Amina	Social Studies
ADEK	Ms. Suhaila	Arabic
ADEK	Ms. Waha	Arabic, Islamic, Social Studies
ADEK	Ms. Amina K	Arabic, Islamic
Family support	Ms. Alaa	Family support for Emirati
School Nurse	Ms April	Nursing teacher
Office Clerk	Ms. Isobe	School Officer
Office Clerk	Ms. Oula	School Officer
Client Liaison	Mr. Rami	Client Liaison
Janitor	Mr. Janga	School affair
Security	Mr. Rai	Security
Security	Mr. Bodhraj	Security

Family Support for Parents

If you have any concerns about education for your child, please feel free to contact us. I will be here and listen at the principal's office.

Principal Satoshi Kanda