

P.10

Let's make a 4-panel cartoon  
Examples of quotes

1. You're very shiny!  
It's so cool!
2. Do you really think so?
3. Now we're both shiny!

We look forward to  
your ideas!

"Hiraku" provides useful information  
and the latest news related to  
English and childhood education.

- Your recent interests
- Topics you want us to cover
- New content etc etc...

If you have ideas to contribute,  
please share these with us!

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*Hirakû*

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Expanding future possibilities

# Hirakû

13



Charity Project Kinder Kids × SDGs

Staff Spotlight Kids living around the world Grad Club Message

Let's make a 4-panel cartoon

Japanese Spirit with an International Future. Kinder Kids inc.





Feature Story

# Charity Project

Charity activities at Kinder Kids



Life in areas with educational challenges: what Kinder Kids can do for children living in poorer communities.

Kinder Kids' charity activities began in 2010.

About a year later, with the donations and support from parents and staff gathered through charity events, "Chanserey Elementary School" was built in a village in Pursat Province in the western part of Cambodia.

When the school first opened, there were less than 20 students. More than 10 years have passed since then, the school building has been renovated and now more than 600 students have joined the school.

At the beginning of this project, while we were evaluating the environment surrounding the children, we found a number of areas that needed to be improved. The school was a hut-like space without doors or walls and children had to study in unsanitary classrooms. Furthermore, it was hard for children to focus on learning when they were hungry. In that sort of environment, providing a high quality education is almost impossible.

We started building wells, purchasing farmland, raising cows and chickens, and supporting villagers to raise livestock on their own so that they would be able to have more nutritious food resources. In 2012, the second year of the project, we began providing children with school lunches. People began to say "if children go to Chanserey Elementary School, they can have a delicious school lunch!" and children were motivated to go to school. School lunch was also provided to the younger siblings of children. To build a system for the village to become self-reliant, food that wasn't used for school lunches was sold at the market, and the sales were used to cover the school's operating costs. Currently, the construction of an eat-in space is underway in the school yard.

We are looking forward to the day when we can see children eating their school lunches under the beautiful blue sky and in the shade under a big tree!



## Charity Event

Many Kinder Kids students, graduates, and their families have participated in charity events. All funds raised are used to operate Chanserey Elementary School in Cambodia.

### Grad Club's Volunteer Activities in Cambodia

An enriching week long program for our graduates to volunteer overseas. Interacting with local children who live in challenging circumstances, helping to inspire and nurture their hopes and dreams.



Understand life in developing countries to broaden our perspective and to review our values. A journey of discovery!

### Parent's voices of children who participated in volunteer activities in Cambodia

- ★ This trip made my daughter become more talkative and cheerful. I sense a change in her feelings.
- ★ She has become aware of her blessed environment and she is now much more positive and grateful. I feel that she has grown a lot.
- ★ Every day I looked forward to seeing what she was doing over there on Grad Club's Facebook page.
- ★ I worried about local safety, hygiene, and medical services if needed. But after hearing the explanation, I sent my child off without any worries.

### Kobe Seaside Club's Charity Night

Kobe Seaside Club is a recreational center for Kinder Kids families. We hold charity events every year where people can enjoy poolside performances and fireworks. Families can also relax with tasty food and drinks in the garden or by the pool overlooking the beach.



### Halloween Party at Kanto and Nagoya schools

This is a Halloween charity event held at Tokyo and Nagoya schools. A variety of booths are set up for Halloween-themed activities, including a costume contest and face painting - It's a very exciting day! Staff members don extravagant costumes and transform into engaging characters! Interacting with staff dressed up as cool characters is something children look forward to all year.



Original charity T-shirts for sale >



# Cambodia Volunteer Project

2021.7.24 Sat. ~ 7.30 Fri.

The 2021 volunteering project in Cambodia has been scheduled! To join us or find out more about this project, please contact Grad Club. Any questions and inquiries about project details, or daily life during the stay, etc. are welcome!



For the latest information, check "Grad+!"

Now open for next year's project!



## 1 Charity School Volunteer

- Interacting with local children, playing ball games together, jumping rope, folding origami, and giving them popular Japanese sweets etc.
- Visiting villages and homes where local children and their families live to learn about and experience a living environment that is completely different to Japan



## 2 Japanese Language School Volunteer

- Presenting aspects of Japanese culture and customs to the local students.
- Group work: "Understanding Different Cultures"
- Interacting through games and word play



## 3 Capital Sightseeing Activity

- Walking around "Central Market" one of the biggest markets in Phnom Penh
- Visiting the "Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda" "Tuol Sleng Massacre Museum"



Grad Club Division

TEL: 06-6135-0140 (Mon.-Fri. 9:00-18:00)  
E-mail: info@grad-club.com

### Eligibility

Children enrolled in Grad Club or children in elementary school grade 5 or above who graduated from Kinder Kids

- \* Must be able to follow rules in group activities
- \* Those who are in good health
- \* Those who have no food allergies
- \* Must be able to sign the volunteer agreement form
- \* 5th and 6th graders will have interviews after submitting their applications

### Capacity

30 students (at least 8 students)

### Fees

¥179,000 + overseas travel insurance (including all travel expenses, fuel surcharges and other taxes)

- \* For children who are not enrolled in Grad Club, an additional fee of ¥20,000 (including tax) is required

## Kinder Kids × SDGs

You may have heard a lot about 'SDGs' (Sustainable Development Goals) recently. Adopted by the United Nations Summit with the aim of creating a world where all people are treated equally and each person is economically self-reliant, while being aware of the global environment. 17 goals were set to be achieved by 2030. Many of these goals are common to Kinder Kids' activities.

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



### ▶ How will future generations address these goals?

We hope that our children will be engaged with society and considerate of the environment so that they feel comfortable working and living as adults. In addition to our volunteer activities in Cambodia, we cover a number of topics such as plants, animals, and the food chain in Kinder Kids lessons. We also teach our children about environmental issues such as global warming, the effects on the ecosystem and conduct eco-friendly activities with them. There are many things that children can do even at a young age to show environmental awareness. Taking care of their toys, valuing water, and caring for their family and friends. Kinder Kids will continue to focus on what we can do for children to create a better society and a happier life for everyone.



Information as of December, 2020





Interview

# Yao

## School

Yao School Manager  
Hiroko Miyoshi



# Staff Spotlight



Interview

# Toyonaka

## School

Toyonaka School Manager  
Shinobu Mochizuki



Yao School, the second school established by Kinder Kids, opened in March, 2000. As of today, many of our current students are younger siblings of graduates from Yao School. Parents tell us how graduates are doing now and what sort of activities Yao school's managers have done over the years, which really encourages the current staff members. Some staff members live close enough to cycle to the school, and have close relationships with parents, which makes everyone feel at home. Around the school, there are several parks where we can take our children for safe walks, and Kinder classes often go there during the long stay hours. Children can learn English in the classroom, but walking outside, being exposed to nature, and talking about how they feel and what they think with native teachers in English is an invaluable learning experience. The school has a rooftop balcony with artificial grass, a large yard with slides, ↗



pull-up bars, athletic equipment, as well as a vegetable garden. Teachers take full advantage of this environment to enjoy a school environment that is full of new discoveries, surprises and of course English!

Children are just like adventurers, expanding their imaginations through their experiences at school and the encouragement of their teachers. It makes me happy to see every interaction between children and their teachers, and I really feel that my work is worthwhile.

The children touch the soil with their bare hands to grow fruit and vegetables, touch the creatures that live in the soil, and even help butterfly larva that are having trouble hatching. Taking care of living things gives children a chance to become familiar with the beautiful world that surrounds them, and nurture a rich appreciation for all living things.

Toyonaka School is located in the Hokusetsu area of Osaka. This major commuter town is both convenient and abundant with nature, and an ideal environment to raise children. It is a quiet town with historical shrines, elegant cafes, and famous stores. We are lucky to sometimes have freshly baked delicious bread for snacks delivered to us from a bakery nearby. The shrine nearby has become a familiar walking course. In the shrine's spacious grounds and the park next to it, we can see insects and other living things, and learn about the changing seasons, which is a valuable place to encourage children's emotional development. Thanks to the nurturing environment, we have been able to offer a better educational program as an international school for more than ten years in this city. Over the years, we have had graduates who are now elementary and junior high school students, and sometimes they come to pick up their younger siblings after school. This relationship between current students, graduates, their families, and the community grows to create a good environment for children. Our staff is made up of many different nationalities from all over the world and children love all of them. The other day, when a child was leaving school, they noticed that they had not said goodbye to some of the teachers, and

*This large sandbox really comes in handy in the summer! We know that children love to play and get covered in mud here! ☆*



they looked around the school to say "See you" to them.

It is my hope that from an early age, children will learn to live among different people, to appreciate diversity, and to create and support a harmonious society.

We continue to grow as a nursery school where children can enjoy themselves and develop their living English skills. In the future, children will also need to be self-reliant and have the ability to create their own future. We do not teach children answers to their questions, but rather we watch them carefully and give them clues and tips to navigate them to develop their motivation and interest. To achieve the goals of each class, we exchange opinions among the staff and strive to achieve good results.



HP



Facebook



1-4-36 Kasuga-cho, Yao-shi, Osaka

HP



Facebook



8-5-27 Honmachi, Toyonaka-shi, Osaka



Interview

## Kids living around the world 2

T.I., a previous student of Kinder Kids International School Nishinomiya K3 class, and his family left Japan for France last year. A few months after his departure, we received very happy news that he started attending an international school in France, and what he'd learned at Kinder Kids helped him a lot to enjoy his time there.

We interviewed T-kun's mother to find out more.

### — How do you handle classes in French?

All of the teachers speak both French and English, so if he doesn't understand some words in French, they will translate them into English to support him. I believe that his English background has encouraged him to take on the challenge of learning French because he feels confident that he can communicate in English.

### — Is there anything he learned at Kinder Kids that is helping him at his current school?

At his school, they have weekly spelling tests in English and French, as well as tests for all subjects before their school holiday. The spelling test seems to be done in the exact same way as Kinder Kids so he isn't nervous about the tests and he performs well.

Skipping grades and failing grades frequently occur, so the students' ages vary even in the same class. My son is in the first grade class for French and in the second grade class for all other subjects.

### — How did you take care of your children when you moved abroad?

Before moving to France, he was sad that he would have to leave his beloved Kinder Kids and be separated from his friends, so I kept telling him that there would be many exciting things to do in France, I'd say "Let's go camping" and "Let's go to the beach every day! Until we left Japan, friends of Kinder Kids spent their time playing with him a lot, and in class, they wrote and gave letters to my son. Thanks to all of you, we had a lot of beautiful memories that we will never forget, and we are grateful for the kind teachers and friends we had at Kinder Kids. Even now, we keep in touch with his friends by writing letters.



Leaving School Extracurricular Activities



At the school where we enrolled, he was praised for his English skills, manners, and his attitude of asking if he can help when the teachers are busy with working. We believe that all of them come from what he learned naturally at Kinder Kids.



Halloween Day Volunteer Activities View from Trez

### — What do you find attractive about school activities in France?

After school, they have optional classes for students to ask teachers to help with their homework, or to play sports. They can choose from various sports available such as horseback riding, golf, and soccer. Every Wednesday, they only have classes in the morning, and they enjoy art, drama, and cooking in turn in the afternoon. He loved the cooking class at Kinder Kids, so he looks forward to this cooking class every time. They also do a lot of volunteer activities, such as making handmade dolls in class, asking parents to buy these to raise money for UNICEF, and preparing food and Christmas gifts for those who are suffering from poverty.

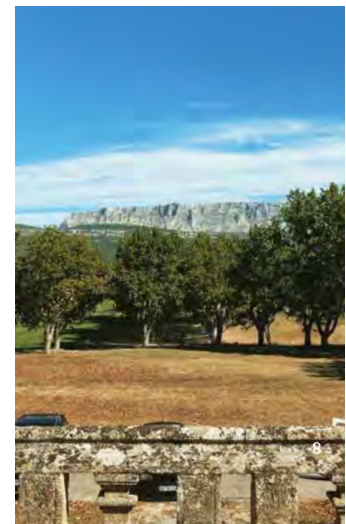
### — Does your family have a favorite place to visit ?

I would recommend the central area of Aix-en-Provence, which is very stylish.

There are traditional pastries (calisson), lavender, and cute souvenir shops, as well as cafes with open terraces, which give a true atmosphere of southern France. Trez, a place where you can see the beauty of Mount Sainte-Victoire, is also attractive.



I-san's family moved to the Provence region in the south of France. The school they enrolled is one of the best international schools in France, offering a wide variety of learning experiences based on the British National Curriculum, with small classes in elementary, middle and high school. The school has a large field with a golf course, and he really enjoys playing around in the great outdoors with his friends every day. Provence is a scenic area that has been loved by painters such as Cézanne and Van Gogh and has attracted many people. He likes to go to cafes with his parents and his favorite drink is lemonade. We can't wait to see what kind of young man he will grow up to be in this city filled with art and history.



# Grad Club Message

2020 → 2021



Grad Club Manager  
Andy Usher

Last year around this time, I gave all of you a message of joy and wishes for the new year. However, our lives have completely changed, and what we think of normal is no longer normal.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to turn this experience into a positive one and wish you a successful and rewarding year in 2021.

This year, we are preparing our programs, giving top priority to the health and safety of children so that we can hold all Grad Club events. During the summer holiday children look forward to, we will offer them even more events that will give them a wide variety of exciting experiences. It will be a precious time full of wonderful memories and learning.

We also continue to improve our curriculum by creating new courses to meet the ever-improving English levels of our students. I look forward to introducing our new curriculum to you.

May 2021 be a great and special year for Grad members. I'm looking forward to seeing Grad Club members all over Japan!

Andy Usher



ONLINE

Please check "Grad+" for the latest information! If you want to know what to start from, please feel free to contact us ★



Grad Club Division

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Frozen Frog

Let's make a four-panel comic

By PHONICS GARDEN

Choose from the three quotes below to complete your four-frame cartoon! The Phonics Garden is full of heartwarming cuteness and laughter. This time, we have Frozen Frog, who has been frozen for some reason, and Kissing Kiwi, who is honest and pure.

Shiny : ピカピカ



Kissing Kiwi

"Do you really think so?"

"You're very shiny!  
It's so cool!"

"Now we're both shiny!"

Reference the back cover for dialogue examples