



HORIZON JAPAN
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

2007-2008 Academic Year

September - November '07

FALL NEWSLETTER



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Special Days We Had

-  Health Day
-  Halloween
-  Parents Day
-  Family BBQ



Message From Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

What a busy term! I know that everyone will be looking forward to the break. Our new House system helped us get the year off to a resounding start. Our first Red and Gray House teams Drizon Day was especially exciting. Many of the teachers feel lucky to have survived the day, especially the ones who are not as young as they would like to be! Fresh juice and clean handkerchiefs on Health Day, hungry happy families on Family BBQ Day, howling ghosts and dancing princesses on Halloween - and we were still only at the end of October!

This past month has brought us a busy Parents' Day, with lots of visitors around, an exciting second Drizon Day with our House Captains leading us in caring for our team-mates, and World Hello Day where we learnt the value of a simple 'Hello!' Throughout the term we have had a very active ASP program. I hope you enjoy reading of the many exciting things our children got up to in that very busy hour after school each day.

Thank you to the PTA and other parents who have supported us throughout the term. Thank you to the teachers who have worked so hard to get the year off to a great start. And a big

'Thank You!' to all the students, especially from the new teachers on staff - they have given a very warm welcome to all teachers, and been very responsive in all the activities prepared for them.

We look to the coming term, your continuing support for the school and its teachers, and another exciting period of learning about the world and ourselves.

Mustafa Kara
PRINCIPAL

Special Days in Fall

Halloween was a spectacular day! Thanks to the parent who volunteers did a great job...



Our **Family BBQ** was a wonderful occasion attended by most of our families across all campuses. It was great to see...



Health Day: Those who exercise, eat well and take care of their health will probably be ill less frequently than those...





NEWS FROM PRESCHOOL



News From Preschool 3

Hello from Preschool 3! We hope everyone had a wonderful fall term at Horizon! In PS3 we've been having so much fun and making such great new friends that we haven't even noticed the time passing...

In September we started off the year with a focus on our individual selves- we learned new ways to describe ourselves and different ways to make



self-portraits! We also learned more about each of our friends and families. We really enjoyed sharing stories and pictures of our families. In September we attended our first Drizon Day and did a great job as the Red Team. Congratulations!

October was an extremely busy month for us! Our topic exploration for October was Health and Safety. We learned

about how to stay healthy and what to do in an emergency. We studied the food pyramid and practiced mock earthquake drills, how to put out a fire and more! It was very good practice for us and now we can help take care of ourselves and others. Most importantly, we know the magic number to get help if we need it- 119! In October, we also took part in the Family BBQ and had a Halloween Party! Halloween was so cool and several PS3 students won costume awards!



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November was fun too! We explored our 5 senses of touch, taste, sight, hearing and smell (of course, our favorite was exploring taste! Yummy, yummy!). Famous fables like "The 3 Little Pigs" and "The 3 Billy Goats Gruff" were great too and they quickly became class favorites- turning the stories into crafts was a real delight!

And after collecting some beautifully colored leaves and acorns, we finally finished up our autumn project- a hand, arm and fingerprint tree. Parent's Day was really nice to have all the moms and dads here- we wish you could come to school with us every

"Halloween was so cool and several PS3 students won costume awards!"

day! Our 2nd Drizon Day was really silly but our Red Team did an amazing job in the races.

We hope that next term will be just as exciting and full of interesting things to do!



News From Preschool 4



It's been three months already! The Fall term has flown by extremely fast! Even though the time has sped by, we here in PS4 have been able to accomplish quite a bit. Here's a run down of what we've done.

September- We started our year taking time to get to know each other. We discussed all sorts of things like our ages, birthdays, where we're from, our likes and dislikes, and



what makes us each unique. We drew self-portraits, made small clay sculptures of ourselves, made birthday bal-

loons, and reviewed the basics (writing, ABC's, numbers, colors, shapes...).

October- During our second month of school we welcomed a new student to our class! As far as school work goes, we put together books titled All About Me. These books were about our life (family, school, favorite toys, and what we want to be when we grow up).



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We also looked at how people from around the world look differently than we do. We observed that there are lots of eye and hair colors, heights, face shapes, and a variety of shades of skin. We talked about how special everyone is no matter what they look like or where they are from. The biggest event of October was our Halloween celebration. It was FANTASTIC! Thank you parents for celebrating with us!

November- We've spent the last month of this term observing and learning about the Fall (Autumn)

season. We've seen leaves change color and used fallen leaves to make Art work! We had a fun "Fall Scavenger Hunt" at the park, and made a Fall Changes book. We just finished exploring rain and what happens to the ground during a rainstorm.



"We observed that there are lots of eye and hair colors, heights face shapes, and a variety of shades of skin."

The experiment we did with dirt and water was a great way to see the affects of rain up close. The very end of the Fall term saw us mixing colors and noting the results; and finishing activities to show how all of our skills are improving. It also has us saying good bye to one of our friends. We will miss her!



News From Kindergarten



Autumn Term has been a great start to the school year. We've established a daily routine in which we write and draw journals and count on the calendar. We also discuss weather, sing, and dance. We've learned songs that helped us memorize the months of the year, the rules of the classroom, and how to spell weather-related words.



Show-and-Tell presentations have also become a major part of our daily routine. Each day, three children present their 'something special' to the class. The children are then allowed to ask three questions to the Show-and-Tell presenter, so that a discussion forms. This activity is helpful in progressing the children's

English abilities in a conversational atmosphere.

We have also been hard at work in Kindergarten. For our Language Arts curriculum, we've progressed through 3 themes. Our first theme this term was "About Me".



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We all got to know each unique student of our class - their interests and likes/dislikes. Our second theme was "Colors All Around". We focused on color vocabulary and studied the colors and creatures of the ocean. We are now beginning our third theme "We are a Family", which focuses on different



types of family members and caring for your classmates. In Mathematics, we are working on observational vocabulary and number recognition patterns.

After Horizon's school-wide Halloween festi-

"We are a Family" focuses on different types of family members and caring for your classmates.



ties, the Kindergarten Class had their own special party. We would like to thank all of the parents for their support and contributions to making a very fun and scary Halloween. We look forward to a fun, fresh, and chilly Winter Term and Holiday Break. Happy Holidays!



NEWS FROM GRADES



News From Grade 1

This term has gone by quickly. Many things have happened. We started the term reviewing the alphabet, letter sounds and number and we have settled in to new classroom routines and procedures. The children have adjusted to Grade 1 and becoming more confident and independent with each passing week. It was nice to see so many parents on Halloween and Parents Day.

In Language Arts, we have been studying sound blends with vowel sounds. Understanding sounds will help

to decode (read) and recode (spell) new words. These are two important strategies for reading and writing. We are also learning other reading strategies, such as to predict what will happen and to monitor what happens, so we understand stories. Reading is such an important part of the day. We all enjoy reading in class, especially the Houghton Mifflin anthology books. As

the term comes to a close, we are learning how to blend consonant sounds.

In Mathematics, we have started addition and subtraction. We also learned about Pennies and Nickels. We learned how to count in fives with Nickels and how to exchange Pennies for Nickels.



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We are learning about Dimes too. We have also reviewed telling time to

the hour and half hour, and how to tell the time to five minutes. We have also learned to tally, counting in tens, and make patterns with numbers, shapes and colours.

"The children have adjusted to Grade 1 and becoming more confident and independent with each passing week."

I am happy that so many of you are reading with your children. Thank you. It is also great to see many of you using the reading logs. It is a great way to connect what we do at school with what happens at home.

As we move into the winter term, we will continue to work on writing

I look forward to seeing you all on December 7th to share our progress.



News From Grade 2



Take a quick look at our class. Everyone has adjusted to 2nd grade life quite nicely. They are beginning to take on more responsibilities, such as: maintaining their weekly book log and studying for their weekly spelling test. The children have also embraced the school's motto, and put into practice the weekly caring and courageous goals. With the Family BBQ, Halloween, and Parent's Day, we've had a very busy term. The children have enjoyed

participating in these events. They were all very excited about their parents' visit. During Social Studies, we focused on telephone etiquette. Some of the parents were able to practice with cell phones made by the students. I hope that the parents enjoyed themselves and got a little taste of 2nd grade life.



As a class, we are all looking forward to the Winter Term. Before the long break, the students will perform "Horizon School Musical." I'm sure they will do a wonderful job, and I hope to see all of the parents there.



News From Grade 3



Grade 3 as always is a fabulous class to teach. We are all convinced they have the most energy in the school and that is always demonstrated in special days like Halloween or Drizon Day when they participate with enormous enthusiasm. I am so happy with their progress as they have now settled into a routine that involves great work in



publishing, reading groups, spelling and Brain Quests for excellence. Grade 3 has had a lot of fun this last month with publishing their literature and writing adventures. They are becoming more skilled in the publishing process now and their work is exciting and creative. The theme for the last month in language arts and social studies has been Celebrating Traditions and they have explored many different cultures in sport, art, dance and music. They have continued to have regular vocabulary and spelling tests related to the books and stories they



are reading as well as Brain Quest tests around maths and science themes. They are all in reading groups and enjoying the new books although some of them have nearly finished all the books in our library!



News From Grade 4



Grade 4 'Journey'ed their way through first term. We enjoyed most of what we read. A particular highlight was the story of the Titanic. Even now we reflect back on what an amazing experience that must have been. We read, listened, discussed and wrote as each story taught us more about how people make different journeys through life.

Halloween and our second Drizon Day

were quite memorable. Grade 4 got to meet some nice new friends from Kishiya, introducing them to many of the customs associated with Halloween. The energy they displayed helping each other on Drizon Day was most impressive. Their strength, cooperation and sense of joy would have made anyone proud.



Grade 4's save the

As the term progressed each of our group showed their strengths, but I was most pleased by their willingness to try to improve in all the areas of their work. They have become extremely fast at their number facts, exceptionally good at their spelling, and continue to make exciting progress in their reading skills.

We are all looking forward to December and the coming new term!



News From Grade 5-8



I can honestly say that these children are a pleasure to teach. They have settled into our class routines and worked well together as a team. I am pleased that they have shown great enthusiasm for my lessons and have produced lots of good work.

Everyone has worked hard on improving reading skills. Almost every day I have given each student a short book to read and spent time listening



to them individually. They are always

keen to read and move up to the next, more difficult level.

For writing we have focused on writing information reports, ones which relate to our social studies topics. Alongside this purposeful writing we have been working hard on learning the essential rules of spelling and grammar.



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Our social studies topic has given many opportunities to study maps of the world and other countries. We have looked at the daily life and cul-

ture of other societies. All of this has involved internet research, watching documentaries and reading lots of reference books.

A common thread which has run throughout all of our work has been the art of speaking and listening well. Everyone has certainly developed a confidence to speak to the class and express themselves clearly.

The first three months have passed quickly. I look forward to the next term being as productive and enjoyable as this one has been.



NEWS FROM SPECIALISTS



News From Mathematics

What the students learnt with respect to the curriculum.

GRADE 3: We have been using the book "Everyday Mathematics" and the contents of the book have been covered. We reinforced the notion of numbers, are understanding the number patterns through puzzles, reading time, displaying and analyzing data,

multiplication facts, money change problems, three digit and four digit addition and subtraction, number stories, estimating and measuring lengths, and investigating the perimeters of several polygons.

GRADE 4: The focus was mainly on strengthening and increasing number sense, measure sense and estimation skills. Reviewing and extending the basic skills of arithmetic - addition,

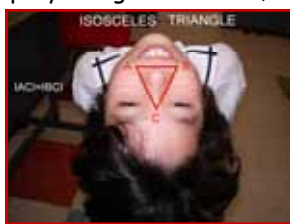
subtraction, multiplication and division. They also learnt about variables and made a short introduction to solving equations together with logic problems. They learnt to make some geometric constructions, drawing a circle by using a compass, drawing a hexagon, concentric circles and drawing beautiful circular designs. We revisited data analysis by using the landmarks of statistics and finding the distance



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between two points on a map by using the map scale and a ruler.

GRADE 5: Here is the summary of the things that we focused on: Practicing and extending students number and measure sense, reviewing the four main operations, refining the basics of geometry, statistical data display and classifying. Multiplication facts were



revisited, divisibility of whole numbers, prime and composite numbers, square numbers, squaring and unsquaring numbers, estimating the reaction time, solving basic equations, multiplication by lattice method, mental calculation strategies, angles in a triangle and other polygons, triangle constructions and tessellations.

GRADE 6-7-8: We did Pre-Algebra with them. Included in this semester: Writing and evaluating variable expressions, operations with integers, plotting points in a coordinate plane, simplifying variable expressions, writing and solving one-step and multi-step equations and inequalities. The second unit is about Rational Numbers and proportions. We are at present doing factors, fractions and exponents.



News From Music

In music we are underway with Horizon School Musical and have a basic script together, as well as having decided the main roles, with the chorus and orchestra/band slowly learning their pieces. It is very exciting to be part of and I hope you will join us in the singing especially. The children are extremely enthusiastic!

Preschool are practicing songs and dances and are getting particularly good at variations by The Wiggles.



Kindergarten have progressed to songs and some instrument practice. They love a mix of pop songs and traditional numbers.

Grade 1 are beginning to demonstrate their individuality as far as instruments, particularly keyboards are concerned.

Grade 2 are very dedicated and have divided into pianica, with a lot of talent there, keyboards and guitar, showing good promise and very strong vocal chords!

Grade 3 have enormous energy and have instrumental versatility with trumpet, violin, keyboards, guitar and percussion.



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Grade 4 are refining the art of music with more ballads and dynamics than the lower grades.

Grade 5 have their own passion and style and are now creating a great balance between instruments and percussion including both pop and classical pieces..



focusing on performance of contemporary pieces with guitar and keyboard backing.



Overall, we are all getting great exposure to a wide variety of both vocal and instrumental works. A great start to the year



Grade 6, 7 and 8 have the edge and are making an exciting musical in the making.

"In Music we are underway with Horizon School Musical and have a basic script together"

News From Japanese

日本語

During Fall term our students said a quick "Farewell" to Miss Miyahara, but were lucky enough to have both Mr Shibata and Ms Makiuchi for the remainder of the term. Even some of our other teachers joined classes from time to time - probably to practice

their own Japanese! From surrounding rooms the clear and proud voices of young readers could be heard practicing their reading assignments, chanting their hiragana sounds and repeating their instructions for numerous origami pieces.



Although we are all looking forward to Ms Miyahara's return, we are really grateful for the help that Shibata-sensei and Makiuchi-sensei were able to give in her absence..... Arigato!!!



News From ART

It was a busy first term, and the time flew by! We started the term with "self portraits". The second theme we worked on was "Back to school". For the *Art with lines* project we drew 'Bad Hair Day' pictures and designed our names in a very artistic way.

We integrated the geometric shapes knowledge with artistic creativity and we made beautiful window designs for Ramadan. The next big festival was Diwali, and we made some beautiful "Rangoli" designs for Diwali too.

We had a great Halloween; we



made some spooky Halloween cards for Kishiya elementary School students.

After such a busy month with festivals, we continued working on the elements of art; space, value and texture. We also worked on symmetry and learned drawing symmetrical objects. Grade 2 students made some amazing symmetrical animals and objects.

For the texture theme we used our fingerprints and our imagination for making fingerprint buddies. Have you seen them?

We also prepared a beautiful "Fall Leaves Art Board". We made beautiful landscapes with the last fall leaves.

With upper grades we have started learning about Pointillism and Seurat. It was exciting to learn that Seurat finished his masterpiece, "Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte" in two years using only tiny dots of paint instead of regular brush strokes! We are working really hard to finish our own pointillist paintings and we are using cotton buds to make the little tiny dots.




News From Science

Our science classes have had a fantastic start to this school year. Investigating the life and habitat of plants, animals and other living things, they have indeed been very busy. Students in **grade3** started the year with studying 'How Living Things Function'. They learned the parts of plants and also how these work together to keep plants alive. To explore the life cycle of plants we planted sev-

eral seeds in our science lab. Our bean seeds' heights are now more than 20 cm. They also studied the life cycles of different kinds of animals and discovered the similarities and differences between individuals in the same species. They paid attention to the needs of living things and their interaction



with each other. Students in **grade4** started with studying the unit of 'Organization of Living Things'. They learned the life processes of animals and plants. We focused on how the human digestive, circulatory, skeletal, and muscular systems work, and how plant and animal life cycles vary. It was so exciting to make experiments with earthworms and several plants. They also studied how energy and mat-



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ter flow through ecosystems and what happens when the resources of ecosystems fail to meet the needs of their living parts. Students in **grade5** covered the units 'The Life Processes' and 'Interactions Among Living Things'. They learned how different living things are adapted to carry out these important processes. They explored cells-the basic unit of life and discovered that, on the microscopic level, living things share many more

similarities than differences. They also investigated plants and how their traits are passed from one generation to the next. Students in **grade 6 to 8** studied different kinds of organisms and the tiny units - cells - that compose them. We explored how organisms are classified and how organisms pass traits to their offspring. We focused on the cell division and genetic information. We understood scientifically why we resemble our parents and

not our friend's parents. Since there are lots of unfamiliar words in science, we made a Science Word Bank center in our lab to improve our vocabulary. We enjoy playing word games starting each lesson.



News From PE

We started the term with the introduction of some basic rules and behaviors for the PE classes. I provided everyone with a list of behaviors which would contribute to success in physical education such as spirit, respect, teamwork, optimism. They also found some others and showed those by acting out in front of the class. They were really aware of what they should do and what they should not do in PE classes.



We started the term with the basic loco motor skills and manipulative motor skills. Since these are the core of physical education major games, I wanted to make sure that all the students were good enough to keep up with the major sport basic requirements. Most of my students were really good at running, chasing, fleeing, hoping and dodging. We also played various games to improve these skills. One of the most popular games was called

King. The students really had great fun while playing it. They also showed very good manners during the games such as caring, respecting others, collaboration, safety rather than just competition.

On Health Day, We discussed about the health issues, such as healthy foods, environmental health, reuse, recycle, reduce. In grade 3 each group presented their poster by acting in front of their class mates. They were really creative with acting and making posters. With grade 5 we listened to music from the website named



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(www.healthrock.com/music/exercise) as a health day activity. They really enjoyed the songs. During the rainy days we played indoor games. With grade 3 we played *Queenie I.O* and *Ball Stand*. Although they were inside during the PE class because of the rain, they had a great fun.

As for the November, we started to practice basketball. Since they were familiar with the basketball basic

skills it was not a big challenge for them. To improve their skills we practiced some passing, shooting, bouncing drills. We also played small organized games. During the games we had a chance to figure out what skills to practice more. Each student had an opportunity to get feedback about their skills.

All my students are very motivated and eager to learn in PE classes. They

also show very good manners, an important focus in our school community. I am really looking forward to our upcoming PE classes.

"One of the most famous games was called King. The students really had great fun while playing it"

News From Library

This term we had great changes in the library. The first one was our reading center. The students really liked to sit and read a book there. I think it became one of the most favorite parts of library. It enabled stu-



dents to spend more time reading books. We also had display books on the shelves. The last theme was fall and the next one will be winter and snow. Another change was the media center in which there are two



computers connected to the internet and printers. In social studies and language art classes, students came up to the library and searched about topics on the internet, wrote word documents and made PowerPoint shows. Lastly, I would like to thank Tony from Grade 3, who helped me to decorate the library by drawing pictures.

News From Computer

We try to introduce kids to the real use of computers using the most popular software from today's information age. There are hundreds of options available that can give them enjoyment and develop skills simultaneously.

The computer class has different objectives for each grade. As for the **kindergarten**, the students are introduced to touchable terminology such as monitor, tower, mouse and so on. Their favorite activities with computer are playing games and drawing pictures using Kid Pix and paint. While

playing the games they also improve their mouse usage and listening skills while following the commands of the game. We also use the internet for educational websites such as www.abcya.com. The students really enjoyed it.



In **grade 1**, at the beginning of the year we focused on some computer terminology such as left click right click, highlight, minimize, toolbar, start menu. They learned the most effective way to turn the computer

off. They also learned some basics of Paint and Kid Pix. They drew lots of beautiful pictures. We also focused on typing skills. They had great fun while using funny typing programs on the internet.

Children in **grade2 and grade3** are almost all familiar with computers. Our first goal in these grades is to improve their keyboarding and operational skills by using internet and software programs. They also drew pictures about events such as Halloween. They were introduced to MS Word and MS Power Point. Each student chose a



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topic and designed a slide show in their own style. Their parents watched the presentations with great admiration on Parent's Day.

In **Grades 4-8**, since they already know the basic computer terminology and operational skills we focused on content-based projects and several software programs. First we



started to learn with Paint then MS Word. They learned not only the basic operations but also some advanced ones. Then they prepared several projects in MS Word, such as 'My country page', 'Happy Halloween' etc. Following that, we studied MS Excel, which most are unfamiliar with. They learned to make mathematical operations in Excel i.e. sum,

average... Also they were introduced to macros in MS Word and Excel. In November, they worked on Power Point and internet. They designed a project using Power Point and presented their work to our computer class. They were really worth seeing.

"There are hundreds of options available that can give them fun and develop skills simultaneously"



AFTER SCHOOL NEWS

Dodgeball

We had an exciting term in our Dodgeball program. Even it is on Fridays every week, and the kids seemed very energetic after a long week. We had very exciting games, the tension increasing



when very few players were left on the field. While the kids were improving their various skills, such as throwing, catching, dodging, they were also learning to cooperate with their teammates. We are happy to have Dodgeball as a part of our After School Programs.





AFTER SCHOOL NEWS



Arts and Crafts Class

In Arts and Crafts class this term the boys and girls from Kindergarten and preschool had fun exploring their creative side through arts and crafts. We made finger puppets, masks, Halloween crafts, fall trees with dry leaves and many other things.

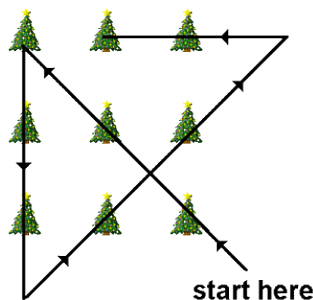


Ballet

This year ballet is a year-long After School Program. We're off to a great start! We've been learning the basics, and we've been working on something special for the spring. Hopefully we'll be prepared in time for the Year-End Performance

Brain Teasers Club

In this after school activity, the aim is enabling the students to use their brains for solving challenging problems and thus improving their thinking skills whilst with having fun. Some mathematical games were taught too. We had one meeting every week on Mondays.



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Basketball

I had a really big class for basketball ASP this term. There were more than twenty students. Since the age level was different, we made two groups; beginners and advanced levels. With the beginner groups we practiced the basic skills such as bouncing the ball, dribbling, and bounce passing chest passing and shooting. We also

played some games such as pig in the middle, whistle dribble; weave dribble...With the uppers, we mostly practiced shooting skills and small games such as three on three or one on one. We practiced lay up shooting, circle pass, set shot shooting, in and out basketball, twenty one, basketball snatch ball...I hope that for the upcoming terms, we have more opportunity to improve our skills and have fun.

Children's Games

In children's games, we have been playing a lot of movement games. We have played some favorites like Duck, Duck, Goose and Simon Says and we have learned some new games too. The children have enjoyed themselves. We have improved our English listening skills and our motor skills too.



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Cooking

This term, the cooking class has focused on quick, simple, and safe snacks that students can make at home with everyday household ingredients. For example, our first lesson was Mini-Pizzas, made from a slice of white bread, tomato sauce, and cheese, all toasted together for a fun and easy snack. The students have also been introduced to a variety of unique

snacks such as cinnamon-glazed apples, peanut butter/jelly saltine crackers, and fruit dipped in chocolate fondue sauce. More examples of international cuisine include Mexican Taco Salad, Italian Pasta, and the all-American S'Mores.

Fun at Computer

During the after school time some of the students worked on their own web site. Some other groups worked on projects that they started during the computer lesson. There is no doubt that the funniest thing was discovering the new computer games. While we had great fun we learned how to find something on the internet and how to use the function buttons properly.



After School News

Homework help

Do you ever wish a teacher could be there to help you with your homework? Well, wish no more! Every Wednesday after school Ms. Thomas is in her room ready to help. I can't tell you the answers, but I can give hints and suggest the best way to get it done. Then, when it is finished I can check so that you know that your homeroom teacher will be pleased with it.



Jump Rope

This past Fall we had a jumping good time in the Jump Rope After School Program. We got to play jump rope games like seeing who could jump the longest without stopping, or seeing how long we could jump as a class (one jump per person then switch people). There were even races to see who could run and jump rope at the same time the fastest. To top it all off, we learned a short routine that showcased all our skills!!



Kickball

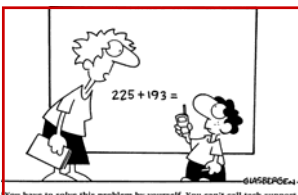
This term's kickball class is very large, and we've begun playing on the school playground. With many returning players, the students have learned how to throw the ball to a baseman in order to get a kicker/runner out; instead of throwing the ball at a kicker while running. Some of the students have enjoyed the change of pace. I hope that we can continue having student umpires and that the students can keep improving their playing skills.



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Math Club

In this club, we firstly prepared and published a wall newspaper. Every student was in charge of finding some mathematical fun material and writing



for the paper. Then we learnt about a honeybee

and its mathematical and engineering abilities. Observing and understanding the mathematical miracles in the nature was the purpose. We had one meeting every week on Thursdays.

"In the fall term, Horizon offered 25 After School Programs to its Students"

Math Advanced Study

The school has the policy to prepare talented kids for the international math competitions. For the students who are promising, I set up a study group on Saturdays to teach them some advanced stuff from Math and also have fun afterwards. So far we have quite well participants.



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Movement and Dance

We have had so much fun learning new dances and moving our bodies. The kids have learned how to do "The Bunny Hop," "The Chicken Dance," "The Twist," and many others. As one parent told me, the children will be ready to attend an American wedding and dance with the adults. Have a nice winter...



Soccer for Pre-K

It was really fun for me to be with our kindergarten and preschool kids in an after school program. We had 11 fanatical soccer players in the soccer after school program. We made two teams; Red Dragon and Gray Dragon. After warm-up exercises, it was time to have a big match. Sean and Umar were indispensable mem-

bers of the Gray Dragons. It was so hard for the Red Dragon's goalkeeper to defend Sean's strong shots. Colin and Ryota were the most fanatical players in the Red Dragon. The Gray Dragon's goalkeeper couldn't block Colin's fantastic scores.





After School News



Soccer for Uppers

The children are great sportspeople! They are divided into the Red Dragons and Black Dragons for the Seniors and Blue Sharks and Black Sharks for the Juniors. We play 5 minute round robin games focusing on positions with defenders and attackers changing and have concentrated on primary skills like dribbling, passing, positional play and shooting for goal. There are rules to encourage the children to keep the ball low, shoot low, and encourage fast, quick, clean passing and formation. They are progressing and relish getting as much game time as possible in the hope of becoming Horizon's next David Beckham!

Storytelling

Our Pre-school and Kinder Storytelling group enjoyed many stories during the Fall term. We learned about the fish who wanted to play, Millie who wondered where the monster was, and Little Critter who liked to help. We also enjoyed acting out the *Gingerbread Man* and the *Three Billy Goats Gruff*. Trip! Trap! Trip! Trap! How exciting. We made little books about *Goldilocks* and drew wonderful pictures of the *Three Little Pigs*. I wonder what stories are waiting for us next term.

Table Tennis 1

Monday Table Tennis was very popular. We have 20 students. The time has been split between playing on the table and practicing. The students were shown how to practice returning the ball against the wall. Most of the students have improved how many times they can return the ball! Hopefully we will have even more tables to use next term



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Table Tennis 2

The children had great fun at table tennis. Although most of them had not practiced table tennis before, they were very eager to learn. It was a great advantage for me. They learned the basic skills so fast. Some who had taken table tennis before became buddies with the beginners so that they shared their knowledge with

the others. It was a very good example of the caring learning environment of Horizon. They were also very enthusiastic while helping others. In skill development we learned the shake hand grip, ready position, forehand, backhand, roller table tennis, roller ball, roller ball on the table, wall table tennis, volley relay, basic hitting. At the end of this term, we did skill award testing. The pairs had a small

battle for 8 minutes. Each of the players received one certificate according to their levels. I believe that all my players will be great table tennis players in the future.



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Turkish Fun

Students participating in Turkish Fun Class are having a good time learning simple Turkish songs, basic vocabulary and even reading Turkish books. We started with learning how to say "hello" in Turkish. Ask an ASP student to tell you the meaning. They can also tell you the colors, numbers, fruits, basic action verbs and many other things. Did you know the word for "good" is the same in Japanese as in Turkish?

Yoga

In Pre-school Yoga, we are exploring the different ways the body moves. In particular, we've learned how to skip, gallop, roll, and slither. We've also practiced a variety of yoga poses, such as the *Waterfall*, *Squirrel*, *Shark*, and *Peacock*. One of the children's favorite poses was the "Frog", in which they move their bodies into a frog's squatting position before it leaps.

O T H E R A S P s

Other ASPs that are not displayed here:

-  Creative Dance
-  Children's Stories
-  Japanese Calligraphy
-  Japanese Fun
-  Video Review





NEWS FROM PTA



Hello parents,

Thank you for always contributing your maximum efforts to support us. At the beginning of this school year, we had an effective discussion with parents in the general meeting and reconsidered how the PTA should have been operated to better serve the requests from parents and cooperate with the school more actively. Then, we came to realize that the significance of the PTA was not fully understood due to the lack of communication and infor-



mation delay. So this year, we will be focusing on improving mutual communication with parents and the school by leveraging the communication method of email.

With the help of the parents who volunteered to become the new board members, we could make a good start and here are some of the highlights during the 1st term:

Fresh vegetable juice on Health Day: We served fresh fruit and vegetable juice to all students, demonstrating the process of



blending different kinds of colorful vegetables. Most children looked interested in tasting the mysterious looking juice.

PTA Suggestion Box: We set a suggestion box in the entrance hall so that you could drop your suggestions and opinions to us anytime in the box.

Haunted House and Piñatas at Halloween Party: We could have many parent volunteers to help us set up the party decorations and games. The children were so excited



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going through the long, dark tunnel that we had made using the monkey bars. They also loved to hit piñatas, cooperating with their classmates to break it.



school ordered the first set of stilts and started using them for testing. Once the safety usage is confirmed, both equipments will be available for students.

School-wide mailing list: We started using the school-wide mailing list to broadcast information. This will help us improve the speed and accuracy of communication with parents.

New play equipments: Based on parents' requests, we proposed the school to add unicycles and stilts to the playground equipment. The

"This year, we will be focusing on improving mutual communication with parents and the school"

Lastly, we thank all the teachers, especially Mr. Kara, Mr. Hole and Ms. Sirin for always addressing our needs quickly and supporting us to move ahead.



HEALTH DAY



Those who exercise, eat well and take care of their health will probably be ill less frequently than those who don't do these things. That's why we have a day for promoting healthy living. We worked on our jump rope skills and had a really good aerobic work out.

The P.T.A taught us how to make a very healthy fruit juice/smoothie drink. It had all kinds of good fruit

and vegetables in it and was very simple so that we could try doing it ourselves at home.





FAMILY BBQ



Our Family BBQ was a wonderful occasion attended by most of our families across all campuses. It was great to see our young students from Shibuya take the opportunity to catch up with their friends in Yokohama. Many of them even made new friends who we hope will keep up their friend-



ship through email and cards until the next

time we can catch up at a whole school gathering. I know that each of the younger members of our school community enjoyed the fun activities on offer throughout the day.

We were lucky to have beautiful weather, plentiful food, an abundance of helpers and many hungry bodies! Many parents got to meet their children's teachers for the first time and many teachers



a couple of very hard-working chefs

got the chance to put a face to the people looking after their students for the other part of each day.

For many of the staff it was their first time at a Horizon Family BBQ and I am sure that although the day was tiring, it will remain as a highlight for this school calendar year.



HALLOWEEN



Halloween was a spectacular day! Thanks to the parent volunteers who did a great job of decorating the school and the playground!

On the Halloween day we welcomed Kishiya elementary school Students and we played some great Halloween



games like "Witch Dress Up" and "Pin the Witch's Nose". Students got to trick-or-treat after they passed through the scary haunted house!

Everyone wore such amazing costumes! They were wonderful. It was really hard to pick the best ones! The entire school voted on the best costume and best performance for



each grade level.

Thanks again to PTA and all the volunteer parents, who turned the day into huge fun!

"Everyone wore such amazing costumes! They were wonderful!"



PARENTS DAY



There were many extra faces at school on November 15th as we opened the doors and welcomed our Parents to school. At least 80 parents attended throughout the day. Parents Day is a great opportunity for parents to experience what goes on in each of the classrooms, with both the homeroom and the specialist teachers.



All classes were well attended by parents. The parents had an opportunity to observe and participate in a variety of activities from Reading, Writing, Drawing, Computers, learning some Japanese and many ASP activities. Music seemed to be very popular, especially in the

afternoon.

During the lunch break, the PTA held a meeting in the Multipurpose Room to inform the other parents about what the PTA is doing for the school.

We would like to thank all those parents who attended and we hope to see you back next Parents Day



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We are already headlong into the Winter Term! With the Winter Performance just around the corner, and the festive season to come, we know that the rest of this year will be very hectic. After the winter break we can look forward to the Japanese Culture Day, our third Drizon Day, and our annual Literacy Week. I know that we can look forward to the support of our whole school community in the months ahead. We hope that you, as partners in the education process, will keep in touch and let us know how you feel your children are going.



FALL TERM AT HORIZON

