

Our Nursery students made beautiful heart shaped butterflies. The children are now getting used to painting, and tried hard to draw the curve for the heart. The spring-colored butterflies look playful, fluttering from place to place, perhaps chatting with each other. We hope a warm, peaceful spring will come soon.

Expanding future possibilities

Hirakû

8

Please share
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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KINDER KIDS 2020 MESSAGE Staff Spotlight

Kinder Kids Essay Competition 2019 ANOTHER SKY –Kinder Kids–
My Stepping Stone How to make Decoration Rolled Sushi

Japanese Spirit with an International Future. Kinder Kids inc.



KINDER KIDS 2020 MESSAGE

Message from the President

Moving on from 2019 to 2020

2020 has begun with an unprecedented global event with the emergence of the new corona virus. Due to the spread of the infection, we have had to make a very difficult decision to cancel the planned Graduation Ceremony and reduce the size of the ceremony and implement it at each school.

I feel extremely disappointed that I will not have an opportunity to express my gratitude directly to you, who trusted us to educate your children until graduation. I truly appreciate your support and cooperation for our school operations during your time with us. I would like to reiterate the message **“Once a Kinder Kids student, always a Kinder Kids student”**. Please remember us after you graduate, we can continue to support your children as they progress through elementary school and beyond.

Dojima



Entrance



Library

Tennoji Yuhigaoka



Gym



Play room



Theater room

20th anniversary

In 2020 Kinder Kids will celebrate its 20 year anniversary. Since our foundation in Higashi Osaka in 2000, a huge number of parents have supported us and we've grown to have a student base of around 3000. In this milestone year a new school brand "Kinder Kids International Academy" will launch this April in the Dojima and Tennoji areas of Osaka. There are increasing numbers of families with two working parents so Kinder Kids Academy has been created to provide a better service for busy family lives.

The Kinder Kids Academy differs from Kinder Kids in the following ways: 1. parents don't need to bring anything because everything is prepared by our staff, 2. Long Stay is standard for all students and everything is included. 3. We provide childcare in English, Japanese & Chinese. Tennoji Yuhigaoka School boasts a large gym and the building includes a floor that is exclusive to Grad Club. In October, we will hold a 20th anniversary event for the Kinder Kids family so watch this space!

We will continue to grow in line with our mission: to provide an environment where children can develop confidence and skills to embrace the world in this rapidly changing era.



President
Kimiko Nakayama



Interview

Ibaraki Saito

School

Ibaraki Saito School Manager
Hiromi Oshida



Staff Spotlight



Interview

Nara Tomigaoka

School

Nara Tomigaoka School Manager
Hazuki Hirao



Ibaraki Saito School is surrounded by greenery, where you can enjoy seasonal scenery. When you step inside the school, you will feel a sense of openness in the spacious lobby and classrooms. We are proud of the fact that children grow up with a friendly disposition and that they proactively talk to visitors or new school staff in a relaxed environment.

Our school staff is also friendly, and works hard to take care of the children with the motto of "One Team".

Knowing a child's home situation and sharing information openly with parents is what I value. I believe that by knowing a child better and sharing concerns together brings us closer and builds a more trusting relationship between us. Child-care requires a trusting relationship between school staff, children and parents so I want to make sure everyone feels comfortable to talk here.



Last year before the Winter Holiday, a Kinder Kids graduate and their mother, who had moved to Australia after graduating, visited us and told us that because of the high level of English skills built at Kinder Kids, the child had skipped a grade. The mother explained her appreciation for our education and I felt that what we do is very worthwhile, and I was reassured about our students' high English level.

Parents have said that they like us not only for our English education but also the wider curriculum and variety of events so they are very happy that they chose Kinder Kids for their preschool. Certainly, those comments motivate me and remind me that I love my job.

Nara-Tomigaoka School is located in a great location close to the station, and there are supermarkets, clinics and malls nearby, which are popular among working parents.

Nara is rich in nature. We have a school yard with playground equipment, but we also love going to parks nearby to see insects and other living things throughout the seasons.

There are lots of engaging spots including a park with a big slide within walking distance, so it's a really good environment.

With all five classes lined up facing our wide corridor, it's easy for different grades to interact and it creates a very homey environment.

The children love to show their craft to other staff members from other classrooms and run to talk to them at the door whenever they see them. It's great that children make an effort to form relationships with all the staff in the school.

I want our children to learn how to interact with lots of people, with their friends and teachers, and have hands-on experiences by actually touching or feeling different kinds of objects or things and absorbing knowledge from them.

In addition to talking about the growth of the children, we also talk about local information, hobbies and travel which naturally enlivens our interactions.

Since we're partners in raising the children, we want to be a place where parents can casually talk about anything and feel at home.

Teachers as well as school staff always try to be cheerful with a smile and try to create a friendly atmosphere.



HP



Facebook



3F Garden Mall Saito, 1-2-1
Saito Asagi, Ibaraki-shi, Osaka.

HP



Facebook



Recolx Tomigaoka Bldg C,
3021 Shikahata cho, Ikoma-shi, Nara

ANOTHER SKY

Kinder Kids

This spring, one of our first Kinder Kids students will take a big step into the working world as she joins Kinder Kids as a Nursery Teacher!



At the Company Meeting

New Employee / Bilingual Nursery Teacher

Shino Matsukawa

— What was your dream when you were a child?

No matter what job I chose, I wanted to do something that made use of my English ability.

— Advantages of being familiar with English since childhood.

When I volunteered at an American elementary school, I could access a wider range of work compared to other Japanese students because I was able to communicate in English smoothly.

— What I worked hardest at when I was a college student.

I worked hard in my part-time position as a cram school teacher.

I had always tried so hard to teach in a way that my students could understand by changing how I explained, making new learning materials like quizzes.

It was a great achievement and introduction to the joy of teaching.



The tradition of going on a snow excursion had started all that time ago!



Fun Cooking!

2020 Joined Kinder Kids

— What makes you want to work in Kinder Kids?

When I was a sophomore, I volunteered as an assistant teacher at an American elementary school. I was impressed by the wonderful environment in which children of different races can connect and make friends using the key tool of English.

— Your Resolution.

I want to become a nursery teacher who can understand children's feelings and broaden their future potential.

— What do you want to challenge yourself with at Kinder Kids?

I want to try to be a Gakushu class teacher drawing on my experience as a cram school teacher.

— What kind of a teacher do you want to be?

I don't just want to be a teacher but I want to explore and discover together with children.

— As you look back now, what did you like about Kinder Kids?

Kinder Kids provides an education that enables children to speak English while nurturing a Japanese spirit. Children can learn and use English while living in Japan which is a big advantage for children and opens up a lot of possibilities for their future.

Her favorite teacher is now her co-worker!

A picture that was taken back when she was a student. She brought pictures of herself with current teachers and they had an emotional reunion! Teachers who taught her encourage her a lot as she prepares for her new job.



One of her teachers was Yumiko, who has created all the Kinder Kids Phonics Garden characters!





My Stepping Stone

He began his education with Kinder Kids. We want to introduce a graduate student who has made his own path.

He participated in a race as a representative of Osaka in the National Junior High School Skiing championship.



Osaka School
Kinder Kids Graduate

Grade 3 Junior high school student.



Message from his mother

Experiencing Grad Club's Australia program gave him confidence.

He was sometimes hesitant to try something new but after he joined Grad Club's program in Australia, I could see his words and actions become more confident. I think his improved confidence led to him qualifying to participate in the National Ski Tournament.

— Why did you start skiing?

When I was 5 years old, my father took me skiing for the first time, and I realized how fun it was to ski on snow. I thought, "I want to do more!". Since then, he has taken me skiing every year.

— How did you feel when you got an invitation to the national tournament?

I was very happy when I found out that I was selected for the Osaka National Team. But at the same time, I was a little nervous because I heard that the level of the people in the more snowy regions of Japan was quite high. I was very happy to receive many encouraging messages from friends from various countries that I got to know through Grad Club's program in Australia.

— What are your future goals?

As I will be a high school student next year, being selected for the National Sports Festival and an Inter-high school competition will be a bit more challenging than it used to be, but I will do my best to be selected for the Osaka National Team again.

— Do you have any passions other than skiing?

I love listening to western music. My friend and I are competing to see how much we can sing like native speakers, but I think I can win, so I am glad that I went to Kinder Kids.

— What do you want to be in the future?

I want to be a doctor in the future. The very first time I thought I wanted to be a doctor was when I visited my father's work place and I saw my dad. I thought being a doctor was cool at that time. Later, I asked one of my older friends who goes to a medical school what it is like. listening to what he said, I became more interested in being a doctor and I have decided to pursue that path.



Fun dish for children and adults

How to make Decoration Rolled Sushi

1



“Peach Blossom”

It's fun to make and doesn't make a mess when you're eating! It brightens up your table! Here's how to make Decoration Rolled Sushi.

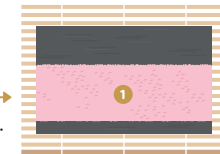
Ingredients

- 100g of Seasoned white sushi rice (with vinegar)
- 100g of Seasoned pink sushi rice (80g sushi rice + 20g of pink oboro)
- 3 sheets of dried seaweed (for hand rolling)
- 1 Stick of cheese
- 5 sticks of cucumber (10 cm each)



Preparation

- 1 Divide Sushi rice (pink) into 20g each
- 2 Cut one sheet of dried seaweed into three equal rectangles and spread the pink sushi rice, making 5 sushi rolls.
- 3 Add 1/3 of the seaweed to 1 sheet of dried seaweed.
- 4 Add and spread the sushi rice (white) onto the dry seaweed. Make sure to leave a space of 5cm.
- 5 Use the pink sushi rolls in Step 2, place the stick of cucumber between the pink sushi rolls and place the stick cheese in the center and roll into one cylinder and make it like a flower.
- 6 Carefully place the roll in Step 5, and the rice on Step 4.



Embossed gloves do not really stick to the rice so it is good for making sushi!



Receipt by: Ms. Ninomiya who works in Kobe Seaside's kitchen. She holds a Level 1 instructors certification for sushi from JSIA (Japan Sushi Instructors Association).