

Enrollment Guidebook for Multicultural Students and Guardians

~ Fujisawa version ~ (English)



Introduction

Welcome to the schools in Fujisawa City, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan! This guidebook provides comprehensive information about elementary and junior high schools in Japan. We sincerely hope that children will enjoy and thrive in their school experience.

1. The language support System in Fujisawa

Some schools in Fujisawa have a "KOKUSAI KYOUSHITSU (international classroom)" for children who need Japanese language support. Other schools have a Japanese language instructor who visits to teach the Japanese language. Please ask the school to apply for the support.

Shonandai Elementary School has a "NIHONGO SHDOU KYOUSHITSU (Japanese language teaching room)." Elementary and junior high school students who need Japanese language support and attend schools without a KOKUSAI KYOUSHITSU (international classroom) can attend these classes (attending these classes is called "TSUUKYUU"). Guardians must accompany elementary school students.

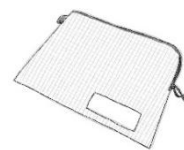
You can also ask for a translator to assist you during meetings with school teachers.

* Please note that a translator might not always be available, and your preferred language may not be supported.

2. Annual Schedule for Elementary School (varies by school)

You will receive an annual schedule and a monthly schedule from the teacher.

Important letters will be placed in the "RENRAKU BUKURO (communication folder)" (➡). Parents should check this folder at home each time. Children write their homework and the next day's study schedule in their "RENRAKUCHOU (communication notebook)" (➡). Parents should check this notebook at home daily and prepare the necessary items for the next day with their children.



If there is homework, please assist your child with it as much as possible.

1st Semester 一学期 ICHI GAKKI	April	始業式 SHIGYOU SHIKI (First-day assembly), 入学式 NYUUGAKU SHIKI (Entrance Ceremony), 身体測定・健康診断 SHINTAI SOKUTEI/ KENKOU SHINDAN (Body Measurement & Health Checkup), 授業参観 JUGYOU SANKAN (Parents Observation, Class Visit), 懇談会 KONDAN KAI (Parents Meeting), 遠足 ENSOKU (School Excursion)
	May	家庭訪問 KATEI HOUMON (Home Visit by a Class Teacher)
	June	引渡訓練 HIKIWATASHI KUNREN (Child Pick-Up Drills), 個人面談 KOJIN MENDAN (An Individual Interview), 水泳学習 SUIEI GAKUSHUU (Swimming Lessons), 社会科見学 SHAKAIKA KENGAJU (Social Studies Field Trip) (from 3rd grade)
	July	水泳学習 SUIEI GAKUSHUU, 夏休み NATSU YASUMI (Summer Holiday) (from about July 21)
	August	夏休み NATSU YASUMI (until about August 31)
	2nd Semester 二学期 NI GAKKI	September
October		運動会 UNDOU KAI (Sports Day), 宿泊学習 SHUKUHAKU GAKUSHUU (Overnight Field Trip) (5th grade)
November		授業参観 JUGYOU SANKAN, 懇談会 KONDAN KAI, 個人面談 KOJIN MENDAN, 遠足 ENSOKU
December		冬休み FUYU YASUMI (Winter Holiday) (from about December 25)
3rd Semester 三学期 SAN GAKKI	January	冬休み FUYU YASUMI (until about January 7)
	February	授業参観 JUGYOU SANKAN, 懇談会 KONDAN KAI
	March	卒業式 SOTSUGYOU SHIKI (Graduation Ceremony), 修了式 SYUURYOU SHIKI (Year-End Assembly), 春休み HARU YASUMI (Spring Holiday) (from about March 25)

3. Annual Schedule for Junior High School (varies by school)

You will receive an annual schedule and a monthly schedule from the teacher.

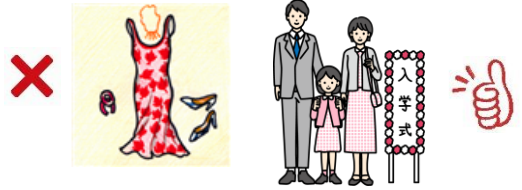
前期 ぜんき ZENKI (first semester)	April	<p>入学式 NYUUGAKU SHIKI (Entrance ceremony), 始業式 SHIGYOU SHIKI (First-day Assembly), 部活動仮入部 BUKATSUDOU KARI NYUUBU (Temporary Admission of Club Activity), 身体測定・健康診断 SHINTAI SOKUTEI・KENKOU SHINDAN (Body Measurement and Health Checkup), 授業参観 JUGYOU SANKAN (Parents' Observation, Class Visit), 家庭訪問 KATEI HOUMON (Home Visit by the Teachers), 全国学力・学習状況調査 ZENKOKU GAKURYOKU・GAKUSYUU JYOUKYOU CHOUSA (National Achievement Test・Survey of Learning Progress),</p>
	May	<p>部活動正式入部 BUKATUDOU SEISHIKI NYUUBU (Official Joining of Club Activity), 体育祭 TAIKUSAI (Sports Day), 修学旅行 SYUUGAKU RYOKOU (School Trip) (3rd year)</p>
	June	<p>衣替え KOROMO GAE (Change School Uniform for Summer), 中間テスト CHYUUKAN TESUTO (Mid-Term Examt)</p>
	July	<p>授業参観 JUGYOU SANKAN, 進路説明会 SHINRO SETSUMEI KAI (Admission Guidance of High School), 夏休み NATSU YASUMI (Summer Vacation) (from about July 21)</p>
	August	<p>夏休み (until about August 31)</p>
	September	<p>期末テスト KIMATSU TESUTO (Final Exam of the First Semester), 文化祭 BUNKA SAI (Cultural Festival) *1</p>
	October	<p>衣替え KOROMO GAE(Change School Uniform for Winter), 合唱コンクール GASSHOU KONKUURU (Chorus Competition)</p>
後期 こうき KOUKI (Second semester)	November	<p>中間テスト CHYUUKAN TESUTO, 進路説明会 SHINRO SETSUMEI KAI</p>
	December	<p>三者面談 SANSHA MENDAN (Meeting with Student, Parents/Guardians, and the Class Teacher) (3rd year)</p>
	January	<p>学年末テスト GAKUNENMATSU TESUTO (End-of-School Year Test) (3rd year) 宿泊学習 SHUKUHAKU GAKUSHUU (Overnight Field Trip) (1st, 2nd year)</p>
	February	<p>神奈川県公立高等学校入学者選抜 KANAGAWAKEN KOURITSU KOUTOU GAKKOU NYUUGAKUSHA SENBATSU (Entrance Examination for Kanagawa Prefectural High School), 学年末テスト GAKUNEN MATSU TESUTO (1st,2nd year)</p>
	March	<p>卒業式 SOTSUGYOU SHIKI (Graduation Ceremony) 修了式 SHUURYOU SHIKI (Closing Ceremony) 春休み HARU YASUMI (Spring Holiday) (from about March 25)</p>



*1: In September, the Multicultural Education Network Kanagawa (ME-Net) will hold a "High School Admission Guidance" session for multicultural junior high school students. For more details, please see page 17.

4. Important Events for Parents

1) にゅうがくしき 入学式 NYUUGAKU SHIKI (Entrance Ceremony)



1st-grade students and their parents or guardians will attend the ceremony. This will be the first opportunity for your child to meet their class teacher and classmates. Please note that formal attire is expected for you and your child entering school on this occasion. And on this day, the students will receive their textbooks. Students are required to bring their しゅうがくしていつうちしょ 就学指定通知書 (SHUUGAKU SHITEI TSUUCHISHO; Enrollment designation notice), school bags, and indoor shoes. Upon arrival, students must change into indoor shoes at the entrance and await the opening ceremony. Be punctual for the entrance ceremony.



2) しんたいそくてい けんこうしんだん 身体測定・健康診断 SHINTAI SOKUTEI/ KENKOU SHINDAN

(Physical Measurement and Health Checkup)

Children will have their height and weight measured, and a doctor will check their health condition at school. They will be recorded on the record card. In some schools, parents need to review the card, sign it with their name or INKAN (➡), and then the child will return it to school.



3) かていほうもん 家庭訪問 KATEI HOUMON (Home Visit by a Class Teacher)

The class teacher visits the child's home for ten or fifteen minutes to observe each student's home environment.



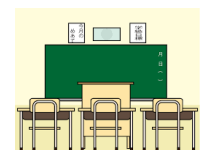
4) こじんめんだん 個人面談 KOJIN MENDAN (An individual interview)

さんしゃめんだん 三者面談 SANSHA MENDAN (Meeting with student, parents/guardians, and class teacher)

Parents have individual interviews with their child's class teacher to discuss their child's academic progress and general school life. In junior high school, they also discuss the child's career course. There is a teacher in charge of career guidance. You can also consult about high schools with Japanese language support and entrance exams.

5) じゅぎょうさんかん 授業参観 JUGYOU SANKAN (Parents observation, class visit)

Parents visit the school to observe their children studying. They can also see the child's written work and artwork.



6) こんだんかい 懇談会 KONDAN KAI (Parent-Teacher Meetings)

The meeting will be held to meet the class teacher and other parents. Important announcements will also be made, so please participate.

ひきわたしくんれん
7) 引 渡 訓 練 **HIKIWATASHI KUNREN (Evacuation Drills)**

This is an emergency drill in case of disasters such as earthquakes. Parents must come to school to pick up their children on the day of the drill.



うんどうかい たいくさい
8) 運 動 会 ・ 体 育 祭 **UNDOU KAI • TAIKU SAI (Sports Day)**

Children participate in activities like dancing and running. They practice for about a month before Sports Day. Some schools finish in half a day, while others require children to bring a lunch.

えんそく
9) 遠 足 **ENSOKU (School Excursion)**

しゃかいかけんがく
社会科見学 **SHAKAIKA KENGAKU (Social Studies Field Trip)**

しゅうがくりょこう
修 学 旅 行 **SHUUGAKU RYOKOU (School Trip)**

しゅくはくがくしゅう
宿 泊 学 習 **SHUKUHAKU GAKUSHUU (Overnight Field Trip)**



Students will go on an excursion to a park or aquarium with their teachers and classmates, traveling on foot, by bus, or by train. Students are advised to bring their packed lunches. For school trips and overnight Field Trips, students stay at hotels. The fee can be expensive, so there may also be cases where the cost of the school trip is paid in installments.

おんがくはっぴょうかい
10) 音 楽 発 表 会 **ONGAKU HAPPYOKAI (Music Performance)**

がくしゅうはっぴょうかい
学 習 発 表 会 **GAKUSHUU HAPPYOKAI (Student Performance)**

ぶんかさい
文 化 祭 **BUNKASAI (School Festival) *Junior high school**

がっしょうさい
合 唱 祭 **GASSHOUSAI (Chorus Festival) *Junior high school**



Students sing, perform a play, or present their studies. These programs vary by school and grade level.

そつぎょうしき
11) 卒 業 式 **SOTSUGYOU SHIKI (Graduation Ceremony)**

Sixth-grade elementary or third-year junior high students and their parents or guardians attend in suits or formal attire (junior high students wear uniforms). Graduates receive their diplomas from the principal.



かつどう
12) PTA(Parent-Teacher Association) 活 動 **PTA KATSUDOU (PTA Activity)**

PTA is a group for parents to participate in various activities for the children's benefit at and on the way to school. Participate as much as you can within your means.



5. School Rules in Japan (May vary by school)

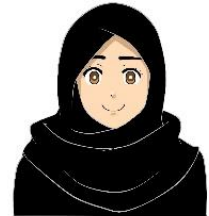
- ① Students are not allowed to bring money, snacks, mobile phones, or toys to school.



- ② Students must not leave until school hours are over.
 ③ Students must walk to school using designated routes. Some schools allow commuting by bicycle or bus; please check with your school.
 ④ Students should not come to school with family members or by car.



- ⑤ Generally, piercings, perms, makeup, and perfume are prohibited. If you have special reasons, such as religious considerations, such as wearing a hijab, please consult with the school.



- ⑥ Please ensure your child is present in class and at school events.
 ⑦ If you need to take a long break or move residence, inform the school immediately.
 ⑧ When your child is sick or needs to be absent, please notify the school. The notification method* may vary by school. Please confirm this with your school.
 ⑨ If your child will be late (^{ちこく}遅刻 CHIKOKU) or needs to leave early (^{そうたい}早退 SOUTAI), also inform the school.



- For being late, parents should accompany their children to school.
- To leave early, parents need to pick up their children from school.

- ⑩ Teachers might contact you by phone or via the "^{れんらくちょう}連絡帳 RENRAKUCHOU (communication notebook)." Some schools send an email when there is a notice to all parents.

* Methods of notification include the internet using "^{ちこく けっせきれんらくふ おおむ}遅刻・欠席連絡フォーム CHIKOKU KESSEKI RENRAKU FOOMU (Tardy/Absence Notification Form)," phone, or the "^{れんらくちょう}連絡帳 RENRAKUCHOU (communication notebook)." If the "Tardy/absentee Notification Form" is a Google Form, it can be automatically translated into various languages.

★Reference 1: How to Contact the School by Phone

Below is an example of how to contact the school by phone. Please use it as a reference.

①もしもし。

Moshimoshi.

★年☆組、(子どもの名前 ●●) の家族です。
★nen ☆kumi, ●● no kazoku desu.

②【Choose one from ＊】

*きょうは 休みます
Kyou wa yasumimasu.

*きょうは 遅れます。
Kyou wa okuremasu.

☆時★分に 行きます。
☆ji ★fun ni ikimasu.

*きょうは、早退します。
Kyou wa soutai shimasu.

☆時★分に ●●が、迎えに 行きます。
☆ji ★fun ni ●●ga mukae ni ikimasu.

③【Tell the reason】

* (かぜ / けが) です。
(kaze / kega) desu.

* (お腹 / 頭 …) が 痛いです。
(onaka / atama …) ga itai desu.

* 熱が あります。(●●) °Cです。
Netsu ga arimasu. ●● do desu.

* 病院に 行きます。
Byouin e ikimasu.

* 家の 用事が あります。
Ie no youji ga arimasu.

④よろしく おねがいします。

Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.

① Hello.

This is the family of (name of the child ●●) in class ☆, grade ★.

②

*My child will be absent today.

*My child will be late today.

We will come to school at ☆★.

*My child will leave early.

●● will pick them up at ☆★.

① 【Tell the reason】

*They have (flu/ injure).

*They have (stomachache/headache …).

*They have a fever. It is ●●degrees.

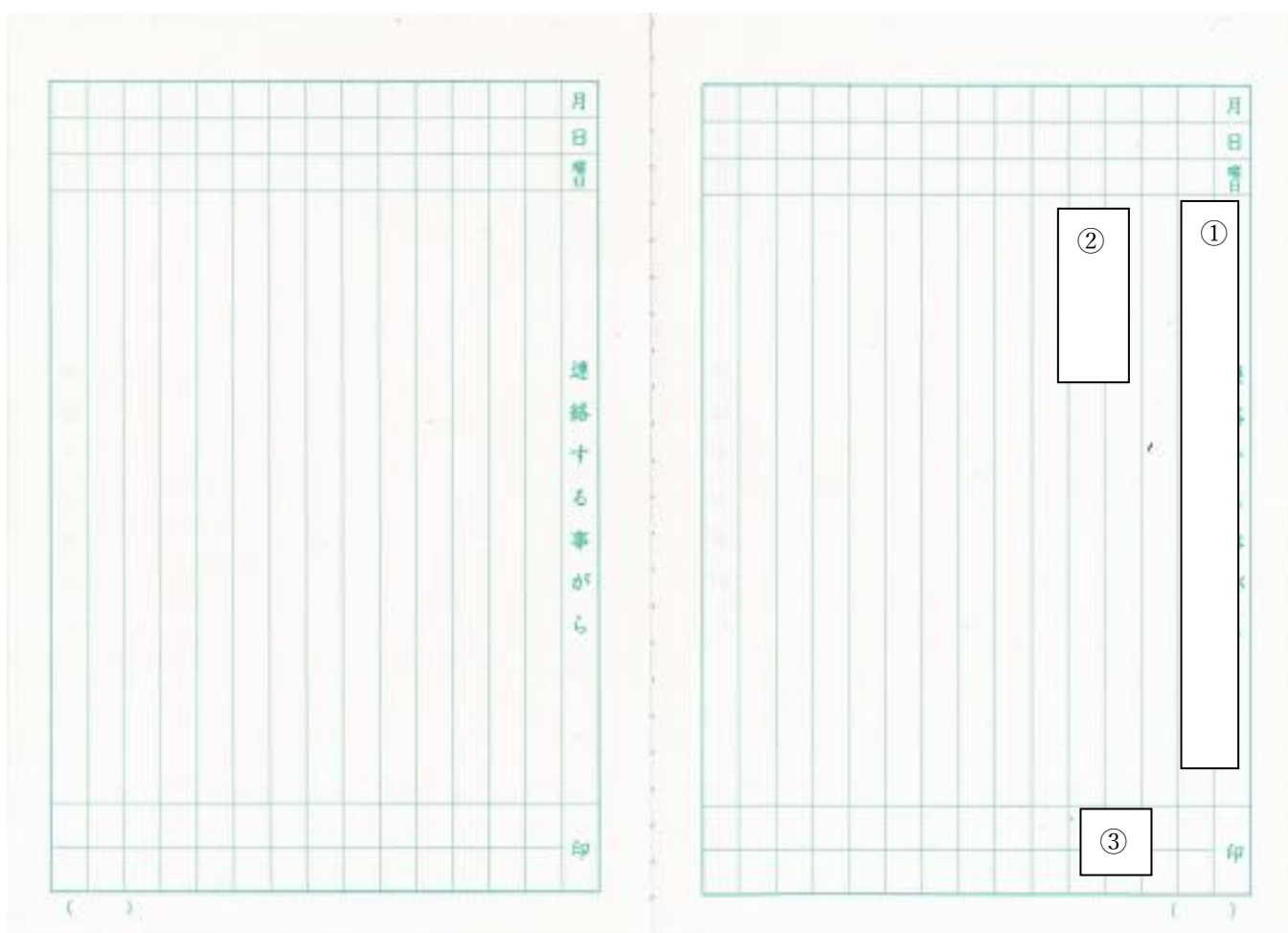
*We will go to see a doctor.

*We have a family matter.

④ Thank you.

★Reference 2: How to Use the RENRAKUCHOU(Communication Notebook)

- ① Children write their homework, the next day's schedule, and items to bring in the RENRAKUCHOU. Teachers also use it to communicate with parents.
- ② Parents can use the notebook to write messages to the teacher about absences, tardiness, early dismissals, or when the child needs medication. You can also ask questions or request consultations. If writing in hiragana is difficult, you can write in the alphabet.
- ③ Parents should check the RENRAKUCHOU daily. After reading messages from the teacher or responding to questions, please sign it.



6. Items Needed for Study (May vary by school.)

- Please write your child's name on all items. This includes pencils and erasers.
- For first graders, write the name in hiragana so classmates can read it.

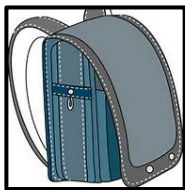
A. Items to Be Prepared by Parents Before Enrollment

A-1. Only Elementary School

らんどせるがた
ランドセル(型のかばん)

RANDOSERU

School backpack



てぶくろ
手さげ袋

TESAGEBUKURO

Handbag



たいそうぎ
体操着

TAISOUGI

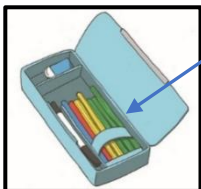
P.E. uniform



あかしろぼう
赤白帽

AKASHIROBOU

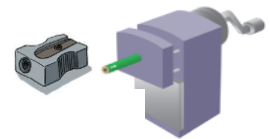
Red/white (reversible cap)



くろえんぴつ
黒鉛筆 KURO ENPITSU (2B~B black pencils, about five pieces),
あかえんぴつ
赤鉛筆 AKA ENPITSU (one red pencil), け
消しゴム KESHIGOMU (eraser),
くろ
黒の油性ペン KURO NO YUSEIPEN (black permanent marker)

*Pencils should be sharpened at home every day.

えんぴつけずり ENPITSU KEZURI (Saca puntas)→



したじき

SHITAJIKI

Underlay



のり、はさみ

NORI, HASAMI

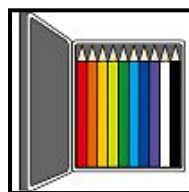
Glue, Scissors



いろ
色えんぴつ

IRO ENPITSU

Colored pencils



くれよん
クレヨン

KUREYON

Crayon



きゅうしよくうなふきん
給食用ナフキン

KYUUSYOKUYOU

NAFUKIN

Lunch cloth



なふきんい
ナフキン入れ

NAFUKIN IRE

Bag for lunch cloth



おりがみ

ORIGAMI

Origami paper



ぼうさい
防災ずきん*

BOUSAI ZUKIN

Emergency hood



へるめっと
ヘルメット

HERUMETTO

Helmet



*Some schools have helmets in the classroom, so purchasing a disaster prevention hood may not be necessary.

A-2. Elementary school & Junior high school

たいそうぎ い
体操着入れ

TAISOUGI IRE
Handbag for
P.E. clothes



うわ
上ばき
たいいくかん
体育館ばき

UWABAKI
TAIKUKANBAKI
indoor shoes,
gym shoes



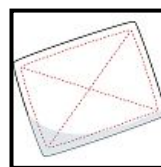
うわ ぶくろ
上ばき袋
たいいくかん
体育館ばき入れ

UWABAKI BUKURO
TAIKUKANBAKI
BUKURO
Bag for indoor shoes



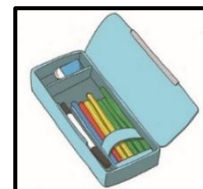
ぞうきん

ZOUKIN
Dust cloth



ふでばこ

FUDEBAKO
Pencil case



- ① Students bring their textbooks, notebooks, and pencil cases to school every day.
 - ② On Mondays, students bring their indoor shoes to school. They take them back home on Fridays to be washed.
- *For elementary school students only.
- ③ On Mondays, students bring their P.E. clothes to school. They change into their gym clothes before physical education class. Students take their gym clothes home on Fridays to be washed.

A-3. Only Junior high school

There are uniforms designated by the school. Please ask the school where you can buy them.

せいふく
制服 SEIFUKU

(School Uniform)

*Some schools do not have uniforms.



たいそうぎ
体操着 TAISOUGI

(Gym clothes)



B. Items prepared by the school (Payment will be collected in class.)

***Only Elementary School**

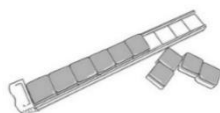
どうぐばこ
道具箱

DOUGUBAKO
Tool box



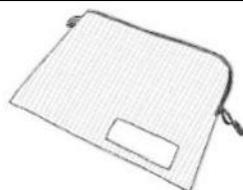
さんすうぶろっく
算数ブロック

SANSUU BROKKU
Math blocks



れんらくぶくろ
連絡袋

RENRAKU BUKURO
Communication
folder



こくごのおと
国語ノート

KOKUGO
NOOTO
Notebook for
Japanese



さんすうのおと
算数ノート

SANSUU
NOOTO
Notebook for
math



C. Items to Buy After Enrolling

(You will receive a notification from the school when it is time to buy.)

けんばん は あ も に か
鍵盤ハーモニカ

KENBAN HAAMONIKA

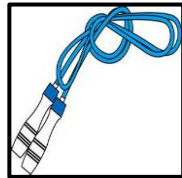
Melodica air tube



なわとび

NAWATOBI

Jumping rope



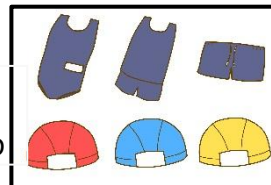
みずぎ ながそで ながず ぼん
水着 (長袖, 長ズボンも OK)

MIZUGI

Swim suite (Long sleeves
and pants are also acceptable)

すいえいぼう
水泳帽

SUIEIBOU
swimming cap



ご お ぐ る
ゴーグル

GOOGURU

Goggles



え ぐ せ っ と
絵の具セット

ENOGU SETTO

Paint set



り こ お だ あ しょうがく ねんせい
リコーダー (*小学3年生から)

RIKODAA

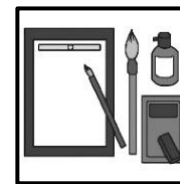
Recorder (from 3rd grade)



しょうせつ と ねんせい
書道セット (*3年生から)

SHODOU SETTO

Calligraphy set (*from 3rd grade)



じょうぎ
定規

JOOGI

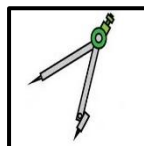
Ruler



こ ん ぱ す ねんせい
コンパス (*3年生から)

KONPASU

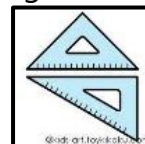
Compass (*from 3rd grade)



さんかくじょうぎ ねんせい
三角定規 (*3年生から)

SANKAKU JOOGI

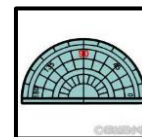
Triangles (*from 3rd grade)



ぶ ん ど き ねんせい
分度器 (*4年生から)

BUNDOKI

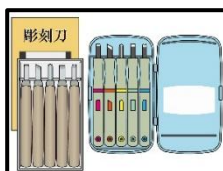
Protractor (from 4th grade)



ちょうこくとう ねんせい
彫刻刀 (*4年生から)

CHOUKOKU TOU

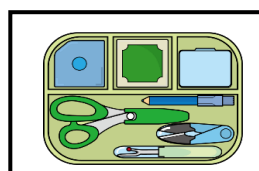
Carving knife (from 4th grade)



さいほうせつ と ねんせい
裁縫セット (*5年生から)

SAIHOU SETTO

Sewing set (from 5th grade)



あ る と り こ お だ あ ちゅうがく ねんせい
アルトリコーダー (中学1年生から)

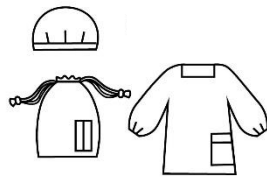
ARUTO RIKODAA

Aluto Recorder



D. Others

- ① Occasionally, there will be collections for material fees (such as workbooks or art supplies), field trip expenses, school trip expenses, etc. These fees can be paid by putting money in a designated envelope and bringing it to school or automatically withdrawing from your account.
- ② There is a lunch duty that rotates weekly. After the duty is completed on Friday, children bring home the はくい 白衣 (HAKUI, smock) and ぼうし 帽子 (BOUSHI, hat). Please wash and iron them and return them to school on Monday.



はくい ぼうし
白衣と帽子 HAKUI, BOUSHI

School lunch smock and cap
(You will borrow from school)

★Reference 3: Subjects Studied by Elementary School Students

The homeroom teacher teaches most subjects.

- 1) こくご **国語 KOKUGO** **Japanese Language:** Students study hiragana, katakana, and kanji, and read various texts. They express their thoughts and experiences verbally and in writing and listen to their classmates. This is not Japanese as a foreign language but as a native language. Students will learn 1,026 kanji characters over six years.
- 2) さんすう **算数 SANSUU** **Mathematics:** Students study numbers, calculations, and shapes. They also use rulers and compasses.
- 3) せいかつか **生活科 SEIKATSUKA** **Life Studies**(grade 1, 2) りか しゃかい **理科・社会 RIKA・SHAKAI** **Science and Social Studies** (grade 3-6): Students learn about nature, their local community, and history. SEIKATSUKA is divided into Science and Social Studies from the third grade.
- 4) おんがく **音楽 ONGAKU** **Music:** Students sing songs and play musical instruments. They use keyboard harmonica, recorder, castanets, tambourine, etc..
- 5) ずこう **図工 ZUKOU** **Art:** Students paint with watercolors or create crafts. They use materials such as paper, clay, scissors, and glue. From the fourth grade, they also use chisels to carve wood.



- 6) **体育 TAIKU** **Physical Education:** Students change into gym clothes and engage in activities like running, throwing balls, or exercises using mats. From June, they have swimming lessons.
- 7) **道徳 DOUTOKU** **Moral Education:** Students learn about societal rules and morals and think about important life lessons.
- 8) **家庭科 KATEIKA** **Home Economics** (from Grade 5): Students learn cooking, sewing, and making items like bags and aprons.
- 9) **外国語活動 GAIKOKUGO KATSUDOU**・**外国語 GAIKOKUGO** **Foreign Language Activities** (from Grade 3) **and Foreign Language** (from Grade 5): Students use English to engage in simple conversations. They also learn the alphabet, reading, and writing from the fifth grade.

*In addition, there are "書写 SHOSHA (Calligraphy)" and computer classes.

★Reference 4: Subjects Studied by Junior High School Students

In junior high schools, different teachers teach different subjects. At the end of each term, students receive a "report card" with grades from 5 (highest) to 1 (lowest). There is no grade repetition.

- 1) **国語 KOKUGO** **Japanese Language:** Students develop their thinking and expression skills through speaking, reading, writing, and listening in Japanese. This is not Japanese as a second language. They also study classical Japanese (KOBUN) and classical Chinese texts (KANBUN).
- 2) **数学 SUUGAKU** **Mathematics:** Students study numbers, calculations, measurements, shapes, etc., using tools like rulers and compasses.
- 3) **理科RIKA** **Science:** Students study 生物 SEIBUTSU (biology: plants, animals, genetics, etc.), 地理 CHIGAKU (geology: space, earthquakes, weather, etc.), 物理 BUTSURI (physics: motion, electricity, light, sound, etc.), and 化学 KAGAKU (chemistry: substances, chemical reactions, elements, compounds). They also conduct experiments and observations.
- 4) **社会 SHAKAI** **Social Studies:** In grades 1 and 2, students study 地理 CHIGAKU (geography: natural environments and regional characteristics, climate, landforms) and 歴史 REKISHI (history: Japanese and world history). In grade 3, they study 公民 KOUMIN (civics: politics, economics, relationships between individuals and society) and think about social issues.

- 5) **英語 EIGO** **English:** Building on the basics learned in elementary school, students study various grammatical structures. They engage in speaking, reading, writing, and listening activities to develop practical English skills.
- 6) **音楽 ONGAKU** **Music:** Students sing, play instruments, and study musical notation. They also learn about famous musical pieces.
- 7) **美術 BIJUTSU** **Art:** Students paint and create art pieces, sometimes using chisels to carve wood. They also study famous works of art.
- 8) **保健体育 HOKEN TAIKU** **Health and Physical Education:** For **体育 TAIKU** (physical education), students change into gym clothes and engage in activities like running, throwing balls, and using mats for exercise. From June, they have swimming lessons. For **保健 HOKEN** (health education), they study topics like body development, accident prevention and first aid, healthy living habits, and harmful behaviors (such as smoking and drug use).
- 9) **技術・家庭科 GIJUTSU・KATEIKA** **Technology and Home Economics:** For **技術 GIJUTSU** (technology), students make items using materials like wood and metal and study basic information and communication technology. For **家庭科 KATEIKA** (home economics), students cook, sew, and study household management, nutrition, and housing.



*In addition, there are "書写(書道) SHOSHA(SHODOU) (Calligraphy)," "道德 DOUTOKU (Moral Education)," "総合的な学習 SOUGOUTEKINA GAKUSHUU (Integrated Studies)," and "特別活動 TOKUBETSU KATSUDOU (Special Activities)."

★IMPORTANT

For junior high school students, reviewing at home, doing homework, and studying for tests are essential. If studying alone is difficult, some schools offer "after-school study support." There are also community centers where volunteers can assist. Please look into these options.

7. A DAY AT ELEMENTARY/ JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

1) ^{あさ かい あさ がくしゅう}朝の会／朝の学習 ASA NO KAI／ASA NO GAKUSYUU (Morning gathering／Morning learning)

The class teacher will check your health and attendance at the morning meeting. Also, the class teacher will confirm the schedule of the day. In the morning study, students read books or take a small test.

2) ^{じゅぎょう}授業 JUGYOU (Class)

In elementary school, a class is 45 minutes, followed by a 5-minute break. There is a 20-minute break after the second period.

In junior high school, a class is 50 minutes, followed by a 10-minute break. Students must check the class schedule (^{じ かんわり}時間割 JIKAN WARI) and ensure what they need for the next class (textbook, notebook, etc.).

Test results, class homework, and assignments are related to grades. In particular, the grades of second-year junior high school students affect high school entrance exams.

3) ^{ちゅうしょく}昼食 CHUUSYOKU (Lunch)

At elementary school, school lunches (^{きゅうしょく}給食 KYUUSHOKU) will be given from Monday to Friday. Students will have KYUSHOKU (School Lunch) together in the classroom. School lunches are served by the teacher and some students on duty (changes every week). Please consult the school if your child has allergies or religious dietary restrictions. The school may provide meals without specific allergens or allow children to bring packed lunches from home. You may also order only milk from the KYUUSHOKU.



At junior high school, school lunch will be provided if you place an order. Note that there is no allergy accommodation. You can review the monthly menu and choose when your child will eat school lunch. Students who do not order school lunches should bring a packed lunch.

4) ^{そうじ}掃除 SOUJI (Cleaning)

Students clean the classrooms, hallway, restrooms, etc., every day in Japan.



5) 帰りの会 ^{かえ} ^{かい} KAERI NO KAI (Meeting before going back home)

Students have a meeting before going back home. The homeroom teacher will inform students about the homework and the next day's activities.

6) クラブ活動 ^{かつどう} KURABU KATSUDOU (Club Activity) (elementary school) ・

^ぶ ^{かつどう} 部活動 BUKATSUDOU (Club Activity) (junior high school) ・

^い ^{いんかい} ^{かつどう} 委員会活動 IINKAI KATSUDOU (Committee Activity)



In the fifth and sixth grades of elementary school, students participate in club activities and committee activities.

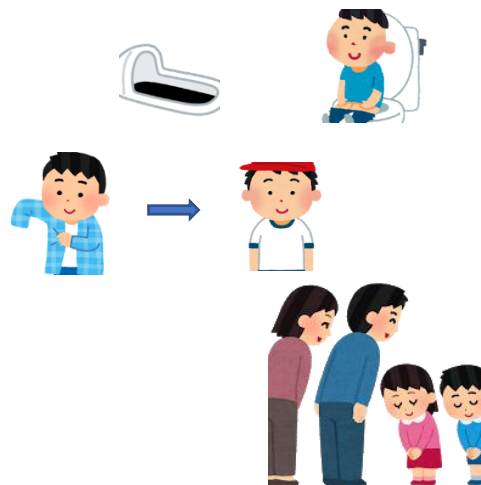
In club activities, children choose their favorite club and participate. At junior high schools, club activities take place after school. Some clubs have activities on Saturdays, Sundays, or early mornings. Some schools do not require students to join a club.

Committee activities involve taking on roles and responsibilities within the school.

When applying for high school, students can highlight their participation in club and committee activities.

8. Things to Practice Before Starting Elementary School

- Use the toilet by themselves.
- Change clothes by themselves.
- Walk from home to school.
- Say the following phrases:
 - ① Own name.
 - ② "はい HAI(Yes)" when called by the teacher.
 - ③ "ありがとう ARIGATOU (Thank you)" and "ごめんなさい GOMEN-NASAI (I'm sorry)."
 - ④ "おはようございます OHAYOU GOZAIMASU(Good morning)," "こんにちは KONNICHIWA (Hello)," "さようなら SAYOUNARA (Goodbye)."
 - ⑤ Expressions for when they need help, such as:
 - "^き ^も ^わ ^る 気持ちが悪い KIMOCHI GA WARUI(feel sick)",
 - "^お ^な ^か / ^あ ^た ^ま 頭がいたい ONAKA/ATAMA GA ITAI(My stomach/head hurts)",
 - "^と ^い ^れ ^い トイレに行きたい TOIRE NI IKITAI (I need to go to the bathroom)."



★Reference 5: Education System in Japan

Compulsory education in Japan consists of nine years of elementary and junior high school. There are no grade repetitions.

School grades are determined by the child's birth date. However, children recently arriving in Japan may be placed one grade lower. Please consult with the school for more information.

To enter high school, university, or vocational school, students must pass entrance exams.



Kindergarten/Preschool



Elementary School (6 years)

Children start the first grade in April following their 6th birthday.



Junior High School (3 years)



High School (3 years)

*Admission is based on passing entrance exams.

*There are also 4-year high schools and night high schools.

*Students who have been in Japan for less than six years may have special entrance exam options at some high schools. For more details, please see here.

<https://hsguide.me-net.or.jp/>



University (4 years) / Junior College (2 years) /

Vocational School (2 years)

*Admission is based on passing entrance exams.



Education
Compulsory

9. Educational Expenses

A) In Japan, after compulsory education (junior high school), approximately 98% of students attend high school. After high school, 84% of students continue to universities or vocational schools. (Reference: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), "Current Status of High School Education" (2021))

B) Continuing education requires money. Even in elementary school, expenses are incurred. Examples of necessary expenses for public schools (including school fees, lunch fees, etc.) are as follows:

- **Elementary School:** Approximately ¥105,000 per year (for items like gym clothes, paints, sewing sets, school lunch fees, school trip fees, etc.) × 6 years.
- **Junior High School:** Approximately ¥170,000 per year (for items like club activity fees, uniform fees, school trip fees, etc.) × 3 years.
- **High School:** Approximately ¥309,000 per year (for items like admission fees, tuition fees, club activities, school trip fees, etc.) × 3 years.

*Additional funds may be required for extracurricular activities or attending cram schools.

*Examination fees are required when taking high school, vocational schools, or university entrance exams.

(Reference: MEXT, "Survey on Learning Costs for Children" (2021))



C) Although a lot of money is required, there is financial support available:

- **Elementary & Junior High School:** ^{しゅうがくえんじょせいど} 就学援助制度 SHUUGAKU ENJO SEIDO (School Expense Subsidy Program).
- **High School:** ^{こうとうがっこうしゅうがくしえんきんせいど} 高等学校等就学支援金制度 KOUTOU GAKKOU TOU SHUUGAKU SHIENKIN SEIDO (High School Enrollment Support Fund)、^{しょうがくきゅうふきんせいど} 奨学給付金制度 SHOUGAKU KYUUHUKIN SEIDO (Scholarship Programs)、^{こうとうがっこうしょうがくきん} 高等学校等奨学金 KOUTOU GAKKOU TOU SHOUGAKUKIN (High School Scholarship).
- **University & Vocational School:** Various scholarships.

D) It is crucial to save money for your child's education from an early age. Apply for the ^{じどうてあて} 児童手当 JIDOU TEATE (child-care allowance) provided by the city for children and utilize automatic savings plans from banks, etc., to accumulate funds.

10. Documents to be submitted to the school

*There are other documents depending on the school.

1. ほけんちよう さひよう 保健調査票 HOKEN CHOOSA HYOU (Student Health Questionnaire)
2. しんぞうびようちよう さひよう 心臓病調査票 SHINZOUBYOU CHOOSA HYOU
(Cardiovascular Disease Medical Questionnaire)
3. しゅうがくえんじよせい ど し 就学援助制度のお知らせ SYUUGAKUENJYO SEDO NO OSHIRASE
(Notice about the Financial Assistance Program)
4. しゅうがくえんじよしんせいけん せ たいひよう 就学援助申請兼世帯票 SYUUGAKU ENJYO SINSEI KEN SETAI HYOU
(Financial Assistance Application and Household Record)
5. じどう こじんひよう じどう か あ ど 児童個人票 (児童カード) JIDOU KOJIN HYOU (JIDOU KAADO)
せいと こじんひよう せいと か あ ど 生徒個人票 (生徒カード) SEITO KOJIN HYOU (SEITO KAADO)
(Student's Individual Sheet) *Varies by schools.
6. かんけいぶんしょ PTA関係文書 PTA KANKEI BUNSYO (Documents related to PTA *Varies by school.
7. きゅうしよくかんけいぶんしょ こうざ ふりかえ 給食関係文書 (口座振替など) KYUUSYOKU KANKEI BUNSYO (KOUZA FURIKAE)
(School Lunch-Related Documents (account transfers, etc.))

- Some documents are available in translated versions in other languages. Please contact the school for assistance.
- Please ensure that all necessary documents are submitted by the designated deadline. If you encounter any difficulties regarding the documents, we kindly ask that you contact the school for further guidance and support.

11. Language and Culture

1) Communication at Home

When your child starts school, make sure to ask them about their day at school regularly. This encourages them to come to you when they face any difficulties. Use the language most familiar to your family, whether your home language or Japanese. It's essential that you can discuss complex topics, like education and future plans, in at least one language. At home, encourage your child to maintain their home language. Parents can also work on improving their Japanese skills. However, it is more important to communicate effectively in the language parents are most comfortable in rather than forcing Japanese. If your child becomes more proficient in Japanese, it is okay for parents to speak in the home language while the child responds in Japanese, as long as both understand each other. Effective communication at home is essential.

2) Home Language and Culture

Maintaining the language and culture passed down from parents and grandparents (home language) is vital for multicultural children. The knowledge and cognitive skills developed in their home language also aid in learning Japanese. Conversely, a lack of cognitive development in any language makes deep thinking challenging. As children approach their teenage years, understanding their home language and culture becomes critical to their identity and confidence, strengthening family relationships. To develop language skills, engage in activities in that language, such as discussing daily events, reading together, and watching videos. Enjoy cultural practices like cooking traditional dishes or celebrating customs. Introducing these to school can also foster interest among classmates, so discussing this with the teacher might be a good idea.



3) Language for Daily Life and Learning

Seeing your child use Japanese fluently in daily life might create the impression that they have no issues, but they may struggle academically. Acquiring a new language for daily communication typically takes 2-3 years, while academic language can take 5-7 years. Academic language is complex, and learning new subjects in Japanese is even more challenging if the concepts are not understood in the home language. Supporting your child in understanding their classes in both Japanese and their home language is essential. Monitor your child's academic progress and discuss support options with teachers as needed through meetings, communication notebooks, or phone calls. Seeking advice from local community members or volunteers who understand your language can also be beneficial.



★Reference 6: Accessing Support When Needed

- Please also refer to the internet for information.
- If you encounter difficulties, please also talk to your child's school teachers or the teachers at the kindergarten/preschool.

1) **Fujisawa City Consultation Service on Municipal Systems and Problems in Daily Life**

(English: 8:30 - 11:30 / 13:30 - 16:30)

(Spanish and Portuguese) 8:30 - 12:00 / 13:00 - 17:00)

Monday to Friday, except for National holidays

Place: Citizen's Counseling and Information Division (Shimin Sodan Joho Ka),
4th Floor Fujisawa City Office Main Bldg.

Tel : 0466-50-3568

Website URL ⇒



<https://www.city.fujisawa.kanagawa.jp/soudanc2-1/shise/kocho/shiminsodan/shise.html>

2) **Consultation Service at Shonandai Cultural Center** (Spanish and Portuguese)

Every Monday, Tuesday, and Friday (closed during the New Year holiday and national holidays)

8:30 - 12:00 / 13:00 - 17:00

Website URL ⇒



Place: Shonandai Cultural Center, 2nd floor, Gaikokujin Shimin Sodanshitsu

Consultations are only available in person, not on the phone.

<https://www.city.fujisawa.kanagawa.jp/soudanc2-1/shise/kocho/shiminsodan/gaikokujin.html>

3) **Earth Plaza Consultation room about Education for Foreign People**

(Tuesday: Tagalog, Wednesday: Portuguese,

Thursday and Saturday: Chinese, Friday: Spanish and Vietnamese)

10:00 – 13:00 / 14:00 – 17:00

Tel: 045-896-2972

Email: soudan1@earthplaza.jp

Website URL ⇒



https://www.earthplaza.jp/ep/forum/foreign_education/index.html

4) **Multilingual Support Center Kanagawa**

(English, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Spanish, Portuguese, Nepal, Thai,
Korean, Indonesian, and Japanese)

9:00 – 12:00 / 13:00 – 17:15

Tel: 045-316-2770

<https://kifjp.org/kmlc/>

Website URL ⇒



★Reference 7: Introduced Videos and Websites

1) "Nice to Meet You! Let's be Friends!"

"Tell Me About Elementary School in Japan!"

(the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan)

<https://casta-net.mext.go.jp/multilingual-contents/videos-for-learners>



This video explains Japanese elementary schools. There are videos with audio in various languages. (English, Portuguese, Spanish, Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Indonesian, Korean, Mongolian, Myanmar, Nepali, Thai, Ukrainian)

2) "School Life in Tokyo" (Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education)

https://www.kyoiku.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/static/tokyono_gakkoseikatsu/index.html



You can see what elementary and junior high school is like. There are also videos with audio in English, Chinese, Ukrainian, Korean, and Filipino. Subtitles are available in any language.

3) Japanese Language Learning Textbook for Foreign Students "Fun School"

(Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education)

https://www.kyoiku.metro.tokyo.lg.jp/school/japanese/tanoshi_gakko.html



You can learn various expressions used in school. By placing the cursor over the expressions, you can listen to the audio pronunciation.

◆Bibliography:

にんていとくていひえいりかつどうほうじん きょういつかつどうそうごうさぽーとせんたー にゅうがくがいどぶっく ねんどばん
・認定特定非営利活動法人 教育活動総合サポートセンター『入学ガイドブック(2021年度版)』

あいちけん ぶれすくうるじっしまにゅある
・愛知県「プレスクール実施マニュアル」

あいち きょういくだいがく がいこくじん じどうせい と しえん こくさい にほん しょうがっこう にゅうがく まえ
・愛知教育大学 外国人児童生徒支援リソースルーム「国際ファミリーのための日本の小学校に入学する前にリーフレット」

いばらき せんたあ こもんずぐろおぼるせんたあ しゅうえん しゅうがくりいふれっと
・茨城NPOセンター・コモンズグローバルセンター「就園・就学リーフレット」

Enrollment Guidebook for Multicultural Children and Guardians～Fujisawa version～ (English)

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