



GAKUGEI TIMES



STUDENT EDITION, OCTOBER 2018

Chiba Gakugei High School



Entrance of Chiba Gakugei high school

Chiba Gakugei high school is the only private high school in Togane city, Chiba prefecture. The school marked its 130th anniversary this year. their school motto is “Nurturing talent in creativity.” Based on this motto, they created 5 courses that specialize in welfare, the performing arts, IT (Information Technology), preparatory classes, and general courses to become public officials. Each course has special features, especially in the course focusing on welfare, where we cooperate with the company, Para Medical.

Its IT course is on the cutting-edge of IT education due to the advancement in technology and the professors that teach them. The number of students at the school has been increasing as of late, and along with this they have upgraded all their computers in their computer labs and other facilities. Moreover, they have also hired 12 new teachers. With these advancements everyone knows that Chiba Gakugei will develop more with the help of everyone in the future.



The class of IT course

All photos taken by teachers and students of Gakugei

Club Activities

Chiba Gakugei is popular for its club activities. Their Golf, Kyudo, and Bicycle Racing clubs have always been active and successful. The Golf club has participated in the national championship 19 times in a row. The Bicycle racing club took part in the inter-high school championships and the national athletic meet. In addition, the Baseball, Volleyball and Track and Field clubs also took part in the inter-high school championships in Chiba. As you can see, everyone who knows Chiba Gakugei really expects them to go far. The Dance club, which has recently become popular, has also been quite active at their school. They go to events or festivals in cities around Chiba to perform.



The performing at Hakkakuko

This year, the Karate club started its activities, and the club teacher, Momoka Oba, won the European Championships in 2016. In September, a student participated in a competition in Saitama prefecture, and he got the first prize thanks to Oba's teaching.



The baseball team



First prize in Karate



Specialty of Gakugei

To help students become more globalized and open to other cultures, Chiba Gakugei has included more chances for students to visit different countries. This year, second-year students will be going to Singapore for their school trip. In winter, they will be providing study abroad programs in Italy and in Greece. In regards to events at their school, they have their annual chorus competition and school festival, as well as a trip to Mt. Fuji where students can climb or ski on the mountain. These events make their school special.



Visit Italy and Greece ↑ ↓



School trip to Singapore



千葉学芸高等学校 富士登山 2018.8.2~8.3

Top of Mt. Fuji



Studying Abroad Program in Malaysia

Chiba Gakugei sent three students to the Chiba International Interacting Program last year. They decided to send them as a part of our international program. The program was held in Malaysia for a week with the purpose of understanding Malaysian culture and improving English skills. All the students in the program gathered at a training center before they were sent to Malaysia and prepared for the program. So one of them said, "I am really looking forward to visiting Malaysia." In this program, they visited local schools for a cultural exchange and mainly learned about Islam culture. In addition, they stayed with local families in a Malaysian village. One of the students said, "Real life in Malaysia is quite different than I expected and learned at a training center." Not only were there things they couldn't always understand, but there were also things that made them feel inspired. The atmosphere, food, everything they saw and met in Malaysia must have changed their world. "Normal things in Japan weren't normal in Malaysia," some of the students said. For example, the students at the school they visited have to take English, Malaysian, and Chinese courses. When they heard that, they were really surprised and could only talk about how they only studied one language. The Chiba Gakugei students seemed depressed at first, but they started understanding the differences in cultures as time went on.

After the program was over, they were more motivated to study English. Through the program, they became more globalized and their world had broadened.

By Oshima Riko and Muraoka Akira



What Is Togane City Like?

Togane city is quiet and beautiful. The city has some beautiful lakes and cherry blossoms, and you can enjoy many events held in each season. A lot of cherry blossoms are beside the lake called Hakkakuko. Every spring, people visit there and enjoy hanami. Hanami is Japanese traditional culture. People gather places like a park, lake, and so on, and enjoy eating and drinking together while watching cherry blossoms. International students and other people from overseas also visit there to see the beautiful cherry blossoms. In summer, there is a festival, and you can see fireworks too. Another good point of Togane city is that there are many tasty restaurants. For instance, there is the sea near the city, so you can try many kinds of seafood. In addition, there is a road called "Ramen Street," and there are more than 20 different kinds of ramen restaurants on the road. As you can see, there are many things to enjoy in Togane.

Togane also has an interesting history. During the Edo period, Ieyasu Tokugawa, the founder of Tokugawa shogunate, used to hunt with a falcon at Hakkakuko. There are still some historical buildings there, so people who love history should visit Hakkakuko in Togane.

Summer Festival at Yasaka Shrine

Shrine

Every year in early July, there is a festival known to the people around Togane city. On the eve of the festival, the Shinto shrine guardian performs a dance called the Kagura-mai, and it has

a magnificent atmosphere. There, on the grounds that's full of lanterns made from bamboo, you will feel like you are in space, and you will probably be at a loss for words. Subdued orange lights make you relaxed and won't let you go. You will be able to see the little Milky Way in there. People must say "Yasaka shrine is worth visiting" if they come and see it.

This shrine dates back almost 700 years and has been the symbol of Togane city. In the past, about 10,000 people gathered at the festival, but because of the declining birthrate and aging population, fewer people have been attending every year. This may also be due to the younger generation of children spending more time indoors playing video games, as this seems to be a popular way for them to spend their time. In fact, fewer and fewer people are visiting shrines. To try and change that situation, the shrine guardian started to teach the history of the shrine and the culture behind it to students in the Togane area. The bamboo lanterns were made by the students. Chiba Gakugei thinks they would like to cooperate with the shrine and help them become more known to future generations of students.

By Nakazawa Daichi and Yamada kenichi



Kaguramai and the road of bamboo lanterns



Interviewing Para Medical

Recently, students of Chiba Gakugei interviewed Para Medical, a company that helps older people in Togane in Chiba. When the company was founded in 1995, there were only 5 employees. Recently, the company has expanded to more than 50 people and has opened 2 more offices that are centered in Togane. Togane city is located in the countryside, and the number of elderly has been increasing gradually. It is natural that

companies such as Para Medical play an important role in this kind of city, and they say that they really would like to be more helpful to people who need someone's help.

Cooperation with Para Medical

Chiba Gakugei has their own wheelchairs and uses them in classes. Para Medical donated wheelchairs to the school because

they would like to teach students about working and caring for the elderly. Koji Ishihara, the vice president of the company, says that the declining birth rate and aging population is one of the biggest problems in Japan, and it's certain that there will be a huge demand for items and workers to help older people in the future. They also stated that, "In a modern society, everyone should have these kinds of skills that support the elderly". Then, where

should we learn about such essential skills? Para Medical thought they had to take on a role in teaching that and raising people who will work as home care workers. They said they would like to cooperate with Chiba Gakugei again and hope their ties will be stronger in the future

By Takahashi Ayumi and Nakagawa Akira



Gakugei Times

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