



THE KUGAYAMA TIMES



STUDENT EDITION, SEPTEMBER 2018

CC Class Launched : Students to Think Globally



Interaction with Russian students

KOKUGAKUIN KUGAYAMA

In Kokugakuin Kugayama Junior and Senior High School “CC class (Cultural Communication class)” was established in April 2018.

This new class emphasizes on cross-cultural exchanges, educates students about cultures and traditions of other countries, learn English with enthusiasm, make friendship with other countries deeper and send out Japanese cultures and traditions to the world.

Yuriko Kawamoto, who is in charge of CC class said, “I don’t

definitely think that they must get a job concerning English, but I just want them to become adults who are needed in various field.” The main activity of CC class is “Global Studies”, which is held every Saturday. It makes the students think about the connection between the world and themselves from a variety of angles to gain better understanding of diversity. During the six years, they consider about the image of globalization in terms of companies, history and cultures

and they reflect on the difference between the image of leaders necessary in Japan and in other countries. In this activity, students of CC class have an interaction not only with foreign people but also with handicapped person often. This workshop is distinguished from English conversation practice or English composition class. Global Studies is not just English conversation that mainly speak English and English composition add to that.

One of the members of CC class said in an interview. “A number of girls in CC class are positive and cheerful. I think that this class has power of unity.” Another girl also commented, “To communicate in English is difficult for us but if we have in mind that we should try to tell what we want to say, we will be able to make others understand us. And, when one girl can’t express her feeling in English, we help each other.”

The other student said, “We

are becoming more eager to tell how we feel.” They also said that they want to be grown-ups who have contact with everyone as equal. The teacher think same things too.

There are two cultivated abilities in CC class. The one is “power of communicating” about Japanese cultures and traditions, and the other is “power of empathy”, which is essential for communication. Now, CC class has just started and it is still at the trial and error stages. The teachers must improve CC class solving problems.

By doing this, CC class can develop individuals who are able to play the active roles in various fields in the future.

By Azumi Shimotsuura, Shiori Koga, Yuki Moriwaki, Tsubasa Yoshida, Sorana Fujita, Chisako Motoyoshi

The New Era Name Refreshes Japan and Japanese People

Approximately 80% of students in Kugayama think that era names are necessary because these are important culture that has been handed down for a long time. It is convenient for distinguishing times. Also some people think that they may change spiritually when the era name changes.

The Kugayama Times surveyed the third grade students of junior high school and the second grade students of high school in Kugayama.

They experience such a big event as an era name will change for the first time in their lives. They were born and grew up in Heisei period. Now Heisei is ending and a new era name will start.

According to the survey, some students answered, “I may change when the era name will start change.” The new era name will be the key to refresh themselves and will turn a page of their lives.

On the other hand, about 20% of students don’t feel necessary of the era names. They think “The Common Era is enough.” “They feel that the Heisei Generation may be regarded as

old, if the era name changes.”

In a questionnaire about kanji characters word used for the new era name, “安(ann)”, “明(myou)”, “新(shin)”and “和(wa)” were cited by many students. These characters indicate that they want Japan to be brighter, peaceful country and they wish for desirable change in the future.

Several students proposed the following era names, “光隆(kouryuu)”and “日寿(nitijyu)”. “光隆”means that Japan will flourish in the world and be brighter in the future. “日寿” has a hope for a permanent peace in Japan. It can be said they may be destined to live in the new era for their rest of life. Therefore it is important to have interest in the era name for them.

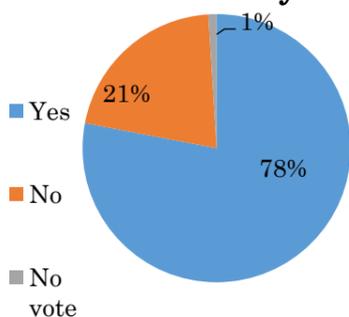
Most of them were interested

in changing the era name. They thought about the matter seriously because the era name rarely changes.

Originally, the name of era has existed since ancient times in Japan. The name of era becomes a new one when an emperor changes or Japanese have to do a mental revolution. For example, in times of an earthquake and a famine. The name of era has been prayers of people in them, and, it is one of the important Japanese cultures. Also, it is sure that the name of era is a symbol of our future. The new era name will turn over a new leaf.

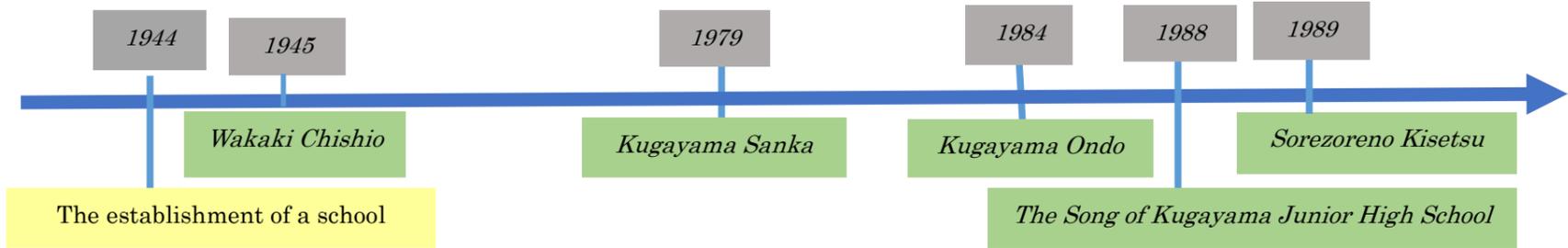
By Aiki Inayoshi, Yui Aoki, Kanako Matsumoto, Mai Umeda, Himawari Kimura, Chihiro Kurita, Kanako Matsumoto, Kanon Kurakata

Do you think the era name is necessary?



(Total:770 students)

Memorial Songs Born in Kokugakuin Kugayama



Kokugakuin Kugayama Junior and Senior High School uses the school song of Kokugakuin University as the official school song. In addition to the school song, eleven memorial songs representing the spirit of Kugayama have been created. The following is the introduction of the five songs from the eleven songs.

The first song is *Wakaki Chishio*. This song was created as a school song at the beginning in 1945, a year after this school was founded. However, it was forgotten in the turmoil before and after the end of the war and became an illusional school song.

The second song is *Kugayama Sanka*. This song was created as a 35th anniversary song of foundation, and has an implication as

another school song. Also, the last part of lyrics are sung as a cheering song. Even now, it is a cheering of the football club, the rugby club, and the baseball club. It has been sung to raise morale of the students and to strengthen their unity at the time of an event such as a training workshop for the high school boys.

The third song is *Kugayama Ondo*. This song is a 40th anniversary song of foundation. The lyrics were written by Hirohiko Okano. He wrote the lyrics for the graduates to be able to sing together. Also, this song has the purpose of promoting interaction with local people.

The fourth song is *The Song of Kugayama Junior High School*. The junior high school had been closed since 1957. Kokugakuin

Kumayama was originally established as a junior high school, and they wished to reopen the junior high school. The school made this song, for the celebration of the resumption of the junior high school, and expressed how the Kugayama junior high school students should be.

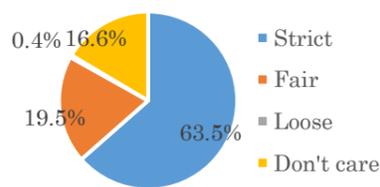
The fifth song is *Sorezoreno Kisetsu*. This song was created as a 45th anniversary song of foundation. Until that time, the school was a boys' school, so many songs represented masculinity. However, after girls' department was established in 1985, Hiroshi Aoshima composed a school song representing femininity and was the first song created for the girls' department.

- Hirohiko Okano
Born in Mie prefecture in 1924. After learning Japanese literature and graduating from Kokugakuin University, he became a professor emeritus at Kokugakuin University. *Fuyuno Kazoku* is known as his masterpiece.
- Hiroshi Aoshima
Born in Tokyo in 1955. *Ogon no Kuni* is known as his best-known tune. He appears on numerous TV programs.

By Hinako Miyazaki, Haruka Tamura, Yudai Tsukada, Joutaro Yamaguchi, Kento Sukai, Misa Iwamoto

Two-Thirds of Students Feel School Rules Severe

Chart1 How do you feel about school rules?



Example of hair styles

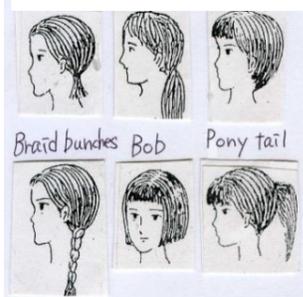
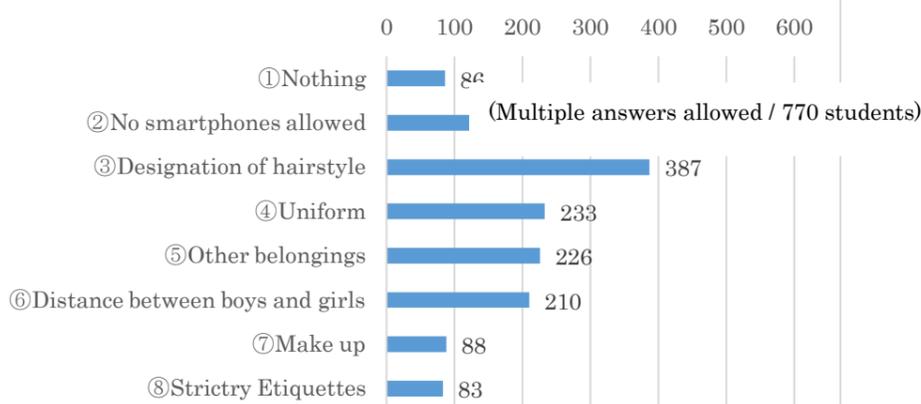


Chart2 Which school rules do you feel strict?



The Kugayama Times conducted a survey about the

Kokugakuin Kugayama's school rules to the students of

the third-year in junior high school and the second-year in high school. The chart 1 is "How do you feel about the school rules?" 63.5 percent of the students feel they are strict, 19.5 percent fair, 0.4 percent loose and 16.6 percent don't care. Many students who think them strict complained about the prohibition to bring their cellphones and the rules in their hairstyles.

The students must cut their bangs above their eyes. The hairstyles of girls are

determined and the boys must not cover their necks with the long hair. A third-grade girl said "I want to freely set my hairstyle, and dye my hair."

The students aren't allowed to bring a cellphone. Many students have dissatisfaction that they can't connect with their parents in an emergency.

Some students suggest that they should be allowed to bring their cellphones but that their phones should be turned off after coming to school.

Seiji Kasai, the supervisor of School Rules Department mentioned. "As to the cellphone use, even if they are often useful in studying, they can be misused such as the devise for cheating. In regard to our school rules, we have decided not to set self-regulations on the student in the first place because, if each student has their own way, a good school life cannot be assured. They should learn the way behave in public at school."

By Noi Yamada, Minami Sasamoto, Mizuki Kuriyama, Yukiko Obara, Natsumi Makino, Kokoro Doi, Misato Takabe

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Tradition to Convey by *Koto*



Yuki Yamada Photo

Vietnamese students dropped in at Kugayama to experience *koto*

“Wow! It’s cool and beautiful!” said students who came from Vietnam unanimously. They appreciated a performance by Kokugakuin Kugayama High School with their eyes shining and took photos with great interest. Also they had an experience of playing the *koto*.

Even though they had a trouble in reading a score of

koto, they all smiled when they were able to play the *koto*.

On the 13th of June, 18 Vietnamese students who go to Newton Grammer School came to the *koto* music club in order to contact with Japanese traditional harp, or *koto*.

The *koto* music club has 24 junior high school students and seven school students. They practice *koto* once a week.

The club started in September, 1985.

Koto is a string instrument which is counted by *men* and it is a traditional instrument which has been used since Nara period. It has thirteen strings and a player picks the string to make sounds with ivory artificial nails, or *tsume*, worn on the right fingers. There are two main schools in the style of playing *koto*: “*Ikuta-ryu*” and “*Yamada-ryu*.”

The Kugayama Times asked two high school club members, Hibiki Nonoue, who is the high school club manager, Shiori Naka, who is the former junior high school manager and other students why they joined. Nonoue said, “I felt enthusiastic when I listen to the tune “*Jonetsu Tairiku*” played by the *koto* music club.” Naka said, “I am interested in a Japanese cultures.” Another student replied “*Koto* is an uncommon instrument and it

will be able to convey a Japanese culture.”

As to the question about when the best moment for them is and when they feel most challenging. Some of the club members said, “In this club all the members are on friendly terms. To complete a *koto* tune together is rewarding and also challenging.” Also, the Kugayama Times asked them, “What difficulty do you have?” They said, “We practice hard only one tune during the summer training camp. All members have to maintain concentration.”

Now, Japanese culture is receiving more and more attention. Playing *koto* promote understanding and can make a bridge over different cultures.

By Takuma Suzuki, Takuya Takahashi,
Ui Chinen, Yura Matsumoto, Futaba
Kawaguchi, Kyoka Hoshi, Yuki
Yamada



The Association of Former Rugby Club Members photo

Rugby players gather all their strength to play at HANAZONO

Kokugakuin Kugayama High School’s rugby team has participated in Tokyo Rugby Cup and has been to in “*Hanazono*”; there is a national champion ship of high school rugby in January. Despite their effort against Osaka Toin High School they couldn’t win. They were placed them in best eight.

Kugayama High School’s rugby team had an experience of winning five times in Hanazono and the second place twice and they took their pride as a strong school by placing themselves in best eight. They practice hard

every day to keep winning.

“Our goal to achieve is wining in Hanazono” said Eito Maki, who is a captain of the team. Also Ichigo Nakakusu, who is one of the key persons, quoted, “Although we only have limited place and time, we concentrate on working the most of what we call doing the intense practice every day.”

The rugby club has the lecture of nutrition for the players’ parents to build powerful players. Although supplement and protein products are developing nowadays, not

Moving Forward with Spirits

only players count on them but also they recognize about importance of staying healthy themselves. If each player doesn’t care his own health enough, the team will not be able to pull together.

To achieve one goal makes the individual and also grow up their physically and mentally. Kentaro Tsuchiya, head coach said, “In order to win, it is important to persist in the same goal through members.” The rugby club of Kugayama is working the hard not only in club activities but also when studying. They practice after school six days a week, in other words they have little spare time in their school life. In spite of the fact, the players of Kugayama High School entering to be in succeed colleges.

The head coach stimulates their selves-awareness as a student in Kugayama before

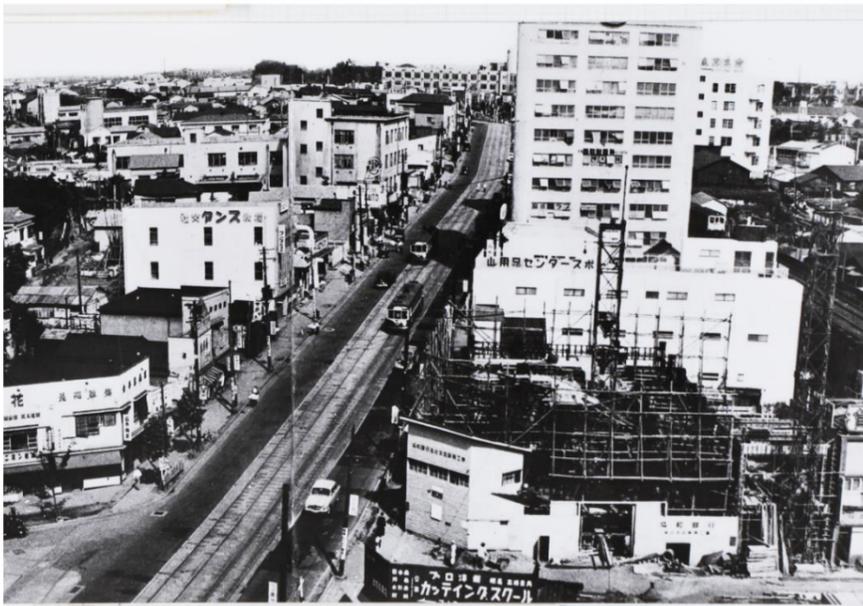
practicing as one of the club members.

It’s a style called *BUNBU-RYODO*, which mean Kugayama high school expects the students to be well-rounded between studying and club activities. The book “*ISSYOKENMEI*” was published in commemoration of 70th anniversary of the rugby club. This books show the honest attitude toward their rugby practice.

Working towards the top has made them what they are. Rugby players in Kugayama High School show us that there is no end to making an effort.

By Shuma Yamai, Yuna Konno,
Aoi Fukushima, Momoka Otagi,
Lynn Ogawa, Eri Makino, Yuuka
Natsukawa

Shibuya Continues to Lead Japanese Culture



Evolving cityscapes of Shibuya in 1955(Left) and 2018(Right)

Uemura Photo Studio(Left), Hina Miyatani Photo(Right)

Shibuya, with almost half of Kugayama students using their route to school, is now being watched with interest not only in Japan, but also in foreign countries. This exciting city has represented Japan, and is evolving day by day. Now, Shibuya launched a big project: Shibuya will be redeveloped by 2027. The Kugayama Times reconsiders the familiar Shibuya from the view of junior and senior high school students.

In an interview to find out how Kugayama students think about such Shibuya, several students said they have many opportunities to do shopping and eat in Shibuya, but that they don't think Shibuya is a clean place. In fact, there are a lot of problems of garbage and smoking. Some of smokers don't follow the rule about smoking spaces or of cigarette ends. Even if a new smoking area is made, many of smokers don't use it.

Hinako Miyazaki, a second grade girl of Kugayama high school said, "Shibuya station has complexed structure and it makes heavy congestion. I hope the redevelopment is something to ease this congestion." It seems that they are aware of the

changes but that they don't know the redevelopment in detail.

In an inquiry with Shibuya Development Business of Tokyu Corporation, the key player in the development in Shibuya, the redevelopment plans to reconstruct the district is unprecedented in Shibuya. The redevelopment is not going to be conducted individually but be arranged in tandem with corresponding function to realize 'Entertainment City Shibuya'.

Shibuya has been the hub of Japanese culture. It is aimed to increase its potential for creating a new value and an influential platform. It is said that it's important to improve infrastructure, office and commercial facilities, and create a unique exciting atmosphere at the same time.

The Kugayama Times staff also conducted an interview with Hideo Sugano, who is the chief director of Shibuya Miyamasu Shopping Association, said, "City planning is normally a large enterprise carried out prior to economical benefit. In Shibuya, they cooperate with local people who work in

shopping streets."

A lot of routes and railway companies extend to Shibuya, which makes the town so lively all the time. The west and east in Shibuya have different atmospheres. The east part functions as "a work city". The west side "an amusement city", such as Shibuya Crossing and the Shibuya Center Street.

Shibuya has various aspects in a sense, a miscellaneous town that attracts men and women of all ages. Especially these days, Shibuya Crossing gathers more than a million people, for example, in times of the World Cup soccer games, Halloween and the New Year's Eve countdown. On those occasions, local police and residents in Shibuya cooperate with each other so as for visitors to enjoy safely. This measure was devised by officers in local shopping streets.

In recent years, a lot of foreign tourists visit Shibuya. Sugano said that they want to

conserve popular Japanese-style places like Nonbei Alley. He also said that they had recognized a need to add the notation in many kinds of languages such as English and French. It would help foreign tourists in Shibuya spend time comfortably. The shop owners of the local shopping arcades inspected big cities in the world like London, Paris and New York. They introduced good points about the cities proactively and now aim to make Shibuya an international city. They also set the goal of a more visitor-friendly town cooperating with the community. An expression like 'local food production and consumption' is a good way to introduce and develop Shibuya culture: this is another goal of Shibuya.

By Kento Takamura,
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Eigo Uemura

Editor's Note

The Kugayama Times targeted at elementary and junior high school students planning to take an entrance examination of this school. The articles give you the deepest information such as the way the students spend their school days or think about things around the school. The Kugayama Times is so-called 'a portable bulletin of school report'.

By Yuna Konno

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