Happy New Year! Today marks the start of the third semester for the school year. This is a period of preparation for each grade, with the first and second graders preparing for the next grade and third graders preparing for high school and beyond. Chiyonofuji, a former Yokozuna (highest rank in sumo), said the following in an interview, "There is a word, practice for three years ahead. You won't gain strength immediately just by practicing today, tomorrow or a week. Though if you practice every day for three years, you will finally build up your strength and gain true sumo power." In sumo, we say, "You have to train to be strong now and train to be strong three years from now."

Third-year students are now in the midst of deciding their high school paths. For you, the practice to become strong now is studying for the "entrance exam", while another is to look at your 3 years ahead and "make proactive efforts".

Also, the university entrance exam system will change drastically this year. With the rapid changes in society due to globalization and diversification of values, the academic skills required have also changed drastically. For this reason, the "National Center Test" has been replaced by the "Common Test for University Admissions" which not only tests the amount of knowledge, but also emphasizes the ability to discover problems on one's own and create solutions and new values (the ability to think, judge, and express oneself). This ability is also required in the Government Curriculum Guidelines which will be fully implemented in junior high schools from the next school year. Another dramatical change is that more than 90% of all national and public universities are starting to use the "school recommendation system" and in recent years, this system has been expanding to elite national universities such as the University of Tokyo and Kyoto University. When applying, students are required to have a certain level of academic ability as well as recommendations from the principal of the high school. The students will also be evaluated on what kind of activities they have accomplished at that high school. In the "application form", you are required to fill in the following information: your history as a club committee, your achievements in activities, your certification exams (Eiken, TOEIC and etc), the field of study you wish to pursue after entering the school, and your reasons for applying. It seems that it is difficult to enter a school if you do not have a record of activities in high school. More than before, choosing a high school is not only about doing well academically, but also about whether you can be active in various fields at that high school.

"Practice for three years ahead," I believe that you will benefit not only from your academic work, but from your active participation in various activities. Therefore, I am very happy to see that by December, one student passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, nine students passed the pre-2nd grade, and 28 students passed the 3rd grade test for the Eigokentei test. Also, for Kanjikentei, one student passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, one student passed the pre-2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 25 students passed the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade test. In addition, three students passed the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade for Sugakukentei. Let's make this a challenging year for everyone. At this time of the year, plants that survive the winter lose their leaves and look withered. However, they are preparing to grow roots deep into the ground, to grow leaves and trunks again in spring, to sprout buds and bloom. How many roots we can put down this winter and how much energy we can store will determine how many buds and flowers we can produce in the spring. What count is your continuous effort.

Principal Katsuhiro Takada

# Welcome to Anamizu Junior high school!



Hi everyone, I am the new ALT Gabby. It's so nice to finally be able to come to Anamizu. I have been waiting to come since the end of October and am glad to finally be here. I know you all are amazing students and hope you all will enjoy English as much as I enjoy Japanese. Please don't be shy to use English in class and know that making mistakes are just a learning step. If you have any questions don't be

afraid to ask, I'm always willing to help. Also, don't be afraid to come talk to me if you see me in the corridors, I hope we can become close and have a good relationship. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you in the English classes and around the school. Let's have fun studying English!

<January>

1/8 (F) Starting ceremony

9 (Sa) 10 (Su) Indoor soft tennis tournament

12 (Tu) No TV day 13 (W) Leave on time day

14 (Th) 15 (F) 3rd grade assessment test

19 (Tu) Open school day (period: 1~3,5,6)

Joint training for all clubs (Openning: 16:10~)

20 (W) School volleyball tournament

22 (F) English assessment test (Eigo Kentei)

25 (M) Parental survey

27 (W) Staff meeting (Leave on time day)

29 (F) Private school exam

JHS entrance orientation
(to Anamizu elementary school students)



2/1 (M) survey (students)

2 (Tu) Tuition transfer

JHS entrance orientation (for Koyo elementary)

4 (Th) Educational advisor visit (C)

5 (F) Risshi Shiki for 2nd graders

10 (W) Leave on time day 1 No TV day

13 (Sa) Prefectural kendo tournament (at Unoki)

15 (M) PTA meeting (3rd time)

16 (Tu) · 17 (W) 3rd grade final exam

18 (Th) JHS orientation day (5th and 6th hour)
6th graders will come and have a trial lesson

21 (Su) Eiken(interview)

24 (W) Leave on time day2

25 (Th) School evaluation committee





#### Open school day will be on January 19th

(Please understand that this event may be cancelled or changed depending on the infection status.)

In order to keep track of the number of visitors and to prevent corona infections, the school will only be open to those who have applied in advance. The school will be open to the public during periods 1 to 3, 5, and 6. 4th period will be used for serving lunch in the ballway so this bour is not available. After school from 4:10 to 6:00 nm. Professor

public during periods 1 to 3, 5, and 6. 4" period will be used for serving lunch in the hallway so this hour is not available. After school, from 4:10 to 6:00 p.m., Professor Miyaguchi of the Prefectural University will hold a joint club training session in the first gymnasium. (Participation is limited to those who have applied in advance.) In order to prevent corona infection 1 we ask that you take your temperature at home 2 disinfect with alcohol at the entrance and 3 pass through the thermal camera that measures body temperature. In order to take all possible measures to prevent infection, please observe classes from the hallway.

If you are not feeling well, please stay home. The time schedule is as shown on the right.

時間割	1限	2限	3限	4限	5限	6限	清掃終礼
授業時間帯	8:40	9:40	10:40	N	13:40	14:40	15:35~
仅乘时间审	9:30	10:30	11:30	0	14:30	15:30	16:00
11H	H	社	英		音	総	
12H	体	英	数	A	社	総	
21H	社	数	国	٧	理	英	16:10~
22H	英	理	音	a i	Ħ	数	18:00
31H	数	英	理	i	体	道	部活動合
32H	社	理	数	a	囲	道	同トレーニン
ひまわり1年	H	理	数	b	卋	総	ゲ
ひまわり3年	H	理	数	e	体	英	
さくら	社	国	数		音	総	

(class schedule may change)

3<sup>rd</sup> grade's New papers are now on display!

3<sup>rd</sup> graders have been collecting newspaper articles related to SDGs, (17 themed newspapers) since this spring and these are now displayed in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor hallway and in front of the arts and craft room. Please check them during the open school day on 19<sup>th</sup>. (SDGs" refers to the Sustainable Development Goals. These are goals made by countries around the world to make life happier for all people living on the planet.)



## We enjoyed "Anachu time"

On December 23<sup>rd</sup>, our student council held "Anachu time" and enjoyed a music intro quiz, quiz about our teachers, gestures and Chinese whispers. The gymnasium was very cold but we enjoyed the time together and filled the place with laughter. Great work to our student council for planning!!





#### January: Uphold your New Year's resolution and have a fulfilling life!

★Goal <face mask, gargle, hand wash, disinfecting>
OUphold your New Year's resolutions

"for self fulfilment" "an awareness of preparation for the next grade" OFollow the class rules and attend classes calmly

"cheerful greeting" "refrain from talking" "seat when the chime rings" OGet to and from school safely

### Student council survey.

To prevent bullying, the student council took a survey and questioned () What are you doing to eliminate bullying? () What is your image of an ideal group? Survey results are posted along the corridor to promote awareness of human right.

