

Okaerinasai – Welcome back! It's exciting to see all the students back at school and ready for a great year of learning. Here is what will be happening in the Nihongo Room in term 1.

We will start the year learning about Oshōgatsu – Japanese New Year – the traditions, customs, symbols, holidays and Zodiac. This is alongside focussing on the skills of being a successful language learner, initiating some aspects of the Joy Project and looking at our four school values and classroom expectations.

Our theme for the term, "Being Japanese," links beautifully with our school's Cross Curriculum Big Question "Can all Living Things Flourish?" as we explore the lives, experiences, values and relationships of Japanese children living in Japan.

Year 1-2

Students will participate in guided group activities such as games, songs and simple tasks, using movement, gestures and pictures to develop understanding and convey meaning based around our theme. They will also participate in shared listening, viewing and reading of texts, and respond through singing, role-playing, drawing and actions. We will begin to recognise and copy some hiragana and a few high frequency kanji as well as notice that there are differences in how language is used in different cultural and social contexts, especially important for children to understand

Welcome back from the holidays! I hope it was a restful break for you and your family. It's great to see all the students back at school and ready for some more exciting learning. Here is what will be happening in the Nihongo Room in term 2.

We will start the term chatting about Kodomonohi – Japanese Children's Day – the traditions, customs and symbols. Years 3-7 will also revisit Edmodo, making sure they are ready to share and enhance their Japanese learning with their class and me. Discussions about the how and why of Second Language Learning will be ongoing throughout the term with all year levels.

Our school's Cross Curriculum Big Question "What Causes Change?" will then allow us to explore changes in aspects of Japanese culture and the reasons for those changes, as well as discover new language.

Year 1-2 students will work on:- conveying factual information about significant objects; creating simple bilingual texts; participating in group activities such as games, songs and simple tasks; understanding the structure of basic sentences in Japanese and recognising and copying some hiragana and a few high-frequency kanji. We will focus on seasons and weather in Japan and Australia, and the changes that take place over the year. This will include tsuyu, the Japanese rainy season. Year 1-2 students will work on:- conveying factual information about significant objects; creating simple bilingual texts; participating in group activities such as games, songs and simple tasks; understanding the structure of basic sentences in Japanese and recognising and copying some hiragana and a few high-frequency kanji. We will focus on seasons and weather in Japan and Australia, and the changes that take place over the year. This will include tsuyu, the Japanese rainy season.