

the japan times

International Schools Directory



Classroom study
ST. MARY'S
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Field trip to Peace
Memorial Park
HIROSHIMA
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Trash collecting
activity COLUMBIA
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Donations on dress
down day COLUMBIA
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



New Graduates
AOBA-JAPAN
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL

Fostering empathy, life skills via volunteering

Louise George Kittaka
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

YOUNG PEOPLE VOLUNTEERING their time is not a new concept in Japan and such activities often focus on organized community efforts, such as cleaning up parks or helping at local events, with the emphasis being on "showing up." However, Kanto's international schools are taking the spirit of volunteering to a whole new level, facilitating opportunities for students to participate in activities both domestically and abroad. In many cases, activities are student-led, with youngsters designing and executing their own projects.

At Columbia International School, a K-12 school located in Higashi Tokorozawa, Saitama Prefecture, community service begins from kindergarten and continues all the way through the curriculum. Students must complete a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer service as a graduation requirement. "Community service builds in the heart a feeling for human interdependence and a proactive sense of social responsibility," noted the principal Barrie McCliggott.

One recent initiative was having 22 students volunteer with Diversity Park 2017, a Tokyo event promoting an understanding of the diversity that exists in the greater community. "Through sharing their cultural diversity with para-athletes, the

students were able to use their linguistic talents. We hope this will prepare them to support guests from around the world at the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics in 2020," said McCliggott.

St. Mary's International School places value on unifying actions and caring for others. "As much as we may discuss our goals, we also want our students to turn thoughts into action," explained headmaster Saburo Kagei. Since its founding in 1954, the K-12 school for boys has supported and participated in myriad volunteer and community outreach activities.

The school is also excited to be offering new programs to prepare students to take their place in an ever-changing world. "Robotics in the curriculum at all school levels has added an application of science and coding that is helping all of our students, and technology integrationists work on application of technology in all subject areas. Communications technology and digital photography classes are available at the high school level to give our students real-world opportunities," Kagei said.

At Aoba-Japan International School (A-JIS), students are encouraged to proactively create their own opportunities for community outreach, such as working with orphanages, organizing art events and conferences, and taking action where they see a need. Senior educator Robert Thorn said, "We are linking with local schools and com-

munity groups to widen the opportunities for us all to develop the school's core values of global leadership, effective communication and collaboration, problem solving, entrepreneurial spirit and innovation."

A-JIS provides a continuum of international education for students from ages 3 to 18 under the International Baccalaureate curriculum.

Embracing the concept of "the best of both worlds," Hiroo Gakuen's International Course allows junior and senior high school students to receive an international education while simultaneously graduating from a certified Japanese high school. In line with this, each International Course home-room is assigned two teachers, one foreign and one Japanese, who are responsible for their students' pastoral care.

According to Hisae Uematsu, the course manager, students are encouraged to proactively seek out volunteer opportunities. "Of note, our students participate in translating videos and at events for tertiary institutions such as MIT, Yale and UC Irvine. They also do volunteer teaching and reading for elementary school students, as well as at retirement homes. We have also had students travel abroad to participate in nursing and environmental volunteer activities in countries such as Ghana, Botswana and Indonesia," said Uematsu.

Students at K International School in Tokyo are expected to take action toward

improving the global community they live in. With 40 nationalities represented, the student body itself is akin to a mini United Nations. "Two significant global projects our students have been involved with include Habitat for Humanity and TASSEL (an outreach project to teach English to children in Cambodia). Through these efforts and other opportunities our students gain communication, time-management and collaboration skills, along with a better perspective of how fortunate they are and how they can contribute to helping others," said head of school Jeffrey Jones.

Chiyoda International School Tokyo (CHIST) is the new kid on the block and is slated to offer grades 1 to 5 from April 2018, with middle and high school divisions following in 2019. Principal Margaret M. Fitzpatrick says that caring for other people and for the planet are core values that will be encouraged at the school. To this end, the school plans to have students work on both local projects, such as recycling programs, and international ones, including partnering with Habitat for Humanity to build homes for low-income citizens around the world.

"As with all our service learning initiatives, we want to emphasize that caring and educating ourselves about the needs of others is the first step toward solving problems and making the world a better place," said Fitzpatrick.

International Schools Directory

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Save the date!

The Japan Times International School & Education Fair
December 2 from 13:00 ▶ 17:00
 Watch for more information throughout November!

Below is a list of **international schools** with their contact information and brief descriptions, categorized as “**preschools & kindergartens**,” “**kindergarten to grade 12**,” “**junior & senior high school**,” and “**post secondary institutions**.”

PRESCHOOLS & KINDERGARTENS

KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 12

Mizuho School Tokyo Nerima

Mizuho School provides an inquiry-based learning curriculum which is combined with complementary Montessori method along with educational best practices. We encourage students to become life-long learners, risk-takers and balanced students. We believe that our students are independent and gain self-esteem in a multi-cultural environment.



Data			
Address	3-2-25 Shakujidai, Nerima-ku, Tokyo 177-0045	E-mail	info@mizuho-kids.com
Tel	03-5372-1525	E-mail	info@mizuho-kids.com
Fax	03-5372-1785	Website	www.mizuho-edu.co.jp/index_en.html

PAL International Preschool and Kindergarten Tokyo Minato

PAL International Preschool and Kindergarten caters to both the international and local communities for children aged 6 months to 6 years of age. Established in 1998, PAL provides quality care and educational programs that include a strong focus on individual growth and development.



Data			
Address	3-7-15 Nishi-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0031	E-mail	info@pal-school.com
Tel	03-5770-8166	E-mail	info@pal-school.com
Fax	03-5770-8167	Website	pal-school.com

Summerhill International School Tokyo Minato

From 15 months old to 6 years old, Summerhill provides an educational experience as unique as your child, in a safe and happy environment, where children learn with joy. Children and teachers from all over the world come together to share the excitement of learning.



Data			
Address	2-13-8 Moto-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0046	E-mail	info@summerhill.jp
Tel	03-3453-0811	E-mail	info@summerhill.jp
Fax	03-3453-0820	Website	www.summerhill.jp

Aoba-Japan International School Tokyo Nerima/Meguro

Co-educational Pre-K-12 school. Campuses in Hikarigaoka and Meguro provide a quality system of formal International standard education, including a strong ESL program, daily instruction in Japanese (Kokugo & JSL), and a comprehensive Learning Support Program. Accredited by CIS and NEASC (US).



Data			
Address	7-5-1 Hikarigaoka, Nerima-ku, Tokyo 179-0072	E-mail	enquiries@aobajapan.jp
Tel	03-6904-3102	E-mail	enquiries@aobajapan.jp
Fax	03-5997-0091	Website	www.aobajapan.jp

Chiyoda International School Tokyo (Grade 1 - 12) Tokyo Chiyoda

CHIST is a new international school in the heart of Tokyo, offering grades one through five from 2018 and adding higher grades annually. With an English international curriculum and daily Japanese lessons, CHIST seeks to cultivate students dedicated to creating peace and happiness for the world.



Data			
Address	11 Yonban-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0081	E-mail	chist@musashino-u.ac.jp
E-mail	chist@musashino-u.ac.jp	E-mail	chist@musashino-u.ac.jp
Website	www.chist.jp	Website	www.chist.jp

2018 April OPEN *Pending governor's approval

Columbia International School Saitama Tokorozawa

Columbia, a day and boarding school with strong ESL support and focus on 21st-century learning skills, continues to open doors for both local and international students to the world's finest universities in Canada, USA, UK and Japan. Accredited by Ontario MOE and WASC. Empowering students to make a difference.



Data			
Address	153 Matsugo, Tokorozawa-shi, Saitama 359-0027	E-mail	admissions@columbia-ca.co.jp
Tel	04-2946-1911	E-mail	admissions@columbia-ca.co.jp
Fax	04-2946-1955	Website	www.columbia-ca.co.jp

Doshisha International School, Kyoto (DISK) Kyoto Kizugawa

DISK is a WASC-accredited, grade 1 to 12 IB World School offering both the PYP and the DP. Located to the south of Kyoto, we offer a warm, caring and close-knit learning community, led by a dedicated teaching team.



Data			
Address	7-31-1 Kizugawadal, Kizugawa-shi, Kyoto 619-0225	E-mail	diskoffice@diskyoto.com
Tel	0774-71-0810	E-mail	diskoffice@diskyoto.com
Fax	0774-71-0815	Website	diskyoto.com

HIROO GAKUEN International Course Tokyo Minato

Hiroo Gakuen offers a high quality, bilingual education for grades 7-12. We offer an advanced course for native/returnee students wishing to continue their schooling in English and preparing for university study either overseas or in English language courses in Japan.



Data			
Address	5-1-14 Minami-Azabu, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0047	E-mail	kokusai@hiroogakuen.ed.jp
Tel	03-3444-7272	E-mail	kokusai@hiroogakuen.ed.jp
Fax	03-3444-7192	Website	hiroogaku.jp/a/

St. Mary's International School Tokyo Setagaya

St. Mary's International school is Pre-1st to Gr. 12 boys' school. It was established by the Brothers of Christian Instruction and features high quality college-preparatory education (U.S. & I.B. Curricula) in good and spacious facilities.

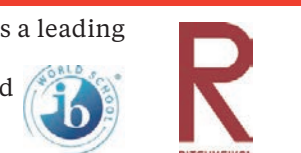


Data			
Address	1-6-19 Seta, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 158-8668	E-mail	admissions@sms.ac.jp
Tel	03-3709-3411	E-mail	admissions@sms.ac.jp
Fax	03-3707-1950	Website	www.sms.ac.jp

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Ritsumeikan Uji Junior and Senior High School Kyoto Uji

Ritsumeikan Uji Junior and Senior High School is a leading IB World School which offers the IB Diploma in English. The school is an Article 1 school. Located in Uji, the school accepts both boarding and day students.



Data			
Address	33-1 Hachiken Yadani, Hirono-cho, Uji, Kyoto 611-0031	E-mail	uji-returnee@ujc.ritsumei.ac.jp
Tel	0774-41-3000	E-mail	uji-returnee@ujc.ritsumei.ac.jp
Fax	0774-41-3555	Website	www.ujc.ritsumei.ac.jp/ujc/

POST SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Lakeland University Japan Campus Tokyo Shinjuku

Lakeland University Japan, a branch campus of an American college, is conveniently located in Shinjuku. Students can earn an accredited A.A. degree in small classes amid a multicultural student body and transfer as third-year students to the U.S. or elsewhere.



Data			
Address	5-7-12 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0022	E-mail	admission@japan.lakeland.edu
Tel	03-3225-0425	E-mail	admission@japan.lakeland.edu
Fax	03-3225-0428	Website	luj.lakeland.edu

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International Schools Directory Online

<http://info.japantimes.co.jp/international-school>

The International Schools Directory Online enables searching international schools across Japan and features interviews with school representatives.

International Schools Directory

Educating future global citizens across the country

Louise George Kittaka
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

While Tokyo and the surrounding environs may claim the lion's share of international schools, educational facilities in other parts of the country are holding their own.

The majority of students at Kyoto's Doshisha International Junior and Senior High School are Japanese, with two-thirds being returnees who have spent an



Field trip HIROSHIMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

extended amount of time abroad. "Our school strives to educate students from varied backgrounds to become world citizens who have the understanding and conscience to take action toward achieving peace, and a strong fundamental understanding of how crucial peace is in the world, as well as in individual lives," said Sarah Ogawa of the English department's faculty.

"Peace Studies has always been a pillar of the education at our school, and special opportunities with guest lecturers and overnight study trips to Nagasaki and Okinawa are part of this tradition," Ogawa noted. "On both the junior high trip to Nagasaki and the senior high trip to Okinawa, students spend the bulk of their multiday excursion with Peace Study Guides — local experts on the conflict-related history of the area and subsequent grass-roots peace movements."

Peace is also an important theme at Hiroshima International School (HIS). "Action in many forms, including service learning, is an integral part of our programs," said principal Damien Rentoule.

One example of this is the Peace Ride, where students accept the challenge to cycle 450 km (originally from Hiroshima to Nagasaki), stopping at kindergartens along the way to teach paper crane folding and read stories of peace to the children.



Cycling team HIROSHIMA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

"The preparation for the trip logistics, physical training and also the preparation of the messages they will deliver to children prompt a reflection on our HIS mission of creating a more peaceful and sustainable world," Rentoule explained.

Like HIS, Tsukuba International School in Ibaraki Prefecture is an International Baccalaureate (IB) school offering tuition from preschool through grade 12. "It is very rare for a school in a small city of approximately 200,000 people to have an

IB school," pointed out principal Shaney Crawford. "We believe that students need to be critical thinkers in order to foster peace and understanding, to be creative thinkers in order to find innovative solutions to problems great and small, to demonstrate integrity in all interactions in order to foster trust, to become ethical stewards of our shared resources, and to communicate and collaborate in order to make a positive contribution to their communities."

Starting young; looking out for the littlest of learners

Preschools strive to offer an environment that is both nurturing and stimulating for the infants and preschoolers in their care. Tokyo's international preschools offer a variety of programs to help the littlest of learners develop to their fullest potential while also gaining a sense of their place in the greater community.

Summerhill International School is a candidate for the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) and offers places for children between 15 months and 6 years old. "At Summerhill, inquiry and play provide the basis for educational experiences," noted Director Kathryne Imabayashi. The school's newly created Light Atelier allows the students to explore light in various forms, stimulating curiosity and creativity.

The school supports both international and domestic charities, and last year money was raised for a village in Laos. Locally, Summerhill is partnering with Shine On! Kids, an NPO helping children with serious illnesses in Japan.

PAL International School caters to children between the ages of 6 months and 6 years, from both the international and local Japanese communities. "We believe

this is a vital time to know that people from around the world are all the same while still being unique," said principal Angela Fujimori. "Interacting with each other with care and concern is a staple of our school, regardless of where you come from."

Students at PAL build strong ties to their local community through activities such as maintaining their own plot in a local park and inviting children from day care centers in the neighborhood to attend events such as Halloween and Christmas parties.

At K Space International School, children are offered a curriculum that incorporates a global viewpoint, with tasks that encourage empathy and responsibility. The preschool accepts children from ages 14 months to 6 years, with additional extension programs for babies and school-age youngsters.

"Our children have the opportunity to make friends from all over the world and their first point of reference is the diversity within our friendly community," says Juliet Rogrove, principal and owner. K Space has supported more than 20 charities to date, with the older preschool children even managing their own charity project. (L.G.K.)



Ballet class SUMMERHILL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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the japan times will be holding its 9th spelling bee on March 3, 2018.
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The Japan Times Bee is a spelling competition for students from Japanese and international schools in Japan. It is the only bee held in Japan that is officially recognized by the Scripps National Spelling Bee in the U.S. The winner of The Japan Times Bee earns the right to compete in the U.S. final in Washington D.C.



Date: March 3, 2018
Location: The Japan Times, Nifco Hall (4-5-4 Shibaura, Minato-ku, Tokyo)
For more information, please visit The Japan Times Bee website
<http://jtimes.jp/bee> or contact us at spellingbee@japantimes.co.jp