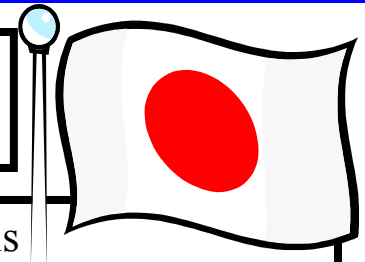


# Nippon News

Japanese Language  
Faith Lutheran  
Preschool and Elementary



April/May 2010

Theme: Hanami, Calendar Skills

## What We Are Learning This Month

*Hanami ni Ikimashoo!!* - Let's Go Cherry Blossom Viewing!

Days of the Week:

*Nichiyobi, Getsuyobi,  
Kayobi, Suiyobi, Moku-  
yobi, Kinyobi, Doyobi.*

Months of the Year:

Counting to 12:

*Gatsu—month*

*Ichigatsu, Nigatsu*

*San gatsu, Shigatsu, Go*

*gatsu, Rokugatsu, Shichigatsu, Hachigatsu, Kugatsu, Jugatsu, Juichigatsu, Juunigatsu.*

Weather—Tenki:

*Hare—sunny, kumori—cloudy, ame—rain, kaze—wind*

K-3rd Grade Studies:

*We will continue to work on counting up to 100 and will begin to learn the kanji for numbers 1-10.*

### Pronunciation Key:

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Pronounced</u>
a	as “a” in a-ha!
e	as “e” in bed
i	as “ee” in feet
o	as “o” in no
u	as “oo” in zoo
ei	as “ay” in say
ai	as “y” in sky
ou	as “ow” in grow
oo	as “ow” in grow

### Sensei Kara.... (From the Teacher)

It is Hanami! Time to view the beautiful cherry blossoms! We'll be talking about this unique outdoor experience which includes picnicking, friends, and lots of fun! I would love to have the children try a bit of Japanese “street food” either ramen or yaki-soba—a noodle dish served commonly during hanami picnicking and festivals. If you are able to help prepare or buy ingredients for this, please let me know by next Monday, April 12th. Thank you!

Looking for hanami festivals around here?

**Uwajimaya Special Events this Weekend:**

<http://www.uwajimaya.com/index.html>

The Seattle Center is having its annual spring festival next week. Very neat!!

[http://seattlecenter.com/events/festivals/festival\\_detail.asp?EV\\_EventNum=4](http://seattlecenter.com/events/festivals/festival_detail.asp?EV_EventNum=4)

### Culture Corner

The sakura or cherry blossom is Japan's national flower and blooms in late March to April every year at various times depending on the weather and the location. People go to shrines and parks for the blossom viewing or 'hanami'. These blossoms only bloom for a short time each year and people everywhere wait avidly for news of what is the best location each day. Companies and families send out members early to try to reserve the best spot under the trees to have a celebratory party. With karaoke, drinks, and lots of food, there is good cheer all around. Trees are hung with lanterns so that hanami can continue throughout the night. While the real cherry blossoms decorate parks and shrines, artificial blossoms adorn shop fronts and streetlights making this a festival difficult to miss. Many towns have street parades with floats, stalls and music adding to the noise of celebration all around. (source: essortment.com). Sakura season varies from location to location. There is actually an adventure called “Sakura Chasing”. Because of the change in climate from north to south, spring hits at a different time. You can thus travel from south to north chasing blossoming sakura for about a month and a half., and meteorologists track it. ([www.japan-guide.com/e/e2011.html](http://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2011.html))