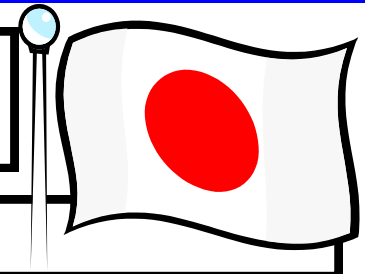


Nippon News

Japanese Language
Faith Lutheran
Preschool and Elementary



September 2009 Theme: Let's Go To School!

What We Are Learning This Month

Review/New Learning for First Year Students:

Good Morning	<i>Ohayou Gozaimasu</i>
Hello	<i>Konnichiwa</i>
Goodbye	<i>Sayonara</i>
Thank you	<i>Arigatou Gozaimasu</i>
Teacher	<i>Sensei</i>

head	<i>atama</i>
shoulders	<i>kata</i>
knees	<i>hiza</i>
toes	<i>ashi</i>

eyes	<i>me</i>
ears	<i>mimi</i>
mouth	<i>kuchi</i>
nose	<i>hana</i>

Pronunciation Key:	
Letter	Pronounced
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

Second Year Extension:

you	<i>anata</i>
me	<i>watashi</i>
friends	<i>tomodachi</i>
everyone	<i>minasan</i>

Be listening for an extended version of "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" featuring new "body part" vocabulary in Japanese. Coming soon!

The Kindergarten-3rd Grade Students will begin studying the Japanese Alphabet.

Sensei Kara.... (From the Teacher)

Hajimemashite! (Nice To Meet You).

And for you returning families....

Ohisashiburi! (Great to see you again!)

My name is Heather Wong and I am the Japanese foreign language teacher here at Faith Lutheran School. I have two sons attending FLS: Dylan is in the Pre-K A Class, and Hayden is in Kindergarten. This is the second year I have taught Japanese at our school, and I look forward to continuing our study of the language as well as discovering the similarities and differences between the two cultures.

Expect a letter like this one to come home every month, explaining what we have been working on in Japanese. Our lessons will be a blend of reinforcement/review from our first year studies, as well as extension/new learning. Please contact me if you have any questions, thank you!

Culture Corner

"It's All Greek To Me!!!", they say....

You may wonder, "how in the world do I correctly pronounce this word in Japanese?" Taking time to understand the syntax and semantics of the Japanese language (and most importantly how words are specifically pronounced) will greatly help your child in making the most out of their language studies at school. The more interest and excitement you show in their new language learning, the more motivated they will be to further their studies!

So, please take note of the pronunciation key in the upper right hand of this page. Use this key to aide you in pronouncing words in Japanese. Japanese is a syllable based language—you break the words into syllables, rather than blending them together as we so often do in English (none of those crazy exceptions to the rules like in English...) Each syllable breaks when you reach a consonant. For example: "arigatou" is read a—ri—ga—tou (phonetic spelling "ah ree gah tow"). Refer to this pronunciation key as you see class work and activities come home in your child's backpack from Japanese class.