



Winter 2017-18 Alumni Newsletter

A STAR is Born!

In 2014, Yokohama Christian School embarked on an important journey to start the process of becoming an accredited elementary school. Through ACSI, we have been working on the STAR program, which is a pre-accreditation program that helps schools to focus on improving areas such as: curriculum, finances, administration, and much more. On November 29, 2017, YCS was able to turn in the last steps of this process. We will apply for full accreditation in the near future.



Play Yard Construction

This fall we were fortunate to have friend of YUC, Gerry Spencer, help in remodeling the play yard at YCS. He used his expert organizational skills and know-how and he and Mr. Isaku (Saito) completed the resurfacing of the area under the play structure. The red paving stones are much more durable than the previous wood decking and should last for many years to come.

**Thank You,
Gerry and Isaku!**



Movie Night Success!

On November 10th, the YCS PTA sponsored its annual Movie Night. This year the movie was Despicable Me 3. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents involved with this fund event. Proceeds from this event go toward the spring field trip for the students.

A HUGE thank you to all of the wonderful parents who helped make Movie Night such a success!



2017-2018 PTA Parents

This year we have a wonderful group of supportive parents willing to sit on the PTA.

Seeds Class:

Class Mother - Natsuki Yamagami

Treasurer - Ayako Maenosono

Sprouts Class:

Class Mother - Mami Aoki

Lower Elementary:

Class Mother - Melanie Jamieson

Staff Representative:

Ms. Linda

School Head:

Pastor Linda

Alumni Family Visits

Over the last year, we have been fortunate to have alumni families visit us to give us updates about how they are doing. Some families are located in Japan and others are not. We are so blessed to still be in contact with so many of our former students.



(left) Kei Yamamoto and her family now live in Thailand. Here is Kei and baby brother Ken when they stopped by YCS in April 2017.

(right) Diego Yeh's parents stopped in at YCS in June 2017 as they traveled around Japan by bicycle.



Fall Family Festival

Every year at YCS we celebrate Fall Family Festival on November 23rd and this year was no exception. Fall Family Festival is taken from the biblical Festival of the Booths, which is a celebration of thankfulness for the harvest and God's provisions. In the morning, students, with their families, participated in the various special classes on offer at school. Mr. Raffin taught music, Ms. Chloe has a PE lesson, and Ms. Hanae had a fun art lesson. We are so blessed at YCS to have so many talented staff members to teach our students. Following the lessons, we gathered in the sanctuary for a delicious turkey lunch.



As always, we had an abundance of food and good fellowship on Nov. 23rd for Fall Family Festival.



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Alumni Interview:

Name: Ryoh Nagasawa

Age: 15

Years at YCS: 4 years

Current School: Saint Maur International School



2017

How did attending YCS make a difference in your life?

Due to YCS being an English speaking school, I am able to speak English fluently. This has allowed me to experience new things, such as getting to know people worldwide as well as having further understanding of the world around me through my school.

What is your favorite subject in school?

My favorite subjects currently are English, P.E., and biology. I enjoy my English class because I like writing essays, P.E. is a great way to get exercise in my busy schedule, and I find the topics in biology interesting, especially about the human body.

What would you like to study when you are in college?

I would like to major in psychology when I'm in college and one day become a psychologist myself. I especially would like to focus on teen psychology, after seeing different behaviors of teens in my school.

First YCS Spelling Bee

We are pleased to announce that Yokohama Christian School is sponsoring a Spelling Bee for our students and other students in our community. The students meet to practice and participate in fun word-building games. We are so thankful for Katherine Moser Kelly who has been leading the club meetings. At YCS we try to provide programs that benefit our students as well as other students in the Yokohama community.



School Board Members for 2017-2018



Anna Yan
Board Chair



Rev. Linda Schmidt
Head of School



Yoko Furukawa
Member-at-Large



Jeff Canaday
Secretary



George Okuhara
Community Rep.

We ask for prayers of discernment and vision for the board of Yokohama Christian School as they continue to serve and lead the school.

Alumni Donations

At Yokohama Christian School, we are so excited by the direction of our school. This year we have completed the STAR pre-accreditation program, expanded our school through elementary school, and continue our community impact through programs like the Spelling Bee Club.

We are excited by the direction in which YCS is moving and welcome any donations that can help us realize our dreams of continued strength and success.

To Donate to YCS:

PayPal: finance.school@yokohamaunionchurch.org

Bank Transfer: Yokohama Bank; Ordinary Acct.: 311-1518402

If you are interested in donating through other means, please contact us directly (school@yokohamaunionchurch.org)