



～枕崎市教育委員会だより～

# TEAMまくらざき

発行 枕崎市教育委員会

枕崎市中央町 184 番地

TEL 0993-72-0170

FAX 0993-72-0677

## 巻頭言

### Source of Strength

Makurazaki City Board of Education Superintendent, Koichi Kinoshita

Summer has arrived and we say "hot, hot, and hot" many times. The highest temperature in many places has increased, and in some parts of Hokkaido the temperature has exceeded 40 degree Celsius. This year, I feel hotter than last year.

I think humans are truly selfish. When we have severe winter, we want to have extreme hot summer season. But after a period of extreme heat, we start to wish for the coolness of winter.

We feel that we want to support each other in times of difficulty. However, when our lives are flowing smoothly, it can be easy for us to complain about others who may be experiencing difficult times and are looking for support.

As the seasons change, the harsh summer heat is finally upon us. We are often faced with situations in our daily lives where we can't do things even if we want to, leading to stress and frustration. However, many of these issues will eventually resolve. Perhaps the inability to have completely harmonious human relationships is also part of it.

Our greatest achievement may come from overcoming a major challenge, experiencing joy from creating something, and feeling a sense of accomplishment. These are all things that shape us into who we are.

It's not just about overcoming obstacles when we encounter them; it's also about actively challenging ourselves. However, from the perspective of others, this time, I believe it's about reflecting on ourselves and progressing, using the help of those around us. This mindset helps us live a richer life.

Now, the first period at school has ended, and two weeks have passed since summer break began. How are children spending their time at home? Sometimes I see them holding fishing rods and heading towards the sea with their parent(s), but I don't see them playing with their friends in groups outside.

First and second graders are trying to challenge their homework and their club activities. Also, some of the principals make "study club" during summer vacation at school based on their hope that some students, who want to improve their ability, will come.

The third graders are reaching the culmination of their three years with major competitions and club activities ending. A large competition or concert means a "result" where only one or two people remain among the many. I believe that the efforts made up to that point are more important than the outcome. This can be said for any endeavor. I remember the words "training brings confidence". From the time we joined the club, we continued to practice diligently and improved our skills through trial and error. This means that the "result" is the accumulation of these efforts. Students, who don't join club activities, are also efforts and challenges.

In the future, children will live in an increasingly uncertain society where they cannot predict what will happen. To thrive in such a society, it is necessary to face new difficulties without fear, overcome challenges based on experience, and continue to learn. I believe that gaining these experiences will enrich their lives.

### Makurazaki City Junior High School Debate Tournament on July 4<sup>th</sup>

The Makurazaki City Junior High School Debate Tournament was held at the Makurazaki City Hall. Two representatives from each of the city's 8 junior high schools participated, giving presentations and engaging in discussions.

This tournament has been held annually with junior high school student councils at its core for planning and operation, and this year, representatives from all schools participated. The presentations were thought-provoking and well-prepared, conveying information clearly and concisely.

This year, there were two excellent speakers who received the top awards, making it a very engaging tournament.

### Suntory Holdings and Environmental Education

On Wednesday, July 2nd, an environmental education program by Suntory Holdings, in collaboration with the city, was held at Sakurayama Elementary School and Tategami Elementary School. 3rd and 4th-grade students learned about how plastic bottles are made and recycled.

Through this lesson, students examined plastic bottles, watched videos, and listened to lectures. Some children set a goal to properly collect and recycle plastic bottles after purchasing bottled drinks and for them to be reborn as new plastic bottles by following the rules.

### The Makurazaki City Art Exhibition Selection Committee

This year, Mr. Akio Ikeda, a former director of the Ibusuki City Board of Education, was invited to serve as the selection committee chairman. We selected artworks from kindergartens, elementary schools, and junior high schools, totaling 102 pieces, to be displayed at the city art exhibition.

Many wonderful pieces were submitted this year, responding to the ongoing progression of the exhibition, making the selection process quite challenging.

Please note that the winning entries for the central exhibition will be displayed at the Prefectural History and Culture Center "Reimeikan" from August 28th to August 31st.

### 2025 Citizens' Greeting Slogan Competition

There were 1,060 entries for this year's citizens' greeting slogan, with 634 from elementary schools and 426 from junior high schools.

Thank you for your cooperation. Let's make Makurazaki a brighter and more energetic city through greetings.

### Digital Citizenship Education

We are promoting digital citizenship education to help children develop skills to engage with digital society broadly and deeply. To achieve this, we are preparing to introduce digital teaching materials to 5th and 6th graders' tablets, allowing each child to learn about privacy and critical thinking skills. Eight other topics will also be getting incorporated into each subject's lessons.

Previously, a workshop was held for all elementary schools, where an instructor spoke based on three skills. The second workshop is scheduled during November 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. Please get the information from school and come visit to see how the children are learning about digital citizenship.

### Special Needs Education: What is Learning Disabilities?

From mid-September, a guidance classroom for learning disabilities and ADHD will open in the city. This classroom aims to introduce and provide support to those with learning disabilities.

Learning disabilities generally involves difficulties in acquiring one or more specific abilities necessary for learning, such as listening, speaking, reading, writing, calculating, or reasoning, despite intellectual development.

With the school's recognition, children can utilize these services if they or their guardians feel as if the student can benefit from the support of this guidance classroom.

The guidance classroom primarily focuses on learning to improve and overcome learning difficulties. All children in the city can utilize the guidance classroom. (Reference: "Handbook for Educational Support for Children with Disabilities," Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)