

(English version of school brochure)



## JAPANESE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY, INC.

Japanese Preschool & Elementary School

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### School Song

Written by Shinichiro Sako  
Composed by Shoichiro Sako  
Translated by Toshikatsu Konishi

1. A blue sky is broadening over the earth,  
The mighty Hudson River is flowing into the bay,  
Like a young tree growing up healthily and quickly,  
All of us extend our hands  
And grow strong and big, in our school
2. On the bright windows filled with light,  
Reflecting smiling faces with enjoyment,  
Like small birds singing amicably  
All of us live in harmony  
Encourage and train with each other, in our school
3. In the city where a large number of people gather together from all over the world  
In search of freedom and dreaming of a future  
Like the Stature of Liberty uplifting a torch  
All of us are afire with high hopes,  
And build the joy of peace, in our school, in our school

## **Mission Statement**

1. To give Japanese preschool and elementary aged children a broad, rich education.
2. To shape and nurture their social and intellectual development.
3. To provide support and education in first language acquisition to preschool and elementary aged students.
4. To provide a cosmopolitan educational experience to students.

Our belief is that our students must have a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the Japanese language and culture in order to survive in today's world. Above all they should become proficient in other languages and cultures of welcomed by the global community.

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## **Statement from Principal**

The Japanese Children's Society was founded in New York City in 1980 as a Japanese language-based preschool and kindergarten. In 1989 the school moved to Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey where it expanded to include elementary school. Since then, it has been the only school offering preschool and elementary school education in the east coast.

The school offers students the nationalized curriculum of Japan. Japanese is the official language at the school although an emphasis is placed on the ESL education to broaden our students. The ESL program has been developed by Japanese and English native-speaking instructors with enthusiasm, so that it is student-centered, motivating, and supportive of their English language development.

The school also provides a counseling service to parents and children who seek assistance in adjusting to the US or readjusting to Japan. The service facilitates a family's transition by closely communicating with educational facilities to which students are transferring.

The school is operated as a private, non-profit institution based on the needs and desire of the local Japanese community. We are happy to report that approximately 3,000 J.C.S grades are achieving and excelling in Japan and throughout the world with the educational foundation they received at the J.C.S. We invite students to join our small, friendly, comfortable, learning-community. We are making a difference.

Toru Okamoto  
Principal

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## **I. *Preschool Curriculum Operation***

1. Goal:

To help students develop their cheerfulness, honesty, and confidence

2. Objectivities:

- a. To help students develop their first language through nurturing them in Japanese.
- b. To help students develop independent basic living skills
- c. To help students improve their basic social skills
- d. To help students cultivate common sense when communicating with their peers and friends
- e. To help students broaden their points of view and cultivate a greater global awareness and multi-cultural sensitivity by experiencing American cultures and customs

3. Academic Year (April to March)

a. First semester (April to June)

Main school events

Entrance ceremony, Welcome party for newcomers, teacher-parent meetings, Japanese Culture Celebrations (Children's Day Celebration), field trips, swimming lessons, parent's visitation day

b. Second semester (August to December)

Main school events:

Sports day, field trips, Halloween Party, parent's visitation day, teacher-parent meetings, birthday party, school festival, holiday party

c. Third semester (January to March)

Main school events:

Japanese Cultural Celebrations (rice cake making party, Girl's Day Party, Bean-Throwing Festival), Farewell Party, Graduation Ceremony)

4. Weekly Schedule

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/(8:45 am to 2:30 pm)

Friday (8:45 am to 12:50 am)

5. Daily Schedule

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday

8:45 - 9:00	Arrival
9:00 - 10:00	Free activities
10:00 - 10:30	Morning activities I (dancing, singing or painting)
10:30 - 11:30	Morning activities II
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 2:00	Afternoon activities
2:00 - 2:30	Story-telling, singing, and word playing
2:30 - 2:40	Departure

Friday

8:45 - 9:00	Arrival
9:00 - 10:00	Free activities
10:00 - 10:30	Morning activities I (dancing, singing or painting)
10:30 - 11:30	Morning activities II
11:30 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 - 12:50	Story-telling, singing, and word play
12:50 - 1:00	Departure

6. Key features

a. Curriculum

The curriculum follows the Japanese national curriculum approved by Ministry of Education and Science. It is well balanced between play and learning-oriented time.

b. Class

Preschool has the following three classes: 1) 3 year-old class; 2) 4 year-old class, 3) 5 year-old class. Each class is supervised by two homeroom teachers with rich teaching experience in Japan and the US.

c. Special subjects

English playing:

A native English-speaker leads the students in children's songs and games familiarizing them to English sounds and words in a fun, no-threatening environment.

Music:

A professional pianist with rich experience in teaching is in charge of the class and encourages students to get involved in music activities.

Art:

An artist with extensive teaching experience with young children motivates students to get involved in art activities. Others:

Homeroom teachers have their own personal interests and talents. (e.g., cooking, sports, origami) They share these with students in other classes. This results in teachers knowing all students in the preschool division.

- d. Lunch meeting  
Students are divided into different aged groups, have lunch in the group, and play together after lunch. This helps them establish friendly relationships with a variety of students.
- e. Cooking  
Students are often given good opportunities to make lunches and snacks.
- f. Birthday Party  
One day every month students join together to have a birthday party. The parents of students celebrating their birthdays during the specific month are invited to join the festivities.
- g. Swimming  
In the summer students play in a wading on the school ground the weather permitting and hot. The five- year-old class also has a swimming class in an indoor pool.
- h. Physical measurement  
Every month the height and weight of students are measured and recorded.
- i. Story-telling of picture books  
The daily classroom story-telling activities allow students to develop their imaginations, and provide them with Japanese language enrichment opportunities.
- j. Club activities  
We have a soccer club after school that is targeted for 5-year-old students. The club meets once a week.

All the photos on page 3 and 4 of the Japanese version of this brochure show main school events in an academic year.

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## **II. Elementary School's Curriculum Operation**

### 1. Goals:

- a. To help students learn comfortably and to self-discipline
- b. To help students enrich their minds by providing them with cross-cultural experiences

### 2. Objectivities:

- a. To encourage students to shape a self-motivated attitude toward learning, to build their basic learning ability, and to develop their recognition.
- b. To foster cooperation among students by letting them participate into group activities.
- c. To help students make their mind and body sound and lead a cheerful, comfortable school life.
- d. To support students in building their rich, flexible mind and in forming a broaden, international point of view

### 3. Yearly Schedule

#### a. First semester (April to June)

Main School Events: entrance ceremony, teacher-parent meetings, field trips, sports day, bilingual day, school trip, parent's visitation day, swimming lessons

#### b. Second semester (August to December)

Main School Events: swimming lessons, field trips, teacher-parent meeting, parent's visitation day, ice skating lessons, Halloween party, bilingual day, bazaar, school festival

#### c. Third semester (January to March)

Main School Events: Japanese culture celebrations (rice cake making party, New Year's writing), tennis lessons, field trip, farewell party, graduation ceremony, jumping rope contest

4. Class hours and time table

Class hours

	1 <sup>st</sup> grade	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	6 <sup>th</sup> grade
Japanese	9	9	7	7	6	6
Social Study			3	3	4	4
Math	5	5	5	5	5	
Science			3	3	3	3
Life	3	3				
English	10	10	10	10	10	10
Music	2	2	2	2	2	2
Arts	2	2	2	2	2	2
Home economics					2	2
Physical Education	3	3	2	2		
Special Activities	School Event, Field Trip, and Moral Education					
Integrated Study						
Total(hrs/week)	34	34	34	34	34	34
Total(hrs/year)	1348 (Included Entering Ceremony)	1360	1360	1360	1360	1326 (Included Graduation Ceremony)
Public schools in Japan (hrs/year)	850	910	945	980	980	980

Timetable

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday

8:40 - 8:50	Arrival
8:50 - 9:00	Independent study time
9:00 - 9:10	Morning meeting
9:10 - 9:50	1st period
9:55 - 10:35	2nd period
10:35 - 10:55	Recess
10:55 - 11:35	3rd period
11:40 - 12:20	4th period
12:20 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 1:40	5th period
1:45 - 2:25	6th period
2:30 - 3:10	7th period
3:10 - 3:30	HR
3:30	Departure

Friday (All day English Program)

8:40	-	8:50	Arrival
8:50	-	9:00	Independent study time
9:00	-	9:10	Morning meeting
9:10	-	9:50	1st period
9:55	-	10:35	2nd period
10:35	-	10:55	Recess
10:55	-	11:35	3rd period
11:40	-	12:20	4th period
12:20	-	1:00	Lunch
1:00	-	1:40	5th period
1:45	-	2:25	6th period
2:25	-	2:45	HR
2:45			Departure

5. Others

Subjects by specialty teachers:

English, art, music, calligraphy, Japanese, music, and graduation production

Extra curriculum activities:

student government, club, afterschool program, summer program, summer camp, and ski camp

Club activities:

baseball, soccer, computer, and season sports

After school program:

calligraphy, karate, Japanese language class, painting, piano, and ESL

Computer education:

In class students are given frequent opportunities to explore and gather information using the internet. A computer club offers students an opportunity to learn higher computer skills.

6. English: ESL & Bilingual Program

Our English program offers leveled English classes and supports the development of students' all-around English skills. The ESL program is designed for non-native English speakers usually from Japan. Each student is carefully placed in the level which will best suit their learning needs and abilities. The Language Arts program is designed for bilingual students to continue a native or near-native course of study in the English language. Students have English class once a day from Monday through Thursday and study all day in English on



Fridays. The Intensive English Learning Program (All day English Friday Program) was introduced in 2011 and has been achieving unprecedented results in bilingual education. During the morning session, students are divided into five leveled classes to fine-tune their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. In the afternoon, they are divided by grade (older students: 4-6<sup>th</sup> grade, younger students: 1-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) for thematic study; the themes of which are set based on seasonal events, holidays, and students' general knowledge levels.

Students are offered a variety of American cultural events, which include a Halloween assembly and party, and various holiday song assemblies.

Every semester our students are given the opportunity to interact with American students from nearby schools. This exchange program encourages students to use English and forge friendship with native English speakers.

Students may take the English Proficiency Test approved by the Japanese Ministry of Education and Science. This test is one of the main factors for admission to private junior high schools in Japan.

7. Where graduates go

Azabu Junior High School	Gakushuin Junior High School
Keimei Gakuen	Sibuya Kyoiku Gakuen Makuhari Junior High School
Shonan Shirayuri Junior High School	Chiyoda Jogakuen Rikkyo Ikubukuro
Junior High School	Ootsuma Junior High School
Tokyo Liberal Arts College Affiliated Junior High School	
Keio University Affiliated Junior High School	
Shibaura Industrial University Affiliated Junior High School	
Tamagawa Gakuen	Musashi Junior High School
Kaisei Academy Junior High school	Ritsumeikan Uji Junior High school
Englewood Cliffs Upper School	Tenafly Middle School
New Jersey Japanese School	Koshien Gakuin The Elizabeth Morrow School

8. Special guests and speakers

Mr. Ikuo Hirayama	(UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador/painter)
Mr. Shuntaro Tanigawa	(poet)
Ms. Midori Goto	(pianist)
Ms. Mariko Senju	(violinist)
Ms. Toko Shinoda	(calligrapher)
Mr. Rokusuke Ei	(composer)
Ms. Peggy Hayama	(singer)
Prof. Takaya Kawabe	(professor of United Nations University/UrTech)
Mr. Hideki Matsui	(base ball player / New York Yankees)

9. Achievements on proficiency tests (2009-2010 year)

English Proficiency Test

Grade-2: 3 people, Grade-Pre 2: 8 people, Grade-3: 10 people,  
Grade-4: 9 people, Grade 5: 8 people

Chinese Character Proficiency Test

Pre 2nd class 1 person, 6th class 1 person, 7th class 1 person, 9th class 4 people

Art of Calligraphy Certificate

4th class 6 people, 5th class 27 people

The Mathematics Certification

3rd class 1 person, 4th class 3 people, 5th class 3 people, 6th class 1 person, 7th  
or under class many students

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**III. Campus and indoor building map**

[http://www.japaneseschool.org/about\\_ikuei/facility.php](http://www.japaneseschool.org/about_ikuei/facility.php)

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**IV. School Bus**

Bus service is available, but not exclusively, to the following: Manhattan East side & West side (NY), Fort Lee, Englewood Cliffs, Cliffside Part, Leonia, Tenafly, Palisades Park, Demarest, Paramus, River Edge, Ridgewood, Edgewater, West New York( Port Imperial), and so on. In case of inclement weather like storm, the service is not available. In this case, the school is closed or we offer point-to-point bus service.

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**V. Direction to School**

1. From New York City
  - a. By car  
Go onto the GW Bridge/Upper Level. Enter the second exit (Fort Lee-Hudson Terrace) after the bridge.  
Continue on the ramp to Hudson Terrace, and at the end of the ramp, turn left on Hudson Terrace. Continue on Hudson Terrace, and Turn left at Bayview Ave.  
The school building is on the left.
  - b. Public Transportation  
From midtown

Take No.156 on NJ Transit bus at the Port Authority Bus Terminal and get out at Bayview Ave. You can see our school on the left side. It takes about 50 min.

From uptown

Get off Subway A at 175 St. GW Bridge Bus Terminal, and go up to the George Washington Bridge Bus Terminal. Take No.186 on NJ Transit or 9A on Red & Tan Lines, and get off at Bayview Ave. It takes 10 min.

2. From New Jersey

Take any road toward GW Bridge. When you are close to the Bridge, take 9W (Lemoine Ave. or Sylvan Ave.) to the north. Continue on 9W for about 3 min, and take the left turn on Bayview Ave.

Trial Admission

A trial admission is available, and it is recommended for parents to considering sending their children to Japanese Children's Society, Inc. This trial provides children with an opportunity to participate in class for a few weeks. For further information, please contact us.

Japanese Preschool and Elementary School

Private Day School

Japanese Children's Society, Inc.

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