



Seta Kousen Kindergarten

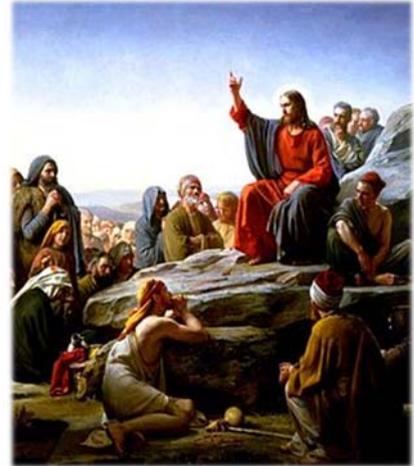


学校法人 聖パウロ学園
瀬田光泉幼稚園

1. The Philosophy of the Foundation of the School

- **Cultivating students who will become like “the salt of the earth” , “the light of the world” (The New Testament, Matthew 5 : 13-16)**
- **Nurturing love, justice and freedom with responsibility**

Salt is essential. Seta Kousen students are expected to become useful in society like salt, and light up the world like a shining light in darkness. They are also expected to love others as they love themselves, and to have freedom with responsibility, according to the Catholic teachings.



2. Objectives of Education

At Seta Kousen Kindergarten, students learn social skills by interacting and cooperating with one another. Through school life and various group activities, the students will learn manners and develop their warmhearted characters based on Catholic teachings. Three goals are set as follows:



1) Character development based on Catholic teachings

- A child who is considerate
- A child who is gentle and kind, and expresses gratitude to the people around them and appreciate nature.

2) Interaction with People and Society

- A child who greets people
- A child who can get along well with anyone
- A child who can understand others' feelings

3) Balanced development of the soul, intelligence, and body

- A child who has interests in everything
- A child who gets enough exercise
- A child who thinks carefully
- A child who expands vocabulary and likes reading

3. Educational Policy

Ideal Seta Kousen Kindergarteners:

1) A child who greets people

Students develop their basic social skills as habits through daily practice at school by saying “good morning”, “hello”, and “good-bye” spontaneously.



2) A child who says “yes” and “thank you” properly

Through practical activities at school, students get used to answering “yes” properly and saying “thank you” sincerely even for a small thing.

3) A child who listens and can give an opinion

Paying attention to others’ talk quietly is emphasized in order to improve the ability to understand what the other people feel and think. Besides listening, expressing their opinions clearly is also instructed carefully.

4) A child who is considerate of others

To feel thankful for their own families and to be kind to their friends, and to respect other people are valued.



5) A child who has intellectual interest and curiosity

To inspire intellectual interest and curiosity towards words and numbers, enjoyable lessons are carefully planned, such as reading kanji (Chinese characters), English activities and basic numbers.

4. Daily Schedule



10:00 Come to school (walking/school bus)



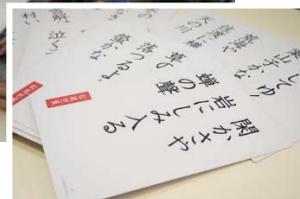
Pray to the Virgin Mary



10:10 Morning assembly
(exercises, prayer, hymn)



10:30 Kanji lesson



11:00 Morning activities (expression, instrument, outdoor activities, painting, etc.)



11:45 Lunch (self/school)

self	Tuesday, Thursday
school	Monday, Wednesday, Friday

*schedule is subject to change



13:00 Afternoon activities
(painting, clay work, playing house, building KAPLA blocks)

*Preparing for each school event is included.



13:50 Review of the day
(listening to a music box)

Delicious School Lunch!

To eat school lunch together generates a great power.



As a general rule, the same kind and the same amount of food is served to every child. Some children who eat less might feel like eating more when they see others eating with relish. This will be the first step for them to learn likes and dislikes. They are expected to eat all food, such as new vegetables and traditional food.

The monthly menu can be checked on the website.

For parents, a tasting party and observation of the kitchen area is held, so that the taste, texture and quantity/quality of school lunch can be improved.



13:30 Meeting to close the day
(picture books, prayer, greeting)



14:10 Leave school
(walking/school bus)

5. Curriculum

5-year-old: English, *Kanji*, PE, Calligraphy, Original Abacus

4-year-old: English, *Kanji*, PE, Original Abacus

3-year-old: English, *Kanji*, PE

6. English Conversation Lesson

1) Enjoyable English

The idea that English is pleasant and enjoyable is the basic principle of English lessons in Kousen Kindergarten. It is important to give kindergarteners a good first impression of English lessons, because it will be the lasting impression. The idea that from 3 to 10 years old is the peak of brain development for Chinese character acquisition, we also applied that thinking to English education and increased the number of class to compete National top level English education among Japanese kindergartens.

Children	Allotted Time	Times/year
3-year-old	30 min	30 times
4-year-old	40 min	42 times
5-year-old	40 min	42 times

2) Program



English teaching materials cover five teaching areas such as health, human relationships, the environment, language, and expression to develop kindergarteners' emotions, motives and attitudes. Through English activities with picture books, dances and so on, they get familiar with English words and daily conversations, and also, they learn to feel directly and express themselves openly.

3) Teaches and Teaching Contents

Native English teachers who have special training for teaching English to children give all lessons in English only. The lesson contents are aimed at being interesting and familiar to children by introducing a lot of songs and games.

3-year-old

greetings, weather, greeting songs, seasonal words, gestures, songs, today's words, picture books, review, good-bye songs

4 & 5-year-old

greetings, weather, greeting songs, seasonal words, gestures, songs, today's words, activities, today's expressions, the alphabet, picture books, review, good-bye songs

7. Kanji (Chinese Characters)

1) About Kanji Education

The unique *kanji* lesson is led by a teacher reading picture books full of *kanji* aloud with students. Students play an exciting and competitive game of answering memorize “*kanji* flashcards” shown by the teacher.

2) Practical Activities

- ① From the beginning of a picture book, teachers and kindergarteners read aloud together mixed text of *kanji* and *hiragana*, such as “once upon a time”, “an old man/woman”. The kindergarteners do not mind the difficulties, but get interested in the words. They can master reading them quickly.
- ② Almost every day, they read a mixture of *kanji* and *hiragana* in a picture book, a proverb, *haiku* or other poems.
- ③ Ten picture books a year are to be read by all third year students. The aim is to read *kanji*, not write *kanji*.

漢字教育



8. PE (Physical Education)

Specialists of infant PE give instructions to develop the body and the spirit as well as the spirit of cooperation.

Children	Day	Allotted Time	Times/year
3-year-old	Thursday	30 min	12 times
4-year-old	Thursday	30 min	16 times
5-year-old	Tuesday	30 min	19 times



9. Calligraphy

Calligraphy helps the development of the power of concentration. It also stimulates the development of the body and the spirit through experiencing and achieving beautiful finishing.

書道教室

Children	Day	Allotted Time	Times/year
5-year-old	Friday	30 min	7 times



10. Abacus with 100 Beads

百玉そろばん

The abacus with 100 beads is a teaching tool to develop the basic concept of numbers from 1 to 100 audio-visually. The developed concept of numbers using the abacus with 100 beads will be the base to acquire good calculating skills.



11. Extra-curricular Activities

Some activities are prepared for the students to choose from after school, such as Kawai Gym, karate, soccer, English conversation. (Grad can join some of them.)

Class	Children	Day	Hours
Kawai Gym	4-5 year-old, Grad	Monday / Tuesday	14:30-15:30 4-year-old
			15:30-16:30 5-year-old
			16:30-17:30 Grad
Karate	3-5 year-old, Grad	Wednesday	14:30-15:30
Soccer	3-5 year-old	Wednesday	14:30-15:15
English Conversation	3-5 year-old, Grad	Friday	14:10-14:50 3-year-old
		Tuesday	14:10-14:50 4-year-old 14:55-15:35 5-year-old

12. School Events

April Entrance Ceremony

May Event on Children's Day

Event on Flower Day

School Excursion

July Event on Star Festival Day

Day Nursery

Overnight Nursery (4-year-old at school, 5-year-old at an accommodation)

October Sports Day

Potato Digging

November Celebration of children's growth at the age of 7, 5 and 3.

Exhibition of Works & Bazaar

December Christmas Tableau

January Event day

February Event on the day before the beginning of spring

Music Concert

March Event on Girls' Festival Day

Graduation Ceremony



Entrance Ceremony



Event on Flower Day



Day Nursery (3)



Overnight Nursery (4)



Overnight Nursery (5)



Sports Day



Christmas Tableau



Music Concert

13. Timetable & Holidays

1) Come to School

- ① Walking: 8:45-9:00
- ② School Bus: 8:30-9:50 (approximately)

* depends on the bus route

2) Leave School

- ① Walking: 14:10
- ② School bus: 14:10-14:50 (approximately)

* depends on the bus route

3) School Schedule

- ① Ordinary weekdays: 10:00-14:10
- ② Special schedule: 10:00-12:30
- ③ Ceremony: 10:00-11:30

4) Holidays

- ① Weekend: Saturday, Sunday, National Holidays
- ② Summer holiday: July 21-Aug. 31
- ③ Winter holiday: Dec. 24-Jan. 7
- ④ Spring holiday: March 21-April 7
- ⑤ School closed: During severe weather warnings or a special alarm is issued, or when the decision by the director is announced

5) Holidays

The following events are held on weekends and a substitute day off is designated:

Saturday events: Open Day, Exhibition, Christmas Tableau, Music Concert

Sunday events: Sports Day



Basic uniform



Summer uniform

14. Strawberry Class: pre-school program for 2-year-old & parents

A special pre-school program called **Strawberry Class** with fun activities is provided to 2-year-old children and parents. The activities of Strawberry Class is based on the school principle of education. If parents are interested in this program and agree with the principle, their children can take part in this class. This program will help children prepare for school life and teachers through fun activities. Parents will be able to exchange information about child care with each other.

Schedule

Wednesday Class	Class 1: 10:30~11:30
	Class 2: 12:00~13:00
Friday Class	Class 1: 10:30~11:30
	Class 2: 12:00~13:00

- * approximately 25 lessons a year
- * closed in summer/winter holiday
- * starting in early May

Example of Class 1:

10:15 come to school, free play time
 10:30 activities
 (exercise, drawing, play, picture books)
 11:30 leave school



The school newsletter
 "Kousen"

Kousen Junior & Senior High School is located in Minami-Kusatsu and is run by St. Paul's Academy. **Seta Kousen Kindergarten** is under the same philosophy and educational goals. The school newsletter "**Kousen**" is issued to present student activities and useful information.