



Kei-Sho Chronicle – December 2025 End of Term 2

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December is nearing its end, and with it, the end of the year and Term 2 at Kei-Sho. Term 2 is always full of large events and excitement, although December itself is quiet. This year we had a brand-new event as well, the Dance Club Christmas Stage. With Term 2 over, the winter vacation begins. Have fun!

End of Term 2:

With the closing ceremony on December 20, Kei-Sho has officially concluded Term 2. Term 2 had our 3 biggest events: the Sports Festival, Keika Festival and Business Skills Competition. But now that they are all over, life has become quieter, with students focusing on their studies and club activities. In particular, many 3rd grade students spent a lot of time in Term 2 working towards university entrance, with tests and interviews.

The end of the term also means the start of the winter vacation. With more than 2 weeks over Christmas and New Year's, I'm sure students and teachers all have plans for the vacation.



Dance Club Performance:

This year, Kei-Sho's Dance Club, along with the Keika Girls' School's Dance Club, held a Christmas stage on December 20th, after the closing ceremony. The students from both schools worked very hard before the performance, coming in to school after tests ended to practice as much as they could.



This was the first time the Dance Clubs have held a Christmas stage. Typically, the Dance Club performs at the Hydrangea Festival at Hakusan Shrine, at the Keika Festival, and in competitions. But this year, due to the strong request of the members of the Kei-Sho and Girls' School Dance Clubs, it was decided to hold another event.

The stage proceeded with the two dance clubs taking turns to perform, with small intermissions. Most of the dances were part of their regular routine, although there were some new numbers, and a special Christmas intermission from the club teachers, and a Christmas song with everyone wearing fun Christmas outfits.

It was a very exciting event, with all of the students, teachers and parents who came to watch clapping and cheering for the students. I hope we can run the event again next year!



With Term 2 over, what are your plans for the winter vacation? I am going back to Australia to spend Christmas with my family. Maybe I'll see a Surfing Santa! - Llew



In our English Conversation classes this term, we looked at students' favourite places. Brendan has written an article about what the students said. Let's see what he has to say.

Going Travelling:

Congratulations on making it to the end of 2025! Winter break(冬休み) has just begun, so I think many Kei-Sho students will be travelling to visit their extended family(親戚), or perhaps going on a fun holiday. As I write this, I am preparing to fly back to Australia for the break. I am looking forward to seeing my family and enjoying a hot summer Christmas!

Recently in English Conversation class, the first-year students told us about their favourite place to visit. I love to visit new places around Japan, so I wanted to find out what areas are popular. The students talked about attractions, neighbourhoods(近所), towns(町) and cities(市), but let's see which prefectures(都道府県) (outside of Tokyo) Kei-Sho students like to visit most.

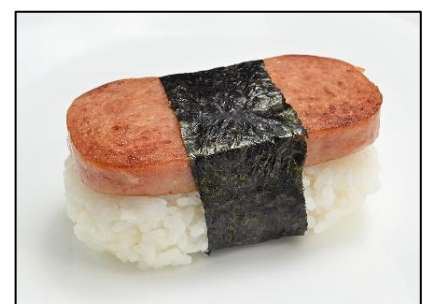
Prefecture	Votes
Okinawa	10
Shizuoka	8
Niigata	7
Chiba	6
Hokkaido	5
Kanagawa	5
Fukushima	3
Gunma	3
Kyoto	3
Nagano	3
Miyagi	2
Oita	2
Okayama	2
Osaka	2
Saitama	2
Yamagata	2
Yamanashi	2
Other	8

1. Okinawa (chosen by 10 students)

I wasn't surprised that Okinawa was the most popular destination. With lots of beaches, scenery and attractions, it's the perfect place to escape this cold winter weather. You can visit the aquarium(水族館) and try some very unique food, such as Spam musubi!



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Okinawa_Churaumi_Aquarium.jpg

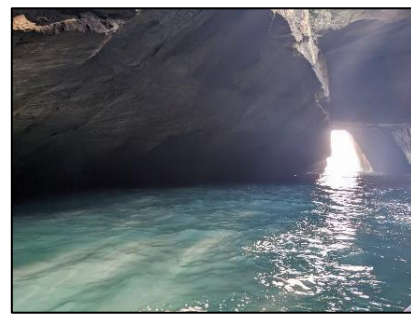


https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Spam_musubi_001.jpg



2. Shizuoka (chosen by 8 students)

Next, we go from a far away prefecture to one that is close to Tokyo. Shizuoka Prefecture is only 30 minutes away from Tokyo by shinkansen, so it's very easy to visit for a short holiday. My favourite sight in Shizuoka is Dogashima, which has beautiful caves(洞窟) that you can visit by boat. Atami is also very famous for its hot springs and beach views.



3. Niigata (chosen by 7 students)

The third most popular destination was Niigata Prefecture. It is a large prefecture with lots of mountains and farms, so it feels completely different to Tokyo. Skiing(スキー) season has just begun, so lots of people will be travelling to Niigata's ski resorts. You might even see some Australian skiers, because Australia has very few ski resorts and Japan is well-known for its great skiing. There are also plenty of hot springs to help you warm up after a day in the snow!



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Skiiing_-_Yuzawa,_Niigata_-_DSC09355.JPG



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/71/Hirayu_onsen03s3872.jpg

Whether you are staying in Tokyo or going travelling during the winter break, please take care. Enjoy the New Year's celebrations(新年のお祝い) and I'll see you in 2026! - Brendan