



Kei-Sho Chronicle –

June 2026

A Festival and an Expo

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Welcome Back! June has ended, and we are nearing the end of Term 1 at Kei-Sho. Compared to May, June has been quieter, but there have still been some interesting events. The annual Hakusan Shrine Hydrangea Festival was held, with some of Kei-Sho's students performing. And we also held a new event with students from all 3 schools; the Keika Global Expo.

Hakusan Shrine Hydrangea Festival:

Starting on June 6, the annual Hydrangea Festival started at Hakusan Shrine. This is the season when the hydrangea flowers (アジサイ) are most beautiful. The festival was run over two weeks, and many people visited the shrine during that time to see the flowers, but the most interesting part was the performances on the weekends. Groups from the local area and nearby schools performed on the festival's stage over several days. Students from Kei-Sho also took part in these performances.



The first Kei-Sho students to perform were Kei-Sho's Dance Club, who performed on Saturday, June 6. Many other Kei-Sho students also came to cheer them on. The dance club performed a number of routines, changing members and outfits many times. It was the first performance of the year, so it was a chance to show off their new routines. For the first grade students, it was also their first time to perform in front of a crowd. **Like always, watching the dance club perform was very enjoyable!**



The next group of students to perform was the Keika Symphonic Band, who performed on Sunday, June 7. Because it was a Sunday, there were less students than with the dance club. But even so, there were a number of students and teachers who came to watch the performance.

Not all of the students in the band were able to perform because of the size of the festival's stage. However, those who weren't playing instruments helped out in other ways. There were also some students who danced during some of the songs. The band performed a number of songs, and the response from the crowd was proof that they did a great job. It's nice to see the students with a chance to show off their hard work, **and for the third grade students in particular it was an emotional day.**



Lastly, on Sunday, June 14, the Keika Girls' School Dance Team and Sophisticated Blue (Keika Marching Band) performed at the shrine. I have not had many opportunities to see the girls' dance team, so it was nice to see them. In addition, the performance from the marching band was as powerful as ever. The size of the stage was a problem for the marching band as well, so they were unable to do any drills, but instead performed their songs with small movements and the color guard. While there are only a few Kei-Sho students in the marching band, and none in the girls' dance team, **it is nice to see what students at the other schools are working toward.**



Keika Global Expo:

This year, the Keika Global Committee planned a new event to be held in the Keika Lounge with students from all three Keika schools. This event was called the Keika Global Expo. It was an event to celebrate the different cultures that teachers and students have at Keika. The idea originated from an exchange student at Keika Boys' School, but expanded to include the foreign teachers at all three schools.

After a brief speech from the head of the global committee, the event started with an introduction to Germany from a German exchange student who is studying at the boys' school. Germany is a country that is very different to Japan, so it was a good chance for the students to learn something new. The event continued with a live guitar performance of some English songs.



After this, students had time to walk around to various booths and learn about different countries. These booths were made by the foreign English teachers to introduce students to their country and its culture. There were questions, games, posters and other activities that students could participate in. When they entered the lounge, students were handed a 'passport', when a student visited a country's booth, they received a stamp in their passport, just like you would when you actually visit another country. If a student completed their passport, they could receive a prize. The event concluded with another guitar performance, a raffle (抽選) for everyone who attended, and a kahoot! to test how much the students learned.



It was a loud and energetic event, with over 70 students attending. Walking around and seeing the students expressions, I think the event was a huge success. And I hope we can do it again next year! Did you come to the Expo? What did you think? - Llew

