Shizuka Ejiri (Kathryn)

Hello! My name is Shizuka Ejiri, and I am a MeySen alumna. When I went on the America Study Trip in junior high, it left a huge impression on me. It was my first time encountering the world outside of Japan which was completely unknown to me at the time. I have been interested in things overseas ever since.



In my first year of high he opportunity to participate in the YFU student exchange

program and I went to Ohio. It was a year where I learned to persevere in the face of

to work overseas. I joined a Japanese recruitment company working in Vietnam for three years until February of this year. The work involved assisting Japanese companies that are expanding into Vietnam in their recruitment efforts. If I had to sum up my impression of Vietnam in one word, it would be "energetic". Vietnam is in the middle of major economic development, the towns and people are full of energy, and many Japanese companies are investing in the country (and there is a lot

Working with people whose language, lifestyle, culture, customs, and thinking

difficulty and experience growth.

are different, yet giving our all to obtain a common goal was an exciting learning experience for me. As the office expanded, After that, I took action on my strong desire my colleagues and I overcame many difficulties and grew together.

> Now I am back in Japan working for a recruiting agency in Sendai. My experience overseas, both as an exchange student and working in Vietnam, is a tremendous asset, and I am walking forward toward more growth. I hope that all of you MeySen students will

I am so fortunate to have been able to study at MeySen, make friends, and gain many irreplaceable memories. Thank you to all of my teachers, my friends, and my parents.

experience growth as you learn to persevere

in difficult circumstances.

Europe Study Trip SENDAI + EUROPE Oct.4 - 22

🎢 🖟 🏹 he Europe Study Trip was created as an opportunity for MeySen His chool students to deepen their understanding of the history, cultur and customs of Europe. Students do so through interacting with people in England, France, and Germany, while also reaching for the goal of intro

their host brothers and sisters, and sharing life as a temporary member of the family. It is a fresh and stimulating 18 days, with very different experiences from those they have had in Japan or even America.

Itinerary for the 2019 trip

October 4 Depart from Narita to London Homestay, Schooling experience

October 14 Depart from London to Paris, Sightseeing October 15 Depart from Paris to Stuttgart

Homestay, Schooling experience

Weinstadt, and was featured in a local newspaper article.

October 21 Depart from Stuttgart to Frankfurt

October 22 Return to Japan

Japanische Schüler in Weinstadt Sen Academy im japanischen Sendai empfing Oberbü ermeister Michael Scharmann vergangene Woche in

Weinstadt, mit dem die private Sprachschule in Send "WEINSTADT motive Ausstellung im Alten Bah







Comment from a participant

The school I visited in England had people from so many different pressed at how they got on well with each other despite the differences.

In Japan, we seldom meet people that are not "black haired and yellow skinned", and so it is easy to see differences in appearance as unusual, but I think Japan would become a better place to live if in the future, seeing past the outer appearance became as normal as it was in schools in England.

Germany does not have English as their common language, so there were many times when it was hard to communicate what I wanted to say, like when I made a grammar mistake, or used an idiom that would be hard to guess the meaning unless you have heard it before. However, I tried using different words with a similar meaning, or switching to words that might be easier to understand, and people understood what I was trying to say. I was thankful for all the vocabulary tests that we had done in school.

Shiori Konno (Heidi, Maruyama 41st Graduating Class)

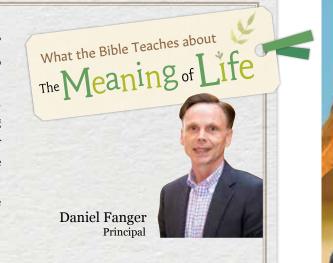


But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God... John 1:12 (ESV)

Do you ever wonder why you were born, about your purpose in life, or what awaits in your future? Many all over the world wander about on this earth having no clear answers to these questions, no peace in their hearts, and no hope about their future.

In order to live healthy in both our heart and body, we need to be aware not only of our physical needs, but also of our spiritual needs. Some say that spiritual needs are things like being loved, finding your life's purpose, and having hope for the future. We pray that all of the students of MeySen and their families will know that they are loved by God, understand their significance, and have hope and peace as they live out their lives on this earth.

The Bible gives us clear answers to these questions. I would like to look at each of them through the teaching of the Bible.



The Origin of Life

The book of Genesis, which is at the beginning of the Bible, tells us about the time when God made heaven, the earth, and all

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and (Genesis 1:1-3) there was light.

Beginning with these words, the Bible says God created the universe, the plants, the animals, and finally, the human race.

Then God said. "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them

The construction work of Maruyama Hall that

started in December of last year is going well, and

the shape and size the hall will be at completion can

already be clearly felt and seen. The metal pillars

and beams are being assembled, and work will soon

begin on the interior such as on the walls and floors.

not only for classes and events at the kindergarten,

but also act as a place for building community. We

are thankful for all of the donations and support

for Friends Square from parents, MeySen alumni,

and local businesses. We would like to ask for

This new hall, Friends Square, is going to be used

have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him: male and female he created them.

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:26-28)

All living things that God created are wonderful, but the human race, his final creation, was created after his image. Humankind is different from the animals in many ways, one important distinction being that humans were made to have fellowship with God. The first man and woman (Adam and Eve) were able to directly hear God's

voice and converse with him. We talk to God through prayer, communicating our thanks and praise to him, letting him know our hearts' desires. This is only given to humans and not to animals.

The book of Psalms in the Bible consists of poems and songs of prayers to God. One of them says the following.

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and woderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

(Psalm 139:13-14)

A tiny embryo in the mother's womb growing up all the way up to birth is a creation of God. Our bodies that God created are truly full of wonder. Each of our lives (including babies in the womb) are valuable



We apologize for the inconvenience caused to Maruyama parents because of the time limitations on rotary and parking lot use. Please be patient with us as there are only a few months left until completion.

MeySen 2020 Donation Link

https://meysen.ac.jp/donation/





October is the halfway point for the Japanese school year. Have you learned something new this year, or made a new friend? What kind of "you" do you want to be at the end of the year? Envision your goal and let's enjoy the rest of the

by: MeySen Academy Schools

www.meysen.ac.jp

on Date: October 15, 2019







Summer Family Concert An Evening of Gospel Music & Latin Jazz

On Saturday, August 3, a summer family concert was held at the Takamori hall. Ever since the Great Eastern Japan Earthquake in 2011, Jazz pianist Shinichiro Irie and gospel singer MANNA have organized an annual concert to support the recovery from the devastation. This year they came to MeySen.

The program started with "Passion Continent", and they played a total of nine pieces including "Oh Happy Day", which was accompanied by a gospel choir. When the popular song "Paprika" was played, all the children came forward, making it a dancing choir. Before anyone knew it, the one-hour concert came to a close, ending with

Members of the audience commented on how much fun it had been. It proved to be an enjoyable evening for families. MeySen hopes Shinichiro and MANNA will return next year.



Festival Held for Students Registered for 2020 School Year Comments from

On August 23, the children who are due to begin kindergarten next school year were invited, along with their families, to join MeySen's Tulip Club Festival. The participants shared a fun time in both the classrooms and the school field. Starting with a ride on the school bus, the children glowed with excitement as they spent a day making their way around to the seven different event corners such as "Let's make Anpanmar and "Water Play" and getting to know the teachers.

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ner. It was very goo

participants



Reevaluation of Kindergarten PE Curriculum

It has been almost 10 years since MeySen introduced its own PE curriculum focusing on basic body movements such as walking, running, jumping, and kicking.

Currently, Vice Principal Yoshimura and Ms. Hiroko Hayasaka, along with the help and input of instructors from Kawai Athletics Class, are working on improving the curriculum. The aim is to give the children the maximum benefit in the limited amount of time available, so that students are gaining the physical experience they need during the very important childhood years when the cranial nerve connections are still developing.



Host Family Coordinators for America Study Trips





Several churches are asked to recruit and select host families for our America Study trips, and we have coordinators for each of these churches who work to find the best suited host family for MeySen Junior High 7th grade students. Rusty Carlson, the coordinator at one of these churches, Rainier View Christian

Church, has worked with MeySen for the past 25 years. Now he is stepping down from this role, and Ruth Hug will be responsible for coordinating from next year.

Rusty has hosted students himself, and we are deeply grateful for all of his efforts. Ruth is from a veteran host family that has hosted students for 20 years.

Our partnership with MeySen has been an amazing journey over the last 25 years. It has truly brought our family some of our highlight moments together. When our kids were in the appropriate age-range, we hosted students in our home for about eight years and looked forward to making and keeping friends from across the ocean. Those weekend homestays were very memorable and fun!

Over the years, members of our family traveled to Sendai three times to meet the academy staff, see the campuses and interact with the students in their own setting and those trips were incredible. We even had our own "reverse homestay" where we stayed in the home of a MeySen family and we are still in touch with the Aoki family more than twenty years later! My son, Jonathan, had the time of his life on the slides and play equipment, most of which we don't have on playgrounds in America.

Here are lessons I've learned from our partnership with MeySen: 1. Put Jesus first and listen to His calling on your life.

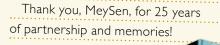
Surround yourself with high character people (and lots of farm animals!)

3. Do everything with excellence, preparation and attention to detail. 4. Be unexpectedly generous.

5. Take risks and make friends all over the world!

Those lessons and principles guide me as I help lead our church in America and we look forward to another 25 years working with MeySen. Because my season in life has changed, it is time to

transition to another homestay coordinator and I'm very excited for Ruth Hug to take my place. Ruth helped host students as a little girl and now has children of her own and is the perfect choice for this hand-off. I'm excited for Ruth and her husband Jamin to have many of the same experiences and highlights as our family!



Rusty Carlson

Executive Pastor Rainier View Christian Church



