TO NEWS 公益財団法人世界こども財団 FGC-Foundation for Global Children







Domestic FGC Presents Okuma Koguma Camp held in Doshi Village, Yamanashi Prefecture



Children from Okuma Town experienced their first real camping trip!

The entire town of Okuma in Fukushima Prefecture was forced to evacuate due to the nuclear accident following the Great East Japan Earthquake, and for a long time the voices of children were lost in the town. In 2023, schools finally reopened and children began to return to their hometowns little by little, but many children still face restrictions on their daily lives and mental stress.

In this context, Dream Forest Supporters, a general incorporated association estab lished by the SEISA Group, operates the after-school children's club "Yume no Mori" and supports the growth of children every day. FGC also continued to support the children of Okuma Town by donating play equipment and toys in 2023.



And this summer, that connection gave birth to the "FGC Presents Okuma Koguma Camp in Doshi Village, Yamanashi Prefecture." We invited children from Okuma Town to play to their heart's content in nature, with the aim of refreshing their minds and bodies and encouraging interaction through fun experiences. For the children in the children's club, this was their first experience campi overnight with a large group of people.

Three days filled with smiles and bonds

For three days and two nights from July 23rd to 25th, 31 children and 11 staff members visited "Natureland Om", a campsite surrounded by the rich nature of Yamanashi Prefecture.





On the first day, after arriving and attending the opening ceremony, they immediately started making dinner. Each group worked together to cook rice in a rice cooker and made curry. Whether the group cooked the curry well or burned it a little, everyone was smiling and enjoyed sharing and tasting the finished curry. The staff couldn't help but smile as they watched the children running around energetically in the great outdoors. At night it was fireworks time. They cheered around the small lights of hand-held fireworks.

Day 2 started with making carton hot dogs for breakfast. The unique cooking method of using milk cartons to grill hot dogs was a big hit with the children. In the morning, they enjoyed trout fishing, nature observation, nature games and insect hunting, and in the afternoon, they played in the river and tried splitting a watermelon. In the evening, there was a BBQ and campfire, making it an eventful day from morning to night. Members of "Techraft," a company founded primarily by current and former students of SEISA Kokusai High School, also came to the event, providing drone footage and shaved ice to liven up the camp. The time spent singing and laughing around the fire became an irreplaceable summer memory for the children.









On the final day, the children visited Oshino Hakkai and the freshwater fish aquarium, "Fuji Yusui no Sato Aquarium," where they spent time learning while experiencing nature and living creatures. While reluctant to say goodbye to their friends with whom they had spent three days with, the children boarded the bus with smiles on their faces, saying, "We want to come again!" and "It was fun!" The participants ranged from first-grade elementary students to third-year junior high students. For many of them, spending time with friends in nature and away from home, was a refreshing and valuable experience.

"I'll never forget the taste of the curry we all made together."

From the impressions of a first-year junior high school student

The three days and two nights I spent with my school friends in Doshi Village, Yamanashi Prefecture, went by in a flash. I don't usually have many opportunities to stay overnight with friends, and I often stay at home during summer vacation, so this camp was a really special time for me. We had a lot of fun experiencing nature in ways we normally wouldn't be able to, such as playing nature games, fishing, playing in the river, and watching fireworks at night. I also have unforgettable memories of laughing and having pillow fights with friends in the cottage morning and night. Of all the various programs, the one that left the biggest impression on me was the curry rice we all worked together to make. I don't usually cook much, so I was a little worried, but the curry I made with the help of my friends tasted much better than usual.







Supporting the future of children in Okuma Town

This camp was made possible thanks to the cooperation of the Yume no Mori staff and many supporters. Thanks to everyone's warm support, they were able to return home safely without any serious injuries or problems.

FGC will continue its support activities to further deepen its relationship with Okuma Town. We will continue to watch over the children of Okuma Town with warmth so that they can be proud of their town and walk forward with faith in the future.





International student activity report

Passed the JLPT N3



Mr. Almame Salif Dumbia, an international student from the Republic of Mali, successfully passed the Japanese Language Proficiency Test N3 held on July 6th. He had made steady progress through N5 and N4, but N3 was a difficult challenge that required him to be able to understand Japanese in a wider range of situations.

On the day of the exam, many test takers gathered at Pacifico Yokohama, the venue of the test, and the test took place in a tense atmosphere for over four hours. By the time he finished, it was past 8pm, but he said with a smile, "It was difficult, but I felt like I had made some progress."

While working hard at his daily practice as a men's basketball major, he has also been devoting himself to studying Japanese. He continued to study on his own until late at night after classes and practice, and steadily built up his skills together with his Japanese language teacher and FGC staff, which led to this result.

He is now in the second half of his third year of high school, and is in the final sprint towards graduation. Currently, he is continuing to challenge himself to reach his next goal of passing the N2 level. Please look forward to his future endeavors as he moves forward towards new goals.



Mr. Almame celebrates his success with his Japanese teacher

Women's basketball team won Winter Cup 2025 qualifying tournament





With teammates



Scoring a goal during the match

The girls' basketball team from SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan won the 2025 Kanagawa Prefecture Autumn Tournament and Winter Cup 2025 Qualifiers, held on October 25th and 26th. This is the team's second time winning the prefectural tournament in four years.

Ms. Olanrewaju Zainab Abidemi, a first-year international student from the Federal Republic of Nigeria, also played an active role under the basket in the semi-finals as part of the team. In the final, the team held the lead throughout the match and fought tenaciously until the end to secure victory.

The women's team has been selected to participate in "The SoftBank Winter Cup 2025, the 78th National High School Basketball Championship (Winter Cup 2025)", which will be held mainly at the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium from December 23rd.

The men's basketball team also made a strong advance, led by third-year international student Mr. Almame, and made it to the top four. Although they lost to Shonan Institute of Technology High School in the semi-finals, they still managed to achieve third place, their best result in the team's history.

The team fully demonstrated the strength they had developed through summer training and away games.

The girls' team is competing in the national tournament, and the boys' team fought until the end. FGC will continue to support the success of international students.



Attending the Republic of Uganda National Day





Together with those involved in supporting "KOMOREBI Primary School"



A gorgeous traditional dance from Uganda

Although the Osaka-Kansai Expo concluded on October 13th, FGC attended the National Day of the Republic of Uganda on October 8th.

National Day was established as a special day during the Expo for each official participating country to showcase their culture and characteristics, deepen international friendship, and celebrate their participation.

Uganda celebrated its Independence Day on October 9th, so the National Day was held towards the end of the Expo. In conjunction with the ceremony, the country's Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja also visited Japan, and traditional music and spectacular dance performances created a great atmosphere at the venue, with participants engrossed in the excitement.

FGC participated at the invitation of the Embassy of the Republic of Uganda in Japan. At the venue, we were able to meet up with members of the Gojo Club, an NPO that founded the KOMOREBI Primary School that we support, as well as student volunteers we had met on site, and were happy to be able to interact with them again after such a long time. In addition, the Uganda booth in the Commons Pavilion not only introduced the culture but also served Ugandan coffee, attracting many visitors. Although the Expo has now concluded, the bonds of international exchange that were forged here have become a valuable experience that will connect to the future.

SEISA Africa Asia Bridge 2025 was held

SEISA Africa Asia Bridge (SAAB), the largest event of the SEISA Group, was held again this year on Saturday, November 15th.

The 11th event was held under favorable weather conditions, with 15 embassies in Japan, mainly from African countries, taking part, and the total number of participants exceeding 10,000.

At the grand opening ceremony, H.E. Estifanos Afeworki Haile of the Embassy of the State of Eritrea in Japan gave a speech again this year. In addition, for the first time, H.E. Ms. KAAHWA Tophace from the Embassy of the Republic of Uganda in Japan, to which FGC provides support, was also in attendance.

FGC set up a charity booth again this year, providing a valuable opportunity



Participants of SAAB: Ms. Abidemi (left), Mr. Almame(center), and Mr. BAYO (right), Minister-Counsellor at the Embassy of the Republic of Mali in Japan

for many visitors to learn about its activities.

Mr. Almame and Ms. Abidemi, international students from



Ambassador Estifanos of Eritrea gave a speech at the opening ceremony

SEISA Kokusai High School Shonan, also participated in SAAB and enjoyed the event to the fullest, deepening their interactions with participants from various countries, visiting the booths, and tasting food from their home countries at the food trucks. In particular, third-year student Mr. Almame was reunited with Patrice Diby BAYO, Minister-Counsellor at the Embassy of the Republic of Mali, who had visited him to pay his respects shortly after he arrived in Japan. The minister was amazed and delighted at Almame's growth. SAAB has continued to operate with the desire to be a bridge between Africa and Asia. Once again, it was a day filled with lots of interaction and learning.





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