

## LETTER

### ANOTHER YEAR, ANOTHER JOURNEY by Michael Ringen - International Program Chief

Spring is a season of change. Endings and beginnings. Goodbyes and fresh starts. Many of our graduating students were accepted to top universities this year. One International Program student will be attending the University of Toronto. Congratulations to our amazing students. On behalf of all the IP teachers, I wish them the best. I am also excited to welcome new students to Sakae Higashi. My first classes with new faces always remind me why I love this job. I look forward to getting to know each student over the next six years. Whether you are in the IP or not, you are always welcome to stop by for English conversation or tutoring. Come say hello. Even just a few minutes of English can make a difference. May this year be full of new friendships, new challenges, and good memories for everyone. Happy spring!

## SPOTLIGHT

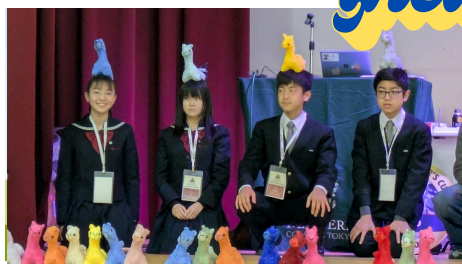
### THE 32ND SAKAE HIGASHI GRADUATION CEREMONY by Lee Rogers

This year's graduation ceremony began just before 10 a.m. March 16, as the 3rd grade students from each class entered the gymnasium in a beautifully synchronized march. Their confident steps set the tone for a morning filled with pride and anticipation. Parents soon followed, guided by staff to their seats, many already flooded with emotion as they prepared to watch their children take this important step forward.

Throughout the ceremony, students, parents, and teachers alike found themselves holding back tears. One of the most memorable moments came when Rei S. received the prestigious valedictorian award for outstanding academic excellence, presented directly by the principal, a well deserved recognition that drew warm applause from the entire audience.

After the formal program concluded, families, IP teachers, and students gathered for group photos, capturing the joy and significance of the day. These snapshots will serve as lasting reminders of a milestone reached and a new chapter beginning.

We are incredibly proud of our IP students and will continue to cheer them on as they transition from junior high to their first year of high school, ready to embrace new challenges and opportunities.



## EVENT

### READY FOR THE WSC? by Alex MacDonald

The World Scholar's Cup (WSC) is a premier international team-based academic competition for junior and senior high school students. The students are challenged through debates, collaborative writing, and tests. Since everything is in English, participants in Japan tend to be students from international schools. Having said that, your Sakae Higashi International Program sent three teams: the Boy's team (Yusei, Haruta, and Yuto), the Girl's team (Joan, Ayami, and Aoka), and the High School team (Ryusei, Rei, and Miyu). Every one of your school's teams won at least one debate and collected at least one medal. Also, let's not forget one important detail, the fun. Meeting clever, cheerful kids from other schools is enjoyable. On the second day, three of our students (Joan, Aoka, and Miyu) performed in a talent show. Joan and Aoka did a magic trick, and Miyu sang a song.

#### Results :

- Champion Teams: Team 145 ranked 3rd Place overall in the Senior Division.
- Team Bowl: Team 145 achieved 4th Place in the Senior Division.
- All members excelled in Debate, Writing, and Challenge Subjects, earning multiple medals.

