

TNUSS VOICES

September 2026 | Volume 2

NEWSLETTER

WHERE WORDS CONNECT WORLDS



TNUSS students giving it their all on stage.

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The Harmony of TNUSS



As September brought cooler air and the first hints of autumn, the warmth of hundreds of TNUSS voices filled NOVA Hall in Tsukuba on September 17 for the 18th TNUSS Choral Competition. After last year's event at Craft Civic Hall Tsuchiura, the competition returned to NOVA Hall, bringing Forms 1 through 5, teachers, and families together for a special morning of music and school spirit.

Following weeks of practice, each class stepped onto the stage and gave a powerful performance. The students' voices came together in harmony, while conductors and pianists worked alongside their classmates to bring each song to life. Many parents also came to witness the performances and cheer on the students, filling the venue with warm support and applause.

The winners for each Form were Form 1 - Class E, Form 2 - Class B, Form 3 Class D, and Form 4 - Classes CD. The Best Conductor and Best Pianist were also selected for each Form. In the overall competition, Form 4 - Class CD claimed 1st Place, Form 4 - Class AB took 2nd Place, and Form 3 - Class D earned 3rd Place.

As the final notes faded and the applause filled the hall, the 18th Choral Competition came to a close, a memorable celebration of music, teamwork, and the spirit of TNUSS.

GLOBAL LEARNING Snapshots

Say “Bonjour” and write your name in “Baybayin”!

This month, students continue traveling across cultures without leaving the classroom! In the French greetings lesson, Ms. Mathilde from France introduced students to simple French expressions. After learning the greetings, students put them into practice by greeting their classmates in French, turning the classroom into a little corner of France.

The journey then continued to the Philippines, where Ms. Fatima introduced students to Baybayin, a traditional writing system. Students explored the unique characters and then practiced writing their own names in Baybayin, creating something personal while discovering an important part of Philippine cultural heritage.

From speaking French to writing Baybayin, every lesson brings a new culture, a new experience, and a new way to see the world.



Bonjour! Students learning French greetings with Ms. Mathilde.

CONSONANT	A	B	K	D	G	H	L	M	N	NG	P	R	S	T	W	Y
CONSONANT	ᜆ	ᜈ	ᜇ	ᜄ	ᜃ	ᜅ	ᜌ	ᜍ	ᜎ	ᜏ	ᜉ	ᜊ	ᜋ	ᜌ	ᜍ	ᜎ
VOWEL	ᜏᜒ	ᜏᜓ	ᜏ᜔	ᜏ᜕	ᜏ᜖	ᜏ᜗	ᜏ᜘	ᜏ᜙	ᜏ᜚	ᜏ᜛	ᜏ᜜	ᜏ᜝	ᜏ᜞	ᜏᜟ	ᜏᜠ	ᜏᜡ



Writing across cultures! Students and teachers writing their names in Baybayin with Ms. Fatima.

La Pelota: One Game, Two Islands

By Ania Gonzalez

Cuba is known for its music, its color, and the warmth of its people. You can hear salsa music from open windows, ride bright classic cars, and enjoy sweet coffee. But if you really want to know Cuba, you should learn more about its favorite game: baseball, or as Cubans call it, “la pelota”.

Baseball is not just a sport in Cuba; it is part of who Cubans are. The game arrived over 150 years ago when Cuba was still a Spanish colony. At the time, many Cubans wanted a new game that was different from those played in Spain, so baseball quickly became a symbol of freedom and identity.

You do not need a stadium or expensive equipment to play “la pelota”. You can use almost anything. My cousin and I even used mango seeds as balls! In Havana, there is also a spot in Parque Central known as “la esquina caliente” (“the hot corner”) where fans go almost every day to argue about their favorite teams and players. They are so passionate, they sometimes appear on the news!

Here in Japan, this feeling is easy to recognize. Yakyu runs just as deep. Whole towns rally behind their teams at Koshien, and the roar of the fans carries the same joy. Two island nations on opposite sides of the world fell in love with the very same game. Two cultures, different languages, but one game we all love!



Season 2-Episode 6 What is Healthy?

What does it really mean to be healthy?

In Episode 6 of TNUSS Voices, Form 4 students Ren and Izumi take on the roles of hosts, joined by Sayaka and Hayato as guests. The episode brings a Form 4 Basic Communication class topic, “What Is Healthy?”, to life through an engaging podcast conversation.

The students talk about healthy food and junk food, exercise and sports, and healthy habits. They share their own ideas and experiences while thinking about what teenagers can do to stay healthy.

From the classroom to the microphone, the students turn English learning into real communication—sharing their thoughts, asking questions, and expressing their own voices.

Tune in to Episode 6 of TNUSS VOICES and join the conversation!



**Listen to the TNUSS Voices Podcast
anytime on the TNUSS website.**



Creative Spotlight

If you could give 10,000,000 yen to someone you admire, who would you choose? This month, Form 4 students answered that question through an English writing task. They wrote letters to a newspaper editor, introduced someone they admire, and explained why that person should win the prize.

Students had to give two reasons and supporting details. The activity gave students a chance to practice writing with a clear purpose, audience, and message—skills that can be useful in real-life communication.

My Sister

by Reika Matsui, 4E

Dear Editor,

I am writing about your competition. I think my sister should win 10,000,000 yen. In 2005, she was born in Kashiwa City, and now, she is 21 years old. She is a patient and helpful person, so everyone looks up to her. She can use sign language. She started taking sign language lessons since she was a child.

I have two reasons why I think she is inspiring. First, she helps a lot of people when they are in trouble. Second, she never gives up and works hard every day. So, everyone trusts her. And when I see that, it makes me smile. I think my sister should win 10,000,000 yen.

Thank you for reading.

Yours truly,
Reika Matsui



Shohei Ohtani

by Sota Nakamura, 4E

Dear Editor,

I am writing about your competition. I think Shohei Ohtani should win 10,000,000 yen.

Shohei Ohtani is from Oshu in Japan. He is the most famous baseball player in the world. Also, he plays both as a pitcher and a hitter. He plays for the Dodgers and in Major League Baseball. He is confident and ambitious. Also, he never gives up improving his pitching and hitting skills, and he gives many people courage. So, I think Shohei Ohtani should win 10,000,000 yen.

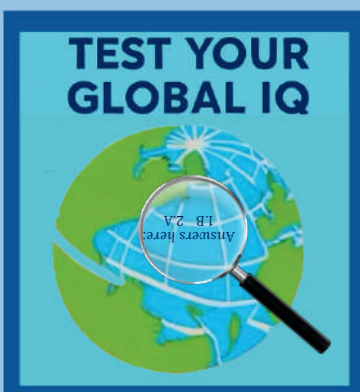
Thank you for reading.

Yours truly,
Sota Nakamura



Try these fun trivia questions!

1. What is Cuba's national sport?
A. soccer
B. baseball
C. boxing
2. What do Cubans commonly call baseball?
A. Pelota
B. Futbol
C. Salsa



Find the answers hidden in one of the images and see how globally smart you are!