

Taipei Municipal Minquan Junior High School organized its first international educational exchange trip and engaged in a two-day exchange activity with partner school, Nagano City Junior High School, Japan.

On 5/30 (Thursday), the first day of the exchange, Nagano City Junior High School arranged for ninth-grade students to lead Minquan students in group tours of the historic sites of Zenkoji Temple and to enjoy local cuisine for lunch. During the exchange, the joyful interactions and laughter of the students attracted the attention of local tourists. Additionally, the local media, SBC (Shin-Etsu Broadcasting), was present for coverage and reported on the event during the evening news.

Link to the report: <https://newsdig.tbs.co.jp/articles/sbc/1202037>



In the afternoon, we arrived at Nagano City Junior High School for a warm welcome. The exchange party started with speeches from both principals, followed by sharing about campus life from both schools. Nagano City Junior High School shared about their campus life with an English presentation, and the whole school sang their beautiful school anthem, which moved everyone. Minquan Junior High School brought joy to the atmosphere with a student-made video about campus life and cheerful performance songs, causing cheers and surprises from both schools.

As the party came to an end, students from both schools met their pen pals and exchanged unique little gifts. In that face-to-face moment, warmth filled the air as they realized, "Oh,

you're the one I've been writing to!" Coming from across the sea to meet each other, both Taiwanese and Japanese students must have been deeply impressed by this unforgettable moment, cherishing it forever in their hearts.



On 5/31, which was the second day of the exchange, Nagano eighth-grade students led Minquan students on a campus tour in groups. The cleanliness and simplicity of Nagano School left a deep impression on Minquan students, especially the cleanliness of the restrooms, motivating them to strive for better hygiene habits back at their own school.

Next was classroom exchange time. Nagano Junior High School has six classes in the junior high division, so Minquan students were divided into six groups to enter each class. At the beginning, Minquan students gave English presentations on the themes of campus life and the culture of the Daqiaotou community, followed by sharing and interactive questioning. Nagano students showed their lively and caring side, and applause and responses echoed back and forth.







Afterwards, Minquan students joined various group activities in each class. During the interactions, Nagano students prepared questions, taught traditional Japanese children's games, played board games, and did origami. Through English interactions and body language, they conveyed meanings with smiles, never giving up the opportunity to understand each other and find different ways to communicate. This proactive exchange left a lasting impression, and all students once again realized the importance of learning and using English .

As the exchange came to a close, in the gymnasium, students from both sides gave farewell speeches, expressing gratitude and cherishing the interaction, while also looking forward to and promising to meet again next year at Minquan in Taipei, Taiwan.

