

## Events changed by COVID-19

### Hachibuse training camp canceled for 2 years

The first event held after entering Kotogaoka High School is the Hachibuse training camp, but it has been canceled for the past two years. This event is held in the first week of admission to become aware of Kotogaoka students and build relationships with their friends. Some people wonder how the first and second graders, who have not experienced the camp, made friends because it was a big opportunity for us to make friends. The school song plays on the bus to the dormitory. New students sing the school song before dinner and are awakened by the school song sung by teachers in the morning. Students have experienced many strange events, but there were also fun events such as climbing mountains and playing in the snow and cooking in boxes. After studying at night, all students ate sweet late-night snacks and shared a sense of immorality.



(Yamashiro Kaede)

### The most popular Kotogaoka Festival enjoy or not this year



Every year, our school holds a cultural and sports festival supported not only by students but also many teachers. However, a big disaster, an infection threatened our events. We had to put up with what we wanted to do. Although there is a rule that we shouldn't cheer aloud, compete with masks, finally, thanks to the efforts of teachers, we are able to enjoy as usual. (Adachi Kumu)

### Transnational friends made through the Corona disaster

We had to cancel many school events because of the coronavirus outbreak. On the contrary, however, there was a new event that was created thanks to the coronavirus. The event was a video phone call with a student in Taiwan. We talked one-on-one for an hour in English with students from the Wanfang School in Taiwan. We taught each other about each other's countries, schools, cultures, etc. At the end of the online meeting, we became friends and still we connected through social networking sites.

(Shibata Nazuna)

### Himeji Castle Guide

This February, students from Kotoka High School 2-7 gave a tour of Himeji Castle in English to ALTs working at junior high schools in the city. This is an annual event, but until last year, the students were showing the castle for foreign tourists visiting Himeji City. This year, due to the novel coronavirus, they decided to introduce the castle to ALTs who are staying in Japan. The students spent about six months learning about Himeji Castle deeply for this event. They had a lot of hard practice before the day of the tour. But the actual guided tour was not easy as they got lost in the actual tour. This was a very valuable experience for them. (Moriya Saki)

