

July Issue 2025

TNUSS VOICES NEWSLETTER

WHERE WORDS CONNECT WORLDS



Students share proposals and negotiate with fellow ambassadors during MUN simulations.

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Model United Nations (MUN) Expands Across High School

From April to July 2025, Form 4 and Form 5 students took part in a Model United Nations (MUN) simulation as part of their comprehensive learning program. Spearheaded by the Japanese Department under the leadership of Vice Principal Mr. Fujita, this was the first time the initiative involved every student in both grade levels.

The theme, "UN Lunches," challenged student pairs to act as ambassadors for 49 different countries. Fifth graders led preparations and ran the conference across two venues, the library and the cafeteria, while fourth graders held their sessions in their homerooms.

Delegates negotiated and designed international school lunch menus, carefully selecting a staple food, main dish, side dish, soup, and dessert. The project strengthened communication, negotiation, and teamwork skills, while encouraging critical thinking about food, culture, and diplomacy. It was a deliciously meaningful way to link real-world topics with global perspectives. Some teams will even represent TNUSS in MUN competitions outside of school in the future.



Open Minds Open Doors



Form 1 Students Explore History, Nature, and Culture in Tateshina

Teachers Share Tools and Ideas in PD Sessions



The Language Education Development, English and Communication Departments at TNUSS continue their Professional Development (PD) program, where teachers take turns leading weekly sessions to share best practices, explore new tools, and inspire fresh ideas.

Recent sessions showcased the creativity and diversity of TNUSS educators. One introduced **Canva** as a tool for creating visually engaging classroom materials, with hands-on exploration of templates, design principles, and practical applications for language learning. Another focused on **podcasting** as a platform for student expression and integrated language learning. Using examples from the TNUSS Voices Podcast, teachers explored ways to use student-created episodes for listening comprehension, vocabulary building, and identity exploration.

These sessions not only equip teachers with practical strategies but also strengthen a culture of shared leadership and professional curiosity, keeping TNUSS's learning culture vibrant and evolving.

*"Learn continually – there's always
'one more thing' to learn!"*
— Steve Jobs

In July, just before the summer break, Form 1 students at TNUSS set out on their first school trip, a three-day adventure to Tateshina, Nagano. The journey blended hands-on learning with outdoor exploration, beginning at Nagato Farm, where students tried a cow-milking experience and enjoyed fresh ice cream and other dairy treats. They also visited the Togariishi Museum of Jōmon Archaeology, crafting their clay figures inspired by ancient Japanese culture.

The second day brought students into the forests of Mt. Yatsugatake for orienteering, where they worked in teams to navigate trails and solve challenges. The activity encouraged collaboration, resilience, and a sense of adventure. On the return journey, the group stopped in Gunma to try konnyaku-making, using konjac root to shape the traditional food by hand—a sticky and satisfying way to wrap up the experience.

More than just a getaway, the trip offered students a chance to connect—with nature, with history, and with each other.





In July, the **Global Cultures** and **Global Voices** enrichment classes brought students closer to the everyday experiences of people in **France and the Philippines**.

Students explored school life in the Philippines by comparing class schedules, uniforms, lunch breaks, and classroom customs to their own. The discussion encouraged cultural reflection and sparked interest in how education is shaped by tradition and environment.

They also enjoyed an interactive introduction to basic French, learning common greetings such as **Salut!** (Hi), **Je m'appelle...** (My name is...), **Et toi?** (And you?), and **Enchanté** (Nice to meet you). Students practiced the new phrases in pairs and got a fun taste of what it's like to speak a new language.

These cultural snapshots helped students deepen their understanding of diversity and communication, reinforcing the Language Education development Department's mission to help them **learn, experience, and discover**.

Episode 3: All About Form 1

In this lively episode of TNUSS Voices, first-year junior high students share their thoughts on starting a new school year. Hosts Ayuka and Manaka kick things off by sharing their own interests—from school subjects and personal skills to the characters they love. Then they chat with some classmates about what they enjoy, what they find difficult, who inspires them, and what they're looking forward to this year.

With honest answers and fun stories, this episode offers a glimpse into the exciting world of Form 1 and the diverse personalities stepping into junior high.

Whether a student, teacher, parent, or community member, this episode invites listeners to hear fresh voices and join the journey of new beginnings.



Hosts



Guests

Listen to the TNUSS Voices Podcast anytime on www.tng.ac.jp/sec-sch/.



Students and teachers explore what everyday life is like in schools in the Philippines.



Students match French greetings with English versions.



The class listens as the teacher introduces new phrases in French.



Creative Spotlight

This month's featured writing comes from an in-class English writing test, where students were asked to describe a person they admire. Without using dictionaries or computers, they wrote freely to express their thoughts in English.

These two reflections were selected for their sincerity, detail, and clear personal voice. Each piece offers a glimpse into the strong family bonds and role models that inspire our students every day.

The Person I Look Up To

by Airi K., 3C

I admire my mother because she works very hard for us every day. She always works on her PC and I always get worried because she doesn't have time to eat her lunch because of her busy job. My mother is a baker, and she always makes delicious bread at the shop. She gets up early to bake bread and also prepares me a bento box with love. It always tastes very delicious. My mother looks very kind, but when she is at home, she sometimes gets angry because I eat dinner and breakfast very slowly. My mother has blond hair and she wears white T-shirt and jeans. On top of that, even if she is tired from work, she makes delicious dinner for us. When I eat them, it makes me feel warm, and I can work hard at school. She teaches me that when people are in trouble, we should help them. Helping each other can bring people closer. This is the reason why I admire my mom.



My Great-Grandmother, My Inspiration

by Emily S., 3C

There is a person who I admire very much. It's my great-grandmother. Her name is Tomiko, and she will become 96 this year. I believe that she is the most positive person I know in my life. Although, she looks very weak, her heart is tougher than anybody's. She never gets negative even when her friends have passed away. She was still smiling even after her husband died. I have heard that old people aren't scared of death, but I don't think it's easy to see them go. My great-grandmother once told me that it's not that sad to be alone, and I thought that she was too positive. By having a positive thinking all the time, I believe I will have a happy long life like her.



Try these fun trivia questions!

1. Which fruit is known as the "king of fruits" in Thailand, famous for its strong smell and spiky shell?
A. mangosteen
B. durian
C. rambutan
D. mango
2. Where were the ancient Olympic Games originally held in Greece?
A. Athens
B. Sparta
C. Delphi
D. Olympia



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