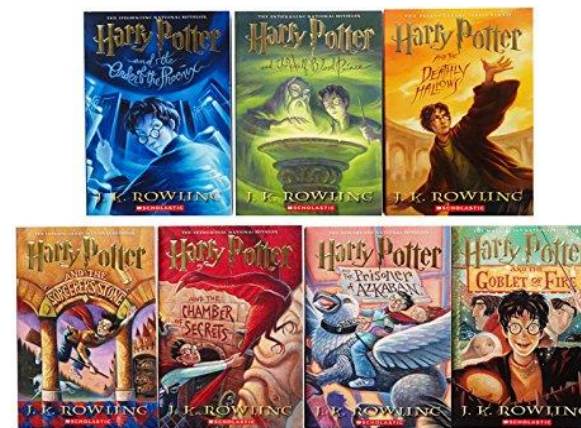


The school festival starts this week. I can't believe how quickly it has come. I'm sure we had more time to get ready last year. It seems like only last week that we were working out<sup>1</sup> what we were going to do and now we have to do it. Everybody is rushing frantically<sup>2</sup> to get ready and you can hear the sounds of nails<sup>3</sup> being desperately<sup>4</sup> hammered into wood late into the evening. I'm excited. I love this time of year. The warm weather (hopefully), the delicious food (hopefully) and the happy faces of all of you. Have a great time.

### Something You Didn't Know (the Harry Potter books)

1. The Harry Potter books have been translated<sup>5</sup> into 68 languages
2. Over 500 million copies<sup>6</sup> have been sold. It is the best selling<sup>7</sup> series of books of all time.
3. The publishers<sup>8</sup> didn't have much confidence<sup>9</sup> in the first book so they only printed 1000 copies of it. The book went on to sell 105 million. If you can find one of those first copies, it can be worth<sup>10</sup> about 6 million yen. If you find one, give it to me!
4. The last book in the series sold 15 million copies in 24 hours.
5. JK Rowling suffered from<sup>11</sup> depression<sup>12</sup> while she was writing the stories. She used the feeling of her depression to create the characters of the Dementors.
6. JK Rowling doesn't have a middle name. She added the "K" because her publishers didn't think boys would read a book written by a woman. They were obviously<sup>13</sup> wrong.

This news is a week old now. Last week, on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June to be exact<sup>14</sup>, Harry Potter celebrated<sup>15</sup> his 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. Well, I don't mean Harry Potter himself, but the series of books. J. K. Rowling published the very first book on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 1997. When "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" went into print<sup>16</sup>, I don't think she could have imagined<sup>17</sup> how big it would become.

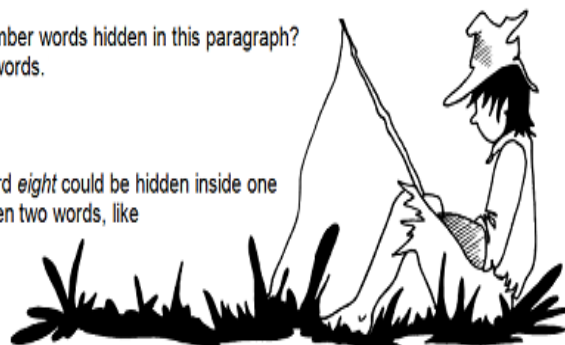


It took her a long time to get the first book published. She was rejected<sup>18</sup> by many publishers because they didn't think the books would be popular. After she had received 8 rejections, Bloomsbury decided to publish the book. The first Harry Potter went on sale and quickly became popular. J. K. Rowling continued with the series and wrote one book a year as she followed Harry through his school life.

### The One That Slipped Away

Can you find seven number words hidden in this paragraph? Underline the number words.

As an example, the word *eight* could be hidden inside one word, *height*, or between two words, like this: We will ride in a sleigh tonight.



Where has the fat worm gone? He was wriggling away from my reel even before I had the hook on it! If I've lost him, I'll be sorry. This evening I came prepared with reel, line and bait hoping to catch plenty of fish. It's not often that a worm of ours gets away!

### Last Week's Answers



### Announcements

6G have an orientation on Monday.  
4<sup>th</sup> grade have no class lesson 7 on Tuesday and Wednesday. HS festival is on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Next Monday is a holiday.

The books have had an incredible<sup>19</sup> impact<sup>20</sup> on our society. Many children have grown up with them. They have been credited with<sup>21</sup> encouraging<sup>22</sup> children to read. Many children who did not usually read became engrossed<sup>23</sup> in the stories and grew to love reading. And, when the series finally came to an end, many people wished that there were more books.



**1.Work out** 計画を立てる **2.Frantically** 必死に **3.Nails** 釘 **4.Desperately** 必死に **5.Translate** 翻訳 **6.Copy** 冊 **7.Best selling** 最もよく売れる **8.Publisher** 出版社 **9.Confidence** 自信 **10.Worth** の価値がある **11.Suffer from** ~に苦しむ **12.Depression** うつ病 **13.Obviously** 明らかに **14.To be exact** 正確に言えば **15.Celebrate** 祝い **16.Go into print** 出版する **17.Imagine** 想像する **18.Reject** 拒絶する **19.Incredible** すごく **20.Impact** 影響を与える **21.Credit with** ~のおかげにする **22.Encourage** 励ます **23.Engrossed** 夢中になった

# ★ English News Page ★

Hello everyone! It's the first week of July! Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> is America's Independence Day<sup>1</sup>. Maybe I'll light some fireworks<sup>2</sup> to celebrate. You can read more about Independence Day on the English Board, which is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of building B, near the 4A classroom. - Krystal

## ★ Teacher Interview ★

This week's teacher interview is with **Ms. Umi Nagao**. She is a student teacher who taught English to the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade junior high school students for three weeks. She also graduated from this school. Here's her interview!



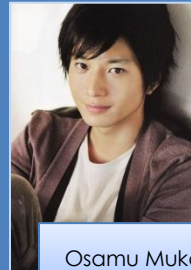
Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: I like to go shopping, and also I like to go to karaoke. I usually sing Yuzu.

Q: Who is your favorite celebrity?

A: It's a difficult question for me. (laughs)

I like Osamu Mukai, because he's handsome and cute.



Osamu Mukai



Q: What do you like about Hokusei?

A: I think the teachers are really friendly, and when I come to school, I feel like it's my home. That's why I like it.

Q: How is university life different from high school life?

A: My major is linguistics, so I can learn what I'm interested in. I can choose the classes that I want to take.

Q: Why do you want to be a teacher?

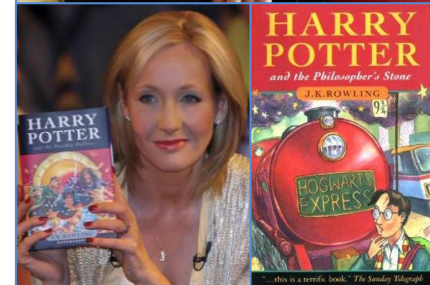
A: I want to teach English because it's one of the keys to connect with the world, and if you can speak English, you can learn many things from other countries.

Q: Finally, what advice do you have for Hokusei students?

A: Try as much as you can. Sometimes students are really worried about what they're going to do, and they give up easily, but if you try something new, you can learn many things. ★

# ★ English Speaking Celebrities ★

**J. K. Rowling** is a British novelist<sup>3</sup> who became famous for writing the *Harry Potter* series. She was born on July 31, 1965. The "J" in her pen name stands for Joanne, and the "K" stands for her grandmother's name, Kathleen. Her parents first met at King's Cross Station, so that is why she used it as a gateway to the Wizarding World. As a child, she liked writing fantasy stories, and she often read them to her younger sister. She first got the idea for *Harry Potter* in 1990 while riding a train. She went to Portugal to teach English, and she began to write the first book in the *Harry Potter* series, *The Philosopher's Stone*. She got married and had a daughter at that time, too. However, the marriage soon ended in divorce<sup>4</sup>, so J. K. Rowling returned to England, and became an unemployed<sup>5</sup> single mother on welfare<sup>6</sup>. She was poor<sup>7</sup> and depressed<sup>8</sup>, but had plenty<sup>9</sup> of time to focus on writing. She finally finished writing her first book in 1995, and it was published<sup>10</sup> in June 1997. Thanks to *Harry Potter*, she went from rags to riches<sup>11</sup>. Now, J. K. Rowling is the third richest celebrity, and has a net worth<sup>12</sup> of £650 million<sup>13</sup> (over ¥93 billion)!



## ★ Horoscopes ★

<p><b>Aries</b> ♈ March 21-April 19</p> <p>The person you like will do something romantic for you this week.</p>	<p><b>Taurus</b> ♉ April 20-May 20</p> <p>You will feel blue<sup>14</sup> this week, but cheer up before the weekend.</p>	<p><b>Gemini</b> ♊ May 21-June 20</p> <p>Something will make you angry this week. Try to keep your cool<sup>15</sup>.</p>
<p><b>Cancer</b> ♋ June 21-July 22</p> <p>Talk to someone in your class who you don't know well this week.</p>	<p><b>Leo</b> ♌ July 23-Aug 22</p> <p>This week is a good time to plan for the future.</p>	<p><b>Virgo</b> ♍ Aug 23-Sept 22</p> <p>If at first you don't succeed, dust yourself off and try again.<sup>16</sup></p>
<p><b>Libra</b> ♎ Sept 23-Oct 22</p> <p>You should state<sup>17</sup> your opinions clearly this week.</p>	<p><b>Scorpio</b> ♏ Oct 23-Nov 21</p> <p>A friend will betray<sup>18</sup> your trust. Don't tell anyone your secrets this week.</p>	<p><b>Sagittarius</b> ♐ Nov 22-Dec 21</p> <p>You will have a problem with a teacher this week.</p>
<p><b>Capricorn</b> ♑ Dec 22-Jan 19</p> <p>Be patient<sup>19</sup> this week. Good things come to those who wait.</p>	<p><b>Aquarius</b> ♒ Jan 20-Feb 18</p> <p>Communication will cause problems for you this week.</p>	<p><b>Pisces</b> ♓ Feb 19-March 20</p> <p>Use all of your free time to study this week.</p>

**New words:** 1. Independence Day 独立記念日 2. fireworks 花火 3. novelist 小説家 4. divorce 離婚 5. unemployed 仕事のない 6. welfare 生活保護 7. poor 貧乏な 8. depressed 憂鬱な 9. plenty たくさん 10. publish 出版する 11. rags to riches 無一文から金持ちに 12. net worth 純資産 13. £ = イギリスのポンド 14. feel blue 悲しい 15. keep cool 冷静である 16. dust yourself off and try again へこたれずに頑張ろう、立ち上がって前に進もう 17. state 述べる 18. betray 裏切る 19. patient 忍耐強い