

That was a fun week. Very exciting. Did you have a good time at the school festival. I did, and I spent too much money, as usual. I am a sucker<sup>1</sup> when students ask me to buy something. I ate a lot of sweet food, though. I think next year we need to consider<sup>2</sup> the balance of sweet to savory<sup>3</sup> food. I like anything with meat in it, so more shops like that next year. And today was a holiday for us to recover from the festival. Is one day enough? I think people in the school council, and the teachers who were in charge, should get about a week off.

### Something You Didn't Know (Ants<sup>4</sup>)

1. Ants are incredibly<sup>5</sup> strong. The Asian weaver ant can lift 100 times its own body weight<sup>6</sup>. That would be the same as me lifting a large adult elephant. (8,000kg!)
2. Ants don't have lungs<sup>7</sup> or ears. They absorb<sup>8</sup> oxygen<sup>9</sup> through holes in their bodies and they hear by feeling the vibrations<sup>10</sup> in the ground.
3. There are about 1 million ants for every human in the world.
4. Ants are famers. They will protect aphids<sup>11</sup> from other predators<sup>12</sup> and shelter<sup>13</sup> them from heavy rain in order to have a constant supply of honeydew<sup>14</sup>.
5. Ants are as old as the dinosaurs. The first ants appeared about 130 million years ago.
6. Ants can swim. When there is a flood, they can hold onto each other and make a large raft<sup>15</sup> which can float until the water has subsided<sup>16</sup>.

Move one matchstick to get another correct equation.



What's the next number in this series?

0, 0, 1, 3, 2, 6, 3, 9, 4, 12, 5, ?

### Last Week's Answers

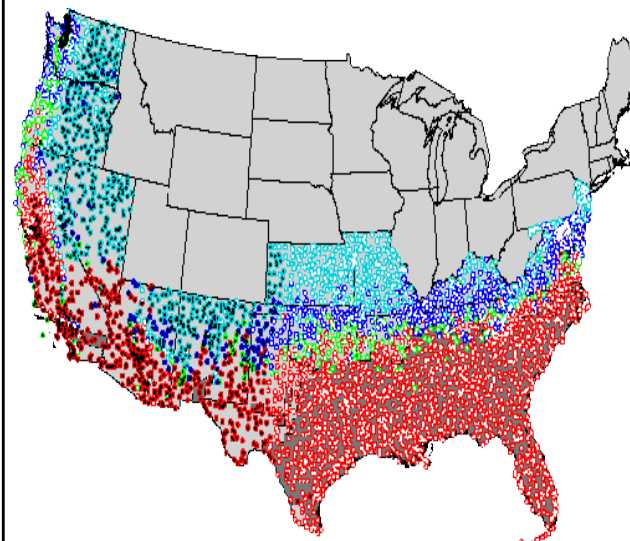
Where has the **fat** worm gone? He was wriggling away from my **reel** even before I had the hook on it! **If** I've lost him, I'll be sorry. This **even**ing I came prepared with **reel** line and bait hoping to catch plenty of fish. It's not **often** that a worm **if** our gets away!

### 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.

### Fire Ants Arrive in Japan

Fire ants<sup>17</sup> have been discovered in containers<sup>18</sup> in a number of ports in central and southern Japan. These ants are highly venomous<sup>19</sup> and dangerous. They come from South America and have been transported on container ships. The ants were killed when they were found, but ants are small, and I'm sure if there was one that was found there were more that were not found.



The ants are very venomous, but their danger to human s is not the problem. These ants are very invasive. That means they will be able to kill the smaller, less venomous Japanese ants and take their food and their habitats<sup>20</sup>. Once that has happened, they will spread and there will be no way to stop them. Invasive species can badly damage the ecosystem<sup>21</sup> and make it difficult for other animals.

They mainly come from South America but they have spread to many other countries in the world. Some areas of America have a big infestation<sup>22</sup> and America spends over \$5 billion every year treating these areas and people who have been bitten. With the global trade network<sup>23</sup> we have, it is inevitable that things like this will happen. I suppose there is nothing Japan can do.



- 1.Sucker だまされやすい 2.Consider 考える 3.Savory 塩もの 4.Ant アリ 5.Incredibly すごく  
6.Body weight 体重 7.Lung 肺 8.Absorb 吸収 9.Oxygen 酸素 10.Vibration 振動 11.Aphid アブラムシ  
12.Predator 捕食者 13.Shelter 保護する 14.Honeydew 蜜 15.Raft いかだ 16.Subside 弱まる  
17.Fire ant カミアリ 18.Container 容器 19.Venemous 独もち 20.Habitat 生息地  
21.Ecosystem 生息地 22.Infestation はびこること 23.Global trade network グローバルな [世界規模の] 貿易ネットワーク

# ★ English News Page 2 ★

Hello everyone! Did you enjoy the school festival last week? I hope you got enough rest over the weekend. There are only two weeks of school left until summer vacation. Yeah! We're in the homestretch!! - Krystal

## ★ Teacher Interview ★

This week's teacher interview is with **Mr. Tomokazu Okamura**. He teaches math to the first graders and sixth graders. He is also one of the tennis coaches. What did he have to say in his interview? Read it below!



Q: What do you usually do in your free time?

A: I love baseball, so I watch it and play it. My favorite teams are the Nippon-Ham Fighters and the Boston Red Sox.

And I like to play with my daughters when I have free time, too.



Q: What is your favorite snack food?

A: I like **gummy candies**<sup>2</sup>. I eat them about once a week. I also like **Kappa Ebisen**.



Q: Who is your favorite celebrity?

A: I like the actress, **Keiko Kitagawa**, because she's so cute.



Q: What are you most afraid of?

A: I hate<sup>4</sup> flying, so I'm really afraid of airplanes. I'm better than I used to be, but I still can't believe that such a large thing can fly through the air!

Q: What do you like about teaching at Hokusei?

A: The students are really cheerful<sup>5</sup> and they have a lot of energy.

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

A: Try as many things as you can, and don't be afraid of making mistakes. ★



# ★ English Speaking Celebrities ★

**Johnny Depp** is an American actor, producer, and musician. He was born in the state of Kentucky on June 9, 1963. He lived in over 20 different places as a child, but finally his family settled in<sup>6</sup> Florida. He began to play the guitar when he was 12 years old. His parents divorced when he was in high school. After that, he dropped out of school<sup>7</sup> and moved to Los Angeles with his band. There, he met the actor Nicholas Cage, who advised<sup>8</sup> him to become an actor. He became a popular teen idol in the 1980s thanks to the TV drama, *21 Jump Street*. Now, he has appeared in<sup>9</sup> over 60 movies over the past 30 years. Many were directed by Tim Burton, such as *Edward Scissorhands*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. When choosing his roles, Johnny Depp says he prefers<sup>10</sup> interesting roles over roles that will make a lot of money. So, many of the characters he plays are quirky<sup>11</sup> loners<sup>12</sup>. His most iconic<sup>13</sup> character today is Jack Sparrow of the *Pirates of the Caribbean* series. The fifth installment<sup>14</sup> of the series, *Dead Men Tell No Tales*, is in theaters now, so why don't you check it out?



## ★ Horoscopes ★

<p><b>Aries</b> ♈ March 21-April 19</p> <p>Someone has a crush<sup>15</sup> on you, and you'll find out who it is this week!</p>	<p><b>Taurus</b> ♉ April 20-May 20</p> <p>Good things come from being open with your feelings this week.</p>	<p><b>Gemini</b> ♊ May 21-June 20</p> <p>You will be very good at thinking outside the box<sup>16</sup> this week.</p>
<p><b>Cancer</b> ♋ June 21-July 22</p> <p>You've got money on your mind this week.</p>	<p><b>Leo</b> ♌ July 23-Aug 22</p> <p>If something seems too good to be true<sup>17</sup>, it probably is.</p>	<p><b>Virgo</b> ♍ Aug 23-Sept 22</p> <p>Things won't work out<sup>18</sup> the way you thought they would this week.</p>
<p><b>Libra</b> ♎ Sept 23-Oct 22</p> <p>You'll be a great leader for your classmates this week.</p>	<p><b>Scorpio</b> ♏ Oct 23-Nov 21</p> <p>Ask for help if you can't do something on your own this week.</p>	<p><b>Sagittarius</b> ♐ Nov 22-Dec 21</p> <p>Talk to your best friend about a big problem you have this week.</p>
<p><b>Capricorn</b> ♑ Dec 22-Jan 19</p> <p>It's time to grow up and stop being so selfish<sup>19</sup> this week.</p>	<p><b>Aquarius</b> ♒ Jan 20-Feb 18</p> <p>You'll have trouble getting along with<sup>20</sup> people this week.</p>	<p><b>Pisces</b> ♓ Feb 19-March 20</p> <p>You will learn to accept<sup>21</sup> a situation you can't change this week.</p>

**New words:** 1. homestretch 最終部分 2. gummy candies グミ 3. afraid 怖い 4. hate 嫌い 5. cheerful 明るい 6. settle in 引っ越して落ち着く 7. drop out of school 退学する 8. advise 勧める 9. appear in 出演する 10. prefer ~のほうを好む 11. quirky 奇妙な 12. loner 他人と交わらないで一人で行動する人 13. iconic 偶像的な 14. installment 一回分 15. crush べたばれ 16. think outside the box 創意工夫する 17. too good to be true 良すぎて信じられない 18. work out うまくいく 19. selfish わがままな 20. get along with 仲良くする 21. accept 認める