

Kei-Sho Chronicle – October 2024 (1) Sports Day

This Issue:

- Sports Day
- Brendan's First Sports Day

Welcome back to the Kei-Sho Chronicle! We're into October now, and Term 2 is well underway at Kei-Sho. October is a busy month, so we will split it into two Chronicles. Part 1 is about the annual Sports Day.

Sports Day:

On October 11, we held our annual Sports Day at Kei-Sho. While the event was originally planned for October 9, rainy weather forced it to be delayed. Luckily, the weather cleared, and we had a beautiful day at the Keika Ground in Urawa.

Like always, the day started early, especially for the students who were in charge of running the day. Normally, classes would be split into teams based on letter (for example, 3A, 2A, 1A), but this year, teams were decided randomly.



The 4 teams were Genbu (Light Green), Suzaku (Light Red), Byakko (Light Yellow), and Seiryu (Light Blue). It was great to see students wearing their class shirts, showing their teams' colours.



Many events were the same as last year, but it was also possible to see the students' originality, as this year there were a couple of new events and changes to existing events.



The day proceeded with few issues, and while we were a bit behind schedule, the event ended while the sun was still high in the sky.

While every student on every team did their best, the day was won by Byakko team with 705 points. Congratulations Byakko!



I want to congratulate all the students, especially those who helped run the day, on the success of the Sports Day. Well Done!

Now, this was Brendan's first time seeing a Sports Day at Kei-Sho, so let's see what he has to say.

-Llew

Rank	Score	Team Name	Colour	Classes
1	705	Byakko	Light Yellow	3B, 2A, 2B
2	622	Genbu	Light Green	3A, 1A, 1C
3	487	Seiryu	Light Blue	3D, 1D, 1E
4	454	Suzaku	Light Red	3C, 2C, 1B

Brendan's time at the Sports Festival (Sports Day)

Last month, Keika Commercial held its Sports Festival. The Sports Festival is a major event for high schools in Japan, so I was looking forward to seeing what it would be like. In Australia, high schools hold something similar called an 'athletics carnival', but only students in the track and field club will take part.

The trip to Urawa Playing Field was an adventure in itself. After walking a short way from the train station, the buildings became smaller and it felt like I was in the countryside. In Australia, playing fields are always covered with grass, so I was surprised that the Urawa field is just dirt. Luckily, the dirt was still a little damp from the rain earlier in the week, so we didn't need to worry about getting another dust storm like we had at the practice day!



After the opening ceremony and the radio calisthenics, the sporting events began. There were plenty of events that I was familiar with, such as the sprint and the running relay. However, there were also a few that I have never seen before, such as the ball throwing (玉入れ) and the borrowing relay (借り物リレー). The horse battle (騎馬戦) was very interesting to me! The students formed groups of four, with one being carried on the shoulders of the other three. Then the 'horse riders' went into battle to try and to steal a hat from another group. It looked very intense and I wondered if someone might fall off!



Near the end of the day, there was the club relay and, of course, the teachers' cosplay relay. In the club relay, the judo club wore their *judogi*, the guitar club used a fake guitar as their baton, and the science club ran with labcoats and a measuring flask, so it made for quite a spectacle!



And everyone was entertained by the teachers trying to run in their silly costumes, including Policewoman Hoshino and Watanabe the Minion with his team of Pikachus.



Overall, I really enjoyed the Sports Festival. Most of the event was organized by the students themselves, and I was impressed at the effort they put in to make the day run smoothly. Compared to Australia's athletics carnivals, which are often quite serious, the Sports Festival's atmosphere was very fun and light-hearted, with everyone having a chance to participate and work as a team. I hope the students all enjoyed the chance to take a break from their usual classes and blow off some steam!

- **Brendan**

