

Kei-Sho Chronicle – November 2024 Business Skills Competition

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G'Day Everyone! Welcome to November's Kei-Sho Chronicle. This month our school celebrated our Founding Day and held our annual Business Skills Competition. November is quieter than October, but there is still a lot to do!

Founding Day:

Keika was founded on the first of November, more than 125 years ago. The school has a very long history, and we celebrate it every year with a school holiday on November 1st. We also held a ceremony on October 30th, with our principal giving a speech about our school. It's interesting to think of how much history our school has... **Let's hope for another 125 years!**

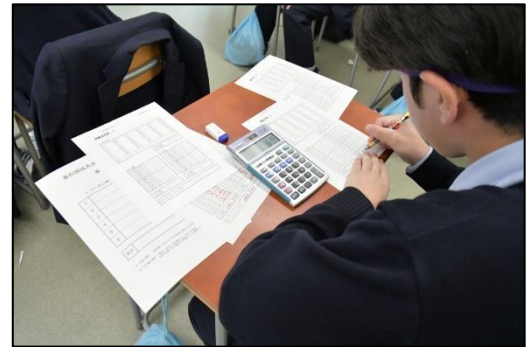


Business Skills Competition:

As is custom at Kei-Sho, we held our annual Business Skills Competition at the start of November. For Kei-Sho, this is a normal event, but it's unique to our school. Because we are a commercial school, and the students study a lot of business-related skills, the Business Skills Competition is an opportunity for students to use what they have studied and compete against each other.



Like usual, the day consisted of a variety of separate events. First, was the individual event, where each student solved a set of accounting and bookkeeping problems by themselves. This was just the start of the day and served as a warm-up for the rest of the events.



Next was the accounting competition. Each student had an individual accounting sheet that they needed to solve using what they had learned during class. After they solved their paper, they added their answers to their rows' total. After a row had added every individual score, they ran to the teachers to get the answer checked. If they are correct, they add it to the class total. If they are wrong, they need to go back and check the individual papers again. The first class to get the correct class total won the event. **This year, 3C took the victory.**



The third event was the logic competition. This event was similar to the accounting except that each row had the same question, and that question was a riddle. The first class to solve the riddle for every row won. **2B claimed victory for the logic competition.**



The last whole school event was the calculating competition. This involved each student receiving a paper with addition, subtraction and multiplication questions. Students solved their paper and combined their totals like the accounting competition. Victory in this event depended on how fast students could use their calculators to answer their questions. **The winner of the calculation competition was 2C.**



After this, the 1st year students also had another event which combined the accounting, logic and calculating competitions. Without the 2nd and 3rd years, the 1st years could compete with everyone on the same level, as everyone started learning business subjects at Kei-Sho. **1E was able to secure victory in this event.**



Some 2nd and 3rd year students also participated in a speed-typing competition, where they tried to type a passage as fast, and with as few mistakes, as they could. It was an interesting event, and one where they use a skill that will be very useful in their future.

Total victory for the day went to 3C, with 2B and 3B coming in 2nd and 3rd place. Everyone did their best and worked to make the day a fun and exciting experience. I hope everyone takes this chance to renew their energy and continue studying!

-Llew

The Business Skills Competition is a unique event, so let's see what Brendan has to say about it.

Brendan's Impressions:

This year, I have already been able to experience some events that are seen at many Japanese high schools, such as the Culture (Keika) Festival and the Sports Festival. But recently, Keika Commercial held a more unique event: its 110th Business Skills Competition.



I wasn't really sure what to expect when I arrived at school on the 6th of November, but I was surprised to see that a happi coat had been left at my desk! All of the teachers were wearing happi and the students even had their own coloured hachimaki to represent their home rooms. It gave a very colourful and exciting impression, especially compared to my image of accounting which is someone working quietly at a desk.



After putting my happi on, I went to my post on the 2nd floor to help with grading the students' work. The start was announced over the PA, and immediately...



'tap tap tap tap!'

It sounded like it had started to rain! But in fact, the sound was from all of the students doing sums on their calculators at an amazing speed. Soon, students dashed out of their classrooms to ask me if their answers were correct. If they were correct, everyone in their home room would cheer loudly, but if there was a mistake, there was a lot of running back and forth to see what was wrong. You could tell that each student really wanted their team to win!

As the day went on, the students did accounting activities, calculator speed trials, and a logic quiz. In the end, everyone tried their best, but class 3C were the overall winners!



Of course, Keika 'Commercial' High School's specialty is business studies, which some people might not find as exciting as, for example, a school with a national championship sports team. But I think it's great that the school's specialty has been made into a special tradition in which all the students can take part!

- Brendan