

3rd year classes at Kanegasaki Junior High School

In the 3rd year of Junior high school things get more serious. The pacing of English class is a bit faster. The students are older and should have more experience with English so we can teach more in a shorter period of time.

Most of the students start to take studying more seriously. The students have to prepare for their high school exams. So many will cut back on clubs or even stop participating completely. Many of the students use the extra time to study for their exams

Many of our students this year will also take the Eiken exam. Depending on their level and which test they take, studying for the Eiken may also take a lot of the student's time.

So, in the 3rd Kanegasaki Junior high is doing something a bit different. This year many of our English classes are being split into half. One class is taught by Mr. Kikuchi and the other by Ms. Nakamura. The classes still happen at the same time of course. The smaller class size is a great opportunity to work with each student. It give teachers the chance to quickly understand every students level and if they are grasping the lesson. It is a great opportunity for the student as well. They can more easily ask questions or for help if they don't understand something.

Culture note:

In most American schools 9th (JHS 3rd) grade is the first grade in high school. So the challenges are a little different. The best comparison would be the 8th grade because it is the last year of Junior high school. Most states have a test to graduate from junior high school but no high school exam because school is mandatory until 16 which is usually 11th (HS 2nd) grade. It is possible to fail and repeat 8th grade so the stress is there but is a little different.