

Principal Greeting

Welcome to the web site of the Kokufu Municipal Elementary School, Izumi, Osaka.
Smiling, Brilliant Children, Best Friends. Yes, we are Kokufu!

Kazuhiko ISHIMURA

I would like to welcome every parent and student to our school. Our school was established on November 6, 1873. November 6, 2021 is the 149th anniversary of our foundation. We have about 750 children, 22 classes, 9 special needs education classes and 63 teaching staff. We also have the expert guidance - training room.

Our school is located close to the north of Izumi City. Izumi City lies in the southern part of Osaka Prefecture, known as Senshuu. To the north is Sakai City, which is famous as the international merchant town of the Muromachi Era. To the south of our city is Kishiwada City, which is famous for its Danjiri Matsuri (float festival). (※1) In our school district the Danjiri Matsuri is also held in October traditionally.

The Makio River flows through the south of our school district. The JR Hanwa line runs northwards through the north part of our school district. The nearest station is Izumi Fuchu Station of the JR Hanwa railway. It is a 15 minute walk from our school. The Izumi City Office is across from our school. Children come to school from Inokuchi-cho, Fuchu-cho, Hanwa-cho, Hiko-cho and parts of Wake-cho and Higashitoyonaka-cho of Izumiotsu city. Izumi General medical center and Izumi municipal education center are to the east of the school. All children come to school on foot. Around the school, there are old towns, developed residential areas, and large apartment buildings.

On the east side, between the school pool and the Kokufu Municipal Kindergarten, there is a traditional road called Oguri-Kaido which passes to the north and south. Oguri-Kaido has another name, Kumano-Kaido. This road is called Oguri-Kaido for Oguri Hangan of Joruri. (※2) This path connects to Kumano Sanzan in southern Wakayama Prefecture through Osaka from Kyoto. Kumano Sanzan consists of Kumano-hongu-taisha, Kumano-hayatama-taisha and Kumano-nachi-taisha. Many people visited using this path since the Heian Period. Along the road of the school district, flowering peach trees, named "Terute-Hime" after Oguri's wife, are placed in front of each house to create "Izumi Life Forest Road".

The Kokufu area has been a model district, protecting children from crime, for about 15 years. This area is very aware of children's safety. Our school gratefully receives support and cooperation from our friends and the people in the region, bringing everyone's efforts together.

We appreciate your continuing support and assistance for our school in the future.

Thank you.

(※1) Danjiri Matsuri : Danjiri are large wooden carts in the shape of a shrine or temple. The carts, often being crafted out of wood, are very ornate, with elaborate carvings. Towns with danjiri festivals in them have different neighborhoods, each with their own guild responsible for maintaining their own danjiri cart. The cart is kept in storage for most of the year. As the festival approaches, the danjiri cart is prepared with elaborate flower arrangements, prayer cards, ornaments, and religious consecrations. It is believed that spirits or gods reside in the danjiri.

(※2) J o r u r i : Joruri is a form of traditional Japanese narrative music in which a tale is sung to the accompaniment of a shamisen. As a form of storytelling, the emphasis is on the lyrics and narration rather than the music itself.