



## **Announcing The Recommencement Of The JAPAN EXCHANGE VISIT 2024 BEFU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, FUKUOKA**

15 March 2022

Dear Parents/Caregivers

After 4 years of disruption, we are very excited to announce that we will be returning to Fukuoka in Japan for the first time since 2019.

On the 16th of August 1996, a sister school agreement was signed between Remuera Intermediate and Befu Elementary School. Since then students from RI have travelled to Japan every year up until 2020 to participate in a cultural exchange. Students from Befu Elementary have travelled to New Zealand every alternate year.

As we head into an incredible 28 years of partnership with Befu Elementary School, students from our school once again have the opportunity to visit Japan in September this year. A group of approximately 20 - 30 Year 7 and 8 students will travel to Fukuoka (Auckland's sister city) and visit Befu Elementary School, the sister school of Remuera Intermediate.

### **Itinerary**

We have developed an exchange programme where students from both countries can experience another culture and compare and share lifestyles, education, interests and customs.

This year's visit to Japan includes the following:

- Remuera Intermediate students will visit Fukuoka from Monday 2nd to Wednesday 11th of September.
- The group will be accompanied by five adults, including the Principal, Assistant Principal and Teachers.
- The students will be home-stayed for approximately 5 days.
- Students will attend school for a few days at Befu Elementary.
- The remainder of the time they will be sightseeing, participating in educational trips, travelling and staying in hotel accommodation as a group accompanied by RI staff.
- The trip is 10 days in total.

### **Costs**

The cost of this trip is all-inclusive except for personal spending money. The final cost will depend on the number of students who attend. We aim to take 30 students however if we do not get this many we may reduce the number to 20.

- The estimated cost for a group of 30 students is NZD \$4100 per student
- The estimated cost for a group of 20 students is NZD \$4350 per student
- We recommend students take approximately NZD \$300 in personal spending money.

## Application and Selection Process

Students who are interested in participating in this trip should complete an application by Monday 25th of March.

[Link to Application Form](#)

Once applications close, a decision will be made regarding the final group size. At this time costings will be confirmed and shortlisted applicants will be notified. Once permission to continue with the selection process is given we will conduct group interviews to select the final group.

**Successful applicants and students who have been placed on the waitlist will be notified by Thursday 11th April.**

## Payment and Confirmation

To secure your child's place, **full and final payment will be due by Friday 10th May** to ensure all bookings can be finalised and we can start preparing the group to travel.

Should someone choose to decline their place before the 10th of May we will offer their place to the next student on the waitlist

This is such an incredible opportunity that will stay with your young ones for many years to come. The relationships and memories they form will last a lifetime. We look forward to seeing our friends again in Japan and we hope your child can join us on this once in a lifetime opportunity.

Dōmo arigatōgozaimasu

Kyle Brewerton  
PRINCIPAL

