

I travelled to Brisbane, Australia.

Shoichi Kaneko

Attention, Bow, Take your seats!

The number jumps off on the electronic blackboard at the blink of an eye,
Children with hands raised up high, saying in Japanese "I know! I know!".
It could be the sight of a Japanese elementary school only this is a "bilingual school" in Australia.
All subjects conducted in 50% English, 50% Japanese.
Students are Caucasian Australian children.

「Independent Public School」

The title seems a bit strange to the ear!

In other words, it is a public elementary school, that is independent from the Australian Department of Education!

As a teacher in an ordinary government approved school, the



<https://wellhillss.eq.edu.au/>

teachers are said to be "public officials" with a teaching license.

But there are no textbooks directed from the Ministry of Education! Instead the original textbooks are created independently by the teachers.

Parents wanting their children to enter this school are moving from other states. Which is increasing the land prices by more than 10 percent and having a great economic effect on the area.

The school is operated 100% by government tax.

Even in academic standardized tests throughout the country, this school always has higher scores as compared to other public schools that only teach in English.

So the government has no reason to stop it.

A lot of researchers observing from Japan officially, such as the Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education, become very surprised with a big sigh of unbelievability.

In 3 years all 1000 of the students of this school will jump into the bilingual education class. Today it is 300 students under the bilingual classes.

I got an invitation to the first graduation ceremony of the bilingual students, which will take place in 3 years. Watching the first graduates sing "Kyo no Hi wa Sayonara" at the ceremony!

(note) Shoichi Kaneko wrote the lyrics and music

At this school there are currently three vice-principals under Principal John Webster.

Mr. Taku Hashimoto is the bilingual project professor.

Coming from a teaching family, Professor Hashimoto, wearing a necktie, teaches the children to use an abacus. I wanted to hear more from Mr. Hashimoto but he was busy that day. He was free on Saturday to meet and talk more. On meeting him on Saturday and seeing him from the back, he had the loose waist band like the young men walking in Harajuku!



Principal John and a young Mr. Hashimoto had said if they die that this bilingual project may stop also.

So while we still live,

Let's build a "Japanese Language Center"!

With carp streaming flags, the sketch of the 'Japanese Language Center' has already been completed.

Remembering that at first, drawing visual pictures of your dreams is very important.



Get out of your comfort zone!

Principal John Webster's own production!

※The doorknob of the class had these stickers!

〈Comments & Observations〉

If you teach a child in two languages, he or she will be semi-lingual in both ---

The theory that was actually a lie.

In bilingual education, children's "IQ" and "EQ" will be higher considering the brain development and

science! In this environment the learning brain is activated.

In this bilingual Australian school the children are starting Japanese language from zero but hearing the 3rd graders' Japanese language skill is amazing!

An "explosion" in linguistic ability was observed after 1.5 years of this Nihongo lesson for non-native Japanese language speaker.

Of course I asked what will you do after graduation to secondary school.

Preparation has already began.....and they just gave me a wink of the eye ----.

After returning to Japan from Australia、

People were struggling to get to 4 hours per week of English class from 3 hours per week in Japanese Elementary school. On top of that, a lot of scandals in the news about the Ministry of Education of this country. For example the bribery of school textbook company and illegal transition of the higher ranking official in the Ministry of Education to private schools after retirement. Also students are killed or dying due to bullying in school or without proper leadership of the teachers and board of education. And if people died in a restaurant from poisoning of the food, the shop would be immediately closed until we found out the clear reason. Why not the case of the school?

By the way,

GAN, GAN, GA ~ ~ ~ ~N, about three consecutive episodes of cancer,

Started to use my health insurance card with the status of "late elderly". (2/7)

Gastric cancer and prostate cancer, and now lung cancer

The boxing referee is on count 9 and I am going to stand up,

I want to show the fighting pose to the referee!



Today, I wear a towel over my head as I sit in the corner of the sauna bath with a pose like the Great Mohammad Ali.

"Give me a break!" I say, and Goemon just laughs at me. It's probably just my imagination.

When you hear the word lung cancer, you usually think of tobacco.

I was a heavy smoker until about 25 years ago.

I am very aware of the fact that it was not easy to quit.

I have heard that smoking is a type of passive suicide.

Everyone who is said to be a leader in Japan is aware of this, but I did not say it much.

Smoking is really not useful for anything. Knowing you cannot stop it.

For the first time, I think of the young president of Hoshino Resort who says smokers should not work at his company.

[\(http://blogs.wsj.com/japanrealtime/2012/11/27/no-smokers-please-should-firms-ban-staff-from-smoking/\)](http://blogs.wsj.com/japanrealtime/2012/11/27/no-smokers-please-should-firms-ban-staff-from-smoking/)

I have also lost a lot of important people to cigarettes, but I couldn't help anybody.

"I quit smoking ten times a day! "--- the Genius Yoro Takeshi said,

By using lots of time and money, the Ministry of Health and Welfare has proved the relationship between secondhand smoke and lung cancer.

Scientific proofs of this relation are not easy.

Causality is often very difficult to prove for many things in the world.

The relationship between "Japanese People and English" also has a very interesting causal relationship. "We know it!!! But we just can't stop it!!

※ Upon returning I could find good black garlic at the front door.

And many birthday cards in many world languages I could not read. Yes, I became 75 years old now!

※ And jumping into a warm bath, opening the window and sucking in the cold winter air into my chest. It feels so nice to breath in that air. I may have cured my illness! Thanks to God.

February, 2017