

NEWSLETTER

4th Term of the Year
March/April 2025



INTRODUCTION

Each year, budgeting is a crucial step for LFIK and APEK. Every expense is carefully reviewed to maintain our school's financial balance while minimizing the impact on families. However, this balance depends on a key factor: **the number of enrolled students**. A small variation in student numbers can make this equilibrium fragile—**every new student helps lower costs for families, just as every departing student increases them**. This is why we all share the responsibility of maintaining enrollment. So don't forget to complete your children's re-enrollment process before this Friday, March 28th. And **spread the word within your international network—everyone benefits!**

Ongoing Projects



Japanese Status Gakkou-Houjin



Last February, with nearly 80% of votes in favor, you approved the submission of the application for Gakkou-Houjin status—a significant step forward aimed at granting LFIK legal recognition in Japan and, ultimately, providing numerous benefits for students and their families. Thus, obtaining the status of a "legal entity" is a mandatory requirement to apply for a genuine long-term lease to use the heritage properties of the city of Kyoto. This process initiates the eligibility review of the application, which will take place between April and June. Then, we will formalize our request (the second jury will be held this summer and will provide its feedback in the fall of 2025). For those who would like to better understand these new statutes and contribute to refining the governance framework—which we are committed to **keeping parent-led**—join us for a **discussion and working session on Wednesday, April 23rd at 12:30 PM at LFIK**



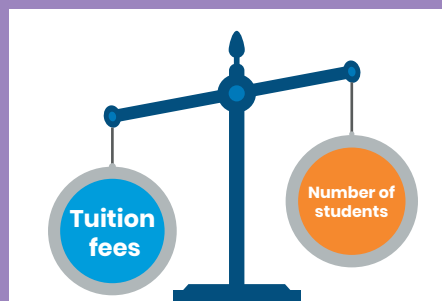
Osaka Branch



Nearly 80% of you also supported the launch of an annex in Osaka, provided it maintained **financial autonomy**, ensuring that **no additional burden would fall on APEK families**. With backing from various French institutions interested in establishing a France Hub and support from major companies willing to invest, the financial aspect was well secured. However, the bid for the site we had identified was awarded to another group. But this is only a setback! **We remain fully committed to this project and are intensifying our efforts to find a new location**. We will keep you updated on future developments. The adventure continues!



2025 School Year



We are fortunate to have a French school in Kyoto—LFIK—a dynamic, accredited, and internationally-minded institution. We all hope to see our children thrive here for as long as possible. However, as explained in the previous newsletter, **LFIK's long-term sustainability depends on a minimum enrollment of 266 students**, with financial balance reached at 275 students and optimal operation between 275 and 290 students. **Maintaining these numbers is crucial**, as just a few students gained or lost can make a significant difference. As members of the managing association, **you are all ambassadors of LFIK**. We need your help to **promote our school—within your network and even abroad**. LFIK was founded by our community, and its future depends on us!



A Look at the School: A Testimonial from Mrs Faedi, mother of three children at LFIK, in elementary and middle school.



My name is Benedetta Faedi, and I hold both Italian and American nationalities. I am currently in Kyoto with my family. My husband, Johan, is French, and we have three boys—Leonardo, Francesco, and Lorenzo—who are enrolled at the Lycée Français de Kyoto (LFIK). We usually live in San Francisco, where they attend a Franco-American school. We came to Kyoto thanks to a Fulbright scholarship, which allows me to conduct research on gender equality in Japan. We chose Kyoto over Tokyo for its calmer atmosphere and rich cultural heritage. It was a leap of faith, as none of us had ever been to Japan before! Our integration into LFIK has been fantastic. The children were warmly welcomed and quickly adapted, both academically and socially. Leonardo had the incredible opportunity to participate in the Prozap volleyball tournament in Hong Kong, a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Meanwhile, the twins are eagerly looking forward to their upcoming school trip. Thanks to the many extracurricular activities—fencing, chess, soccer, tennis, crafts, volleyball...—they have found their footing despite the change in environment. For us, as parents, this experience has been just as enriching. The LFIK community is incredibly welcoming, and we have built strong friendships while sharing wonderful activities—hiking, temple visits, Kintsugi and pottery workshops... Kyoto is a fascinating city that blends culture, tradition, and modernity. We are truly enjoying this adventure, and if we could, we would gladly extend our stay. LFIK is an outstanding school in an exceptional setting, where warmth and kindness are at the heart of everything.

Save the Date!

FRIDAY, MARCH 28TH

Deadline to complete your children's re-enrollment process on EDUKA.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH

Let's meet! Join us at the APEK Members' picnic, location and time to be announced later.

SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH

Let's meet at the neighborhood Hanami celebration, open to all at LFIK.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23RD

Discussion and working session on Gakkou-Houjin statutes and governance, meeting at LFIK at 12:30 PM.

TUESDAY, MAY 27TH

Newsletter #3 sent

THURSDAY, MAY 29TH

APEK Members' afterwork, location and time to be announced later.

Call to the community, we need you!

Crepe Workshop – Saturday, April 5th: volunteers needed

We are looking for volunteers to make crepes, which will be sold the following day at the neighborhood Hanami celebration. Please let us know by sending an email to acattelan@lfikeyoto.org.

Directory of Good Resources: Let's Share Our Tips

We would like to create a directory of good resources to make life easier for our community. If you have recommendations (doctors, dentists, carpooling, etc.), please share them via this [link](#). We will compile all your suggestions and distribute them to the entire school.

Parking Around LFIK: Important Reminder

We remind you that it is legally prohibited to park in the streets around the school to drop off or pick up children, following the agreement between the neighborhood and LFIK signed in 2015. Adhering to this rule is essential to maintaining good relations with our neighborhood and ensuring the use of the current building. We count on your cooperation.

Thank you all for your commitment and continued support for APEK and LFIK. The road is still long, and many steps and consultations are needed to bring the ongoing projects to fruition. However, we move forward with determination and enthusiasm to continue writing the story of LFIK.

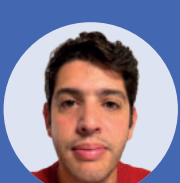
The Management Committee

The Management Committee of **A.P.E.K.** is at your service all year round.

Association des Parents d'Elèves du Kansai



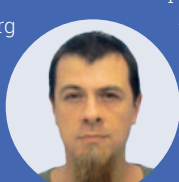
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