

Embassy of Japan

Tonga

CE/2021/03
June 11, 2021

Winners of Tongatapu District Soroban Competitions 2021

The Embassy of Japan and Tonga's Ministry of Education and Training concluded the district soroban competitions for primary schools in Tongatapu with the central district today, Friday 11 June 2021, at the Kalofiamā 'o Epworth Hall.

About 300 soroban students from 48 primary schools in Tongatapu competed in the district competitions. In the western district competition on Wednesday 9 June, 13 schools participated and the best overall school was awarded to Kahoua Government Middle School. 22 schools competed in the eastern district competition on Thursday 10 June, and the best school was won this year by the Government Middle School of Lapaha. St. Falakiko 'Asisi Primary School remained as the best overall school for central district, and that is for the past five consecutive years.

An encouragement letter to the young students from H.E. Mr. MUNENAGA Kensaku, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Tonga was read at the competition. In this letter the Ambassador encouraged students to learn soroban as it is good not only for calculation skills, but also enhancement of concentration and confidence. He appreciated the efforts and commitment of both students and their teachers, as well as soroban officers of the Ministry of Education and Training who have been co-hosting the competition for the past 10 years.

In these competitions classes 3, 4 and 5 soroban students challenged in three examinations; a written examination, oral and a flash examination and winners of each category were awarded prizes, with a trophy awarded to the best overall school for each district.

The Embassy of Japan and the Ministry of Education and Training have been collaborating in the district competitions since 2010 with the support of the Japan International Soroban Diffusion Foundation, Tonga Soroban Education Association and JICA Tonga Office.

Float parades by schools in the district competitions emphasized the importance and joy of soroban education and Mathematics studies. The next competition will be for Vava'u Island, next week on June 17.

END.

Attached: Photos

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Photos;



St. Falakiko 'Asisi Primary School soroban students along with Dr. Tangikina Steen, CEO for Ministry of Education and Training and Ms. TAMADA Iku from the Embassy of Japan and Education Officials on Friday, 11 June 2021 at the Kalofiamia 'o Epworth Hall.



Young soroban students during the written examination for Central District Competition on Friday, 11 June.

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Lapaha Government Middle School students and teachers, the best overall school for eastern district with guest of honour Mr. 'Isikeli Oke on Thursday, 10 June.



Eastern district float parade emphasizing soroban and Math's week.

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Kahoua soroban students won western district soroban competition along with Ms. TAMADA Iku from the Embassy of Japan, Nuku'alofa.



Western district soroban competition on Wednesday 9 June, 2021 at Alai Pulotu Hall, Te'ekiu.