

“Disaster Prevention Week and Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day”

For the past several years, I have traveled every year to various parts of Kyushu (九州), Shikoku (四国), Kinki (近畿) region, and Chubu (中部) region to gather information about disaster preparedness and disaster mitigation efforts. By last year, I had visited Kushimoto (串本), Nara (奈良), Wakayama (和歌山), Yokkaichi (四日市), Kumamoto (熊本), Beppu (別府), Tosa (土佐), Tahara (田原), Kuwana (桑名), Hamamatsu (浜松), and Kosai (湖西). This summer, I traveled to Motosu (本巣) City in Gifu (岐阜) Prefecture. Let me begin by explaining why I chose to visit Motosu. In the northern part of the city lies the Neodani Fault (根尾谷断層), which is associated with the Nōbi Earthquake (濃尾地震) of 1891. The Nōbi Earthquake, with a magnitude of 8.0, was an extremely powerful earthquake and remains the largest inland earthquake ever recorded in Japan to have been caused by an active fault. When we were junior high school students, photographs of this fault invariably appeared in our science textbooks. Another reason for my visit was that “Earthquakes and Safety (地震と安全)” a supplementary disaster-prevention textbook for high school students in Tokyo that I helped to develop, is displayed at the Neodani Earthquake Fault Observatory and Museum in Motosu City.

Please look at the arrows in Image A. They indicate the displacement caused by the fault. The vertical offset reaches as much as six meters. The earthquake produced such a large shift that a cliff was formed where there had previously been no difference in elevation. Image B compares a black-and-white photograph taken immediately after the earthquake with a photograph that I took at the same location today. Image C shows footage captured by a security camera in Yatsushiro City (八代市) at the moment when fault displacement reached the ground surface during the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake.

September 1, 1923, was the day on which the Great Kanto Earthquake (関東大震災) struck Japan. This year marks the 103rd anniversary of that devastating disaster. The earthquake caused enormous human and material losses, particularly throughout Kanto (関東) region. In remembrance of this disaster, September 1 was designated as “Disaster Prevention Day”, and various disaster-prevention activities and events are held nationwide during “Disaster Prevention Week”, which centers on that date. Furthermore, in June 2011, “the Act on the Promotion of Tsunami Countermeasures” was enacted. In order to deepen public understanding of and interest in tsunami preparedness, November 5 was designated as “Tsunami Disaster Prevention Day”. On this day, the national government and local governments are encouraged to organize activities and events that reflect the purpose and spirit of promoting tsunami disaster preparedness.

Principal

Yasuhiro Takashio

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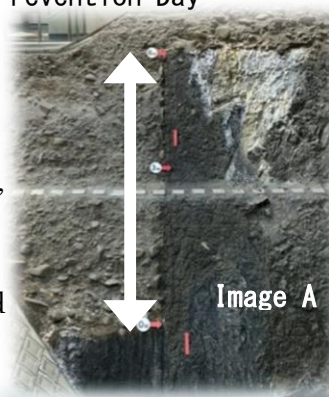


Image A



Image B

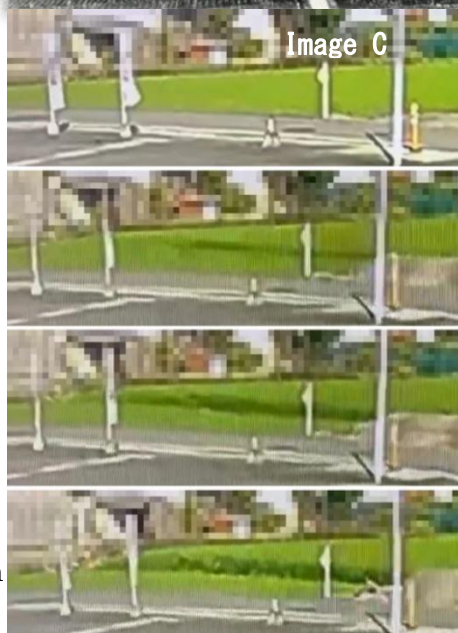


Image C



八中だより



第10号

令和8年9月15日

府中市立

府中第八中学校

熱中症に
注意!



〒182-0035 府中市四谷一丁目二八二七
学校住所・電話番号
電話 〇四二(三六四)一八八一

〈在籍生徒数〉

一学年232名、二学年250名、三学年218名
全校生徒数700名

★始業式での「冒険」の話を後に、2年生が夏休み中にした冒険の話を楽しそうにしてくれました。たくさん学びがあったと思います。