

**Global Café (#2) 『Refugees i.e. displaced persons—is it hard to understand who they really are? 』** **May 9**

The second Global Café this year was held by seven 4<sup>th</sup> graders and two 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The theme was ‘Refugees i.e. Displaced persons—is it hard to understand who they really are?’

**<Comments by organizers(students)>**

We made some presentations about refugee problems. By using materials like presentations and quizzes, we consider refugee problems from the numeric point of view. We focused on the individual life of refugees, rather than on the outline of refugee problems. Through discussion, we let each participant speak out what he/she feels about refugee problems. We hope participants are more interested in the problems, feel familiar to them, and understand refugees are the same human beings as we are.

**<Notes from supervisors(teachers)>**

Refugee is the key topic nowadays, so many students took part in the program. The 12<sup>th</sup> graders made presentation about present refugees and 10<sup>th</sup> graders provided workshop style opportunity to acknowledge refugees. It was good to see all the participants exchanged their ideas. One said, ‘I was shocked to know what small numbers of refugees Japanese government has accepted. I agree with the organizers’ idea of supporting refugees not only financially but also intellectually by giving educational occasion.’ The other said, ‘I was lucky to know that there are many students in this school who are involved in the various kind of activities, and I wish I could join them too.’

**Consultation meeting --How can we write plans of ISS Challenge? **May 16****

Grand finale of our project study, ISS Challenge has been launched again this year. Many students attended the entry orientation held on April 27<sup>th</sup>, and they have been developing their research plans since then. From this year, we newly started a consultation meeting for the

7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> graders who take part in the ISS Challenge for the first time. As mentors, three 12<sup>th</sup> graders and two 11<sup>th</sup> graders participated in the meeting, and they were kind enough to explain carefully how to decide the project to study, how to do research, and how to examine the prior research. We hope those mentors' attitude toward project study and their accumulated experience will be succeeded, and their juniors who received good advice will become remarkable mentors in a few years. We hope for this virtuous circle forever.