

Smile Project

Paralympic Games

Supporting School

Wheelchair Basketball



Higashikurume City
Shinoh Elementary School



Japan Wheelchair Basketball
Federation (JWBF)

Higashikurume City Shinoh Elementary School

< Comments from the School >

- Both students and school staff developed their knowledge and awareness towards Olympics and Paralympics.
- Students got an opportunity to listen to a Paralympian talk about his experience in the Paralympics and what he considers important. This opportunity enabled them to deepen their understanding towards disability and gave them a great opportunity to reflect upon themselves and their behavior.
- Students got to know the fun and hard work that goes into Paralympic sports by engaging in the sport continuously throughout the year, and consequently they gained a great interest in supporting the sport.
- School staff brought up their ideas to make the best use of this learning opportunity with the former Paralympian, and coordinated the research project about Paralympics as well as the presentation for parents and lower grade students.

Program Overview

【Networking Event with the Japan Wheelchair Basketball Federation (JWBF)】

On June 26, 2017, we invited a former Paralympian Mr. Katsuki Miyake and Tokyo Fighters BC Player Mr. Shinnosuke Morooka, an aspiring Paralympian. First, we listened to a lecture about the rules and characteristics of wheelchair basketball. Then, we watched their demonstration and saw how players crash into each other in the game. Every student in the 5th and 6th grades got the opportunity to ride a wheelchair and experience wheelchair basketball. Students had lunch together with the athletes and strengthened their relationship with them.

【Wheelchair Basketball Experience Session 1】

On September 1, 2017, we invited Mr. Katsuki Miyake again and held an experience session for the 5th and 6th grades. As it was their second time experiencing the sport, **they were absorbed in the game and would crash their wheelchairs into each other.**

【Wheelchair Basketball Experience Session 2】

On October 30, 2017, we organized another wheelchair basketball session with Mr. Katsuki Miyake, this time for the 3rd and 4th grades. The students have not tried basketball yet in their P.E. class, **but they enjoyed wheelchair basketball very much, running towards the ball in their wheelchairs to score goals.**

【Wheelchair Basketball Experience Session 3】

On February 13, 2018, we held a second session for the 3rd and 4th grades. **By engaging themselves in wheelchair basketball throughout the year, students significantly improved their knowledge and interest in the sport.**

