At the beginning of every year, we looked at all aspects about Japan and then each student writes a question they would like to find out about and place it on our ‘Wonder Wall’. If they have any free time in Japanese they can choose a question to answer by using the ipads and hopefully all our interesting questions about Japan will be answered by the end of the year.

Some of the *many* facts students would like to know this year are:

- How many bullet trains are there?
- Why do Japanese people speak Japanese?
- Why do they read books backwards?
- Why do they like to eat noodle soup?
- Why do Japanese people have different animal years?
- Why does Japan have so many earthquakes?
- How old do you need to be to start Sumo wrestling?
- Why do they take off their shoes inside?
- Why does Japanese money have holes in it?
- Is red their favourite colour because they have it on their flag?
- Why did Japan change their capital city from Kyoto to Tokyo?
- How big is a Japanese bath?
- What’s the most popular food in Japan?
- Why do they eat a lolly before drinking green tea?
Foundation:
Foundation students this term are learning all about Japan, where it is, what language they speak, how we would get there, etc.
They are learning basic greetings, some songs and how to write and read their name in Japanese. This term they will also learn about Setsubun festival and Hinamatsuri (girls’ day) festival.

Year 1/2’s:
This term the students will continue to practise their greetings, numbers, colours and writing their names. They will all research the animal year they were born in and enjoy Setsubun and Hinamatsuri festival.

All students in Years 3-6 are encouraged to ask in Japanese if they want to go to the toilet, get a drink or borrow something.

Year 3/4:
They will continue to learn more basic phrases to communicate in the classroom. All students in years 3/4 have to ask in Japanese if they want to go to the toilet, get a drink or borrow something. This term we will look at the many festivals, including Setsubun, Hinamatsuri, Hanami and the 12 zodiacs.

Year 5:
The year 5’s will consolidate the language learnt last year and further their vocabulary building. They will also enjoy celebrating the many festivals, including Setsubun, Hinamatsuri, Hanami and the 12 zodiacs.

Year 6:
The year 6’s will be busy starting their ‘belts’ and trying to achieve each level. White belt is the first and the students need to be able to read and write their Katakana name, sing happy birthday in Japanese, know the first 10 hiragana characters, demonstrate 3 gestures in Japanese, name 4 greetings and perform a simple self-introduction.