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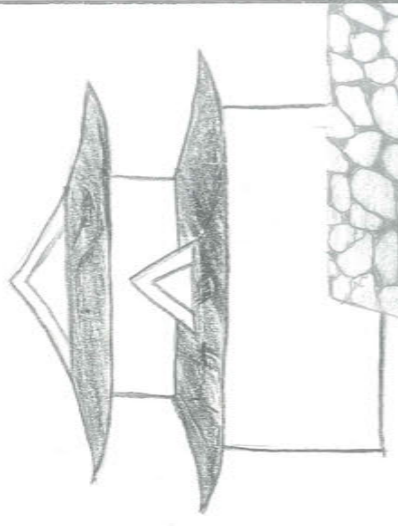
Samurai Trained

五城町立五城中学校

3年 渡辺唯愛

<Gachan! Gachan!>

During class, we often hear these loud noises. There is construction going on right next to the school! With the construction so close, it's sometimes hard to concentrate, however there is very good reason behind these loud noises. The construction is to repair the stone walls next to the school. The roots of a large camphor tree were causing the stone walls to collapse and it became dangerous for the students. A team of experts have been working on the walls since last winter, and it's a double important job because these walls are also part of the Tamaru Castle ruins and our local heritage.

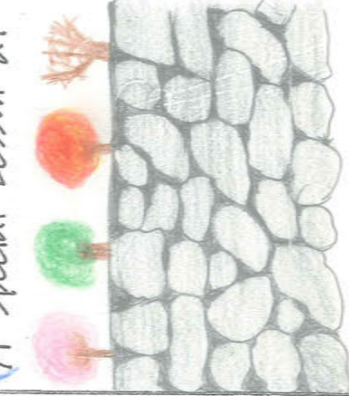


<The History of Tamaru Castle>

During the Nanboku-cho period, Kitabatake Chikafusa built Tamaru Castle. It's even older than Kinokuni Temple! Over the years, there were many lords of this castle and during the Sengoku period, Oda Nobuo, a son of Oda Nobunaga, renovated the castle and added a tower.

Unfortunately, the castle was destroyed in a fire only five years later. In the Meiji era, most of the buildings of Tamaru Castle were demolished. These days, Tamaru Castle is now Tamaru Castle ruins and the stone walls and tower are all that remain.

<A Special Lesson at Shiroyama>



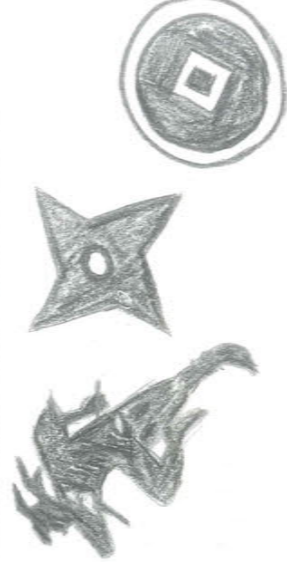
In May, there was a special lesson for the students of Tamaki Junior High School at Shiroyama, near our school. A town hall staff member explained about the history and the heritage of Tamaru Castle and demonstrated with artifacts that had been unearthed. The construction leader explained that they use many types of stones, but most of them are ryokudei-hengan (chlorite schist). The construction team is bringing these stones from Minami-Ise because that is where the original came from. He also said that it's very unusual for anything to be built on a castle site, so we should be very proud that our school is so unique.

<How to Lay Stones>

1. Nanozumi-kuzushi	2. Ran-zumi	3. Taniotoshi-zumi

<Big News!>

On April 6, 2019, our castle was chosen as one of the 100 Famous Japanese Castle for the second year in a row, our principal told us this news and we are very proud of it, we can even see Tamaru Castle in the movies. Have you heard of the new movie *Shimobī no Kuni*? Tamaru Castle is the main location in that film.



I feel lucky and proud that I get to study here during such an exciting time. It motivates me to continue to study hard until graduation. I will happily call myself an alumnus of Tamaki Junior High School. Imagine! Every day when we run around the grounds, we are running where many samurai used to train for battle.

Do you remember the big disaster of Kumamoto? When I consider Kumamoto Castle, my heart hurts. But I am very happy to hear the good news of Kumamoto Castle.

(テーマを選んだ理由) 私たちの学校は、かつて多くの侍やお姫様、お殿様が「行き来して田舎の中」に建て、今年別のお城の石垣が崩れる恐れがあるというので、修復の工事が始まりました。私には毎日教室の窓から様子をみることでござりました。同時に行われた発掘調査や石材調査のあと、私にはその説明会に参加できる機会があり全国を回り記念する修復専門の工事の人が「城の中に学校がある」といふことはとほほ珍らしいことなんだよと、われわれに「お、春夏秋冬と様々な顔を持つこの城跡を三重県の皆様に知ってもらいたい」と思っています。