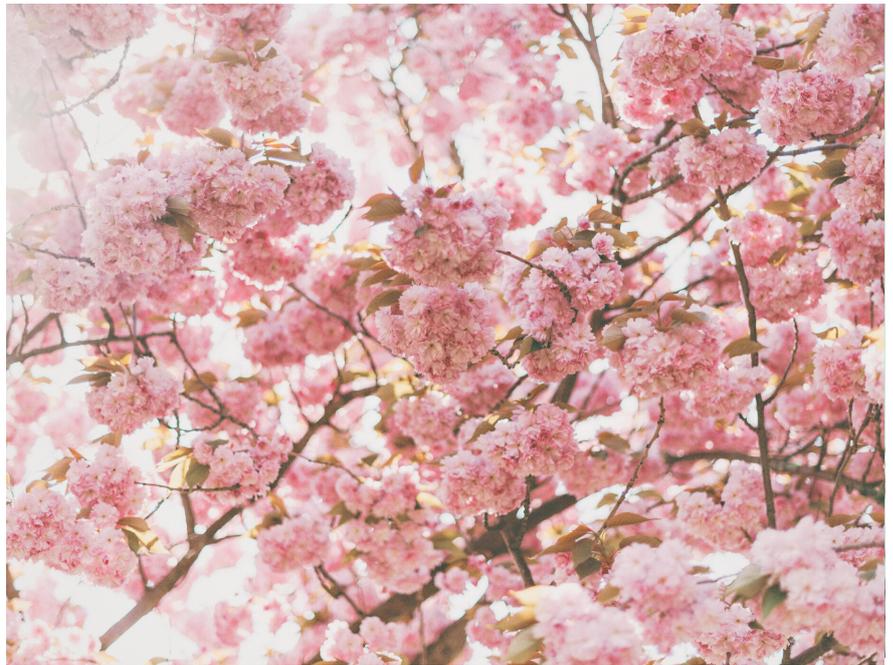


APRIL

Monthly ALT Newsletter

FEATURED THIS MONTH:

- *Welcome back to school*
- *Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics, postponed*
- *Easter*



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



Hello everyone!

Welcome back to Soma Agricultural High School.

How was your Spring vacation? Did you have fun?

Were you able to finish all your homework?

I know you are all excited to go back to school, meet your friends and teachers, and learn.

Let's all enjoy learning and do our best.

がんばりますよ!



TOKYO 2020 OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS, POSTPONED

After months of planning and preparation for the much-awaited Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and the International Olympics Committee (IOC) decided to **postpone** the event for about one year, due to the coronavirus pandemic. The IOC announced their decision on March 24 2020, 2 days before the supposed **kick-off** of the torch relay in Fukushima.

The Olympics had never been postponed before, though it was cancelled in 1916, 1940, and 1946 because of war. Prime Minister Abe said that there would not be a cancellation of the Olympics and the Paralympics. He also said that they are postponing the event so that athletes can compete in their best condition and fans can enjoy safe games.

The delay leaves the question of how additional **maintenance** and other costs will be **shouldered**. The Tokyo organizing committee had said the budget needed for the games was 1.35 trillion yen (\$12 billion), but actual spending related to the sporting **extravaganza** is expected to have been as much as 3 trillion yen, according to estimates by the country's Board of Audit.

It has been a **struggle** for athletes to train as most gyms and sports facilities have been closed since the virus broke out in China last year and affected all continents except Antarctica. More than 380,000 people have been infected and over 20,000 who **contracted** the pneumonia-causing COVID-19 have died, according to data **compiled** by Johns Hopkins University.

The Olympics and Paralympics were supposed to be held on July 24th and August 25th this year.



WHAT IS EASTER?

Easter Sunday is the celebration of the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ. It is the most important Christian celebration. The date of Easter Sunday changes every year. It falls between late March and late May. This year it will be on April 14.

Easter is so important because Christians believe that Jesus rose from the dead, two days after he died on the cross. Jesus' dead body was buried in a cave on Good Friday, two days later the stone that covered the cave's entrance had been moved, and Jesus' body had gone. Various people saw Jesus in the following days and his followers understood God had raised him from the dead.

Remembering the resurrection of Jesus is a way to renew daily hope that we have victory over evil.

Ah, so that's what it is.

