

**10th Anniversary of the Tsuzuki-Botswana Exchange of Children's Paintings
Exhibition at Ben Thema Primary School**

3rd November 2023

The Embassy of Japan and Ben Thema Primary School co-hosted the opening ceremony for the 10th Tsuzuki-Botswana Exchange of Children's Paintings Exhibition on the 2nd November 2023 at Ben Thema Primary School. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the educational exchange through the exhibition of paintings drawn by Grade 3 students from Chigasaki Primary School, Tsuzuki Ward in Yokohama City, Japan, and by Standard 3 students of Ben Thema Primary School in Gaborone.

At the opening ceremony, His Excellency, Mr. OHMORI Setsuo, Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, expressed his pleasure in celebrating the 10th anniversary of the event with the delegation from Tsuzuki Ward, Yokohama Japan, the students and teachers of Ben Thema, as well as other invited guests. Ambassador noted that celebrating the 10th anniversary is quite remarkable and emphasized that it is not an ordinary exhibition, but rather, it is unique as it displays paintings of both Japanese and Botswana people's daily lives drawn by primary school students from each country.

Ambassador expressed his appreciation to Ben Thema Primary School and Tsuzuki Multicultural & Youth Plaza (Community Centre), for their continuous enthusiasm and efforts in collaborating with Chigasaki Primary School. In addition, Ambassador referred to the enormous support given by Nippon Express, a Japanese logistics company, which has voluntarily delivered the paintings over a distance of 14,000 km between Japan and Botswana for the past ten years.

Mr. Marumoagae Bonang, the Representative from the Ministry of Education and Skills Development also extended his gratitude to the Embassy of Japan citing that his Ministry has benefited a lot through their relationship with JICA Botswana and JICA Volunteers. He shared his joy, gratitude and yearning for this relationship to continue, and for teachers and learners to work together in making the world a better place.

For further enquiries, please contact the Embassy of Japan in Botswana (Tel: 391-4456)



Remarks by Ambassador OHMORI



Remarks by Ms. Mokgethi, Principal



Remarks by Mr. Bonang, Ministry of Education and Skills Development



Entertainment by Standard 3 Students



Entertainment by Standard 6 Students



Tour for the exhibition