



日本語 Japanese Update

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The Most Important Thing in Life...

If you were asked to choose the **one** most important thing in your life, what would it be? The children of Year 4C were asked to ponder this difficult question recently, when five Junior High School students visited us from earthquake stricken Iwate



Prefecture in Japan.

The children were given the task of drawing their most important thing, and writing a simple sentence about the reason behind their choice.

It was then our visitors' turn. Through sharing their own drawings of the most important thing in their lives, they were able to give us some very moving insights into the various struggles they have faced since they met with the greatest earthquake imaginable on March 11, 2011.

After listening to the Japanese students' stories, we asked our own children to make a short reflection on what they had heard.

I would like to thank Midori Akimoto from Japan Link for making this visit to our school possible.



Leo North and Jolyon Simpson share their most important things.

Not surprisingly, family and sport proved to be common choices between our children and the Japanese students. One of the students shared her experience of being separated from her mother for three days during the aftermath of the earthquake. And the Japanese boys no longer take their favourite sports for granted, after their training gym was used as a shelter for victims after the quake.

Some Japanese students found their favourite things through happy experiences but some found it through sad ones. - Leo North, 4C

I thought that this lesson made me think that my family is way, way the most important than anything else. - Alex Brown, 4C



My Teddy Bear is important to me because I got it when I was born and I can't sleep without it. - Charlotte Hall, 4C

I loved listening to what is special to others. They live very different lives to us and it was sad to listen to what they have been through. - Alicia Scott, 4C



My family is the most important thing because we always look out for each other. - Sam Gorman, 4C