

## Yusuhara a Home from Home: 26. Trips and Concerts

**Stephen Woodard**

This month I joined 8th and 9th graders on their annual field trip. It was not as late during the year as it has been in the past which was welcome due to where we were going. First up was Kochi Makino Botanical Garden. I have heard many good things about the botanical garden but have never made my way there before. I was pleasantly surprised at how wonderful it was although I feel that I didn't have enough time to fully explore, so one day I will go back to experience everything on offer. Next up was somewhere I have been before, several times in fact Katsurahama beach and aquarium. Not quite "beach weather" but it was still a nice and warm afternoon eating lunch, watching the tide and learning about the sea animals around.

Upcoming is the welcome concert here at Yusuhara Gakuen and I have been helping out in a rather sizable English section this year. There will be presentations from the students who went to the U.K and Canada earlier this year for international study. In addition, the newly formed (this year) English club will put on a performance of "Momotaro" completely in English. I am really excited for this as the students have been rehearsing very hard for a few months now.



A nice view from the botanical garden. I hope I have time enough to see everything on offer on my next visit!