"Bunkasai" [文化祭]
at Tokyo Kokusai Metropolitan High School
Tokyo Kokusai Metropolitan High School

Tokyo Kokusai Metropolitan High School is not classed as an International High School but one where about 40% of students are either of mixed parentage, or foreign students or a students who have spent a lot of time overseas. The motto of the school is ‘Your Wings to the World’.
Shoes or no shoes?

• Many schools across Japan require you to remove your shoes before you go in and put on a set of shoes called "Uwabaki" [上履き] that are worn in class.

• However Kokusai Metropolitan does not have this custom and allows you to walk in as long as your shoes are clean.
Bunkasai

Most schools celebrate Bunkasai – which is a day or days to show off the students’ talents and the school itself to parents and prospective students. Each homeroom class will put on some sort of event (justified from an educational standpoint as teaching the students how to run a business). The most common activities involve turning a classroom either into a small cafe (kissaten), or a haunted house (obakeyashiki). Student clubs will also participate, often creating club-theme-related attractions in hopes to attract future recruits.
Navigating the festival with Danny Choo and Arisa-chan...

Today's navigator is Arisa-chan - a half Filipino and Japanese student of Kokusai Metropolitan who has been working hard over the past few days with her classmates to prepare a load of fun and games for visitors. She is pictured with Danny Choo.

You've seen these cultural festivals in many anime including K-ON! and Haruhi where the students prepare many events for the other students and visitors to the school.

Other than "Bunkasai" [文化祭], the cultural festivities are also known as "Gakuensai" [学園祭] which is actually part of the school curriculum where students have the chance to exhibit their learning over the past year. They work with other students to get creative and prepare events/activities for the visitors.

The festival usually takes place over two days on a weekend and is open to the public for students/parents/guardians who are interested in attending/sending their kids to the school as they get to see for themselves what the school is like.