

Questionnaire on making lanterns

Answers by Kyoso Junior High School students

(1) What were your thoughts when painting the lanterns?

"My grandmother was an A-bomb survivor. There is a person very close to me who knows what happened at that time and knows the horror of war hundreds of times more than we do. I thought that this event was a way to pray for peace. I painted because I really want world peace."

"I hope that by looking at this lantern, many people will think about peace and create a peaceful world."

"I painted it hoping for peace and hoping that war would never happen again and people would never die because of war."

"As I painted, I hoped to work together with the people of England so that the world would always be at peace."

"I painted this so that the victims could rest in peace."

"I wrote the thoughts of those who died in the war on the lantern."

"The picture of hands holding a heart means that everyone is making peace, and the bluebird is a symbol of peace, so I drew it."

"I drew a picture of the sky, hoping to see beautiful skies and blue skies all over the world."

(2) What do you want to convey to the people of Mid-somerset through the lantern?

"I really want peace, so let's all do our best to end war as soon as possible!"

"Touro is part of Japanese culture, but I share the same desire for peace as you do. I would like to see lanterns spread to other regions."

"People are never alone. Although they may be from different countries, there are people who carry out the Toro Float."

"As a Hiroshima resident, I'm happy that people overseas are also thinking about the atomic bomb. I also want more people to know about it."

"I would like people to think about the people who suffered from the atomic bomb through the lanterns."

"Hiroshima is a city that suffered from atomic bombing, but we are spreading the word about peace both domestically and internationally. I was very happy because I didn't know that other countries also held lantern floats. I would like people of Mid-somerset to continue to carry out lantern floats on August 6th."

(3) What did you think when you saw the photo of Mid-somerset's Touro Float?

"We are from a different country in terms of culture and language, but when I saw the photos, I felt that my thoughts were being conveyed to the people of Mid-somerset, and it was good to see that the people there also pray for peace."

"It was very beautiful. I thought the people who died from the atomic bombing would also be very happy."

"I hope things like the photo continue for long."

"I was happy to see the lanterns I made being floated away, and to be able to convey my wishes for peace."

"I felt happy because I felt like my thoughts were being conveyed."

"The people of Mid-somerset are praying for peace so much, so we want to do our best to do something for peace."

"I'm really happy. We also want to pass on the story of the tragedy of the atomic bomb to the next generation. I thought it was necessary. And I realized that I had to make sure that it never happened again"

(4) Is there anything you would like to try in the future regarding world peace and exchange?

“I would like to participate in peace activities like this as much as possible and convey the importance of peace to the next generation.”

“As a citizen of Hiroshima Prefecture, I would like to study more about the atomic bomb and the importance of peace.”

“I want to deepen my knowledge of the atomic bomb so that people around the world can know about it.”

“As the atomic bomb survivors are getting older, I want them to share the horror of the atomic bomb with me. I want to pass the baton on to the next generation, so I want to pass it on to the next generation. I want to achieve world peace. I want fewer people to experience the fear of war.”