



# JalaChamp 2026

じゃらちゃん

Japanese Language Championship for Young Learners UK  
**Finals Day: Saturday 20th June 2026**



## Programme

### Part 1: Video Category - Primary School Division

#### Registration

10:40am – 11:00am

#### Opening and welcome speech

11:00am – 11:10am

#### Screening of Primary School Videos

11:10am – 11:30am

#### Finalist Connection Programme

11:30am – 12:00pm

#### Award Ceremony and Photo Session

12:00pm – 12:20pm

The primary school division finishes at 12:20pm.  
 12:20pm – 1:40pm: Hall closed for rehearsals

### Part 2: Speech Category and Video Category Secondary School Divisions 1&2

#### Registration

1:40pm – 2:00pm

#### Opening and welcome speech

2:00pm – 2:15pm



#### Speech Category

2:15pm – 2:50pm



#### Video Category Secondary School Division1

2:50pm – 3:10pm



#### Video Category Secondary School Division2

3:10pm – 3:20pm

- Interval -



#### Special Talk by Mr James Meredith

3:35pm – 4:15pm



#### Award Ceremony and Photo Session

4:15pm – 4:45pm

Please note that the schedule may be subject to change.

## Organiser

JAPAN FOUNDATION  
 国際交流基金



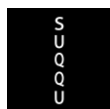
## Venue

Venue kindly provided by:



The Hall, Japan House London  
 101-111 Kensington High Street,  
 London W8 5SA

## Supported by:



# Finalists

## Video Category - Primary School Division

A1-A2 Level of JF standard for  
Japanese-language Education/CEFR

**Theme :** My/Our Favourite Sandwiches わたし 私(たち)のおすすめのサンドイッチ

### ① 3 (san) dreams/ 3ド・リームズ

The Japanese Saturday School Acton  
- Erica Cornforth, Saya Gutch, Mao Catterall  
私の好きなサンドイッチ  
My Favourite Sandwich

### ② Clement Chan

St. Hugh of Lincoln Primary  
Catholic School  
クレメントのプチプチサンド  
Clement's Puchi Puchi Sandwich



### ③ Ohisama Ahaha/

おひさまあはは  
Ohisama Ahaha (Club application\*)  
フルーツサンドの作り方  
How to make a fruit sandwich

### ④ Japanese Lunchtime Club

Blackthorns Community Primary Academy  
(Club application\*)  
The Greatest Sandwich Show

\* Personal names are not listed for finalists who submitted applications as part of a club.

## Speech Category (Secondary School)

B1 level of JF standard for  
Japanese-language Education/CEFR

**Theme :** Free choice

### ① Fern Ryan

Hockerill Anglo-European  
College (Y12)  
オーストラリアでの日本の文化と、  
私のアイデンティティについて  
Japanese culture in Australia and  
how it has shaped my identity

### ② Max Misra

The Manchester Grammar  
School (Y12)  
言語の重要性  
The Importance of Languages

### ③ Eleanor Waterhouse

Hockerill Anglo-European  
College (Y12)  
失敗から学んだこと  
What I learned from failure

### ④ Rivka Cunningham

Pembrokeshire College (Y12)  
同人文化は若者の創造力を  
どう支えているか  
How does doujin culture promote  
youth creativity?

**Video Category Theme :** My/Our Favourite Sandwiches わたし 私(たち)のおすすめのサンドイッチ

## Video Category - Secondary School Division 1

A1-A2 Level of JF standard for  
Japanese-language Education/CEFR

### ① Aubin Cussen

Dean Close Preparatory School  
My Favorite Onigiri

### ② Deli Dudes Productions

Dartford Grammar School  
- Riwaaj, Pehlaj, Ruhaan, Akshay  
The Secret of the Missing Ingredient

### ③ Jiro Dreams of L6-Japanese's sandwich

Marlborough College  
- Stefan Mulji, Daisy Wilson,  
Vivi Okoli  
Dual Sandwich

### ④ The Totally Terrific Lasagne Masters (Students

learning Japanese at Sherborne Girls)  
- Tom (Gryphon School),  
Ala, Letitia, Maddie, Tulumbe (Sherborne Girls)  
Laurie (Westfield Academy)  
The Strange Sandwich Shop

### ⑤ Kanji Creators

Dartford Grammar School  
- Arnav Goel, Jahan Aslami,  
Aranya Kunwar, Sean Welbeck  
Teamwork

### ⑥ 日本語トリオ

Whitgift School  
- Cameron, Rafa, Simeon  
サンドイッチ探しの旅  
The Quest of the Sandwich

### ⑦ サンドイッチシェフ

Aquinas College  
- Tait O'hara, Laila Dar, Elsie Molloy,  
Dora To, Reeyan Walie-Rahman,  
Sofia Widiatmoko  
Master Sandwich

## Video Category - Secondary School Division 2

B1 Level of JF standard for  
Japanese-language Education/CEFR

### ① Detective Sando サンドイッチの探偵

Aquinas College  
- Sophie Tsang, Efe Itua, Beth Clawley,  
Niamh Wilson, Anthony Ko  
My Favourite Sandwich is Innocent!

### ② Francis

Eton College  
A Bite of Japan

# Judges

**Michael RIVERA KING\***  
**SEMBA Tomoko\*\***  
**MAEDA Shuji**  
**Katrin NOGUCHI-AMANN**  
**NAGAI Miyuki**

Chief Executive, The Japan Society  
Chief Japanese Language Advisor, The Japan Foundation, London  
Minister for Public Diplomacy and Media, Embassy of Japan in the UK  
World Languages Teacher - Teacher of German and Japanese, Benenden School  
Coordinator of the Japanese Speech Contest for University Students and University Teacher in Japanese Language, University of Sheffield

\*Chair of Judges \*\*Deputy-chair of Judges

# Special Talk

Mr James Meredith



**James Meredith** is a fourth-year university student studying Japanese studies at The University of Sheffield (graduating 2026). After studying Japanese at secondary school in Tavistock (a small countryside town in Devon, UK), in 2019, he had the opportunity to stay with a Japanese host family in Edogawa, Tokyo. Through this experience, he developed a passion for studying Japanese, leading him to pursue it at university and pass JLPT N1 in 2023. Last year, he studied abroad at Keio University, where he began making YouTube videos in Japanese as a hobby on a channel called “ジェームズのティータイム (James’ Tea Time)”. After university, he intends to work in Japan from autumn this year.

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アニメ・マンガの日本語

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もっといろんな日本と日本語

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みなと

日本のことばと文化  
まるごと MARUGOTO Plus  
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**NEW**

**TASTE**

**JAPAN'S #1\***

**mizkan**

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\*No. 1 refers to Mizkan Vinegar and Ponzu only. Researched by Mizkan Co., Ltd. Macromill QPR, March 2025 - February 2026.

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