

On the publication of the 33rd Collection of Essays by Elementary and Junior High School Students Contemplating Peace

Numazu City

Numazu City Board of Education

On March 20, 1987, Numazu City made a “Nuclear Weapons Abolition Peace City Declaration” with the approval of the city council. The abolition of nuclear weapons is a common wish of the people of the world, and it expresses a wish for peace based on the will of citizens and city councils against the danger of nuclear war.

In this collection of essays and poems, elementary and junior high school students in the city express their feelings about peace from classes, various media, and the experiences of people close to them. We are happy to publish the 33rd collection of works. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the elementary and junior high school students and those involved who have contributed with understanding and cooperation in the publication.

More than 70 years have passed since the end of the war, and the war survivors appearing in children’s essays have transformed from “grandfather” and “grandmother” to “great-grandfather” and “great-grandmother”. Opportunities to hear the voices of those who actually experienced the war are rapidly disappearing.

Meanwhile, in February last year, war suddenly broke out in Ukraine. On TV and the Internet, news reporting the war situation was picked up almost every day, and many works were written on these subjects.

Compared to when this collection of essays was first published, the situation in the world has changed dramatically, and at the same time people’s ideas about peace and war have diversified.

However, the desire for peace has never changed, and we believe that all elementary and junior high school students will never forget the feelings they had through this collection of essays, build a peaceful future, and pass it on their messages to the next generation.

We hope that the voices of peace-loving children will reach as many people as possible.