## My Friend's Country

hank you for flying with Japan Airlines.

The other day, I had the opportunity to meet with Oh Sadaharu, world home run king and chairman of the World Children's Baseball Foundation. JAL is a long-time sponsor of the World Children's Baseball Fair\*, which returns this summer after a five-year hiatus. This 30th WCBF will be held in Fukuoka Prefecture. During the event, 85 children from 13 countries and regions will spend nine days together playing baseball as well as staying with host families and experiencing Fukuoka's local traditions and culture.

Mr. Oh told me about the children who had joined previous fairs. They were a bit apprehensive and confused by the unfamiliar languages at first, but as they chased down balls and worked hard together, they naturally became friends and teammates. With encouragement and help from their peers, even children with no previous experience in the sport would eventually learn to hit a baseball. I think the smiles and joy bursting from their photos will be a lasting reminder of their precious and unique experience at the WCBF.

Each child will follow their own path in life, but I am sure that when they think of the home country of their former teammate, they will always remember it as "my friend's country." Through the people they meet, I think, they will feel closer to the country or region these people come from, and may even feel tempted to visit there one day. Such connections they make with others will open up a new world. Nothing would make us happier than to continue facilitating such exchanges. I hope all of you will have many wonderful encounters this summer.

We look forward to serving you on your next flight.

## 那个朋友的国家

## 非常感谢您乘坐本次航班。

前不久,我有幸与"世界本垒打之王"王贞治先 生会面。由王先生担任理事长, JAL也长期支持的世 界少年棒球大会\*的第30届比赛,时隔5年将于今年 夏天在福冈县举行。来自全球13个国家和地区的85 名少年儿童将参加此次大会,他们将一起切磋球技, 还会体验家庭寄宿生活和福冈的传统文化,一起度 过9天的共同生活。这次,我再次听王先生介绍了迄 今为止的参会少年的故事:他们一开始表现得畏畏 缩缩,因为听不懂对方的语言而感到困惑,但在一起 打球、出汗的过程中,自然而然地成为了"朋友"。因 为有了这些朋友的鼓励和协助,即使从未打过棒球 的孩子,也可以成功地挥棒击球了。照片中洋溢的灿 烂笑容和喜悦,是孩子们只有在这里才能获得的宝 贵财富,我相信这将永远留在他们心中。

孩子们成长的道路各不相同,在这里结识的朋 友的故乡,未来一定会作为"那个朋友的国家"浮现 于脑海吧。通过结识的人,近距离感受那个国家或地 区,有时也会成为出行的契机——我觉得这种人与 人之间的联系,必将开拓出新的世界。能够持续助力 于这样的相遇相识,我们倍感荣幸。祝愿大家在这个 夏天,都能拥有许多美好的相遇。

衷心期待您再次选乘日航航班。

\* This event is organized by the World Children's Baseball Foundation, which was established to teach children from around the world the right way to play baseball and to contribute to world peace. After the 29th WCBF in 2019, the event has been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

\* 世界少年棒球大会是由世界少年棒球推广基金会举办,目的是向全世界的孩子们普 及正确的棒球运动,并为世界和平做出贡献。自2019年的第29届后,因新冠疫情而停 止举办。



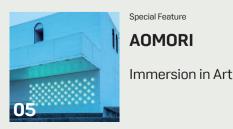
President and Group CEO TOTTORI Mitsuko

Born in Kurume, Fukuoka in 1964, Joined JAL in April 1985 as a cabin attendant. Appointed vice president of the Cabin Safety Promotion Department in 2019, executive officer and senior vice president of the Cabin Attendants Division in 2020, managing executive officer and senior vice president of the Cabin Attendants Division in 2022, senior managing executive officer and senior vice president of the Customer Experience Division in 2023, and representative director, senior managing executive officer, and group chief customer officer (CCO) in June 2023. Assumed her current position in 2024. Loves listening to music and watching historical dramas.

**鸟取 三津子** 1964年出生于福冈县久留米 市。1985年4月进入本公司(客舱乘务员)。 2019年任客舱安全推进部部长,2020年任执 行董事 客舱本部长,2022年任堂条执行董事 客舱本部长,2023年任专务执行董事 客户体 验本部长。同年6月就任代表专务执行董事、 集团CCO,2024年起担任现职。爱好是音乐 鉴赏和日本大河剧(长篇历史电视连续剧)。

ILLUSTRATION: YAMAMOTO YUKO

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\* Page numbering is reversed in the Japanese Section. Magazine information is subject to change.

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