

# THE TOMBO

OITA'S • ENGLISH • NEWSLETTER

July-August 2012

Issue 62

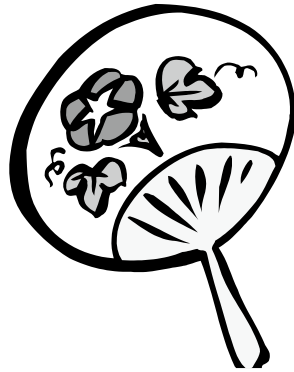
## Summer Energy Conservation

~Ways to cut down on energy use~

This year, Kyushu Electric Power has asked for residents' support in reducing power usage by 10% (based on usage rates of 2010) between July 2<sup>nd</sup> and September 7<sup>th</sup> (excluding August 13<sup>th</sup> ~15<sup>th</sup> for *Obon*), in particular between the hours of 9am and 8pm. A goal for a further 3% cut in power usage between the peak hours of 1pm and 5pm is also in place.

From late May onward, many offices in Japan set energy conservation goals for the summer months, and design practical methods as to how they will achieve them. Some of the methods that the Oita Prefecture Government plans to implement this year include; halting one or more elevators, raising the temperature of the air-conditioning to 28°C, implementing cool-biz work wear, turning off unnecessary electrical appliances such as refrigerators and water heating pots, and growing 緑のカーテン (*midori no ka-ten*) or 'green curtains' against the side of buildings in an attempt to lower the temperature inside their offices. In addition to this, many businesses have recognised the peak energy consumption times (approximately 1pm~5pm) and plan to implement additional energy-saving methods between these hours. These plans include pushing lunch breaks back one hour, and unplugging laptops and running them on their stored up battery source.

ahead of time when you are leaving the house. Regularly cleaning the filters will also ensure that it is running as efficiently as possible.



Over this summer, try to keep in mind the peak energy usage hours (1pm ~ 5pm), and do your best to avoid running electrical appliances, such as vacuum cleaners, washing machines and dishwashers, between these hours of the day. Residents are also encouraged to get out of the house during the peak energy usage hours and visit public facilities.

On July 7<sup>th</sup> (the day of *tanabata* and 'cool earth day'), Oita prefecture is promoting a 'candle night' initiative from 8pm to 10pm, to encourage families to gather together in one room and spend time together by the light of a candle, or go outside and look at the stars. Businesses and groups taking part in the event are encouraged to register online, and print out a card to display in their workplace, stating that they are participating in the 'candle night' event.

More information can be found at <http://www.pref.oita.jp/site/gomi0/candlelight.html>  
(Japanese site only)



### ~Making a green curtain~



For those with a green thumb, why not try making your own *midori no ka-ten*? After reading up on the benefits of green curtains, the materials needed to make one, and whether or not they are in fact easy to make, I decided to make one of my own. The materials that you will need to make a green curtain can be purchased fairly cheaply at a home center, and in some cases at a 100yen shop. I went to my nearest home center with my shopping list to buy supplies and when I arrived, I found that the home center not only sold prepackaged DIY kits for making your own green curtain, they actually had these kits set up on display with some healthy looking vines already tracing their way up the

netting. How could I resist?

The cost of the DIY kit, two 20L bags of soil, two packets of seeds, and three planter boxes came to around 4000yen. Assembling the kit took no more than 30minutes, but preparing the seeds for planting can around 48hours, depending on the vines you choose to plant. As an experiment I went with a 朝顔 (*asagao*): 'morning glory' vines on the right side, and ゴーヤ (*go-ya*): 'bitter melon' vine on the right side. The vine that grows the fastest and proves itself as the best curtain will be the winner.

(Continued on page 2)

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Materials that you will need to build a similar sized green curtain include:

- Six 2m long sturdy plastic poles
- Plastic netting approx. 2m x 2m
- Seeds (morning glory and bitter melon are both fast growing vines commonly used in green curtains)
- Planter pots (either two 65cm long pots or three 50cm long pots)
- Approx. 40L of planter soil (often just called プランターの土 *puranta no tsuchi*)
- Cable ties/ zip ties (to attach the netting to the poles)
- Waterproof tape (to bind the poles together)



the poles in the planter pots will help keep your curtain stable, but if your balcony is particularly windy, you may need to secure it more firmly.

Once the vines are long enough, train them up through the netting. You could try using twist ties to secure the vines to your net if necessary. When the vines are really thriving, it is best to prune the lower runners, and keep the overall shape in check to ensure you get the most out of your green curtain. If your curtain is successful, it should help to lower the temperature in your apartment, by sheltering it from the direct sunlight. If you decide to grow a fruit or vegetable bearing tree, you will also have delicious edible produce. Happy growing!

Preparing the seeds for planting will take

24~48hours depending on the seeds. For morning glory, use a nail file or pumice stone to lightly file down one side of the seed. Soak them in water for 24hours or until the seeds split and you can see a white sprout beginning to grow. For bitter melon seeds, trim off the pointed end of the seed and soak them in water for around 5 days, or until they begin to sprout (this may take up to 10 days).

When assembling the 'curtain' frame, use the waterproof tape to secure each of the poles in place to make a grid, leaving enough room at the base of the upright poles for them to stand in the planter pots. Spread out the netting and fasten to the framework using cable ties. Once assembled, sit the framework into the planter pots and fill them with the soil. Burying the base of

Note: as I have chosen to build my green curtain on my balcony against one half of my apartment, it will restrict my access to this door. Keep in mind that once fully grown, your green curtain will be fairly large and almost impossible to move, so be sure to plan its position accordingly.



## Natural disasters: a refresher on preparation and procedure

~Typhoons~



As Japan is a country prone to natural disasters, it is important to be aware of the dangers and what to do should a disaster occur. The TOMBO has addressed this topic several times over the years, but with typhoon season approaching, over the next few issues the editor will take this opportunity to revise the main types of natural disasters, and procedures to follow should one occur.

Typhoon season in Japan is typically from August to September, but typhoons have been known to hit in July and October as well. Typhoons in Japan are typically divided into five classifications that describe the scope of the area affected;

<i>Gokuchiisai</i>	very small
<i>Kogata</i>	small
<i>Chuugata</i>	medium
<i>Oogata</i>	large
<i>Chou-oogata</i>	very large

*Oogata* and *chou-oogata* typhoons can cover a radius of up to (and in some cases over) 800km, and will bring extremely strong winds and rain, and can result in flooding and landslides.

### Preparing for a typhoon (台風 たいふう *taifuu*)

1. Locate your nearest evacuation shelter or site

2. Determine possible escape routes
3. Prepare a survival kit (useful in event of any natural disaster)
4. Prepare enough food and water for around three days (necessary in the event of any natural disaster)

### When a typhoon occurs

- Stay inside
- Listen to the radio or TV for information/updates
- Close storm shutters if you have them. If not, cover your windows with plastic film or tape in the shape of an X
- Secure outdoor objects or bring them inside
- Turn off gas
- Ensure that you have an adequate supply of water for sanitary purposes. Fill your bathtub and other large containers with water
- Evacuate if advised.

**More useful words on warnings and evacuation**

1. 注意報 - ちゅういほう - *chuihou*- Advisory warning: people should be aware that a disaster may occur
2. 警報 - けいほう - *keihou*- Disaster warning: for impending disaster or hazardous situation (urgent)
3. 避難所・避難場所 - ひなんじょ・ひなんばしょ - *hinanjo*・*hinanbasho*- Evacuation shelter
4. 避難勧告 - ひなんかんこく - *hinankankoku*- Evacuation advisory: government **recommendation** that people living in vulnerable areas should evacuate
5. 避難命令・避難指示 - ひなんめいれい・ひなんしじ - *hinanmeirei*・*hinanshiji* Evacuation order: government **order** for people living in vulnerable areas to evacuate (urgent)



## CAN YOU FIND IT IN OITA PREFECTURE?



Here are some suggestions for J, K and L from the last issue:

**J: A Jukebox (either in working condition or just for display purposes)** can be found at Hit Parade Club in Beppu City, Moto-machi 14-8 TEL: 097-721-3166

**K: Karaoke with a twist:** Shidax offers a Birthday special for its *kai-in* (members), membership costs 400yen. Call in advance, at least three days before your Birthday and receive a free cake and bottle of wine or non-alcoholic champagne during your karaoke session. Shidax Oita City, Miyako-machi 2-1-4 TEL: 097-538-2630

**L: The Live jazz** spot recommendation, from Mr. Tokimatsu of Tokimatsu Guitar Shop in Ohte-machi, is for Naima, a jazz *kissaten* in Oita City, Magari 7 TEL: 097-567-1517 <http://jazz-cafe-naima.seesaa.net/> First, third

and fifth Saturday night of each month is session night, all schedule details available online.

The letters for May and June are M, N and O (and include a music theme):

**M: *Midori no ka-ten*** are popping up everywhere these days! Have you seen any particularly good ones around, or are you making your own?

**N: New York style pizza**

**O: All things OITA-** places that sell exclusively Oita Prefecture produce

If you think that you might know where to find these things, please contact Joanne: [joannegyoshida@yahoo.com](mailto:joannegyoshida@yahoo.com), or Nicole: [nicole@emo.or.jp](mailto:nicole@emo.or.jp)



### Developing Intercultural Competence with Classroom Activities and Projects



Intercultural awareness is essential in today's increasingly global environment and the language teacher is in an opportune position to develop this as well as intercultural competence (IC) in the classroom. During this workshop, the presenter will outline five elements, or steps, of IC as outlined by Byram (2000) and will suggest ways that a language teacher can deliver fun and stimulating lesson plans that focus on achieving IC. While certain components of this workshop can be used with learners of any ability, a curriculum involving all five elements is best suited for intermediate to advanced language learners. The workshop will conclude with project samples from students who completed the tasks presented in this workshop.

**Presenter:** Andrew Nowlan

**Location:** Oita Prefectural Shakai Kyouiku Sougou Centre (first seminar room)

**Date and Time:** Saturday, 28 July 2012 - 1:30pm - 3:30pm

**Cost:** Free for members and 500 for non-members.

**Bio:** Andrew Nowlan is a language instructor at Kwansei Gakuin University in Nishinomiya, Japan. Andrew is interested in the application of intercultural communication and awareness in the classroom.

For more information about the presentation, please contact the Oita JALT Publicity Chair at [scaubrey@apu.ac.jp](mailto:scaubrey@apu.ac.jp)



## Festivals and Events

Date	Event Description	Location	Contact #
Jul. 1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Celtic concert and live painting-</b> will be held at Life Gallery Hana from 14:30~16:00. Participation cost is ¥1,500 plus one drink.	Oita City Life Gallery Hana	☎ 097-573-7711
Jul. 7 <sup>th</sup> ~8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lavender Festa in Kokonoe-</b> visit the Kujuu Lavender Farm to see the 35,000 lavender plants in bloom	Kokonoe-machi Kujuu Lavender Farm	☎ 097-379-3320
Jul. 14 <sup>th</sup> ~15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tsukumi Port Festival-</b> visitors will be entertained with “Soiya Tsukumi” traditional dance on the 14 <sup>th</sup> , a fireworks display on the 15 <sup>th</sup> and much more!	Tsukumi City Chuo-machi area	☎ 097-282-5111
Jul. 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Jamaica Village 2012-</b> an event for all ages including performances by well known reggae and ska artists 12:00~ 21:00 (advance tickets: ¥2,000, on the day: ¥2,500)	Oita City Innai-machi	☎ 080-3371-4233
Jul. 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nagasakibana Summer Festival-</b> will be held at Nagasakibana Resort Beach. Festival will include a variety of stage events and a display of 2000 fireworks.	Bungo-Takada Nagasakibana Beach	☎ 097-854-3111
Jul. 18 <sup>th</sup> ~19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Kasuga Shrine Summer Festival-</b> around 300,000 people gather each year for this festival featuring traditional cultural performances and portable shrine procession.	Oita City Kasuga Shrine	☎ 097-532-5638
Jul. 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Kimono Appreciation Day-</b> held on the third Sunday of each month, with special offers and discounts for on kimono rental and professional photography.	Kitsuki City Jyouka-machi	☎ 097-862-3131
Jul. 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>River creatures investigation-</b> come learn about what sorts of fish and other wildlife are living in the clear water of Chikugo River. 500yen participation fee, reservations are appreciated.	Kusu, Kuju-machi Kuju Shizen Kyoshitsu	☎ 097-373-0001
Jul. 21 <sup>st</sup> ~22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Usa City Port Festival-</b> this festival is dedicated to the ocean. There will be dances, performances and a fireworks display on the 21 <sup>st</sup> .	Usa City Nagasu Port	☎ 097-833-3433
Jul. 21 <sup>st</sup> ~22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Hita Gion Festival-</b> Hita Gion celebrates over 300years of history. Here you can see a portable shrine that is 10meters tall!	Hita City Mameda & Kuma Area	☎ 097-323-3111
Jul. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Uki Uki Flea Market-</b> held from 11:30 ~ 15:00, a lively event held each month at OASIS, lots of bargains to be found.	Oita City OASIS Tower 1F	☎ 097-538-7411
Jul. 24 <sup>th</sup> ~25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tenjin Festival-</b> portable shrines will be carried throughout the city, and on the evening of the 25 <sup>th</sup> there will be a shrine against shrine hitting competition.	Kitsuki City Tobimatsu Tenman Shrine	☎ 097-62-3131
Jul. 27 <sup>th</sup> ~29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nakatsu Gion Festival-</b> this prefecturally designated “Intangible Cultural Property” has 580 years of history. Highlights include shrine processions and more!	Nakatsu City Nakatsu Shrine Area	☎ 097-922-1111
Jul. 27 <sup>th</sup> ~29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Beppu Summer Early Evening Festival-</b> over the three days there will markets, local food stalls, performances and a fireworks display on the evening of the 29 <sup>th</sup> .	Beppu City Spa Beach	☎ 097-724-2828
Jul. 28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Yabakei Dam Festival-</b> this festival will feature events such as <i>taiko</i> drumming, water sports and a huge fireworks display.	Nakatsu City Yabakei Dam Area	☎ 097-954-3111
Jul. 28 <sup>th</sup> ~29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nanase Fire Festival-</b> torches are lit and carried across the 2km wide Nanase River, a traditional form of Japanese entertainment.	Oita City Nanase Nature Park	☎ 097-541-1234
Jul. 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Itogahama Beach Festa-</b> events will include a beach volleyball tournament, beach flags tournament and a sand art contest (date subject to change).	Hiji-machi Itogahama Beach	☎ 097-772-4255
Aug. 3 <sup>rd</sup> ~5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Oita Tanabata Festival-</b> this exciting summer festival takes place across downtown Oita, and features parades, performances, and dances.	Oita City Downtown Area	☎ 097-537-5959
Aug. 4 <sup>th</sup> ~5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Usa City Tanabata Festival-</b> this summer festival will take place in Usa’s Yokka Ichi shopping area. Come see the decorations, parades and more!	Usa City Yokka-Ichi Area	☎ 097-833-3433
Aug. 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Oita River Fireworks Festival-</b> to celebrate the last day of the Oita Tanabata Festival, there will be a fireworks festival along the river.	Oita City Oita River	☎ 097-538-9647
Aug. 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Mama-chari World Grand Prix-</b> yes, that’s right: this event is a 4hour endurance race on a ‘mama-chari’ bicycle with prizes for the winners. Registration is necessary (around 7 different classes) and riders must wear a helmet and gloves.	Hita City Autopolis Circuit	☎ 097-355-1111
Aug. 14 <sup>th</sup> ~15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Himeshima Bon-Odori Festival-</b> Himeshima <i>Bon-Odori</i> dances are said to have come from <i>Nenbutsu</i> folk dances. Come see traditional local dances such as the ‘fox dance’, recreated and performed each and every year.	Himeshima Village Chuo-Hiroba	☎ 097-887-2111
Aug. 15 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Summer Night Festival-</b> this festival will feature <i>Bon-Odori</i> dances and a fireworks display at Musashi port in Musashi-Machi.	Kitsuki City Musashi-Machi	☎ 097-868-1115
Aug. 15 <sup>th</sup> ~16 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Yufuin Bon Matsuri-</b> groups of Bon dancers and a fireworks on Yufumi-dori behind Yufuin JR Station.	Yufu City Yufuin-machi	☎ 097-784-3111
Aug. 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Takada Tourism Bon Dance Competition-</b> teams of <i>Bon</i> dancers will compete against each other, dancing along the streets of Showa-no-machi.	Bungo Takada City Chuo Park	☎ 097-822-2412
Aug. 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nakatsue Music Festival-</b> a number of artist will gather together to perform relaxing acoustic music under the sun. Fishing and camping areas nearby.	Hita City Nakatsue-Mura	☎ 097-354-3722
Aug. 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Usuki Stone Buddha Fire Festival-</b> 1000 torches will be lit around the ancient stoneBuddha carvings which are nationally designated treasures. It is the biggest fie festival in West Japan!	Usuki City Fukata	☎ 097-264-7130



## STAGE &amp; MUSIC EVENTS

Jul	Time	Artist/Event	Venue	Cost	Contact #
1 <sup>st</sup>	14:00	<b>Tomoyo Mochimatsu soprano performance</b>	Patria Hita	¥1,000	☎ 097-325-5000
7 <sup>th</sup>	13:00	<b>Angel Heart Concert Oita No.2-</b> with piano, ocarina, harp, guitar and vocal performances.	iichiko Grand Theater	¥3,000	☎ 080-4275-2526
12 <sup>th</sup>	19:30	<b>Ayumundo Trio meets Marie-</b> Jazz & soul voice percussion entertainment	Brick Block	¥3,500 w/drink	☎ 097-536-4852
14 <sup>th</sup>	13:30	<b>Duo Ventapane-</b> duo recital featuring Mana Shiraishi on violin and Martin Karlicek on piano	iichiko Otonoizumi	¥2,500	☎ 090-7472-4599
21 <sup>st</sup>	19:00	<b>TEXAS STYLE, TRISH IN THE WORLD, DOUBLE STEAL</b>	Club SPOT	¥2,500	☎ 097-533-0467
26 <sup>th</sup>	20:00	<b>Hawaiian Night-</b> Hawaiian music and Hula dancing featuring the Mapuana Islanders	Brick Block	¥500	☎ 097-536-4852
28 <sup>th</sup>		<b>"Summer Live 2012"-</b> Swing Echoes Jazz Orchestra	Brick Block	¥1,000 w/drink	☎ 097-536-4852
28 <sup>th</sup>	20:30	<b>Chicken Heart, Ground Works, Sea's PAPA Sister, Slive-</b> a festival of bands all featuring female lead singers	Cantalloop II	¥1,000 +drink	☎ 097-548-5363
29 <sup>th</sup> ~ Aug 1 <sup>st</sup>	Varies	<b>Broadway musical experience workshop-</b> experience singing and dancing to a famous Broadway musical (August 4 <sup>th</sup> - performance)	iichiko Space Be Rehearsal Rooms	¥3,000	☎ 097-533-4004
Aug	Time	Artist/Event	Venue	Cost	Contact #
1 <sup>st</sup>	19:30	<b>Terumasa Hino AFTERSHOCK-</b> Live house Tour 2012	Brick Block	¥9,000	☎ 097-536-4852
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Please inquire	<b>Anne of Green Gables-</b> the musical	iichiko Grand Theater	Inquire for details	☎ 0120-660-442
5 <sup>th</sup>	13:00	<b>Kabuki lecture-</b> a preparatory lecture on the Kabuki performance in September, come experience the charm of kabuki	iichiko Space Be Rehearsal Rooms	¥500	☎ 097-533-4004
7 <sup>th</sup> ~ 8 <sup>th</sup>	Varies	<b>Disney Live in Oita-</b> Mikey's live music party (August 7 <sup>th</sup> - showing @ 19:00, August 8 <sup>th</sup> - showing @ 10:30, 13:30, 16:30)	iichiko Grand Theater	¥5,000	☎ 092-714-0159
8 <sup>th</sup>	13:00	<b>Japanese Music Workshop-</b> a mini performance in the form of a workshop where you can learn about traditional Japanese arts	iichiko Space Be Rehearsal Rooms	¥500	☎ 097-533-4004
10 <sup>th</sup>	20:30	<b>Mitsuo Umeda &amp; Slapstick-</b> Summer Special Live 2012	Cantalloop II	¥3,500 +drink	☎ 097-548-5363
19 <sup>th</sup>	18:00	<b>Flower Companyz-</b> Japanese rock band from Nagoya	T.O.P.S Bittshall	¥3,500	☎ 097-533-0467
24 <sup>th</sup>	15:00	<b>Pirate Ship 2012-</b> featuring SHANK, MEANING, Hawaiian 6, OVER ARM THROW, dustbox, locofrank and others	T.O.P.S Bittshall	¥4,000 w/drink	☎ 097-533-0467
25 <sup>th</sup>		<b>'Coast!'-</b> featuring Baby Smoker, Northern 19, POP DISASTER, SECRET7LINE, S.M.N, The Skippers, Winnie, Revolt and others	T.O.P.S Bittshall	¥3,000 +drink	☎ 097-533-0467

\*\*Ticket prices range from student to most expensive general admission. Prices shown otherwise indicate price for purchase on the day of the event, they may be cheaper if purchased in advance. "w/ drink" prices include a drink, "+drink" prices require the additional purchase of a drink. Times shown indicate start times, doors usually open 30 minutes beforehand.

## VENUES

**Brick Block**= 5-7-5 Ikushi, Oita City

**Club SPOT**= 3-3-18 Funai-Machi, Oita City

**Oita Culture Center**= Niage-Machi 4-1, Oita City

**Cantalloop II**= 3-2-30 Miyako-Machi

**iichiko Grand Theater**= Oasis Tower 1F Oita City

**T.O.P.S BittsHall**= Ikushi 5-783, Oita City

Nakayama Dai 5 Building 6F Oita City

**iichiko Otonoizumi**= Oasis Tower 4F Oita City

**Patria Hita**= 1-8-11 Sanbonmatsu, Hita City

## EXHIBITIONS &amp; SCREENINGS

Date	Description	Place	Admission	Contact #
Jul. 10 <sup>th</sup> ~ Sept. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>Art Wonderland 2012-</b> "Oita saikou" summer project	Oita Art Museum	¥300	☎ 097-554-5800
Jul. 12 <sup>th</sup> ~ Aug. 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>"Dokidoki Taikan" museum treasure hunter exhibition-</b> explore a mysterious castle complete with light tunnels and robot monsters!	Oita Prefecture Art Center	¥1,200 ¥800	☎ 097-552-0077
Jul. 13 <sup>th</sup> ~ Sept. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Cardboard art amusement park-</b> featuring creations by artist Kouichiro Okamura, including a giant dinosaur maze and insects	Oita Art Museum	¥800	☎ 097-554-5800
Aug. 21 <sup>st</sup> ~ Sept. 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Japanese artworks of Oita-</b> an exhibition of the progression of Japanese artworks in Oita from the Meiji period to present day	Oita Prefecture Art Center	¥200	☎ 097-552-0077

Oita Art Museum= Oita-Shi Bijutsukan 大分市美術館

Oita City History Museum= Oita-Shi Rekishi Shiryokan 大分市歴史資料館

Oita Prefecture Art Center ~Museum and Hall~ 大分県立芸術会館

\*\*\*Most Museums and Centers are closed on Monday, or Tuesday if Monday is a public holiday. Student admissions vary, highest cost shown.\*\*\*

## What's Going On?

### Japanese Lessons

#### Himawari Japanese Volunteers

Support for people learning Japanese in order to help them enjoy their lives in Oita, now at three different locations.

Wasada Public Hall Wed. 10:00~12:00

Meiji Akeno Public Hall Wed. 14:00~16:00

Tsurusaki Public Hall Sat. 10:00~12:00

For more information contact Fukata Mihar

TEL: 097-527-2614

E-MAIL: [nihongo\\_himawari\\_oita@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:nihongo_himawari_oita@yahoo.co.jp)

#### Nihongo Rakuraku-talk

Beppu City Hall offers free Japanese lessons every Tuesday from 14:00~15:30. For more information contact Beppu International Affairs Division TEL: 097-721-6133

E-MAIL: [int-ma@city.beppu.oita.jp](mailto:int-ma@city.beppu.oita.jp)

#### Sakura Japanese Class

Come study Japanese with friendly volunteers and teachers in a pleasant atmosphere. Sakura Japanese Class is held every Monday from 10:15~12:00 at the Oita University International House in Nishiki-Machi, Oita City. Classes are FREE. For more information call Ms. Ohashi

TEL: 090-7866-2486

#### AIUEO Japanese Lessons

Volunteers offer free Japanese lessons on Tuesday and Friday from 10:20~11:50 at I-NESS near Oasis Tower as well as Thursday nights at Compal Hall from 18:30~20:00. Lessons are also offered in Beppu at the Oita International House on Tuesday mornings from 10:30~12:00. For more information contact:

Ms. Miyase 090-8353-2485 (day lessons)

Ms. Kato 097-532-5940 (night lessons)

### Community

#### Oita International Christian Fellowship

You're welcome to join us for worship and fellowship! Check our website at:

[www.oicf3712.webs.com](http://www.oicf3712.webs.com)

Place: Compal Hall

Time: Every Sunday 10:00am~12:00pm

Check the lobby board for the room number under "O.I.C.F."

#### International Kempo (Self-Defence Classes)

Ever thought about being able to defend yourself? Join us to keep in shape and to learn martial art-based self-defense techniques and *bo-jyutsu* (stick fighting).

Place: Souda Dojo (Near Oita University)

Time: Every Friday 19:00~21:00

For more information on times and places, please contact Katsunori Tsujita at 097-583-0959.

#### 2012 Oita Nihongo Summit

A group of panelists from 12 different countries come together to discuss what is happening in the world, and what we can do to achieve peace. The discussion will be held in Japanese. Attendance is free, but reservations are essential (limited to 800 attendees).

Date: **July 17<sup>th</sup>**, Time: 14:00~16:45

Place: B-CON PLAZA, Beppu City

TEL: 097-727-0318

<http://www.nihongo.or.jp/>

#### Mahjong

Are you interested in the game of Mahjong? The Healthy Mahjong Club in Oita holds Mahjong activities three times per month. You can also learn Mahjong as a beginner.

Date: **July 2nd, 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>**, from 10:00-15:00

Place: Art Plaza Zitsugishitu

Participation fee: ¥200

For inquiries TEL: 090-1160-3679

E-MAIL: [nogami@extra.ocn.ne.jp](mailto:nogami@extra.ocn.ne.jp)

#### "Tomare" Meditation

~Stop and find your center~

Would you like to learn more about or participate in individual or group meditation sessions, classes, or the Japanese healing art of Reiki?

Thursday Evening Monthly Meditation at Organic Cafe Hana: Explore meditation one Thursday a month from 7PM to 8:15PM. 1,500yen includes tea and sweets.

**July 19<sup>th</sup> (there will be no class in August)**

For information, schedule or questions please contact Joanne at 097-573-8053 or [joannegyoshida@yahoo.com](mailto:joannegyoshida@yahoo.com)

#### Lunch With Us?

Japanese home cooking club for international families living in Beppu, takes place on **July 19<sup>th</sup> & Aug 16<sup>th</sup>** at the Health Center, Yunomachi Kenko-park, Beppu City from 11am to 2pm. 500yen to participate. For more information contact Beppu International Affairs Division TEL: 0977-21-6133

E-MAIL: [int-ma@city.beppu.oita.jp](mailto:int-ma@city.beppu.oita.jp)

#### SHAKE YOUR SOUL/

##### Kripalu Yoga Dance

This body-spirit fitness program incorporates elements of yoga, dance, movement therapy and 'qi kung' with rhythms of music from around the world. Held at the Nakajima Kominkan Friday mornings 10AM to 11AM (every week) and Thursday afternoons 1:30PM to 3PM (first and third Monday of the month). For more information or to make reservations contact:

Joanne TEL: 090-1165-5567

### From the Plaza

#### Japanese Chat @ OIP

Come to the Oita International Plaza to exchange with locals and practice your Japanese conversation skills one-on-one in a relaxed atmosphere.

1pm ~ 2:30pm **July 21<sup>st</sup>, Aug 25<sup>th</sup>**

Space is limited! Contact us to reserve your seat!

TEL: 097-533-4021

E-MAIL: [hiramoto@emo.or.jp](mailto:hiramoto@emo.or.jp)

#### Free Legal Consultations

The Oita International Plaza is holding free legal consultations on **Jul. 18<sup>th</sup> and Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> from 13:00~16:00.**

The Oita Emigration/Immigration Affairs Council also organizes free consultations where emigration/immigration specialists are available to offer advice on a variety of topics from Immigration Bureau paperwork and procedures, to daily life matters. The next consultations will be held on **Jul. 1<sup>st</sup> & Aug. 5<sup>th</sup> from 13:00~16:00.** English interpretation available, other languages may be available with reservation two days in advance. OIP 097-533-4021

#### Free Tagalog Consultations

Date: Saturday **Jul. 7<sup>th</sup>** & Tuesday **Jul. 17<sup>th</sup>**

Saturday **Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>** & Tuesday **Aug. 21<sup>st</sup>**

Time: 13:00~16:00

Place: Oita International Plaza

Consultant: Rhodora Yoshitake

#### Free Chinese Consultations

Date/Time: Every Thursday 10:00~13:00 and the second and fourth Tuesday each month from 13:00~16:00. Place: Oita International Plaza. Consultant: Cui Wenyu (\*Dates and times are subject to change. Please contact the Oita International Plaza before coming.) TEL: 097-533-4021

#### Free Health Consultations

The Saiseikai Hita Hospital is offering free health consultations and medical examinations at the Oita International Plaza to foreign nationals living in Oita Prefecture. For people who are concerned about their state of health but are not sure who to turn to, these free consultations are a good place to start. Staff will include a doctor, two nurses, a clerk and a medical treatment consultant.

Date: **Jul. 18<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Time: 14:30~15:30

Oita International Plaza (iichiko Culture Center, floor B1)

For more information contact: Saiseikai Hita Hospital TEL: 0973-24-1100

(\*Dates and times subject to change. Please call to confirm before coming.)



## LANGUAGE LEARNING PAGE

今月 Kanji of the Month 漢字

This section aims to teach new kanji characters to beginner-level Japanese learners, and to give intermediate and advanced learners a deeper understanding of each character. This month's character set is:

## MATHEMATICS 「数学」

The first character in the compound 「数」, is read as <sup>s u u</sup> スウ, <sup>k a z u</sup> かず or <sup>k a z o e r u</sup> かぞえる. The character is a combination of woman 「女」, rice 「米」 and a hand holding a stick 「攴」, which together depict a woman counting rice with a stick.

## NUMBER/TO COUNT 「数」

The second character in the compound 「学」, which is read <sup>g a k u</sup> 「ガク」, or <sup>m a n a b u</sup> 「まなぶ」 combines child 「子」 and roof 「宀」. When combined, it shows a child under a roof to mean 'learning'.

## LEARNING/STUDY 「学」

If we combine the characters for "number" and "learning/study" we get the compound:

## MATHEMATICS 「数学」

The following sentence uses the above characters to exemplify their different readings.

近年、数学を学ぶ学生の数が減ってきています。

In recent years, the number of students that study mathematics has been decreasing.

## Japanese Proverbs

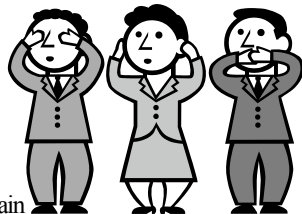
## 七転び八起き

「ななころびやおき」

“nanakorobi yaoki”

“Fall down seven times, stand up eight”

When life gets you down, get back up again



## Japanese Onomatopoeia

Have you ever found yourself in a Japanese conversation surrounded by 'sounds'? In Japanese, onomatopoeia ('giongo' or 'gitaigo') is used to describe tastes, textures, sensations, sounds, feelings and much more.

As the weather warms up here in Oita prefecture, we get closer and closer to the yearly summer festivals. Despite the heat and the crowds I always find myself drawn to the energy and excitement of summer festivals. Have you ever paid close attention to the variety of sounds at a festival?

Ambling slowly ( <sup>ある</sup> ぶらぶら歩く bura bura aruku) along the rows of *yatai* (street stalls/festival stalls), the stall flags and banners flutter gently ( <sup>はたはた</sup> hata hata) in the breeze. You take a moment to ponder what festival food takes your fancy, and then fight your way through the crowds of excited, bustling ( <sup>わくわく</sup> waku waku) people to your stall of choice. The *okonomiyaki* sizzles ( <sup>ジュージュウ</sup> jyu jyu) on the hot plate as you wait to be served.

The highlight of the festival is always seeing the fireworks, or *hanabi* as they whiz ( <sup>ピュー</sup> pyuu) into the air and then explode with a boom ( <sup>ドン</sup> don)! When everything is over, you make your way home, accompanied by the chirping ( <sup>じいじい</sup> jii jii) of cicadas.



## Foreign Movies Showing in Oita

Only foreign films are listed. Changes may occur without notice.

Cinema	Movie	Showing Date
Cinema5	Last Night	Jul. 7 <sup>th</sup> ~14 <sup>th</sup>
Central Oita (on 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave)	Underground	Jul. 7 <sup>th</sup> ~14 <sup>th</sup>
☎ 097-536-4512	Late Bloomers	Jul. 7 <sup>th</sup> ~13 <sup>th</sup>
	Lourdes	Jul. 14 <sup>th</sup> ~
	Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy	Jul. 14 <sup>th</sup> ~
	Flamenco Flamenco	Jul. 21 <sup>st</sup> ~
	Route Irish	Aug. 4 <sup>th</sup> ~
	Incendies	Aug. 11 <sup>th</sup> ~
	Jane Eyre	Aug. 11 <sup>th</sup> ~
Toho Cinemas Wasada Town	Man on a Ledge	Jul. 7 <sup>th</sup>
☎ 097-548-7878	The Dark Knight Rises	Jul. 28 <sup>th</sup>
	G.I.Joe: Retaliation	Aug. 10 <sup>th</sup>
	Total Recall	Aug. 10 <sup>th</sup>
	Marvel's The Avengers	Aug. 17 <sup>th</sup>
	The Grey	Aug 18 <sup>th</sup>
	Prometheus	Aug. 24 <sup>th</sup>
T-Joy Cinemas Park Place	Man on a Ledge	Jul. 7 <sup>th</sup>
	Brave	Jul. 21 <sup>st</sup>
	The Dark Knight Rises	Jul. 28 <sup>th</sup>
	Madagascar 3: Europe's Most	Aug. 31 <sup>st</sup>

Admission Standard ¥1,800 Pre-release ¥1,500 Pair ¥2,800

Seniors ¥1,000 Students ¥1,000~1,500

## Special Discounts

The first day of the month ¥1,000 Ladies' Day (Wednesdays) ¥1,000

Men's Day is ¥1,000 (Thursday at Toho Cinemas and Cinema5)

Late Night Show (Sun-Fri) ¥1,200 (Toho Cinemas)

## Making Submissions


THE TOMBO is always looking for articles and event information. Please send your submissions to the Oita International Plaza by E-mail ([in@emo.or.jp](mailto:in@emo.or.jp)) based on the submission deadline listed in the publication schedule below. The Oita Prefecture Cultural and Sports Foundation reserves all copyrights to articles printed in THE TOMBO.

Issue	Publication Date	Submission Deadline
July/August	July 1 <sup>st</sup>	June 1 <sup>st</sup>
September/October	September 1 <sup>st</sup>	August 1 <sup>st</sup>
November/December	November 1 <sup>st</sup>	October 1 <sup>st</sup>
January/February	January 1 <sup>st</sup>	December 1 <sup>st</sup>
March/April	March 1 <sup>st</sup>	February 1 <sup>st</sup>
May/June	May 1 <sup>st</sup>	April 1 <sup>st</sup>

## Receiving THE TOMBO

The Oita International Plaza mails THE TOMBO, free of charge, to all foreigners living in Oita prefecture. If you would like to start receiving THE TOMBO by mail, or you would like to cancel your subscription, or change your address, please send your name and address to the Oita International Plaza by mail, phone, fax, or E-mail ([in@emo.or.jp](mailto:in@emo.or.jp))

A stylized illustration of an elementary school building. The building is a two-story structure with a central entrance and many windows. Above the entrance, the word "ELEMENTARY" is written in capital letters. To the left of the building is a flagpole with a flag. To the right is another flagpole with a flag. Above the building is a sun with rays. In front of the building are several trees and bushes.

 Information included in the handbook includes an outline of the Japanese education system, and students' school life, as well as numerous sample letters that may be sent home from school. These sample letters include notifications of school events, such as ceremonies

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