

Time Out



Iwaki City Monthly Event & Information Guide

Intercultural Understanding Lessons

Volunteers for the IIA as well as myself took part in workshops in early November at local primary schools as part of the Intercultural Understanding Lessons which aimed to broaden the students' understanding of other cultures. Volunteers from several different countries including, China, Korea, The Philippines, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Tonga and Hungary offered fun and interactive lessons with the children, introducing their hometown, country and family. Some volunteers introduced their country's songs and games and various manners among other things.



The children were really engaged and excited to learn about peculiar aspects of other countries and some students even had the chance to enjoy local snacks and treats. I also enjoyed teaching the children about my country. I found their surprised reactions when I told them that we eat kangaroo meat quite interesting.

I'm looking forward to further international exchange events such as these from now on.



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Time Out is produced by Division of
Coordination and Citizenry Affairs
Iwaki City Hall

21 Aza Umemoto, Taira, Iwaki City
Fukushima Prefecture 970-8686

Tel: 0246-22-7415 Fax: 0246-22-7609

Email: shiminkyodo@city.iwaki.fukushima.jp
mcmullen-b@city.iwaki.fukushima.jp

The Division of Coordination and Citizenry Affairs
and the IIA are open to the public. Please feel free to
drop by, call, or e-mail us anytime. Website:
<http://www.iaa-fukushima.or.jp>;
<http://www.city.iwaki.fukushima.jp/gaikokugo/english/>

いわき市役所 市民協働課

〒970-8686 福島県いわき市平字梅本 21

電話: 0246-22-7415 FAX: 0246-22-7609

E-mail: shiminkyodo@city.iwaki.fukushima.jp
mcmullen-b@city.iwaki.fukushima.jp

市民協働課及び公益財団法人いわき市国際交流協会は皆
さんを歓迎します。お気軽にお立ち寄り下さい。お電話、
e-mail をお待ちしております。

Festivals & Events



Your guide to what's happening around Iwaki City and beyond this month

Iwaki

21st November-25th December: Latov Christmas Tree @ 1st floor of Latov. Opening hours from 10am-8pm. A large Christmas tree will be set up on the first floor of the Latov shopping centre. For inquiries, please contact Latov: TEL 0246-25-0200

28th November-25th December: Aquamarine Christmas @ Aquamarine Fukushima. Opening hours extended to 7pm on the 23rd and 24th December. Aquamarine Fukushima will be holding a variety of activities and events in the lead up to Christmas. There will be illumination displays near the entrance, a Christmas Night Candle lighting ceremony on the 23rd and 24th of December and a 5.5m tall Christmas tree with snowlike jellyfish decorations. For inquiries, please contact Aquamarine Fukushima: TEL 0246-73-2525. Email: amf@marine.fks.ed.jp

28th November-11th January: Iwaki Cherry Blossom Illumination Festival @ main street of Iwaki Station, Taira. From 5-11pm. Taira's city centre will be lit up in a forest of sakura cherry blossom lights throughout December. There will be various other concerts and events as part of the illumination festival. For inquiries, please contact the Iwaki Youth Meeting Place Executive Office: TEL 0246-24-0780

1st-28th December: ITITI-san Greeting Cards and Messages exhibition @ 2nd floor café of Alios. Opening hours 10am-6pm (facility closed on 8th December). Handicraft artist ITITI-san's creative works are on display in the Alios Café. Entry is free. For inquiries, please contact the Alios Ticket Centre: TEL 0246-22-5800

6th December: La La Studio 9th Anniversary @ 2nd floor of La La Mew. From 11am-12pm. FM Iwaki is commemorating 9 years since they began broadcasting from their La La Studio in La La Mew. There'll be a quiz competition and other fun activities that everyone can participate in. For inquiries, please contact La La Mew TEL: 0246-92-3701

6th December: Park Festival and Yosakoi @ pedestrian deck in front of Iwaki Station, Taira. From 2-4pm. Part of the Cherry Blossom Illumination Festival. Cancelled in the event of rain. For inquiries, please contact the Iwaki Youth Meeting Place Executive Office: TEL 0246-24-0780

24th December: Regional Theatre 2015 Threepenny Opera Christmas Eve Performance @ Large Rehearsal Room, Alios. From 7pm (venue opens at 6:30pm). Featuring Actor Kotaro Shiga and theatre director and scriptwriter Nagayama Tomoyuki. Entry is free but you must apply beforehand via phone or directly at the Alios reception desk. For inquiries please contact the Alios Ticket Centre: TEL 0246-22-5800 (closed Tuesdays). Website: <http://iwaki-alios.jp/cd/app/?C=event&H=default&D=01686>

In the surrounding areas

18th November-31st January: Fukushima Illumination @ east exit of Fukushima Station and along Paseo 470 street (Paseo Illumination starts from the 4th of December). From 5-11pm. Over 200 000 LED lights will light up around Fukushima Station and along Paseo street. For more details, please visit the Fukushima Hikarinosizuku Illumination website: <http://www.hikarinosizuku.com/>

20th November-14th February: Koriyama Illumination @ west exit of Koriyama Station. From 5-11:30pm. Koriyama Station will be lit up with over 230 000 colourful lights. For more details, please visit the Big Tree Pageant Festival IN KORIYAMA website: <http://www.ko-cci.or.jp/bigtree/>

Information Board

The information board is a bulletin board limited to IIA members. You can post anything as long as it is not associated with any profit organisation, religion or political-based. (does not apply to businesses with IIA membership) Please send us your posts by the 20th of each month. We look forward to hearing from you.

Seeking adoption of pet rabbit

I am looking for someone who would like to adopt a 1 year old male grey rabbit. I will also give you a cage and a bag of rabbit food. Please send me an email if you are interested. I am planning to hand my pet rabbit over to its new owner from the 5th of January onward.

Contact: Monica Lambrecht email: swiss-miss@att.net



Iwaki International Association Events

For applications and more information on IIA events, please contact the IIA.
TEL: 0246-22-7409 FAX: 0246-22-7609 Email: info@iia-fukushima.or.jp Website: www.iia-fukushima.or.jp/

Christmas Party



For those participating in the Christmas Party on the 13th of December:

The venue for the party is a Japanese-style house, so even though there will be heating inside, it will probably still be cold. So it is advised that you come in warm clothes and thick socks (please bring your own slippers).

The event is also a potluck style party where each person brings one item of food. Please prepare something for around 5-6 people. Feel free to bring warm food. You can heat up food using the gas stove in the kitchen, but if possible, please bring your own portable gas stove (including cylinder). Also, you're allowed to perform any spur of the moment songs, dances or special skills, but we would appreciate if you inform the IIA beforehand of any performances you would like to do on the day. There are also limited parking spaces (maximum 20 spaces) so please arrive early or take public transport on the day.

This will be the IIA's last event of the year.
Let's make the most of it!

- Date:** 13th December 2015 (Sun)
- Time:** 1:30-4:30pm
- Venue:** Iwaki Taira Castle Ruins (28 Kyujoseki Taira)
- Participants:** IIA members and their families
- Capacity:** 70 people
- Fee:** Free (for each participant, please bring a snack or drink to the party)
- Contents:** Potluck party, songs and dances
- Applications:** Please apply by 4th December



Sri Lankan Cooking Class

The IIA is holding its first Sri Lankan Cooking Class. What comes to mind when you think of Sri Lanka? We will learn more about this country whilst making Sri Lankan cuisine.

- Date:** 20th January (Wed), 2016
Time: 10am-1pm
Venue: Iwaki City Cultural Centre, cooking room (2nd floor)
Participants: Anyone is free to participate
Capacity: 30 people
Dishes: Sri Lankan homemade cooking
Fee: 1500 yen for IIA members; 2000 yen for non-members
Instructor: Ms. Reia Asurappulige (from Sri Lanka)
Applications: Please apply by 13th January (Wed). Applications will close once capacity is reached.



English Conversation Seminar

- There are lots of people who would like to try and talk about current topics in English. Would you also like to learn how to converse in English across a range of topics and themes after taking some short lessons to improve your conversation ability?



- Date:** 20th, 27th January; 3rd February 2016 (Wednesdays, 3 classes in total)
Time: 6:30-8:30pm
Venue: Meeting room inside Iwaki City Lifelong Learning Plaza (scheduled)
Fee: 1000 yen for IIA members; 3000 yen for non-members (covers all three classes)
Participants: People who can speak conversational English
Contents: Enjoying learning English conversation skills
Applications: Please apply by 13th January

From the Editor



The middle of autumn is associated with the falling leaves and illumination and is also the time for school festivals.

I went and checked both Higashi Nippon International University (Iwaki Junior College) and Iwaki Meisei University recently for their school festivals. Higashi Nippon International University's Renzansai school festival had an open stage offering performances such as Yosakoi and Hula Girl dancers and the air was filled with the aromas of stall food, including some international flavours offered by the college's International Village.



At Iwaki Meisei University's school festival I got to see a pro wrestling exhibition where the wrestlers engaged in fierce matches, sometimes even carrying their bouts outside the ring. But both festivals had delicious stall food, live music from the campus bands and an overall fun and exciting atmosphere. Please take the opportunity to visit a school festival next time.

It's still a bit early, but I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please enjoy the New Year holiday period whether you spend it with friends, families or even just on your own!

-Ben 弁

Counselling Service for Foreigners

Yoriso Hotline (Helpline for Foreigners): Consultation service available in Japanese, English, Korean, Tagalog, Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese and Thai. Available languages vary depending on time. Are you having a problem with your visa, nationality, family, work, everyday living, discrimination, domestic violence, confinement or human trafficking? Please call us about any problem you may have. Your privacy will be protected.

Free. TEL: 0120-279-226. Mon-Fri, 10am-10pm.

TELL Lifeline: TELL is a professional non-profit organisation that provides counselling to English-speaking foreigners all over Japan. The lifeline is staffed by highly trained volunteer phone counsellors and provides free, non-judgemental and confidential phone counselling and information 365 days a year from 9am - 11pm.

TEL: 03-5774-0992. For more information, check out their website at <http://www.telljp.com> or e-mail them at admin@telljp.com.

Safety and Consultation Centre for Women (Police Box in front of Iwaki Station): For consultations related to women's safety. Free. Can only speak Japanese. 10am-6pm daily.

TEL: 0246-25-9344.



Christmas and New Year's in Australia and Japan

Everyone in Japan and the Northern Hemisphere is probably familiar with the whole image of a White Christmas and Santa Claus handing out presents on his reindeer-led sleigh over the snow. But down in Australia where the season is opposite, the white in White Christmas stands for white sandy beaches not snow; and Santa rides waves on a surfboard.

Of course there are some other differences in the way Christmas is celebrated in Japan and Australia. Christmas in Japan is typically a time for hanging out with friends or going on a date with your partner. On the other hand most Australians typically celebrate Christmas with their extended families – often outside enjoying a barbeque.

This seems to be the reverse case in New Year's where it is often a time spent with family in Japan whilst it is more like a mid-summer festival in Australia with fireworks and parties to welcome in the New Year.

Incidentally Christmas Day is not a public holiday in Japan but it is in Australia. The day after Christmas is also a public holiday known as Boxing Day. Originally this day was a time when people would donate or leave presents and gifts for the poor, but is now more commonly known as a massive day of shopping with huge crowds in some major shopping centres. New Year's Day is a public holiday in both Japan and Australia.



Writing Japanese New Year's Cards (*Nengajou*)

There are a few things you need to be careful of when writing New Year's cards. For instance you can't write as a Japanese New Year's greeting, 新年あけましておめでとうございます (*Shinnen akemashite Omedetou gozaimasu*) as the words 新年 (*Shinnen*) and あけまして (*Akemashite*) both mean New Year so they overlap each other. You can write either 新年おめでとうございます (*Shinnen Omedetou gozaimasu*) or あけましておめでとうございます (*Akemashite Omedetou gozaimasu*) which both mean "Happy New Year".

Also you can't use the greetings 迎春 (*Geishun*, meaning "We welcome in the New Year") and 賀正 (*Gashou*, meaning "We celebrate the New Year") to people higher in rank than yourself as they can be considered impolite or disrespectful.

You write the date in the following ways:

1. You can write the Japanese year Heisei (name of the current Japanese era) followed by 元旦 (*Gantan*), New Year's Day e.g. 「平成〇〇年 元旦」
2. You can write the Japanese year as before but put 一月一日 (*Ichigatsu Tsuitachi*) meaning 1/1 or the 1st of January e.g. 「平成〇〇年 一月一日」
3. You can just write the year according to the Western calendar followed by 年 (*Nen*) and then 元旦 e.g. 「〇〇〇〇年 元旦」

If you send a New Year's card in time to have it arrive by New Year's Day, it will show even more consideration towards the person you sent it to. Although nowadays more people are sending New Year's messages through social networking services, it is still worth sending a New Year's card to people who are important to you such as close friends and family. It is best to post your New Year's cards by Christmas (25th December) so they can arrive in time for New Year's Day. So now's the time to prepare some *Nengajou* New Year's cards!





Iwaki Hospital Guide



The following is a guide to hospitals open on Sundays and public holidays in Iwaki City during December and early January

December Guide

Sunday 6 December

Taira Area	Takahashi Clinic	9-12, 2-5	46-1231
Taira Area	Yamaguchi lin	9-12, 2-5	24-1811
Taira Area	Shirai Geka Ichoka lin (surgery & gastroenterology)	8:30-12	25-3788
Taira Area	Shiga Seikeigeka-Geka (orthopaedics & surgery)	9-12	23-5050
Onahama Area	Michiya Naika Ichoka (internal & gastroenterology)	9-5	58-4180
Nakoso Area	Kureha General Hospital	9-5	63-2181
Joban Area	Watanabe Sanka Fujinka (obstetrics and gynaecology)	9-5	42-4567
Joban Area	Iwaki Kusakidai General Clinic (paediatrics)	9-12	28-1145

Sunday 13 December

Taira Area	Takahashi Clinic	9-12, 2-5	46-1231
Taira Area	Shirai Geka Ichoka lin (surgery & gastroenterology)	8:30-12	25-3788
Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Onahama Area	Kashima Hospital	9-5	58-8010
Nakoso Area	Kojima Jiai Hospital	9-5	63-5141
Joban Area	Haruyama lin	9-5	44-4011
Nakoso Area	Ohara Kodomo Clinic (paediatrics)	9-12	63-0001

Sunday 20 December

Taira Area	Takahashi Clinic	9-12, 2-5	46-1231
Taira Area	Yamaguchi lin	9-12, 2-5	24-1811
Taira Area	Sakamoto Seikeigeka lin (orthopaedic surgery)	9-12, 2-5	38-2830
Taira Area	Shirai Geka Ichoka lin (surgery & gastroenterology)	8:30-12	25-3788
Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Onahama Area	Yokodai Clinic	9-5	55-5150
Nakoso Area	Kushida Hospital	9-5	63-3202
Joban Area	Joban Jin Hinyoki Clinic (nephrology & urology)	9-5	43-1200
Nakoso Area	Mori no Kodomo Clinic (paediatrics)	9-12	38-7227

Wednesday 23 December

Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Taira Area	Hasegawa Seikeigeka Iin (orthopaedic surgery)	8:30-11:30	25-5691
Onahama Area	Ishii Iin	9-5	54-5330
Tono Area	Kojima Naika (internal)	9-5	74-1500
Joban Area	Hatano Ganka (ophthamology)	9-5	42-2040

Sunday 27 December

Taira Area	Shirai Geka Ichoka lin (surgery & gastroenterology)	8:30-12	25-3788
Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Onahama Area	Kusano Clinic	9-5	56-1060
Nakoso Area	Nakoso Hospital	9-5	65-7755
Joban Area	Iwaki Yumoto Hospital	9-5	42-3188
Taira Area	Nagai Shonika (paediatrics)	9-12	28-2535

Wednesday 30 December

Onahama Area	Onahama Seikyo Hospital	9-5	53-4374
Nakoso Area	Kureha General Hospital	9-5	63-2181
Nakoso Area	Yu Clinic	9-5	63-1611

Thursday 31 December

Onahama Area	Nakamura Hospital	9-5	53-3141
Nakoso Area	Kushida Hospital	9-5	63-3202
Nakoso Area	Midorikawa Naika Clinic (internal)	9-5	68-6415
Joban Area	Kamome Clinic	9-5	28-1010

January Guide

Friday 1 January

Onahama Area	Iwaki Central Hospital Fuzoku Shinryojo	9-5	53-3511
Nakoso Area	Kojima Jiai Hospital	9-5	63-5141
Tono Area	Komatsu lin	9-5	89-2041
Joban Area	Katayose Clinic Sanka Fujinka (obstetrics & gynaecology)	9-5	42-4135

Saturday 2 January

Onahama Area	Kashima Hospital	9-5	58-8010
Nakoso Area	Nakoso Hospital	9-5	65-7755
Nakoso Area	Iwaki Minami Clinic	9-5	77-1663
Joban Area	Nemoto Naika Ichoka lin (internal and gastroenterology)	9-5	43-4100

Sunday 3 January

Onahama Area	Ishii Noshinkei Geka Ganka Hospital (neurosurgery and ophthalmology)	9-5	58-3121
Nakoso Area	Yabuki Hospital	9-5	63-1818
Nakoso Area	Hanada Naika Clinic (internal)	9-5	62-5000
Joban Area	Hisa lin	9-5	43-2313

Sunday 10 January

Taira Area	Takahashi Clinic	9-12, 2-5	46-1231
Taira Area	Shirai Geka Ichoka lin (surgery & gastroenterology)	8:30-12	25-3788
Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Onahama Area	Nakayama Clinic	9-5	73-1112
Nakoso Area	Kureha General Hospital	9-5	63-2181
Joban Area	Iwaki Yumoto Hospital	9-5	42-3188
Taira Area	Yamagiwa Kodomo Clinic (paediatrics)	9-12	28-8686

Monday 11 January

Uchigo Area	Suda lin	8:30-12	27-6060
Taira Area	New Town Jin-Naika Clinic (internal & nephrology)	9-12	46-0606
Onahama Area	Ozaka Clinic	9-5	56-8777
Nakoso Area	Sukegawa Naika Clinic (internal)	9-5	77-0710
Joban Area	Tokiwakai Joban Hospital	9-5	43-4175

Emergencies

Emergency Dental Care

All emergency dental care will be provided at the **General Health and Welfare Centre** (*Sogo Hoken Fukushima Senta*) in Uchigo.

This centre is open on Sundays and all national holidays from 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm. The reception closes at 3:30pm.

For more information please contact the centre on 27-8620.

After Hours and Holiday Emergency Treatment Centre

(Located in Iwaki Kyoritsu Hospital)
If you need to see a doctor urgently in the evening or on a weekend or public holiday, the **After Hours and Holiday Emergency Treatment Centre** is open at the following times:

Weekdays: 8pm - 12am

Saturdays: 8pm - 7am (next day)

Sundays: 1pm - 12am.

Public Holidays: 9am - 12am.

TEL: 27-1208

Please make sure whenever possible to bring a Japanese-speaker with you when visiting the hospital in Iwaki.

Emergency Contact Numbers

Police: 110

Fire & Ambulance: 119

Children Emergency, First-Aid Telephone Consultations

The Fukushima Prefecture Children Emergency, First-Aid Telephone Consultation Centre (*Fukushima-ken Kodomo Kyukyū Denwa Sodan*) is a free telephone service that provides professional advice when your child has become sick during the night. This telephone service is available in Japanese only.


TEL: 024-521-3790 or #8000


From 7pm to 8am.

DECEMBER 2015


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 29	Nov 30	1	2 IIA Japanese Reading Class 10 IIA Japanese Culture Class 10  Free Legal Consultations (Social Welfare Centre)	3 IIA Japanese Speaking Class 10 IIA Japanese Writing Class 10  Yu no Hanakai	4	5 Volunteer Teachers for Japanese Language Study Meeting 2 Volunteer Japanese Language Teachers' Training Session 2
6 JPLT Test Day 	7	8	9  Free Legal Consultations (City Hall)	10  Yu no Hanakai	11	12
13 IIA Christmas Party	14	15	16  Très bien  Free Legal Consultations (City Hall)	17  Yu no Hanakai	18	19
20	21	22	23 The Emperor's Birthday 	24 Christmas Eve  Yu no Hanakai	25 Christmas Day 	26
27	28	29	30  City Offices and IIA closed from 29 December to 3 January	31 New Year's Eve 	Jan 1 New Year's Day 	Jan 2


IIA Custom-made Plans

 Très bien – Inquiries to Yamazaki-san
090-1934-0506

 Yu no Hanakai – Inquiries to Ohba-san
0246-42-2135

 Wa – Inquiries to Cho-san 070-6493-2859

 Potluck Party – Inquiries to Takahashi-san
080-5576-1024

 For more information on any of the IIA events, please contact Suko-san 22-7409

Legal Consultations:

Iwaki City Hall provides free general legal consultations. Scheduled days are as listed on the calendar; however these are subject to change. Please contact City Hall (Hometown Revitalisation Division TEL 0246-22-7438) and confirm the date, time and place. Reservations are required for consultations.

For Iwaki City Council of Social Welfare consultations (held at the Social Welfare Centre), please contact 0246-23-3320.

