

いちご

1

No. 201

Seika Town English News and Events Guide

January 2012

Contents

もくじ 目次

Important Information	
おもなじょうほう	2
General Information, Notice	
くらしのじょうほう	3
Upcoming Events	
こんげつのイベント	4,5,6
Cooking	
クッキング	7
Transportation to Kansai Airport	
かんさいくこうまでのこうつう	7
Yojjukugo Corner	
よじじゆくごコーナー	7
Note from the Editor	
へんしゅうしゃのことば	7
Festivals & National Holidays	
さいじつ・ぎょうじ	8
Seika Growth Watch	
じんこうのうごき	8
Ichigo Corner/Aim	
いちごコーナーもくてき	8

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Department, Planning and
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〒619-0285

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〒619-0285

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Happy New Year from the Mayor of Seika

せいちょうしんねん 精華町長の新年あいさつ



Having been entrusted with a third term as mayor, I greet the New Year determined to work with all my might this year as well.

Last year, with the Great East Japan Earthquake and the accidents at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Reactor, the environment surrounding local governments was worse than ever before.

In the midst of the rapidly globalizing world, there is increasing unease about the economy, and with the high value of the Yen, means the economic situation of Japan is complete chaos.

The percentage of college students planning to graduate this spring who have found work is the second lowest ever, and so the elderly will continue having to support the young, in true reversal of roles.

Taking to heart the current situation, in this past election I declared that I wanted to improve the town by “connecting lives and dreams.”

This huge goal is not something that a single town can handle alone. However, creating a “town government that values life” is especially important in these tough times. For that purpose, it is imperative to support town planning that is safe and reassuring; where “self-help, cooperation, and reliance” each hold significance, support each other, where you can feel the dreams and light.

Amid the people’s growing concern for the future, the country has not shown a clear path, so many areas are being forced to become more independent, whether they want to or not. We want to make clear that we are set on using the Science City as a springboard for development.

Even though an increasing number of Japanese companies are moving their operations overseas, this spring two companies are planning to open offices in Seika. Furthermore, we are quite fortunate as a number of companies are also considering locating here. From here on out, we will continue working on invigorating the town through industrial development using the Science City.

Though we are in a tough economic situation, with the idea “Don’t waste even a single yen” we will not stop fighting for reform. In order to advance our plans for the safety and peace of mind of Seika’s 36,900 residents steadily, we ask for your understanding and cooperation. So, I pray for everyone’s health and good fortune, and wish you all a happy new year.

Kaname Kimura, Mayor of Seika.

Important Information

おもなじょうほう

Start of the Year Trash Collection

ねんし しゅうしゅう
年始のごみ収集

BURNABLES

Regular Collection Day	First Collection Day
Monday/Thursday	Jan. 5th (Thu)
Tuesday/Friday	Jan. 6th (Fri)
Wednesday/Saturday	Jan. 4th (Wed)

PLASTIC WRAPPING

Regular Collection Day	First Collection Day
Mondays(Districts ①/⑤)	Jan. 9th (Mon)
Tuesdays(Districts ②/⑥)	Jan. 10th (Tues)
Wednesdays(Districts ⑨/⑩)	Jan. 4th (Wed)
Thursdays(Districts ③/⑦)	Jan. 5th (Thu)
Fridays(Districts ④/⑧)	Jan. 6th (Fri)

NON-BURNABLE GARBAGE

District	First Day
District ① (First and third Mondays)	Jan. 9th (Mon)
District ② (First and third Tuesdays)	Jan. 10th (Tues)
District ③ (First and third Thursday)	Jan. 5th (Thu)
District ④ (First and third Fridays)	Jan. 6th (Fri)
District ⑤ (Second and fourth Mondays)	Jan. 9th (Mon)
District ⑥ (Second and fourth Tuesdays)	Jan. 10th (Tues)
District ⑦ (Second and fourth Thursdays)	Jan. 12th (Thu)
District ⑧ (Second and fourth Fridays)	Jan. 13th (Fri)
District ⑨ (Second and fourth Wednesdays)	Jan. 11th (Wed)
District ⑩ (First and third Wednesdays)	Jan. 4th (Wed)



- The information listed here is also available in your “2011 Garbage Collection Schedule” (平成23年度ごみ収集日程表)
- Please do not leave trash in a district besides your own.

Garbage Collection District

① Takinohana, Fune (East of Nomen Rd.), Nakakubota
② Kitanodo, Babuchi, Naka (East of Nomen Rd.), Higashi, Nishikita, (East of Nomen Rd.)
③ Hishida (East of Pref. Rd.), Sato, Sobo (East of Pref. Rd.), Fune (West of Nomen Rd.)
④ Hishida (west of Pref. Rd.), Sobo (west of Pref. Rd.), Tani, Kitainayazuma (west of Prefectural road), Asahi
⑤ Minami (east of Pref. Rd.), Sugai, Kitainayazuma (East of Pref. Rd.), Nishikita (west of Nomen Rd.), Naka
⑥ Minami (West of Pref. Rd.), Minamiinayazuma, Ueda, Hosononishiichoume
⑦ Inuidani, Zakuro, Higashibata
⑧ Yamada, Sakuragaoka
⑨ Hidaridai
⑩ Seikadai

QUESTIONS: Environmental Promotion Office 環境推進室 TEL: 0774- 95-1925 FAX: 0774-95-3974



General Information くらしのじょうほう

January

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
1 (Sun・Hol)		Fire Prevention Day	
9 (Mon・Hol)	13:30 -15:30	Seika's 2011 Coming of Age Ceremony	Keihanna Plaza Main Hall
11 (Wed)	13:00 ~	Health check up for 3 to 4 month olds	Health Center
〃	13:15 - 14:15	BCG Vaccination	Health Center
13 (Fri)	13:00 ~	Health check up for 1 and half year olds	Health Center
16 (Mon)	13:00 - 15:30	Parenting Class (Food Preparation)	Health Center
〃	13:30 - 15:00	Training Room Orientation	Mukunoki Center
18 (Wed)	13:00 ~	Health Check-up for 9 to 10 month olds	Health Center
22 (Sun)	9:00 - 12:00	Smile Sports Arena	
25 (Wed)	13:00 ~	Dental check up for 2 year olds	Health Center
〃		Mukunoki Center Closed	
27 (Fri)	13:00 ~	Health check up for 3 and half year olds	Health Center
29 (Sun)	14:00 -17:00	Cross Cultural forum	Seika Exchange Hall (Town office)

February

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
8 (Wed)	13:30 - 15:30	Parenting Class (Childbirth)	

What to do if...

You have a question about something in Ichigo:

Call Kai Wiesner-Hanks, Coordinator for International relations at the Seika Town Office. You may also call if you need an interpreter, as most of the events and classes in Ichigo will be in Japanese.

TEL: 0774- 95-1900 FAX: 0774- 95-3971 E-mail: cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp or kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp (Planning and Coordinating Division)

You have a problem with life in Japan:

If you have any questions or problems concerning life in Japan not related to an article in Ichigo, please first contact Kai Wiesner-Hanks, Coordinator for International relations at the Seika Town Office.

TEL : 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971 E-mail: cir@town.seika.kyoto.jp or kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp (Planning and Coordinating Division)

You have an issue with your visa or other questions:

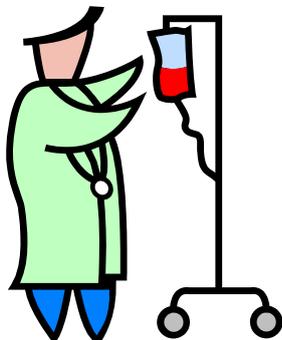
The Kyoto Prefectural International Center, located on the 9th floor of Kyoto Station, offer advice and consolation on Visa issues and general problems. Visa consultations are available on the 4th Sunday of every month, from 13:00-17:00. Please make a reservation beforehand through phone or from the center's homepage. General counseling is available from 13:00 to 17:00, on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The center also offers Japanese language courses and culture courses for interested residents.

TEL: 075-342-5000 Homepage: <http://www.kpic.or.jp/english/index.html>



Upcoming Events **こんげつのイベント****Town Blood Drive** 献血で命つなげよう

For the sake of the injured and sick patients in need of a blood transfusion, please donate. In order to minimize side effects we are only asking for a 400ml donation.



Time: January 9th (Mon, Holiday) 10:00a.m. - 12:00, 1:00p.m. -3:30p.m.

Location: Apita Seikadeai parking lot

What to bring: Identification (Driver's License, Foreigner registration Card, etc.) and a blood donor's card (献血手帳) if you have one.

Other Information: Before donating we will test your hemoglobin levels. There are cases where we will not allow someone to donate blood, so please cooperate.

Questions: Health Promotion Division, Public Health and Disease Prevention Section, 健康推進課保健予防係 TEL: 0774-95-1905 FAX: 0774-95-3974

9th PAT Krangel Concert 第9回PAT クランゲルコンサート**Enjoy the Wonderful Sounds of Opera!**

This will be an opera concert to remember, as professional singers will perform together with residents from Seika in a distinct harmony of expertise and passion. The concert is free to attend and all are welcome!

Time: Sunday, March 18th. Doors open at 2:30 p.m., Concert starts at 3:00p.m.

Location: Seika Town Exchange Hall (Town office, 2nd floor) (Limit 100 people)

Application Period: Tuesday, January 10th to Friday, February 17th. (Postmarked by the 17th)

How to apply: Send your name, address, phone number, and the names of all attendees on a reply paid postcard (往復はがき) to the address below. (One person can apply for five people)

Questions・Applications: 〒619-0285 精華町役場 企画調整課 企画係

〒619-0285 Seika Town Office, Planning and Coordinating Division, Planning Section

TEL: 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971

Strawberry Picking イチゴ狩り**Hanayagi Tourist Farm****華やぎ観光農園**

① Jan. 15th(Sun) -Feb. 29th(Wed) -Wed, Sat, and Sun.

10:30 and 1:00

② March 1st(Thu) -May 6th (Sun) Tues, Wed, Sat, and Sun

only.10:00~, 12:30~, and 14:30

③ May 7th (Mon) -31st (Thu) Days and times same as ②

FEE:

① Adults ¥1500 Children (elem. students) ¥1300

Toddlers (ages 3 - 5) 1000

② Adults ¥1300 Children (elem. students) ¥1200

Toddlers (ages 3 - 5) ¥1000

③ Adults ¥1100 Children (elem. students) ¥1000

Toddlers (ages 3 - 5) ¥800

Groups of 20 or larger qualify for a 10% discount.

You may make reservations up to one month in advance

INQUIRIES/RESERVATIONS: TEL: 93-4811, FAX: 93-4822

WEB: <http://www.hanayagifarm.com/>

Kawanishi Strawberry Gardens**精華町川西観光苺園**

WHEN: January 21st(Sat) -February 19th(Sun)

-Open Saturdays and Sundays

February 25th(Sat) -May 27th (Sun)

-Open Everyday

HOURS: 10:00-16:00

FEE: Adults (middle school and above)¥1100

Children (elem. students) ¥900

Toddlers (ages 3 - 5) ¥600

Extra ¥200 fee on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

Groups of 20 or more qualify for a 10% discount.

INQUIRIES/RESERVATIONS:

TEL: 0774-94-2568 (Until February 17th)

TEL: 0774-94-5230, FAX: 94-5260 (From Feb 18th)



Keihanna Commemorative Park Upcoming Events and Activities

けいはんな記念公園の催し物

Japanese Festival Series - The Jinjitsu Festival - Seven Herb Soup and New Year's Games / 日本の行事シリーズ七草粥
 のふるまいとお正月あそび～ 人日の節句～

WHEN: Jan. 7th (Sat) 1:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro 水景園 観月楼 WHAT: Enjoy the traditional New Year's food, Seven herb soup, and play some games to bring in the New Year.

New Year's Concert - Traditional Japanese Music / 新春コンサート 邦楽の調べ

WHEN: Jan. 8th (Sun) 2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro 水景園 観月楼
 WHAT: A performance of Japanese music to welcome the New Year.

Suikeien Ikebana Classroom ・ 水景園のいけばな教室

WHEN: Jan. 12th(Thu), 26th(Thu) 1:30p.m. - 4:00 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro 水景園 観月楼
 FEE: ¥2000 WHAT: Study the ancient art of Ikebana, flower arranging in our Japanese garden area. (Please contact the Keihanna Commemorative Park Management Office at least two days prior)

"Sanga" - Shoryu Ishibashi and Company / 燦峨展 - 石橋昇 龍とその仲間たち

WHEN: Jan. 14th (Sat) - 22nd (Sun) 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Until 4:00 p.m. on the 22nd) WHERE: Suikeien Tsukinoniwa Gallery 水景園 ギャラリー月の庭 WHAT: An art show by local calligraphist Shoryu Ishibashi and his associates.

Calligraphy for the New Year! - Big Kanji With a Big Brush / 書道でお正月～第6弾～大きな筆で大きな字を書こう

WHEN: Jan. 15th (Sun) ①from 10:00 a.m. ②from 2:00 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro 水景園 観月楼
 WHAT: Try writing out some Kanji with a giant, person sized brush! FEE:¥500

Baked Sweet Potato Bonfire / たき火で焼き芋を焼こう

WHEN: Jan. 21st (Sat) 1:00 p.m. 4:00p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Yamatanada 水景園 山棚田
 WHAT: Come roast sweet potatoes at this popular event. FEE: ¥500 (Free for those under 3, but no potato will be given)

The Enchanted Mebuki Forest: Forest Play - Date★あつまれ! 芽ぶきの森のこびとたち 森のあそびの日

WHEN: January 22nd (Sun) 1:00p.m. - 3:00 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Mebuki Forest 水景園 芽ぶきの森
 WHAT: Come out and having fun playing in the Mebuki Forest FEE: ¥100 for Adults, ¥50 for kids in middle school or below.

Japanese Festival Series - Setsubun - Puppet Show / 日本の行事シリーズ 節分～人形劇をたのしもう!～

WHEN: Jan. 29th (Sun) 2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Kangetsuro 水景園 観月楼 WHAT: Watch a puppet show and get your own special Setsubun beans.

Keihanna Commemorative Park Photo Show / 第6回公園の写真展 - けいはんな記念公園の春夏秋冬

WHEN: Feb. 4th(Sat) - 19th(Sun) 9:00a.m. - 5:00 p.m. WHERE: Suikeien Tsukinoniwa Gallery 水景園 ギャラリー月の庭
 WHAT: The winning entries from our public contest will be on display, showing the four seasons as seen in the park.

※The Keihanna Commemorative Park and the park's parking lot will be closed from Wednesday, December 28th to Wednesday, January 4th.

※The Saganaka Cotton Goods Museum will be closed from December to February.

PARK INFORMATION: Entrance to Suikeien and Shizenrin: Adults: ¥200, Middle and E.S. students: ¥100 (Discount for groups of 25 and over.) **HOURS:** 9:00 - 17:00

QUESTIONS: Keihanna Commemorative Park Mgmt. Office けいはんな記念公園管理事務所

TEL: 0774-93-1200, FAX: 0774-93-2688 <http://www.keihanna-park.jp>



8th Cross-Cultural Forum

“What is Happiness?”

こくさいりかいこうぎ だい かい
国際理解講座 「第8回クロスカルチュラル・フ
ォーラム」～幸せって何?～

No matter what country you come from, everyone wants some kind of happiness. But how does the meaning of happiness change across borders and peoples? Come and hear different speeches on “happiness,” and learn about other countries at this year’s Cross Cultural Forum!

FEE: Free **CAPACITY:** First 100 visitors

WHEN: Sunday, January 29th, 2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.

WHERE: Seika Town Exchange Hall (Seika Town Hall 2nd floor)

LECTURES:

●“Bhutan’s Developmental Policy and Gross National Happiness”

➢ Jamtso Tenzin

●“Chinese Students’ Lives and Joys”

➢ Roy Yang Yang

●“Middle School Students’ Happiness”

➢ Seika West Middle School International Exchange Club

●“The Pursuit of Happiness: Migration and Finding Your Place”

➢ Kai Wiesner-Hanks

APPLICATIONS / QUESTIONS:

Planning and Coordinating Division

きかくちようせい
企画調整課

TEL: 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971

E-mail: kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp

Keihanna Plaza Upcoming Events

けいはんなプラザでの催し物

Keihanna Movies けいはんな映画劇場

“Dendera”

「デンデラ」

(2011, Japan)

There was once a practice called *ubasute*, where the old were taken out to a mountain to die, so that others may live. However, 50 of these women have banded together to form their own village. Although some are content to live in peace, other’s want to take revenge on those who abandoned them.



WHEN: January 13th (Fri) 10:30, 14:00, 19:00
January 14th (Sat), 10:00, 13:15, 16:00
January 15th (Sun) 10:30, 13:15, 16:00

WHERE: Keihanna Plaza Main Hall

General Admission:.....¥1,000

J.H.S. students or younger.....¥700

Senior citizens aged 60 or older.....¥700

Keihanna Tomonokai Members.....¥700

QUESTIONS: Keihanna Convention Department,
けいはんなコンベンション事業部

TEL: 0774-95-5115

New Years Closings for Town Facilities まちの仕事年未年始の休み

Seika Town Office, Seika Exchange Hall:

December 29th (Thu) ~ January 3rd (Tues)

Certificate Delivery Machine (Town Office 2nd Floor):

December 29th (Thu) ~ January 3rd (Tues)

Seika National Insurance Hospital :

December 30th (Fri) ~ January 3rd (Tues)

(except for emergencies)

Seika Nishi J. H. S. Grounds/Tennis Courts/Gym:

December 26th (Mon) ~ January 4th (Wed)

Uchikoshidai Grounds, Tennis Courts, Iketani**Tennis Courts:**

December 28th (Wed) ~ January 4th (Wed)

Mukunoki Center:

December 29th (Thu) ~ January 3rd (Tues)

(Closed after 5:00 p.m Dec. 26th-28th and Jan. 4th)

Seika Town Library:

December 28th (Wed) ~ January 4th (Wed)

Septic Tank Pumping Services:

December 29th (Thu) ~ January 3rd (Tues)

Kashinokien: December 28th (Wed) ~ January 4th (Wed)

Shimokoma Post Office Certificates:

December 29th (Thu) ~ January 3rd (Tues)

QUESTIONS:

Seika Town Hall 精華町役場 TEL:0774-94-2004



Cooking

クッキング

Gobo Salad

ゴボウサラダ

①Scrub the gobo, then cut it into slanting strips about 3cm long. Submerge in water and boil.

②Slice the carrot into long thin strips. Cut the shitake thinly, and then boil both. Put it in a bowl and let cool.

③Remove the root from the radish sprouts and cut in half.

④ Mix the sauce ingredients, spread on, and enjoy.

Ingredients

(two servings)

Gobo.....60g

Carrots.....40g

Shiitake mushrooms...40g

Radish sprouts.....10g

Sauce:

Mayonnaise.....2 tsp

Yogurt.....1 tbsp

Soy sauce.....1/2tbsp



Yojjukugo Corner よじじゆくごコーナ

Howdy everyone and welcome to the Yojjukugo Corner! Yojjukugo are Japanese idioms made up of four Kanji.

四字
熟語

This Month's Yojjukugo is~~~~

竜頭蛇尾



Ryuutou Dabi



"A strong beginning but a weak ending"

Sometimes different projects or ideas can start out great, but fizzle out in the end. I'm sure everyone has some experience with this, whether it was your own idea or someone else's. *Ryuutou Dabi* means something that, in the beginning is really good and interesting, but by the end becomes a let down. The four kanji literally mean "A dragon's head and a snake's tail."

Transportation to Kansai Airport
かんさいくこうまでのこうつう

Kansai Airport Bus

かんさいくこうゆき

関西空港行エアポートリムジンバス

You can take the Nara Kotsuu Airport Bus to Kansai International Airport from Keihanna Plaza, available seven days a week (one way fare ¥2000). Bookings are available. See the telephone number below to reserve a seat:

Departing Keihanna Plaza:

5:50 6:50 7:50 9:50 10:50 11:50 12:40 15:40 16:40
17:40 18:40

Arriving Kansai International Airport:

7:30 8:25 9:30 11:30 12:30 13:30 14:20 17:20
18:20 19:20 20:20

For more information or to reserve a seat:
Nara Kotsuu Bus Reservation Center

ならこうつう 奈良交通バス予約センター

TEL: 0742-22-5110 (Hours: 9:00 -19:00)

Note From the Editor
へんしゅうしゃのことば

Every December, one Kanji is chosen to represent all the events of the past year. Previous entries have included 命 (life), 戦 (war), and 変 (change). For 2011, officials picked the kanji 絆, which means "bonds".

This kanji is meant to reflect how important it is for the people who live in Japan, including foreign residents, to work together, especially after a disaster like the one in March.

The March disaster was truly terrible, but it is important to remember what can be gained from it, a sense of connection with all the other residents of Japan.

- Kai



I have a blog about my life in Seika that everyone should check out!

<http://seikalife.blogspot.com>



Festivals and National Holidays さいじつ・ぎょうじ

Coming-of-Age Day

成人の日

January 9th

In Japan, when people turn 20 years old, they are officially adults. To celebrate this is Coming-of-Age Day for those who have turned twenty that year. Each city, town, and village holds a congratulatory ceremony for those who come of age during that year, with speeches from officials and many parties afterwards. Young women participating in the event will often dress in very elaborate Kimono, which take hours to put on. Seika will hold its Coming-of-Age Ceremony this year at the Keihanna Plaza Main Hall.

Igomori Festival

いごもり祭

January 12th 13th 14th

According to legend, the Igomori Festival was first held around the year 770 to ward off an evil spirit bringing famine and plague upon the people living in the area. The festival, designated an "Intangible Cultural Property," begins when a huge torch is set aflame after dark at Hosono Shrine. Six or seven men then parade the flaming torch, which weighs more than 75 kilos, around the streets of Seika. Many food stalls are set up around the shrine to add to the festive atmosphere. Residents from the area also have a tug-of-war, with the winning team being assured of a good harvest that year.

Directions:

From Kintetsu Shin-Hosono/JR Hosono Station go out the east exit, head straight down the street (east) and then turn left (north) at the end of the road. Turn right again (east) at the first stoplight, and follow the road as it winds northeast towards the Kizu River. Hosono Shrine will be at the end of the road. It is about a 20-min walk.



Setsubun

節分

February 3rd

Though the term *Setsubun* technically refers to the day before the beginning of each new season, it has come to be most closely associated with the beginning of spring. The holiday has become famous for the practice of *mamemaki*, or bean throwing. Families throw roasted soybeans at someone dressed as an *oni* (demon), while shouting "Oni wa soto! Fuku wa uchi!" meaning, "Demons out! Luck in!" Family members then eat the number of beans corresponding to their age. Though traditionally it was only the head of the household who threw the beans, the practice has become very popular with children, and nowadays one family member wears an *oni* mask and the rest of the family throws the beans. If you would like to participate in Setsubun, the Keihanna Plaza is holding an event on January 30th. Please see page 5 for more details.

Seika Population Growth

人口の動き

Population as of December 1st:

Total:	36,903 (+35)
Male:	17,808 (+10)
Female:	19,095 (+25)
Households:	13,603 (+30)

Ichigo Corner

いちごコーナー

The Ichigo Corner is a place for readers to express their opinions on Seika, life in Japan, or anything else anyone wishes to say.

Submissions can be sent in either by mail or e-mail.

Ichigo's Aim

いちごの目的

Since the advent of Kansai Science City, the town of Seika, along with its foreign population, has been growing rapidly. In an effort to make the lives of foreign residents easier, the Seika Town Office produces this newsletter monthly. The newsletter's name, "Ichigo," means strawberry, Seika's most famous product.

かんさいぶんかがくじゅつけんきゅうとし けんせつ
関西文化学術研究都市の建設が
すす せいにかちょう ひと ふ
進み、精華町にすむ人が 増え、
そのなか がいこくじん じんこう ふ
の中で外国人の人口も増えて
います。せいにかちょうない す がいこくじん
みな
の皆さんが暮らしやすいよう
に、せいにかちょう まいつき じょうほうし
に、精華町は毎月この情報紙を
はっこう じょうほうし
発行しています。この情報紙の
ニックネーム「いちご」(いちご
せいにかちょう いちばんゆうめい とくさんぶつ
精華町の一番有名な特産物)は、
みんな
皆がわかるようにひらがなで
つけました。

Ichigo on the Internet

<http://www-e.town.seika.kyoto.jp/htmls/english.html>

