Seika's English Language Newsletter



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Ichigo is Being Reborn

「いちご」が新しく生まれ変わります

Next month, April marks the 240th issue of Ichigo, which means that Ichigo, which started in April of 1995, will be 20 years old. To commemorate this, Ichigo is going to be reborn. From now on, new content will be added and we will introduce local stores and interview citizens of Seika. Articles that we no longer have space for will be moved to our English Facebook site and the Seika Town homepage, so please check those out as well.

To find our Facebook site, search for "Seika Town" on the main Facebook page or use the QR code below.

To find the Seika homepage go to http://www.town.seika.kyoto.jp/, or use the QR code below.



Facebook



Seika Homepage

Sōraku Emergency Medical Clinic Schedule

そうらくきゅうじつおうきゅうしんりょうじょ 相楽休日応急診療所のスケジュール

%PD = Pediatrics, IM = Internal Medicine

Schedule for March and April			
Date	Specialty	Date	Specialty
March 8 th (Sun)	IM	April 5 th (Sun)	IM, PD
March 15 th (Sun)	IM, PD	April 12 th (Sun)	IM, PD
March 21 st (Hol/Sat)	IM	April 19 th (Sun)	IM
March 22 nd (Sun)	IM, PD	April 26 th (Sun)	IM, PD
March 29 th (Sun)	IM	April 29 th (Hol/Wed)	PD

Please call in advance to confirm.

QUESTIONS: Soraku Emergency Medical Clinic (Soraku Hall)

General Information

くらしのじょうほう

Easter Party!

イースターパーティー!

Experience Easter, One of Europe and America's Traditional Festivals \sim

Time: April 5th (Sun) 10 AM to Noon

Place: Mukunoki Center Multi-Purpose Hall (4th Fl.) ※There will be a shuttle bus from Seika Town Hall

Participants: Elementary School students living or going to school in Seika, Kyotanabe City or Kizugawa City

(All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian)

Limit: 30 Applicants (If the limit is exceeded, then there will be a raffle for participation)

Details: Easter is a festival that was initially based on the Resurrection from Christianity. Enjoy playing games and drawing pictures related to Easter with the Coordinators for International Relations from each town.

Application: By the 23rd of March (Mon), send the 1)Participant's Name 2)Age 3)Parent's Name 4)Address

5)Telephone Number 6)Email Address 7) If Shuttle Bus is necessary, by fax or email to the following location.

%You can apply via the town home page as well (Search for "Easter" from the main page)

XYou will be in informed by email or phone by the 25th of March (Wed) regarding participation.

Sponsors: Seika Town, Kyotanabe City, Kizugawa City

Contact: Seika Town Planning and Coordination Division, Planning Section

TEL: 0774-95-1900 FAX: 0774-95-3971 Email: kikaku@town.seika.kyoto.jp

Preventing Traffic Accidents

事故を起こさないために

On January 19th at 7:30 PM, a traffic accident occurred when an 80 year old man crossing the prefectural road in town was struck by a passing truck and lost his life. When walking and driving, please make sure to consider the following points.

Pedestrians

Look closely

Before crossing the street, look around to make sure no cars are coming.

Stop

When crossing the street, stop at a place where you can see both was easily, and wait until the flow of cars has slowed before crossing.

- Follow the rules
 Use a crosswalk when available. Crossing the street at an angle is dangerous.
- Notify Wear bright colors and reflective tape and let the surrounding area know you exist.

Drivers

At night, make sure to switch between high beams (bright headlights) and low beams (dim head lights), pay attention to the road in front of you, and drive at a safe speed.

- Be aware of the movement of pedestrians
 Even if you can see a pedestrian, it doesn't mean they can see you.
- Even after the light turns blue, check to see if its safe
 Elderly people may not be finished crossing after the signal has changed.
- Slow down and keep space between you and the car in front of you.

In both business and residential areas, pedestrians may turn around or quickly change directions.

Upcoming Events

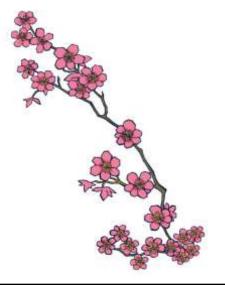
こんげつのイベント

Date Time What Where 6(Fri) 13:00~ 1.5-year-old Health Checkup Health Center 9:30~ 4th Seika Martial Arts Festival 8(Sun) Mukunoki Center 10:00~11:00 Library Parent-Child Crafts Class Town Library Meeting Room (1st FI.) 11(Wed) 13:00~ 3.5-year-old Health Checkup Health Center 12(Thu) 13:00~ 3.5-year-old Health Checkup Health Center 15(Sun) 8:15~15:00 153 Seika Walking Meetup (Ikoma and Kuragaritouge) 18(Wed) Mukunoki Center 15:00~17:00 Mukunoki Center Open Arena (Table Tennis Day) Mom and Dad Classroom ~ Parenting Edition 21(Hol/Sat) 9:30~12:00 Health Center 22(Sun) 9:00~12:00 Mukunoki Center Open Arena (Smile Sports Area) Mukunoki Center 24(Tue) 13:00~ Health Center 9~10 Month-old Health Checkup 25(Wed) Mukunoki Center Mukunoki Center Closing 26(Thu) 13:00~ 3~4 Month-old Health Checkup Health Center

March

April

Date	Time	What	Where
1(Wed)		Mukunoki Center Closed	Health Center
5(Sun)	10:00~12:00	Easter Party European and American Spring Holiday	Mukunoki Center Multi-purpose Hall
7(Tue)	9:00~14:00	lki lki Health Walk	In Uji City
8(Wed)	15:00~17:00	Mukunoki Center Open Arena (Table Tennis Day)	Health Center
12(Sun)	9:00~	Sports Festival (Soft Volley Ball)	Mukunoki Center
14(Tue)	10:00~	Mom and Dad Classroom ~ Food Edition	Health Center
15(Wed)	13:00~	3.5-year-old Health Checkup	Health Center
	15:00~17:00	Mukunoki Center Open Arena (Table Tennis Day)	Mukunoki Center



Japanese Class Starts in April

4月から『にほんご学習室』が始まります

We will be opening a new Japanese class for foreign residents living in Japan. The program will use

materials that the students select themselves, and lessons will be taught in a one-on-one setting.

The Japanese class will also serve as a good opportunity to hear the thoughts and opinions of people from

other cultures. If you have small children, please feel free to bring them with you. Stop by anytime!

▼Date	Tuesday 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
▼Place	Seika Town Hall Rm. 501 • 502 (5 th Floor)
▼Cost	1000 Yen every 6 Months (Lesson Material and Correspondence costs)
Contact:	Seika Global Network Office
	seika-global-net-info@zeus.eonet.ne.jp

%The Japanese Lesson currently held on Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM will continue to be held

What to do if ...

You have a question about something in Ichigo:

Call Jacob Biros, 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.

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 contact Jacob Biros, 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 Kyōto City International Foundation (located at 2-1 Toriichō Awataguchi, Sakyō-ku, Kyōto-shi), offers advice and consultation on visa issues and general problems. Visa consultations are available on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month (appointment required). Consultations can be done in English, Chinese, Korean, and Spanish. General counseling is available Tuesday to Sunday from 9:00 to 21:00.

TEL: 075.752.3511 Homepage: http://www.kcif.or.jp/en

Keihanna Commemorative Park Upcoming Events and Activities けいはんな記念公園の催し物

Mini Pocke -6th- \sim Mini ポケー6 th-

▼Date : March 7th (Sat) to 8th (Sun) 9:30 AM to 4 PM (Canceled if weather warning is announced) ▼Place : Shibafu
 Park ▼Details : "Antiques & Miscellaneous & Green" Market ※For more information contact the Pocket Marche
 Committee (TEL: 080-5364-2345)

Morikko Park $\, \sim \,$ Fun in the woods

森っこ広場~森あそび~

▼Date : March 8th (Sun) 1 PM to 4 PM (Come and go as you please, canceled if rain). ▼Place : Suikeien Mebuki no
 Mori ▼Target Audience : 4 year-olds and older with parental super vision (3rd graders and below must be accompanied) ▼Details : Enjoy hammocks and tree swings. ▼Cost : Suikeien Entrance Fee

6th Saganaka Cotton Exhibit

第6回相楽木綿作品展

▼Date:March 9th (Mon) to 15th (Sun) 10 AM to 5 PM ▼Place:Suikeien Tsuki no Niwa Gallery ▼Details:Cotton that was made between the Meiji era and the beginning of the Showa era in the Souraku Region. The exhibit will display restorations and traditional works by the "Saganaka Cotton Club". ▼Cost : Suikeien Entrance Fee

55th Lots of Flowers Ultimate Strategy ~ 第55回花いっぱい大作戦

▼Date : March 21st (Hol/Sat) 10:00 AM to Noon ▼Place : Suikeien (Moved to the 28th if it rains) ▼Limit: First 30
 People ▼Details : Volunteer activities to grow more flowers and greenery in the park. You will receive a small
 Hodaki. Preschool children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. ▼Items to Bring: Comfortable
 clothing and gloves.

Park Opening 20th Anniversary Mamoru Suzuki World Bird's Nest Photo Exhibit

前はえん れんきれん びじぎょう オザき せかい とり オーズほんげんがてん 開園20年記念日事業 鈴木まもる 世界の鳥の巣と絵本原画展

▼Date : March 21st (Hol/Sat) \sim April 12th (Sun) 9 AM to 5 PM ▼Place : Suikeien Kangetsuro Tsuki no Niwa Gallery ▼Details : An exhibit planned jointly by Photographer and Bird's Nest Researcher, Mamoru Suzuki and Keihanna Memorial Park. The exhibit will be displaying photos collections of rare bird's nests around the world as well as of bird's nests from the park. You can also purchase photo collections. ▼Cost : Suikeien Entrance Fee

Waiting for Spring Concert ~ Horn Ensemble

はるまちコンサート ~ ホルンアンサンブル

▼Date : March 22nd (Sun) 2 PM to 3 PM ▼Place : Suikeien Kangetsuro Chikai Hall ▼Details : Enjoy a loud, resonating performance by a Horn Ensemble to invite spring to come early. ▼Cost : Suikeien Entrance Fee

Continued from Page 5



PARK INFORMATION: Entrance to Suikeien and Shizenrin: Adults: ¥200, J.H.S. and E.S. students: ¥100 (free for those 60 or over with proof of age; free for holders of Disabled Person's Handbook and one accompanying person; free for one parent of family holding Child Care Support Passport; discount for groups of 25 or more) **HOURS**: 9:00-17:00 (last entry 16:30)

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

Keihanna Plaza Upcoming Events

けいはんなプラザの催し物

Keihanna Movies けいはんな映画劇場

"Grace of Monaco"「グレース・オブ・モナコ」 (2014, U.S.A・France)

The year is 1962. American actor Grace Kelly, who is married to the Prince of Monaco, tries to return to America to star in the Hollywood film "Marnie". However, before returning, the relationship between France and Monaco worsens. Grace has to choose between going home and staying in Monaco.

and staying in Monaco.



WHEN:

いちご

March 20th (Fri), 10:30, 1:00, 4:00 March 21st (Sat), 10:30, 1:00, 3:30

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 Business Department

けいはんな事業部 TEL: 0774-95-5115

Keihanna Plaza Small Concert

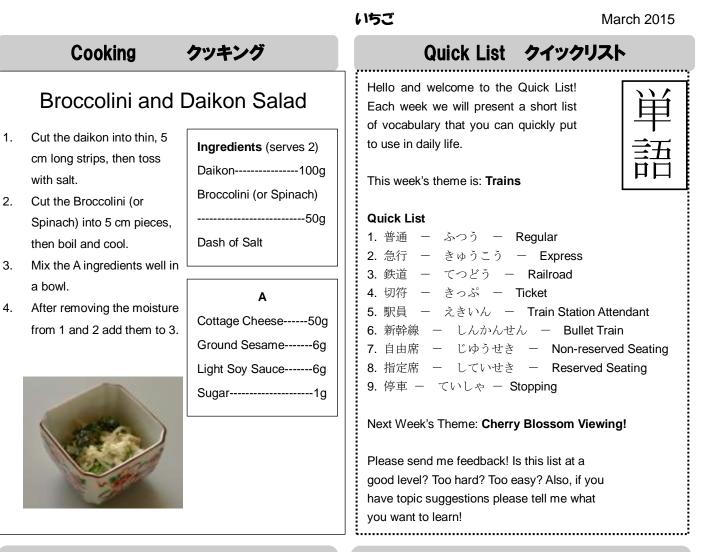
けいはんなプラザプチコンサート



▼WHEN: ①March 18th (Wed) 12:15 PM to 12:45 PM ②March 26th (Thu) 6:00 PM to 6:40 PM, 7:00 PM to 7:40 PM ▼WHERE: Keihanna Plaza Atrium Lobby

▼PROGRAM: ①Syzmanowski "Métopes op. 29", Lyadov "Barcarolle op. 44" (Piano)
 ②JAZZ no Tabe "Take the 'A' Train", "Tennessee Waltz" and others (Vocals, Piano)

QUESTIONS: Keihanna Plaza Small Concert Committee (Kansai Research Institute) じっこういいんかい かんさいぶんかがくじゅつけんきゅうと し すいしんき こうない けいはんなプラザプチョンサート実行委員会(関西文化学術研究都市推進機構内) TEL: 0774-95-6128



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

Kansai Airport Bus

関西空港エアポートリムジンバス

The Nara Kōtsū Airport Bus offers service to Kansai International Airport from Keihanna Plaza, available seven days a week (¥2,000 one way). Bookings are available. Call the number below to reserve a seat.

Departure	Arrival	
4:10	5:50	
5:50	7:30	
6:50	8:30	
7:50	9:30	
9:50	11:30	
11:50	13:30	
12:50	14:30	

Departure	Arrival
14:50	16:30
15:50	17:30
16:50	18:30
17:50	19:30
18:50	20:30
19:50	21:30

For more information or to reserve a seat: Nara Kōtsū Bus Reservation Center 奈良交通バス予約センター

TEL: 0742-22-5110 (Hours: 8:30-19:00)

Note from the Editor へんしゅうしゃのことば

This winter was cold, and around New Year's Day we even had some snow accumulate. However, it is finally starting to feel like Spring is coming. From here on, I am sure many people will be going strawberry picking and having barbeques. Of course, the Cherry Blossoms should be making an appearance soon as well.

Seika has many spring events and places to go sightseeing, so keep an eye out for information in Ichigo, Facebook and our homepage.

- Jake

Check out the Kyōto CIR blog! http://tabunkakyoto.wordpress.com/

いちご

Festivals and National Holidays さいじつ・ぎょうじ

Vernal Equinox Day ^{しゅんぶん} ひ 春分の日 March 21st

The vernal equinox is the day when daytime and nighttime are exactly the same length. From this day on, daytime gradually becomes longer compared to nighttime. Many people consider Vernal Equinox Day to be the beginning of spring, and it is said that this is the day when the chill of winter finally disappears. It is also a time when many people pay respects to their ancestors, cleaning family graves and leaving offerings.

Places to Visit おもしろいところ

Hanami (Cherry Blossom Viewing) 花見

The end of March and beginning of April are known as the season of pink cherry blossoms. Around this time, many people go out with friends and family in order to observe the beautiful blossoms. This pastime is known as *hanami*. Recommended areas for *hanami* are as follows.

Kyōto Kyōto has many good *hanami* areas, the most famous of which are the Philosopher's Path and Maruyama Park.

The Philosopher's Path is a two-kilometer road between Ginkakuji Temple (Temple of the Silver Pavilion) and Nanzenji Temple. A small river runs along the path, making a leisurely stroll the perfect way to take in the beauty of the cherry blossoms. To get to the Philosopher's Path, take the 5 bus from Kyōto Station and get off at Nanzenji-Eikandōmichi.

Maruyama Park, by contrast, offers a more festive atmosphere. There are many food stalls surrounding the large weeping cherry blossom tree in the center of the park. At nighttime, this tree is illuminated. To get to Maruyama Park, take the 100 or 206 bus from Kyōto Station and get off at Gion.

Nara South of Nara is Mount Yoshino, known for the beauty of its cherry blossoms. With approximately 30,000 cherry blossom trees, it is one of the most famous *hanami* locations in all of Japan and is particularly recommended for those who would like to partake in *hanami* while hiking. To get to Mount Yoshino, take the Kintetsu Line to Yoshino Station.

Nara Park, famous for its deer, is also another good *hanami* spot. It has approximately 1,700 cherry blossom trees and is good for people who want a relaxed atmosphere. Nara Park is a 10-minute walk from Kintetsu Nara Station.

Seika There are also good *hanami* locations right here in Seika. The most well-known is the Suikeien in Keihanna Commemorative Park, but Takeuchi Shrine (located north of the Seika Town Office) and Kannonji Temple (located south of Dōshisha University) are also attractive spots.

Seika Growth Watch		
人口の動き		
Population as of March 1st:		
(number in	parentheses is	
change from last month)		
Total:	37,469 (+26)	
Male:	18,063 (+12)	
Female:	19,406(+14)	
Households:	14,294 (+17)	

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.

Submissions may be sent in by mail, e-mail, or fax.

Ichigo's Aim

いちごの目的

Since the advent of the 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 monthly newsletter. The newsletter's name, "Ichigo," means "strawberry," Seika's most famous product.

・かんさいぶんかがくじゃっけんきゅうとし けんせっ 関西文化学術研究都市の建設 が進み、精華町にすむ人が 増 え、その中で外国人の人口も増 えています。精華町内に住む かいこくじんの皆さんが暮らしやす いように、精華町は毎月この になった。そそ行しています。この 情報紙を発行しています。この になった。精華町の一番有名な もの)は、みんながわかるよう にひらがなでつけました。

Ichigo on the Internet

http://www.town.seika.kyoto.jp/link /ichigo.html