



For mothers of foreign nationality in Japan

We recommend you to learn Japanese more

Please do not be satisfied only to be able to speak Japanese

Before your child is born, you may have no problem even if you cannot speak, read or write Japanese. But when your child is born, you may have various difficulties if you don't understand Japanese.

You may receive many letters from your child's kindergarten or school. You may have to submit various papers. Maybe your partner or friends can help you to read and write such letters. But it is better to be able to do it yourself.

Parents should teach their children to be able to write their name in Japanese before entering the elementary school. If any trouble occurs at school, you may have to consult with the teacher in Japanese. Some mothers hesitate to participate in a parent meeting because they cannot speak Japanese well.

So here we propose you to learn Japanese for your children. When your children enter the school, they will be able to use Japanese very well soon. As they learn Japanese more, you may become difficult to communicate with them only in your mother tongue.

You may become to rely on your children to speak in Japanese other than with your family. Your children will learn 1000 Chinese characters before graduating the elementary school and in addition, learn 1000 Chinese characters before graduating the junior high school. So we suggest that mothers should also learn Japanese to be able to read letters from school. Most of the Japanese-language classes are free. Let's start learning Japanese at the near by Japanese-language schools.

FICEC Japanese-language school	Thur: 10:00-12:00	Fujimino International Culture Exchange Center 049-256-4290	
Kamifukuoka Nishi community center Japanese-language school	Wed: 10:00-12:00 Sun: 10:00-12:00	Kamifukuoka Nishi community center 049-266-9501	
Fujimi-shi Japanese-language circle	Tues: 10:00-12:00 Fri: 13:30-15:30 Sat: 14:00-16:00	Turuse Nishi culture exchange center Wakatsuki 049-254-8104	
Miyoshi Japanese-language school	Wed: 10:00-12:00	Fujikubo community center	Hirata 049-259-0240
	Sat: 14:00-16:00	Takemazawa community center	

For other Japanese-language school, please consult with a municipal office or Fujimino International Culture Exchange Center.

For mothers who cannot go to Japanese-language school because of taking care of small child or busy working, let's think together for the best way to learn Japanese language.

Fujimino International Culture Exchange Center can help you anyway (Tel: 049-256-4290)

Written by Miki Yazawa

Single-parent family child attendance at school outfit allowance supply system

Single-parent family child attendance at school outfit allowance supply system is the system of Saitama prefecture to pay part of allowance for the child in single-parent family of low income to enter junior high school. This system applies to families who are raising children, who are going to enter junior high school in April, 2014. (It does not apply to families who are getting public assistance.) Allowance is 10000 yen per one child.

★Application method: Go to Child care support section in the local municipal office with your passbook of the banking establishment

★Closing date: 27, Dec. (Fri.) Be sure to keep to a schedule

Immunization against influenza is recommended- 1000 yen for 65 years old or above

Influenza season has come. It is better to avoid going in a crowded place but it is unavoidable when you have to go to work. In such case, you'd better immunized to avoid onset. You may get well soon even if you catch the flu. The fee is 1000 yen for persons 65 years or above (until 25, Dec.) For others, 3000 yen to 6000 yen. It may be a bit expensive but it takes time and money if you catch the flu so it is much recommended to take immunization at the earliest possible at your nearby hospital. It takes two weeks until the immunization become valid and the effective period continues for 5 months.

Soba making cooking class opens as Japanese-language extra lesson

On 26, Dec., from 10:00 to 13:00 at Fujimino International Culture Exchange Center Japanese-language class.

Everyone is welcome at no charge.

In Japan, we have a custom to eat "toshi-koshi soba" on 31, Dec., which means to eat long noodle and pray good health and long life for the next year.

How about making this soba together? It looks like pasta so you may be easily accustomed to. We have all ingredients for the cooking prepared. Ask your friends to come here and join to cook and eat the soba together.



▲ Chef: Ms. Tozuka

Come to enjoy Fun and games party at International Children's Club

International Children's Club is a famous club where children of foreign families gather to play and learn various things. We assure you that you will find new friends here.

Fun and games party at International Children's Club

Date: 21, Dec.(Sat.) 10:00 to 15:00

Place: Meeting room at Fujimino-shi service center, /Kamifukuoka Nishi community center (Have lunch at the community center)

Contents: Play games, plastic rail game, hand-made lunch etc.

www.ficec.jp/living/

●Refer to the home page for the Living Guide for foreigners in six languages.