



## Children who had been grown up using Fujimino International Cultural Exchange Center

Every Saturday, many children with foreign roots come to FICEC's International Children's Club. We asked some of the children who have studied and spent time at the children's club, where is like their second school, about their memories.

This text was taken from FICEC's journal "Hello Friends."

### U.M. [Pakistan], May 2020

I was 16 years old when I graduated from junior high school in Pakistan and came to Japan. I think Japan is a safe and clean country. Unlike Pakistan, I didn't see adults fighting in the streets in Japan. The high school entrance exam was very difficult. I could do well in English listening, but I could not do well at all in other subjects. I was very nervous during the interview. I was relieved to be able to enter a part-time high school in Kawagoe City. I thought all the teachers in Japan were very kind.

I saved money for school by working part-time. When I worked part-time as a dry-cleaner, I learned Chinese characters while writing slips of laundry for curtains delivered from hospitals and companies. I want to continue to live in Japan. In the future, I want to work in the car business. When I have enough money, I would like to start my own company.

### S.J. [China], September 2021

I came to Japan when I was 13 years old. I learned about the children's club at the city office. When I became a senior in high school, I considered a lot about my career for the future. I went to an information session at Kawagoe Doctors and Nursing College and decided to take the entrance exam.

The teachers at the children's club worked very hard to think about and research the entrance exam. They had me practice my essay many times, and also practiced my interview. I bought a book of general knowledge questions and studied on my own. And I passed the exam.

I am sure that from now on, there will be some difficulties and troubles with practical training and the national examinations in two years to come. Whenever that happens, I know I can always consult with the children's club. For me, the children's club is a reassuring place.

### S.R. [Philippines], May 2021

When I first came to Japan, I did not go to school because I did not understand any Japanese and going to school was painful. But thanks to the teachers at the children's club, I gradually began to understand Japanese and my way of thinking changed, and I began to think positively, that if I don't work hard, I will be the one who will have a hard time, so I have to do my best.

In high school, I consulted my problems as head of the badminton club and class problems with my teachers. They also helped me with choosing a school and submitting paperwork after graduation. Thanks to them, I am now able to attend a professional school for ground staff.

Although I had a lot of difficulties, I became more confident in my Japanese language and daily life. I want to improve my Japanese more, and one day I would like to return my favor by being able to teach at the children's club.



### P. M. F. [Philippines], May 2022

I was born to a Japanese father and a Filipino mother.

When I was eight years old, I transferred to a Japanese school. I was anxious, but I still remember that my classmates were kind to me. Studying was hard. I did not attend regular classes and studied individually. The teachers and volunteers at FICEC taught me at that time. When I was a university student, I passed JLPT N1. Since I was in Philippines, it was Japanese anime and manga that motivated me to study Japanese. Manga is a great way for foreigners to learn Japanese. I am now able to work in Japan thanks to the teachers and volunteers at the children's club. Thank you very much.

Festival information for September and October

FICEC will also participate in the festival

◆ September 7, Miyoshi Festival

Place: Miyoshi Town Sports Park, around Miyoshi Town Hall

There will be plenty of dancing, drumming, musical performances, dancing and other events, as well as snack counter.

At the end of the festival, there will be a firework.

◆ September 8, Nishi Kominkan Festival

Place: Kami-fukuoka-nishi Community Center  
There will be singing and dancing by groups active in the community center, snack counters, and exhibitions and experience corners.

◆ October 6

Fujimi International Exchange Forum

Place: Fujimi Civic Cultural Hall Kirari Fujimi

◆ Multi-National Talk

Let's talk about life in Japan and multiculturalism

◆ Attractions

Cheerleading, singing, hula dancing, drum performance

◆ Experience, Exhibition

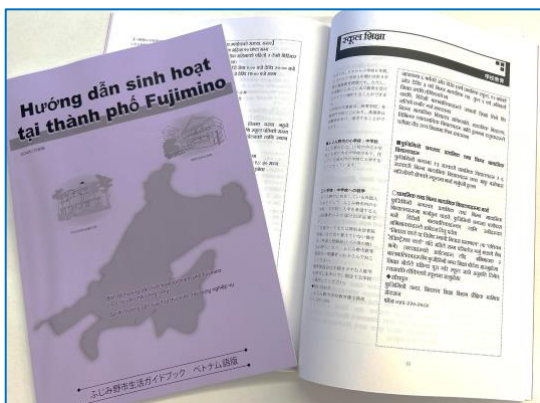
Trying on ethnic costumes, trying on police uniforms and mini motorcycle, writing in languages of the world, drumming, easy Japanese display, world tea tasting

Let's go to some fall festivals!

- October 19, 20 Kawagoe Festival <https://www.kawagoematsuri.jp/>
- October 26 Fujimi Furusato Festival Place: Around Fujimi City Hall
- October 27 International Fair Place: Saitama Super Arena



Fujimino City Living Guide



Translated in following 8 languages:  
Easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Portuguese, Vietnamese, and Nepalese.  
We give it to you for free.

10,000 yen, 5,000 yen, 1,000 yen  
The bill has been renewed

**Beware of scams!**  
**Old bills can be still used!**

