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This is a free monthly English newsletter for foreign residents carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter published twice a month by the city of Sakura. Unless otherwise indicated, inquiries over the telephone or at the facilities are handled only in Japanese. If you do not speak Japanese, please have someone who speaks Japanese with you when you make inquiries. Inquiries in English can be answered generally on Mondays and Tuesdays through *Koh'hoh-ka* (the Public Relations Section) of the Sakura City Hall. (Printed on recycled paper.)

Start of Application Period for Nursery Schools

Hoiku-en (nursery school) is the facility where children are taken care of, when their parents are not able to give their children enough care because of jobs, illnesses, etc. For entrance from April 2013 to nursery schools in Sakura (both public and private, parents need to make the application as described below:

Application period and place:

Conference room on the 1st basement floor of the Social Welfare Center, City Hall

Saturday, January 5 to Tuesday, January 15

9:00 to 17:00 on Week days,

9:00 to 16:00 on Saturdays and Sundays, except Monday, January 14 (National Holiday)

Public nursery schools (upon appointment)

Monday, January 7 to Friday, January 11 & Tuesday, January 15 (9:00 to 16:00)

What to bring:

Application form (need to be filled-out), medical interview card, emergency contact card,

Health insurance certificate, *Boshi-techoh* (mother/child health book),

Tax document, Certificate of employment, and other necessary documents (if any)

Application for February entrance will also be accepted during the same application period, and for March entrance, the deadline is Friday, January 25. Please show up accompanied by the children who are entering the school. Guidance leaflets are available at *Kosodate-shien-ka* (the Child Rearing Support Section) in the City Hall, city branch offices, and each nursery schools. For more information, call *Kosodate-shien-ka*, ☎484-6245 or the nursery schools listed below. Private nurseries are shown in shaded letters.

AREAS	NAMES OF NURSERIES	ADDRESSES	TEL. NO.	AGES
Sakura & Wada	Niji-iro Hoikuen Sakura	Shirogane 1-24-5	309-7526	End of maternity leave – before entering elementary school
	Sakura Hoikuen	Kaburagi-machi 198-3	484-1043	
	Sakura-higashi Hoikuen	Moto-machi 142-1	485-8600	6 months – before entering elementary school
Negoh & Yatomi	Mawatashi Hoikuen	Mawatashi 818-2	498-0065	End of maternity leave – before entering elementary school
	Negoh Hoikuen	Ohsaki-dai 4-3-2	484-4661	
Usui & Chiyoda	Usui Hoikuen	Usuida 2379	487-3006	6 months – before entering elementary school
	Sumire Hoikuen	Usui-dai 1201	487-8468	
	O'hisama Hoikuen	Ohji-dai 4-10-1	488-2177	
	Aoba Hoikuen	Usui-dai 1351-3	461-0460	
	Daini Aoba Hoikuen	Someino 1-21	462-6539	
	Lakeside International Childcare	Obukai 1515-30	461-3112	
Shizu	Minami-Shizu Hoikuen	Naka-shizu 7-1-10	487-6245	6 months – before entering elementary school
	Mikuni Hoikuen	Shimo-shizu-hara 61	489-2002	
	Hikari-no-ko Hoikuen	Johza 1219-4	461-1372	
	Yukari Hello Kids	Johza 383-1	488-3130	
	Miyano-mori Hello Kids	Miyano-dai 3-1-1	462-2615	End of maternity leave – before entering elementary school
	Shizu Hoikuen	Nishi-shizu 4-26-1	489-3004	
	Kita-Shizu Hoikuen	Ino 869-9	487-1785	
	Solasto Sakura	Kami-shizu 1707-2	463-7351	

The 32nd SAKURA ASAHI KENKOH (Health) MARATHON

The 32nd Sakura Asahi Kenkoh Marathon, starting from and finishing at *Iwana Undoh Koh'en Rikujoh Kyoh'gijoh* (Athletic Stadium at Iwana Sports Park), will take place on Sunday, March 24, 2013, rain or shine. Every year more than 10,000 runners from all over Japan enter the race to attempt the 42.195 km full marathon, the 10 km race, or the 3 km race.



'Guidelines for Applicants' and application forms are available at *Shoh'gai-Sports-ka* (the Lifelong Sports Section) in the Citizens' Gymnasium, city branch offices, and some local government offices of the neighboring municipalities. Call *Shoh'gai-Sports-ka*, ☎485-2929 for more information.

DISTRIBUTION OF KADOMATSU CARD



Kadomatsu cards will be distributed free of charge as the substitute for real *kadomatsu*. They are available at the City Hall, city branch offices, and several municipal facilities from Saturday, December 1. *Kadomatsu*, literally meaning "gate pine", is a traditional Japanese decoration of the New Year, placed in pairs in front of houses to welcome ancestral spirits or god of harvest.

They are placed from January 1 until January 7 and are considered to show temporary stay of the god. Call *Koh'en Ryokuchi-ka* (the Park Maintenance Section), ☎484-4318 for more information.

You can also download free copies of the card from the City homepage <http://www.city.sakura.lg.jp>



SEIJIN-SHIKI, CELEBRATION CEREMONY FOR NEW ADULTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 14 (NATIONAL HOLIDAY)
AT THE CITY CONCERT HALL



“*Seijin-no-hi* (Coming-of-Age Day) is dedicated to the nation's young people who have reached the age of 20. It is the age when Japanese people are defined to attain legal maturity, and after that, they are eligible to vote. On this day, ceremonies are held by municipalities to celebrate and encourage the new adults to realize that they become adults and make up their mind to live their life independently. Sakura City offers 30-minutes celebratory ceremonies for its new

adults. Please note that the starting time differs depending on the participants' residential district:

New adults living in Usui and Chiyoda districts: 10:00
in Shizu districts: 11:30
in Sakura, Negoh, Wada, and Yatomi districts: 13:30

* If you are not a resident of Sakura but would like to participate, please let us know in advance.

* Nursery service is available on request no later than Thursday, December 20.

Invitation cards are to be sent early December to the people born between April 2, 1992 and April 1, 1993. Call *Jidoh-seishoh'nen-ka* (The Children & Youth Section), ☎484-6190 for more information.

FY2013 PARKING PERMIT FOR BICYCLES & MOTORCYCLES



Applications for use of bicycle/motorcycle parking from April 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014 are being accepted at each parking lot. You can apply for regular use for up to one year, or park your bikes temporarily by paying as you go.

For regular-use application, the following information is required:

Bicycle parking: Model, Name of the manufacturer, identification number, color, theft prevention registration number, and user's ID

Motorcycle (limited to under 125cc) parking: License plate number, Color, and user's ID

Utilization	Type of Vehicle	Parking Fee* for Sakura Residents**		
		Adults	Indoor: ¥7,600 / year	Outdoor: ¥3,800 / year
Regular Use	Bicycle	Children up to high school age	Indoor: ¥3,260 / year	Outdoor: ¥1,630 / year
		Motorbike	All ages	Indoor: ¥11,400 / year

* The above fees for regular use are for 12 months. The actual amount for regular use may differ depending on the number of months between the month in which your application was made and March 31, 2014. In case of cancellation before March 31, the remaining fees will be returned according to the number of the remaining months.

** For those who are not Sakura Residents, the fees for regular use are two times of the above, while there is no difference in fees for temporary use.

For temporary parking, please make a payment each time to the manager at the parking lot. Fees are ¥100 for a bicycle and ¥210 for a motorcycle under 125cc.

How to apply

Application forms and guidance leaflets are available at the booth in each parking lot. Please fill out the application form and mail it to the address indicated on the leaflet, or bring it to the booth you intend to use during 6:30-10:30 & 16:00-20:00 on weekdays and 8:00-12:00 on Saturdays, Sundays, and national holidays. Please note that some of the parking lots become full quite early. Call Japan Society of Parking Engineering, the managing corporation entrusted by the City, ☎03-3597-9851 for more information.

HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE OF CITY FACILITIES

City offices and facilities will be closed for the year-end and New Year's holidays during the following periods. It is advisable for you to make sure the facility is open before visiting.

Closed from Fri, Dec. 28 to Fri, Jan. 4 Community centers, City service centers, Millennium Center Sakura, City Museum of Art, City Concert Hall, City libraries, Seibu/Nambu Health & Welfare Centers, Elderly Center, Children's centers Consumer center, Youth Center, *Buke-yashiki*, *Juntendoh Kinenkan*, and *Kyu-Hotta-tei*, etc.

Closed from Sat, Dec. 29 to Thu, Jan. 3 City Hall, City branch offices, Kenkoh Kanri Center, Seibu and Nambu Hoken Centers, *Kosodate-shien* Center (the Child Rearing Support Center), Community general support centers, Public nursery schools, After-school daycare centers, Young Plaza, Usui information center, Tourist information center, Gender equality center, etc.

◀NOTES▶ ★Notifications of birth, death, and marriage will be accepted during the holidays at the Guards' Room on the 1st floor of the main building of the City Hall ★On **Sunday, December 23**, City Hall will be partly open for convenience ★Iwana Athletics Stadium and Tennis court is closed from Monday, Dec. 31 to Thursday, Jan. 3

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of October 2012, the Japanese population of Sakura was 176,043 (87,013 males and 89,030 females) in 72,180 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,050. The combined population of Sakura City was 178,093.



APPLICATION Period Starts for FY2013 AFTER-SCHOOL DAYCARE CENTERS



The registration for *gakudoh-hoikusho/jidoh-club* (after-school daycare center) for FY2013 will be accepted at the following daycare centers. Elementary school pupils (of grades 1-3 in principle) whose parents/guardians are not available after-school hours because of jobs, illnesses, etc., are eligible to stay at facilities shown below after school. For new entrance, please apply and undergo an interview with the child. The application period for April entrance is **between Monday, January 7 and Monday, January 21 (prior appointment required)**. **Documents required:** Registration form (filled out in advance), Health insurance certificate, and forms inserted in the guidance leaflets such as certificate of employment. Guidance leaflets of public centers are available at the daycare centers, public nursery schools, *Kosodate-shien-ka* (the Child Rearing Support Section) at the City Hall, and city branch offices. As for private centers, they require their own specified documents. Please get the information directly from them. Children who have been attending this year and wish to continue attending next year also need to reapply. For more information, call *Kosodate-shien-ka*, ☎484-6415, or the daycare centers listed below.

	NAME of AFTER-SCHOOL DAYCARE CENTERS (Gakudoh-Hoikusho or G/H)	ADDRESS	GRADE	INFORMATION	APPLICATIONS PERIOD
PUBLIC	Shizu Jidoh Center G/H	Kami-shizu 1764-6	1-3	Shizu Jidoh Center 488-0326	9:00-17:00 Except for Mondays & national holidays
	Nishi-Shizu-shoh Jidoh Club	Nishi-Shizu Elementary School	1-3		
	Kita-shizu Jidoh Center G/H	Ino 794-1	1-6	Kita-shizu Jidoh Center 487-6782	
	Odake G/H	Odake Elementary School	1-6		
	Nambu Jidoh Center G/H	Oh-shinozuka 1587	1-6	Nambu Jidoh Center 483-2800	
	Negoh G/H	Adjacent to Negoh Elementary School	1-3		
	Dai-ni- Negoh G/H	Negoh Elementary School	4-6		
	San-noh G/H	San-noh Elementary School	1-6		
	Sakura Roh'yoh-no-yakata G/H	Miroku-machi 229-2	1-6	Sakura Roh'yoh-no-yakata 486-7090	
	Sakura G/H	Sakura Elementary School	1-3		
	Wada G/H	Wada Community Center	1-6	Usui Roh'yoh-no-yakata 487-6210	
	Usui Roh'yoh-no-yakata G/H	Ohji-dai 6-25-1	1-4		
	Ohjidai G/H	Ohjidai Elementary School	1-2		
	Chiyoda G/H	Chiyoda Elementary School	1-6		
	Sakura-higashi G/H	Sen'nari 3-4-3	1-6	Sakura Higashi Hoikuen 485-8600	14:00-17:00 Except for Sundays & national holidays
	Uchigoh G/H	Uchigoh Elementary School	1-6		
	Shirogane-shoh Jidoh Club	Shirogane Elementary School	1-4	483-2200	
	Ohsaki-dai G/H	Adjacent to Negoh Hoikuen	3-6	484-5199	
	Terasaki G/H	Terasaki Elementary School	1-2	486-1106	
	Yatomi G/H	Yatomi Community Center	1-6	498-1321	
In'nan G/H	In'nan Elementary School	1-6	486-1537		
Ino G/H	Ino Elementary School	1-3	Kita-Shizu Hoikuen 487-1785		
Nishi-Shizu G/H	Shizu Nursery School	1-3	489-1408		
Shimo-Shizu G/H	Shimo-Shizu Elementary School * Temporarily relocated to Rohjin-no-ie (Eldery's Home) Shizu-so (till Mar. 16, 2013)	1-6	Minami-Shizu Hoikuen 487-6245		
Minami-Shizu G/H	Minami-Shizu Elementary School	1-6	462-1206		
PRIVATE	Aoba Jidoh Room	Usui-dai 1351-3 (Aoba Hoikuen)	1-3	461-0460	9:00-17:00 except Sun. & national holidays
	Daini Aoba Jidoh Room	Someino 1-21 (Daini-Aoba Hoikuen)	1-3	462-6539	
	Sumire Niko-niko Home	Usui-dai 1253-3 (Sumire Hoikuen)	1-6	487-8468	13:00-17:00 except Sat. Sun. & national holidays
	Hikari-no-ko Jidoh Center	Johza 1148-1	1-6	462-2654	15:00-18:00 except Sat. Sun. & national holidays
	Yukari Yuh'to pia	Aosuge 1023-6	1-6	460-6700	10:00-18:00 except Sun & national holidays

YEAR-END/NEW YEAR GARBAGE COLLECTION

The last day of this year's normal garbage collection is Friday, December 28 and there is an additional collection on **Sunday, December 30** for 'burnable garbage' only. On this additional collection day, please make sure that garbage bags are left at the usual collection sites **by 8:30**. The request-based 'Oversized garbage' collection (fee required) is available until Friday, December 28, if a prior request is made by **Friday, December 21**. For the 'Oversized garbage' collection, please call one of the following garbage collection contractors according to your residential area to which they are assigned:



Usui & Shizu (Northern side of the Keisei Line railroad only), Sakura, Negoh, Wada, and Yatomi districts:	<i>Imba-Boheki-sya</i> , ☎483-5022
Usui & Shizu (Southern side of the Keisei Line railroad only) and Chiyoda:	<i>Igarashi-Shoh'kai</i> , ☎443-4676

Shisui Recycling Culture Center, ☎496-7511, also accepts (fee required) oversized and other garbage brought in by December 28 (and on December 30 for burnable garbage only). Normal garbage collection resumes on Friday, January 4, the day for 'burnable garbage'. Call *Haikibutsu Taisaku-ka* (the Garbage Control Section), ☎484-6149 for details.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Contacts: Kenkoh Kanri Center (Health Management Center) ☎485-6711; Seibu Hoken Center (Seibu Health & Welfare Center) ☎463-4181; Nambu Hoken Center (Nambu Health & Welfare Center) ☎483-2812.



HEALTH CHECKS FOR CHILDREN

AGES OF CHILDREN	DEC '12	TIME	PLACE
Health consultation for children of 4 months born in July, 2012	Wed, 26	9:30 – 10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
		13:30 – 14:30	
	Thu, 13	9:30 – 10:30	Seibu Hoken Center
		13:30 – 14:30	
	Tue, 18	13:30 – 14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months born in March, 2012	Tue, 11	9:30 – 9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Tue, 04		Seibu Hoken Center
	Tue, 18		Nambu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in June, 2011	Thu, 06	13:15 – 14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Wed, 19		Seibu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in June, 2009	Fri, 07	13:15 – 14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Thu, 20		Seibu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in June or December, 2010, or in December, 2009 *On the day with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.	Wed, 05*	13:30 – 14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Mon, 17		
	Mon, 10*		Seibu Hoken Center
	Fri, 21		
	Thu, 13*		

COUNSELING SERVICES

FREE ANTENATAL CLASS

-Application required-

For expectant mothers and fathers to have a baby between March 2013 and August 2013, a free antenatal class, "Mom's and Pop's Class," will be held as follows:

Time & Date: 9:00 to 12:15

Sat. December 15

Place: Kenkoh Kanri Center

This class gives instruction on life with a newborn baby, baby bath practice, pregnancy simulation experience to fathers, etc.

Parents in their first pregnancy have priority. Please call Kenkoh Kanri center to sign up.

TELEPHONE COUNSELING

with public health nurse or nutritionist

-For all ages-

Available at each center, 8:30-17:15,

Monday through Friday.

Dental hygienist and Speech therapist are also available at Kenkoh Kanri Center.

SUKU-SUKU HATTATSU SOHDAN

-Application required-

Child development consultation for preschoolers (*Suku-suku Hattatsu Sohdan*) is available:

9:00 to 12:00, Thu. December 6

At Kenkoh Kanri Center

If you feel distressed about your child's developmental or behavioral disorders, such as attention deficit disorder, do not suffer alone!

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE CONSULTATION

For all ages - Application required

13:30 to 15:30, Thu. Dec. 13: Kenkoh Kanri Center

9:30 to 11:30, Fri. Dec. 21: Seibu Hoken Center

9:30 to 11:30, Mon. Dec.17: Nambu Hoken Center

Consultation on health check results and how to live a healthier life, nutritional guidance, and health check including blood-pressure measurement can be provided.



HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Always be sure to bring your health insurance certificate!



Nighttime Emergency – Physician & Dentist: 19:00-21:45 at Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎485-6711

**Pediatrics – for children under 16 years
Day & Night, at the Kenkoh Kanri Center**

☎485-3355

For diseases in the acute & early stage:
Monday through Saturday,
19:00-6:00 (next morning).

On Sundays, public holidays, and
year-end/new year holidays (12/29-1/3):
9:00-16:45 & 19:00-6:00

**Surgeon, Physician, ENT doctor & Dentist
during Holidays & Nighttime**

Consultation with doctors will be available
during the hours shown below at the doctor's office
who is on duty in a rotation system.

Call ☎484-2516 to learn the doctor on duty:

- **Surgeon:** 9:00-16:30, 19:00-21:45
- **Physician, Dentist:** 9:00-16:30
- **ENT doctor:** 19:00-21:45

