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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) at the Sakura City Hall. (Printed on recycled paper.)

SEIJIN-SHIKI, CELEBRATION CEREMONY FOR NEW ADULTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 13 (NATIONAL HOLIDAY)
AT SHIMIN ONGAKU HALL (CITY CONCERT HALL)

☎ Jidoh Seishoh' nen-ka (Children and Youth Section), 484-6190



“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 lives independently. Sakura City offers 30-minutes celebratory ceremonies for its new adults three times separately according to participants' residential district. Please check the following starting time for each ceremony.

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

*Nursery service and Summary scribe are available on request. Please contact the section in charge no later than Friday, December 20.

Invitation cards are to be sent early December to the citizens born between April 2, 1993 and April 1, 1994. If you are not a resident of Sakura but would like to participate, please let us know in advance.

DISTRIBUTION OF KADOMATSU CARD



☎ Koh' en Ryokuchi-ka
(the Park Maintenance Section)
484-4318



Kadomatsu cards for new-year decoration will be distributed free of charge. They are available at the City Hall, City Branch Offices, and other municipal facilities from Sunday, December 1. Kadomatsu, literally meaning “gate pine,” is a traditional Japanese decoration for the New Year, placed in pairs in front of houses to welcome ancestral spirits or god of harvest. They are placed from the end of the year until January 7 and are considered to show temporary stay of the god.

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

KADOMATSU-MAKING WORKSHOP

☎ Imbanuma Sunset Hills, 484-1011

Imbanuma Lake Sunset Hills offers an experience of a very traditional preparation for a New Year in Japan – Making your own Kadomatsu! Limited to 10 teams. Application required. Call or send fax to 235-7305 to apply.

Time: 10:00 to 12:00
Day: Saturday, December 21
Fee: 2,000 yen/team



HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE OF CITY FACILITIES

The city offices and facilities will be closed for the year-end and New Year's holiday during the periods shown below. Please make sure that the facility is open before your visiting.

Sat, Dec. 28 to Sat, Jan. 4 Kohminkan, City libraries, City Museum of Art, City Concert Hall, Jidoh Center (Children's Centers), Roh'yoh-no Yakata (Centers for children & senior citizens), Youth Center, Wada Furusato-kan, Citizens' Service Centers, Community general support centers, Millennium Center Sakura, Nishi-Shizu Fureai Center, Public Interest Activities Center, Shizu Community Center, Seibu/Nambu Health & Welfare Centers, Sakura Shin-machi Ohayashi-kan, Buke-yashiki, Kyu-Hotta-tei, and Juntendoh Kinenkan.

Sat, Dec. 28 to Sun, Jan. 5 City Hall, City branch offices, Kenkoh Kanri Center, Seibu/Nambu Hoken Centers, Consumer center, and Automatic machines for issuing copies of various certificates (at City Hall, Usui Information Corner, and Yuh'kari-gaoka branch office).

Sun, Dec. 29 to Fri, Jan. 3 Public nursery schools, After-school daycare centers, Young Plaza, Citizens' Gymnasium, Tourist Information Center, Gymnasium for the Youth, Child Rearing Support Center, Sports Museum, Naoya Park Tennis Court, and Gender equality center.

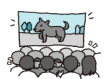
◀NOTES▶ ★During the holiday, notifications of birth, death, and marriage will be accepted at the Guards' Room, 1st floor, the main building, City Hall. ★On **Sunday, December 22**, City Hall will be partly open for convenience. ★Iwana Athletics Stadium and its tennis court are closed from Tuesday, Dec. 31 to Friday, Jan. 3.

Free HOLIDAY MOVIE SCREENING FOR KIDS

10:00 (DOORS OPEN AT 9:30) TO 11:50
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26
AT SHIMIN ONGAKU HALL
(CITY CONCERT HALL)

**MONSTERS
UNIVERSITY**

* All infants must be accompanied by parent/guardian.
* Parking is limited. Please use public transportation.
* No food or drink is allowed.



☎ Chuh-oh Koh'minkan, 485-1801



APPLICATION Period Starts for FY2014 AFTER-SCHOOL DAYCARE CENTERS



Kosodate Shien-ka (Child Rearing Support Section), ☎484-6245

The registration for Gakudoh Hoikusho (after-school daycare center) for FY2014 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 Tuesday, January 7 and Monday, January 20 (prior appointment required)**.

Documents required Registration form (Please fill 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 (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.

	NAME of AFTER-SCHOOL DAYCARE CENTERS (Gakudoh-Hoikusho or G/H)	LOCATION	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
	Dai-ni-Nishi-Shizu G/H (former Nishi-Shizu-shoh Jidoh Club)	In 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	In 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	In Negoh Elementary School	4-6		
	San-noh G/H	In 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	In 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		
	Oh'jidai G/H	In Oh'jidai Elementary School	1-2		
	Chiyoda G/H	In 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	In Uchigoh Elementary School	1-6		
	Shirogane G/H (former Shirogane-shoh Jidoh Club)	In Shirogane Elementary School	1-6	483-2200	
	Oh'saki-dai G/H	Adjacent to Negoh Hoikuen	3-6	484-5199	
	Terasaki G/H	In Terasaki Elementary School	1-2	486-1106	
	Yatomi G/H	Yatomi Community Center	1-6	498-1321	
In'nan G/H	In In'nan Elementary School	1-6	486-1537		
Ino G/H	Adjacent to Ino Elementary School	1-3	Kita-Shizu Hoikuen 487-1785		
Nishi-Shizu G/H	Adjacent to Shizu Nursery School	1-3			
Shimo-Shizu G/H	In Shimo-Shizu Elementary School	1-6			
Minami-Shizu G/H	In Minami-Shizu Elementary School	1-6			
PRIVATE	Aoba Jidoh Room	Usui-dai 1351-3 (In Aoba Hoikuen)	1-3	461-0460	9:00-17:00 except for Sun. & national holidays
	Daini Aoba Jidoh Room	Someino 1-21 (In Daini-Aoba Hoikuen)	1-3	462-6539	
	Sumire Niko-niko Home	Usui-dai 1253-3	1-6	Sumire Hoikuen 487-8468	13:00-17:00 except for Sat. Sun. & national holidays
	Hikari-no-Ko Jidoh Center	Joh'za 1148-1	1-6	462-2654	13:00-18:00 except for Sat. Sun. & national holidays
	Yukari Yuh'to pia	Aosuge 1023-6	1-6	460-6700	10:00-18:00 except for Sun & national holidays

TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF SHIZU BRANCH OFFICE

☎ Shizu Branch Office, 489-0903

In January 2014, Shizu Branch Office will be temporarily relocated due to the planned construction of a city's new complex facility. The relocation schedule is as shown below. Please note that **there will be no Sunday opening on January 12** due to the relocation works. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience we might cause you.

Temporary location: Kami-Shizu 1663-16
(The 4th floor of Shizu Station bldg. at the south exit of Keisei Shizu Station)

Period of relocation: From January 14, 2014 to November 2015 (tentative schedule)

New facility's opening: December 2015 (tentative schedule)

*Shizu branch library on the second floor in the current branch office will also be closed from December 28, and you cannot use its book post afterwards. We appreciate your kind understanding.

Start of Application Period for Nursery Schools 2014

☎ Kosodate Shien-ka (Child Rearing Support Section) , 484-6245

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 in and after February 2014 to nursery schools in Sakura (both public and private), parents need to make an application as described below:

Period of acceptance:

Tuesday, January 7 to Wednesday, January 15 (except for Monday, January 13)
between 9:00 and 17:00 on week days,
9:00 and 16:00 on Saturdays and Sundays

Place of acceptance:

- City Hall (*Sanyo* Room on the 1st floor of the *Gikai* Wing, Building 1)
 - Public nursery schools*
- (*Appointment required, only on weekdays, 9:00 to 16:00, between January 7 and 15)



Documents required:

Application form (Please fill out in advance), emergency contact list, medical interview card, Certificate of employment, Health insurance certificate, *Boshi-techoh* (mother/child health book), Tax document, and other necessary documents (Please check the guidance leaflet.)

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 school.

List of Nursery Schools in Sakura City (Private nurseries are shown in shaded cells.)

AREA	NAME OF NURSERY	ADDRESS	TEL. NO.	CHILDCARE PERIOD*
Sakura & Wada	Niji-iro Hoikuen Sakura	Shirogane 1-24-5	309-7526	A
	Sakura Hoikuen	Kaburagi-machi 198-3	484-1043	
	Sakura-higashi Hoikuen	Moto-machi 142-1	485-8600	
Negoh & Yatomi	Mawatashi Hoikuen	Mawatashi 818-2	498-0065	A
	Negoh Hoikuen	Ohsaki-dai 4-3-2	484-4661	
	Sakura Keiai Hoikuen	San'noh 1-9	310-6811	
Usui & Chiyoda	Usui Hoikuen	Usuida 2379	487-3006	B
	O'hisama Hoikuen	Ohji-dai 4-10-1	488-2177	
	Sumire Hoikuen	Usui-dai 1201	487-8468	
	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	B
	Hikari-no-ko Hoikuen	Johza 1219-4	461-1372	
	Mikuni Hoikuen	Shimo-shizu-hara 61	489-2002	
	Miyano-mori Hello Kids	Miyano-dai 3-1-1	462-2615	
	Yukari Hello Kids	Johza 383-1	488-3130	A
	Kita-Shizu Hoikuen	Ino 869-9	487-1785	
	Shizu Hoikuen	Nishi-shizu 4-26-1	489-3004	
	Solasto Sakura	Kami-shizu 1707-2	463-7351	



New Type of Childcare Service Starts from April 2014

In addition to the existing nursery schools listed to the left, a new type childcare service will start in Sakura City from fiscal year 2014. The new service will be provided by a group of home care workers called "Hoiku-mam" in a family-like environment on a small scale. The first service of this type is planned to start in Shizu district. Please check the next issue of the City's newsletter for more detail.

(*) A: End of maternity leave to before entering elementary school
B: Six months to before entering elementary school

YEAR-END/NEW YEAR GARBAGE COLLECTION

☎ Haikibutsu Talsaku-ka (the Garbage Control Section) , 484-6149

The last day of this year's normal garbage collection is **Friday, December 27** and there are two additional collections (for 'burnable garbage' only) on **Monday, December 30** and **Saturday, January 4**. On these additional collection days, 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 also available until Friday, December 27, if a prior request is made by Friday, December 20. 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:	Imba-Boh'eki-sha, ☎ 483-5022 Fax: 486-2937
Usui & Shizu (Southern side of the Keisei Line railroad only) and Chiyoda:	Igarashi-Shoh'kai, ☎ 443-4676 Fax: 442-1581

Shisui Recycling Culture Center, ☎ 496-7511, also accepts (fee required) oversized and other garbage brought in by **Friday, December 27** (and on **Monday, December 30** for burnable garbage only). Normal garbage collection resumes on **Monday, January 6**, the day for 'burnable garbage'.

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY



As of the end of October 2012, the Japanese population of Sakura was 175,446 (86,730 males and 88,716 females) in 72,740 households. Registered foreign residents accounted for 2,127. The combined population of Sakura City was 177,573.

HEALTH INFORMATION


Contacts: Kenkoh Kanri Center (Health Management Center) ☎485-6712;
 Seibu Hoken Center (Seibu Health & Welfare Center) ☎463-4181;
 Nambu Hoken Center (Nambu Health & Welfare Center) ☎483-2812.



HEALTH INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN

AGE OF CHILDREN	DEC '13	RECEPTION	PLACE
Health consultation for children of 4 months, born in July 2013 	Tue. 24	9:30-10:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Fri. 20	13:30-14:30	Seibu Hoken Center
	Wed. 04	13:30-14:30	Nambu Hoken Center
<i>Mogu-mogu</i> (munching) Class for children of 8 months, born in March 2013	Wed. 18	9:30-9:45	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Fri. 06		Seibu Hoken Center
	Wed. 04		Nambu Hoken Center
For 18-month-old children born in June 2012	Wed. 11	13:15-14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Wed. 25		Seibu Hoken Center
For 3-year-old children born in June 2010	Thu. 12	13:15-14:15	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Thu. 26		Seibu Hoken Center
Dental check for children born in December 2010 or in June or December 2011 * On the days with * mark, Consultation on Speech Development is also available. 	Tue. 03*	13:30-14:30	Kenkoh Kanri Center
	Fri. 13		
	Tue. 10*		Seibu Hoken Center
	Thu. 19		
	Thu. 05*		
Suku-Suku Hattatsu Soh'dan (Development consultation) for preschoolers	Thu. 19	9:00-12:00	Kenkoh Kanri Center

EXTENSION OF THE SUBSIDY PERIOD FOR THE RUBELLA VACCINATION

☎ Kenkoh Kanri Center, 485-6711- 

If a pregnant woman have rubella in the early stage of pregnancy, the virus might cause severe damage to the baby. Sakura City provides a subsidy to cover a part of the vaccination cost for women aged 19 and above and expectant fathers. The vaccination period subject to the subsidy is extended until March 31, 2015. Early vaccination is strongly recommended.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS IN CASE OF CHILDREN'S CIGARETTE INGESTION & ACCIDENTAL POISONING

(365 days a year)

In case of accidental poisoning, call one of the following:

Osaka Poisoning 110 Emergency Service: ☎072-727-2499 (24 hours a day)

Tsukuba Poisoning Emergency Service: ☎029-852-9999 (Available 9 am-9 pm)

Cigarettes consultation only: ☎072-726-9922 (Recorded audio guidance, 24 hours a day)

HEALTH INFORMATION FOR ADULTS

CONSULTATION BY PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

-Application required. Please call each center-

Time	Date	Place
13:30 - 15:30	Mon. Dec 9	Kenko Kanri Center
9:30 - 11:30	Fri. Dec 24	Seibu Hoken Center
	Fri. Dec 6	Nambu Hoken Center

The City offers consultation on health-check results and how to live a healthier life, nutritional guidance. Besides, health checks including blood-pressure measurement can be provided.

Please notify early enough any changes in your eligibility status for THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE (KOKUMIN KENKO HOKEN)

☎ Kenkoh Hoken-ka (Health Insurance Section), 484-6604

The national health insurance (Kokumin Kenko Hoken) is one of social health insurance programs in Japan. Except for those who are enrolled in employee's health insurance or recipients of public assistance, everyone must enroll in it. When you withdraw from employee's health insurance program, you must notify the City of the change in your insurance status within 14 days. Early notification is strongly recommended.

DO NOT MISS THE SPECIFIED HEALTH CHECKUP

Kenko Hoken-ka, ☎484-1783

The last day of the FY2013 checkup is:

December 9 (Mass screening) & December 10 (Individual screening)

Specified Health Checkup is annual medical checkup focusing on metabolic syndrome that might cause adult diseases. Those who received the checkup slips are eligible. Please do not miss the opportunity and make sure you bring your checkup slip and health insurance certificate.

HOLIDAY & NIGHTTIME EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Nighttime on Sundays & Holidays (19:00 - 21:45, Physician & Dentist) ☎485-6711 at Kenkoh Kanri Center

365 days a year Pediatric Emergency

for children under 16 of age

☎485-3355 at Kenkoh Kanri Center

Monday through Saturday: 19:00 - 6:00 (next morning)

Sundays & holidays : 9:00 - 16:45 & 19:00 - 6:00

To Find On-Duty Doctor—Call ☎484-2516

Daytime on Sundays & Holidays (9:00 - 22:00, recorded audio guidance)

•Surgeon, Physician, and Dentist on the day's duty

•Surgeon and ENT on the night's duty

* Medical care is provided at each doctor's office