

This is a free monthly English newsletter carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter published by Sakura City for its residents. For free subscription by postal mail and/or email, please send your request via email or fax to the above address/number. In principle, inquiries can be answered only in Japanese at the City Hall and other city facilities. If you do not speak Japanese, please be accompanied by someone who speaks Japanese when you make inquiries.

(Printed on recycled paper.)



SAKURA NO AKI-MATSURI

Sakura Autumn Festival

14 – 16 October

15:00 – 22:00



Sakurashi Kankoh Kyohkai (Sakura Tourism Association), ☎486-6000

Sakura no Akimatsuri (Autumn Festival) has a long history of more than 300 years, dating back to the *Edo* period. Towns in the old urban area of Sakura have their unique *Dashi* (traditional festival float) handed down through generations. In the festival, all such *Dashi* march along to festival music, and sometimes offer spectacular sights going past each other on the narrow, twisting streets in the old castle town. Also, the dynamic transfer of the *Oh-mikoshi* (great portable shrine) of *Makata-Jinja* Shrine is a must-see. Please check the following *Dashi* and *Mikoshi* schedule so as not to miss them!

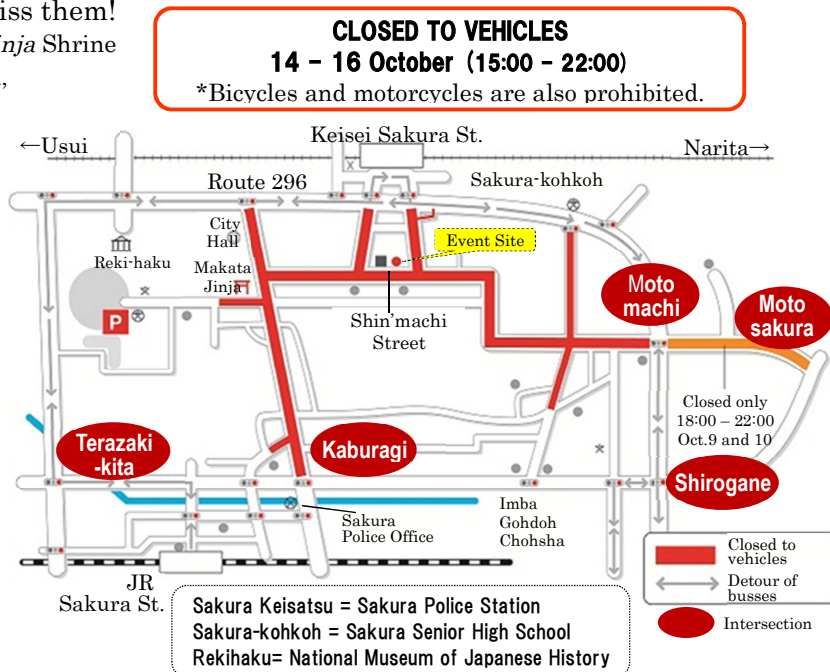
◆ **Fri. Oct. 14:** *Oh-mikoshi* comes out from *Makata-Jinja* Shrine at about 15:00. *Dashi* will be pulled through the town, accompanied by drum/flute music and dancing.

◆ **Sat. Oct. 15:** All the *Mikoshi* and *Dashi* move to the event site of the festival and will make a procession one after another along the *Shinmachi* Street.

◆ **Sun. Oct. 16:** *Mikoshi* and *Dashi* will be carried around the old urban area of Sakura. *Oh-mikoshi* returns into *Makata-Jinja* Shrine at about 21:30.

A lot of stalls selling food and drink, souvenirs and local merchandise offer various entertainment options for a large crowd of spectators during the 3-day festival. Please enjoy this historical event!

(Note) Traffic jams are foreseen around the festival site. You are requested to refrain from visiting the festival by car, bicycle, or motorcycle. Roads leading to the festival site and the parade route will be closed as shown to the right.



Sakura-no-Akimatsuri Video is Now Available!

A video depicting the last year's *Sakura-no-Akimatsuri* is now available on the YouTube!

Please check the URL: <https://youtu.be/-9-CycsyvyM>

Sakura Cosmos Festival

October 8 – 23

Sakurashi Kankoh Kyohkai (Sakura Tourism Association), ☎486-6000

With the windmill as their backdrop, more than 500,000 cosmoses will be in their full bloom during the festival at *Sakura Furusato Hiroba* square. Visitors can enjoy picking up the flowers to buy for 100 yen/one seedling (9:00 to 16:00). Various other fun activities are also waiting for you!

◇ **Furusato Market** (October 22, 9:00 – 16:00)

Explore the local market of Sakura with fresh vegetables, specialties, snack food stalls, etc.

◇ **Yakatabune Houseboat ride** (October & 23, starts at 11:00, 13:00, 14:00)

1,000 yen for an adult (senior high school age or older, for one ride), 500 yen for children (elementary school and junior high school age).

◇ **Rental Bicycle** available at ¥500/day (¥1,000/day for an electric bicycle).

Furusato Hiroba is 30 minutes on foot from *Keisei Usui* Station. Please call the Association for more information.





Kindergarten Application Period Begins Soon for April 2017 Admission



Applications for kindergarten admission in April 2017 will be accepted on the following schedule.

Please note that some of the kindergartens often reach their capacity very quickly.

Public kindergartens

Gakumu-ka (School Affairs Section), ☎484-6186

- ① 2-year education for 4 year-old children
- ② 1-year education for 5 year-old children

◆ How to apply ◆

Application and registration are accepted at the same time during the period from **Nov. 1 - 4 (except Nov. 3)**. Please visit the kindergarten with the child bringing your *inkan* (family seal) and *Juhmin-hyoh* (certificate of residence) that shows the relationship of all the family members in the child's household. *Juhmin-hyoh* can be obtained at *Shimin-ka* (the Registration & Certification Services Section) of City Hall and other city branch offices.

Public Kindergarten	Address	Phone
Sakura Yohchien	934 Kaburagimachi	486-1533
Wada Yohchien	59-6 Naoya	498-1571
Yatomi Yohchien	145 Iwatomimachi	498-0603

Private kindergartens

Kosodate Shien-ka (Child-rearing Support Section), ☎484-6139

- ① 3-year education for 3-year old children
- ② 2-year education for 4-year old children
- ③ 1-year education for 5-year old children

Guidelines and application forms are distributed at the respective kindergarten on and after **Sat., Oct. 15**.
(At Usui Yohchien only, on and after **Mon., Oct. 17**)

◆ How to apply ◆

Application is accepted on and after **Tue., Nov. 1**. Please submit a fully-completed application form within the application period of each kindergarten. For detailed application procedures, please call each kindergarten.

Private Kindergarten	Address	Phone
Shizu Yohchien	1362 Ino	487-6717
Sakura Yohchien	2-23-19 Nishi-Shizu	487-1747
Shizu Wakaba Yohchien	874 Kamishizu	487-1787
Odake Yohchien	795-1 Odake	487-1784
Usui Yohchien	2435 Usuida	487-5462
Usui Tampopo Yohchien	1-10-7 Ohjidai	461-5105
Sakura Johnan Yohchien	1-5 Kaburagimachi	484-0551
Sen'nari Yohchien	3-11-15 Sen'nari	485-3755
Jikoh Yohchien	54 Motomachi	484-2444

Nintei Kodomo-en

Kosodate Shien-ka (Child-rearing Support Section), ☎484-6139

Sakura Kurumi Yohchien is scheduled to transform into *Nintei Kodomo-en* (Certified Center for Early Childhood Education and Care to be managed under

an unified system of kindergarten and nursery care systems) from April 2017 and will provide 1-, 2- and 3-year education. Distribution of the application forms and the application period begin on the same day as the private kindergartens above.

Nintei Kodomo-en	Address	Phone
Sakura Kurumi Yohchien	551-1 Ishikawa	485-8425



HEALTH CHECK FOR CHILDREN ENTERING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN APRIL 2017

Shidoh-ka (School Guidance Section), ☎484-6193

"Notice for a health checkup for children entering elementary school next April" has been sent to relevant children's households. Children born on and between April 2, 2010 and April 1, 2011 are required to go through health checks before entering elementary school in April 2017. The scheduled health check for each school is as shown below. Please call *Shidoh-ka* (the School Guidance Section) in case you have not received the notice.

Place: The elementary school which your child is assigned to

Time: As indicated on the "Notice for a health checkup"

* Please attend a lecture meeting for parents on home education during the checkup.

* In Sakura City, the elementary and junior high school are assigned to your children based on your address. If you wish to enroll your child in a school other than the assigned one for particular reasons, please contact the section in charge.

Elementary School	Date	Elementary School	Date	Elementary School	Date
Sakura	Nov. 14	Minamishizu	Oct. 20	Manodai	Oct. 27
Uchigoh	Oct. 27	Negoh	Nov. 14	Ohjidai	Nov. 04
Usui	Oct. 13	Wada	Nov. 02	Aosuge	Oct. 06
In'nari	Nov. 11	Yatomi	Nov. 21	Terazaki	Oct. 14
Chiyoda	Oct. 06	Ino	Oct. 26	San'noh	Oct. 17
Kamishizu	Oct. 19	Sakura Higashi	Oct. 19	Someino	Nov. 08
Shizu	Oct. 20	Nishishizu	Nov. 08	Shirogane	Oct. 27
Shimoshizu	Oct. 18	Odake	Oct. 26		

Kusabue-no-Oka Information

☎ 485-7821
Open 9:00 - 18:00

■ Agri Festival & Special Petting Zoo October 8 - 10

Exhibition of farm equipment, rice threshing experience, & interaction with novelty pets



■ Retro Bus Tour to the Cosmos Fields October 15 & 16

Starts at 10:00, 11:30, 13:30, 15:00
Advance reservation required.
(500 yen /adults, 250 yen / children aged 2 years or over)

■ Autumn rose festival

**Every Sat. & Sun from
October 15 to 30**
Workshops & concerts



SAKURA AGRI FORUM '16

& Universal Agricultural Festival

Saturday, October 22

Sakura Agri Forum Executive Committee, ☎484-6142



Aiming to share the trends and challenges of today's agricultural practice, a forum will be held as follows. The first 500 attendants will receive a souvenir. Also, winners of the lottery will obtain rice or other produce of Sakura! At the same time, you can enjoy an event to find and purchase a wide variety of Sakura's products. Free of admission and no application required. Do not miss this opportunity to renew your knowledge in a fun way!

◆Forum◆ at *Sakura Shimin Ongaku Hall* (City Concert Hall), 13:00 – 15:45 (doors open at 12:30)

“The sixth industrialization in tomato production ~ Business practice making use of women's perspective”

Speaker: Ms. Eiko Konno, senior managing director of Delicious Farm

◆Direct sales of local products◆ at *Oise Koh'en Park* (next to City Concert Hall), 10:00 -15:00

Fresh vegetables, processed meat, flower seedlings and other local products will be sold at *Oise Koh'en Park*, 5-minute walk from *Usui* station. To be cancelled only in case of heavy rain.



Sakura Sports Festival

Shogai Sports-ka, ☎ 484-6742

October 10 (National Holiday), 9:00 - 13:00

(Reception starts at 8:30. No advance application required.)

At the Athletic Stadium of Iwana Undoh Koh'en

(Iwana Sports Park) & the swimming pool

- Workshops (healthy walking, jogging, canoeing, yoga, etc.)
- Physical activities for parents and children
- New sports experience (target bird golf, ground golf, etc.)
- 50- & 100-meter sprint (limited to the first 100 people each)
- Centipede race (by groups of 5) ...and lots more!

Soft Tennis Championship

- Adults & Seniors (Men's & Women's): November 06
- High school students and older (Men's): November 20
- High school students and older (Women's): November 27

8:30 at Iwana Sports Park Tennis Court

Tomura, Sakura Athletic Association, Fax: 498-1543

Registration required.

Fee: 1000 yen for a pair of high school students
2000 yen for a pair other than above

For registration, please send a fax with the players' information (name, address, age, telephone number, school, event).

(Must be received no later than October 28)



Pelvis Exercise

Citizens' Gymnasium, ☎ 486-1041

Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14 & 21 (10:30 - 11:40)

(All Mondays, 4 lessons in total)

At Citizens' Gymnasium

The city offers exercise lessons for aligning your pelvis!

Instructor: MARUYAMA Yukiko (Health Fitness Programmer)

Fee: 2000 yen for four lessons (insurance included)

Capacity: 25 people (aged 18 years or older, male or female, first-come, first-served.) Please call to apply no later than Oct. 14.



Large Ball Table Tennis Match

9:00, November 19

at the Citizens' Gymnasium

Isomura, Sakura Athletic Association, ☎ 486-8366

Event: Men's doubles, Women's doubles, Mixed doubles
(each divided into age categories: -130, +131, +141, +151)

Participation fee: 2000 yen per event

For registration, please send the application form along with a copy of the bank transfer enclosed to show your payment of participation fee, by mail to:

Nasu, 2-13-25, Inaridai ☎ 285-0864.

(Must be received no later than October 18)



Long-distance Relay Race

November 23 (Starts at 8:30)

Starting and finishing at Iwana Sports Park

Shogai Sports-ka, fax: 484-1677

Participation is free of charge, but application in advance is required. For groups of 5.

- Adults & High school students (Men's): 17.3km
- Adults & High school students (Women's): 15.5km
- Junior high school students (Men's & Women's): 14.0km

Please download the application form from the city website, fill it out and send it by fax no later than October 31.



Citizens' Football Games

October 16, 23, 30 (Sundays) at Iwana Ball Park

Higuchi, Sakura Football Association, ☎090-3088-0681

Participating teams must consist of adults (aged 18 years or over) who are living, working or studying in Sakura city and at least two of them must have the certification of Referee Grade 4 or over. Also, all the members must be covered by accident insurance. Participation fee is 8,000 yen per team. Please apply by sending an email to hig10.0128@gmail.com with the choice of tournament or "enjoy league", name of the team and the representative person's name, address, cell phone number no later than October 5.



APOLOGY AND AMENDMENT

We apologize for the following mistake which occurred in Sept. 2016 Hello Sakura, page 3, and correct it as follows:

The old Samurai houses of Hirai Family and Takei Family

→ An old merchant house of Hirai Family located at Shinmachi 233-5 and an old Samurai house of Takei Family









These two old houses are also recognized as part of the cultural properties of *Hokuso* region which is designated as one of the Japan Heritage Site. We are deeply sorry for any inconvenience caused.

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY

As of the end of August, the population of Sakura City is 176,845 (87,169 males and 89,676 females) in 75,799 households. 2,549 registered foreign residents are included in the above.

HEALTH INFORMATION



Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎485-6711		Seibu Hoken Center ☎463-4181		Nambu Hoken Center ☎483-2812		
HEALTH INFORMATION FOR MOTHERS & CHILDREN					 Holiday & Nighttime Emergency Medical Services 	
Health Check-ups		Oct. 2016	Center	Reception	Nighttime on Sunday & Holiday 19:00 - 21:45 Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkoh KC ☎239-2020	
Children of 4 months , born in May 2016		Fri. 21	Kenkoh KC	9:30—10:30		
		Wed. 05	Seibu HC	13:30—14:30		
		Mon. 17	Nambu HC	13:30—14:30		
Children of 8 months , born in January 2016 ("Mogu-Mogu Class")		Wed. 26	Kenkoh KC	13:30—13:45		
		Fri. 07	Seibu HC	9:30—9:45		
		Mon. 17	Nambu HC			
Children of 18 months , born in April 2015		Thu. 13	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
		Tue. 18	Seibu HC			
Children of 3 years of age born in April 2013		Wed. 12	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
		Wed. 19	Seibu HC			
Dental Check for children born in October 2013, or in April or October 2014 * On the days with * mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.		Thu. 06*	Kenkoh KC	13:15—14:15		
		Tue. 25				
		Mon. 03*	Seibu HC			
		Mon. 24				
		Thu. 20*	Nambu HC			
Child Development Consultation for preschoolers ("Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohda")		Thu. 20	Kenkoh KC Application required	9:00—12:00		
 Maternity Class for expectant mothers due in Jan. or Feb. 2017 Moms' and Dads' Class for expectant parents due in Jan. or Feb. 2017	Application required	Thu. 27	Seibu HC	9:00—14:30		
		Sat. 15	Kenkoh KC	9:00—12:00		
HEALTH CONSULTATION FOR ADULTS						
Consultation by public health nurse	Reservation required	Tue. 04	Kenkoh KC	13:30—15:30	START OF BREAST CANCER MASS SCREENING  Kenkoh Kanri Center ☎485-6711 Reservation acceptance starts on October 3 . According to recent research, 90 % of the early detected breast cancer is curable. In the past 5 years, breast cancer was detected in 85 citizens. Do not miss this opportunity! Check details on your screening coupon.	
		Tue. 25	Seibu HC	9:30—11:30		
Mental Health Consultation by a Counselor (Reservation accepted from Oct. 3)		Thu. 27	Nambu HC	13:50—16:00		
			Reservation required			
INFLUENZA VACCINATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS						
Kenkoh Kanri Center (the Health Management Center) ☎485-6711						
 For senior citizens, influenza vaccination is available at a reduced cost of 1,500 yen* at medical institutions in Sakura city. An early shot is highly recommended to protect yourself during the peak flu season, because it takes about two weeks for antibodies to develop in your body.						
Period October 1 to December 31, 2016 (advance appointment is required.)						
Location Vaccination cooperative medical institutions in Sakura City (Please call us in advance if you are going to get a shot at institutions out of the city.)						
Eligible persons						
1) Citizens aged 65 or over. Please fill out and bring the vaccination slip.						
2) Citizens who are 60-64 years of age with a "First Degree Physical Handicap" due to heart, kidney, or respiratory diseases (Prior call is necessary).						
*Free for citizens on welfare. Please obtain Welfare Recipient Certificate in advance at <i>Shakai Fukushi-ka</i> (the Social Welfare Section) of the City Hall.						
HEPATITIS B ADDED TO THE ROUTINE CHILDHOOD VACCINATION PROGRAM						
Kenkoh Kanri Center (Health Management Center), ☎485-6711						
The hepatitis B vaccination becomes one of the routine vaccinations for infants from October 1. Babies born after April 1, 2016 are subject to the free shots. Vaccination slips were sent to their parents in late September. The standard vaccination schedule is three times in total, starting after two months of age, with the second and last shot 27 or more days and 139 days after the first shot respectively. The number of hepatitis B vaccinations taken earlier at one's own expense are excluded from the number of these free shots.						