

Kōhō-ka (Public Relations Section), Sakura City Hall

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This is a free monthly English newsletter carrying excerpts from the Japanese newsletter *Kōhō Sakura* (こうほう佐倉) issued by Sakura City. For a free subscription by postal mail, please send your request via email or fax to the above email address/fax number. In general, inquiries can be answered in English on **Wednesdays**, in Spanish on **Thursdays** and in Chinese on **Fridays**, through *Kōhō-ka*, City Hall. Except these days, questions can be answered only in Japanese at City Hall and/or other city facilities. Therefore, when making inquiries, please be accompanied by someone who speaks Japanese as needed. (Printed on recycled paper.)

2021 New Year Message from the Mayor of Sakura City "Towards a future full of happiness and energy"

Happy New Year 2021 ! I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to all the citizens for welcoming a New Year, full of hope for the future.

As the spread of the coronavirus infection continues from last year, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who is still at the forefront of medical care and who has cooperated in the infectious disease control. I want to convey too my profound appreciation to everyone who made heartwarming donations as a countermeasure against infectious diseases.

Japan is now facing a historic crisis due to the effects of the new coronavirus infection and is causing enormous damage to all socio-economic activities such as civil life, economy and employment. In addition, the local socio-economy is in an extremely difficult situation and the financial situation of the city is expected to decrease, so it is necessary to review the office work business and reduce administrative costs. Even in such a situation, the role of the government is to select the measures that are truly necessary to protect the lives and health of the citizens and to build a town where everyone can continue to live with a smile and with peace of mind.

Last year, it was formulated the "Fifth Sakura City Comprehensive Plan, first half of the basic plan, and positioned the response to the long-standing issue of maintaining and increasing the settlement and exchange population due to the declining birthrate and aging population as a priority measure. Top priority will continue to be given to support for citizens' lives and businesses as well as responding to new administrative demands while further promoting various measures.

In order to bring smiles and energy to Sakura City, we will continue to work for the future and we look forward for your continued understanding and cooperation. I sincerely pray for the continued happiness and good health of the citizens.

Sango Nishita, Sakura City Mayor



Important announcement regarding the 2021 Coming of Age Ceremony

The Seijin-Shiki or Coming of Age Ceremony for the 3rd Year of Reiwa, for those born between April 2, 2000 until April 1, 2001 and scheduled for January 11, 2021 at the City Concert Hall, will be canceled as the coronavirus infectious disease continues spreading nationwide, including Chiba Prefecture. Based on the number of infections, it is important to secure a medical care provision system and prevent outbreaks. It cannot be denied that holding a Coming of Age Ceremony in a collective way may be a factor in the further spread of the infection. In view of the situation, it has been decided to change the holding method, instead of the usual gathering ceremony it will be delivered online on **January 11 (Monday)**. It is very disappointing that we cannot celebrate the brilliant start of the new adults in the traditional gathering method. We apologize for the inconvenience caused to all the new adults, families and other related parties who have been preparing for the event, but we made the decision with the highest priority given to your health and safety.

Further details will be announced on the City homepage. Please confirm them by accessing the QR Code on the right. Thank you for your understanding.



Inquiries at: Sakura City Hall, Kenkō Kodomo-bu, Jidoseishonen-ka ☎ 484-6190 FAX 486-2118
E-mail: jidoseishonen@city.sakura.lg.jp

TO THE READERS OF THE MONTHLY ISSUE "HELLO SAKURA"

Public Relations Section (Kōhō-ka) ☎ 484-6103 / Email: koho@city.sakura.lg.jp




Thank you for reading "Hello Sakura". In order to provide better services to foreign residents, we ask for your cooperation in answering a readers' survey. If you receive the monthly issue by mail, please answer the attached questionnaire and send it in the enclosed reply envelope (no mailing stamps required). ▶ Name and address are not required.

▶ Survey deadline: February 15, 2021. (Postmark is valid on the day of mailing).
If you pick up the the monthly issue at a public facility or train station, please answer on the Internet by accessing the QR Code on the right. Thank you in advance for participating!



Sakura City Community Bus

※For information on how to apply for the discount pass as well as the routes and schedules, please see details on the city homepage.



A discount system starts on January 1st!

The community bus operates through areas where there is no available public transportation.

◆The fare will have a discount from 200 Yen to 100 Yen if you show any of the following passes or ID cards (Examples are shown on the right):

- ① Health insurance card for the elderly (aged 75 years and over) (kōki kōreisha iryōhi hokensha-sho).
- ② Chii-Pass (The use of this pass is limited to children and their families living together from nursery school until Jr. High School as well as for pregnant women)
- ③ Driving License History Certificate (Not for driving) (Unten Keireki shōmei-sho)

◆A fare of 200 Yen to Free will apply if you show:

- ④ Discount Pass for Voluntary Returned Driver's License that is currently being implemented. ※Those who are eligible for the discount pass must have been issued a Driving License History Certificate *within one year while living in the city.*



Inquiries:

- ① Health insurance card for the elderly, Health Insurance Section (Kenkō Hoken-ka) ☎ 484-6136
- ② Chii-Pass, Child Rearing Support Section (Kosodate Shien-ka) ☎ 484-6246
- ③ Driving license history certificate, City Planning Section (Toshi Keikaku-ka) ☎ 484-6164
- ④ Voluntary returned driver's license, Sakura Police Station (Sakura Keisatsusho) ☎ 484-0110

Accepting Applications for Municipal Housing

Municipal apartments are available, as per the table on the right. For detailed information, please refer to the application forms that will be available from **January 15** at the City Hall, Housing Division (Jūtaku-ka), city branch offices and city service centers (Nishishizu Fureai Center, Yatomi Community Center and Sakura citizens' service center at the Millennium Center). Applications will be accepted from **8:30 on January 15 (Fri) through 17:15 on January 29 (Fri) at the City Hall.**

Jūtaku-ka (Housing Section)
☎484-6168 Fax: 485-0108



Location	Horinouchi	Fujisawa
Type	General	Elderly
Houses Available	1	1
Floor Plan	3DK	3DK
Rent (Yen)	20,300~39,900	20,600~40,400

- ※ Applications via post office are not accepted.
- ※ Recruitment housing units are subject to change.

Eligible residents are those who meet all the requirements below

1. Living in Sakura City for more than one year and paying city taxes on time
 2. Living or planning to live together with at least one relative (Use by one person is allowed under certain conditions.)
 3. Having obvious and actual housing difficulties and it is clear that the house is actually in need.
 4. Monthly income is within the prescribed limits: 158,000 yen or less of monthly income for general households. 214,000 yen or less of monthly income for discretionary households (Those that meet certain conditions, such as for the elderly and people with disabilities)
 5. Neither the applicant nor his/her relatives are members of a gangster organization
- ※The rent is determined every year according to the income of the resident and housing conditions.

New Year Garbage Collection Schedule

Haikibutsu Taisaku-ka (Garbage Control Section) ☎ 484-6149



- ◆ Please put waste in the designated garbage bags at the assigned collection site.
- ◆ Dispose of the garbage in the morning of the collection day, before and until 8:30 AM, not the night before.
- ◆ Business-related garbage cannot be put out.
- ◆ Oversized garbage collection reservation starts from January 4th, (Monday). Please call the facility that corresponds to the area where you live:

Those who live in Sakura, Negō, Wada & Yatomi areas. Also, Usui and Shizu areas at the northern side of the Keisei Line railroad only.	Imba Bōekisha, ☎483-5022
Those who live in the Chiyoda area. Also, Usui and Shizu areas at the southern side of the Keisei Line railroad only.	Igarashi-Shōkai, ☎443-4676

- ◆ The New Year garbage collection schedule is as follows:

January 2021	1 (Friday)	No garbage collection
	2 (Saturday)	
	3 (Sunday)	
	4 (Monday)	Burnable garbage collection starts

Please do not put the garbage out if it's not an assigned day. Thank you for your cooperation.

Shichifuku-Jin STAMP-COLLECTING TOUR

JANUARY 1 – JANUARY 10



Join a stamp-collecting tour of Shichifukujin and visit old Japanese temples and a shrine! Shichifukujin literally meaning “the seven gods of good fortune” are said to bring people wealth, happiness and long life.

From January 1 through January 10 and on the 10th of every month (10:00 ~ 16:00), the shrine/temples of the seven gods invite visitors to such walking tours to collect vermilion seals of all seven gods. Stamp notepads are available for 400 yen at the temples & shrine on the map, as well as:

- ◆ *Sakura-shi Kankō Kyōkai* (8:30 ~ 17:00) closed Jan. 1~3
- ◆ *Tezukuri Kōbō Sakura* ☎ 486-3352 (10:00 ~ 17:00) closed Jan. 1 (Fri) & Jan. 2 (Sat) Opens from Jan. 3 (Sun). Closed on Mondays as well as the first and third Tuesdays.
- ◆ *Ichioka Japanese sweets parlor* ☎ 484-0206 (10:00~17:00) Closed on Sundays and national holidays. Will open from January 1 ~ 10, closing on January 11 (Mon).

One stamp of a vermilion seal costs 200 yen (300 yen for the two seals of *Makata Jinja Shrine* and *Daishōin*)

※*Daishōin no Daikokuten* and *Shorinji Bishamonten* are hidden Buddhas and cannot be viewed.

You can also purchase a fully-stamped notepad for 2,000 yen at *Tezukuri Kōbō Sakura* or the *Ichioka Japanese sweets parlor*.



Sakura Shichifukujin-kai
(at the Ichioka Japanese Sweets Parlor)
Tel & Fax: 308-7072

Kusabue-no-Oka

ONE-DAY FREE ADMISSION ON JANUARY 2 (SAT) & 3 (SUN) !

Why not join the New Year celebrations at *Kusabue-no-Oka* on January 2 and 3? On these New Year's first business days at *Kusabue-no-Oka*, free admission to the park will be offered.



🌹 **Climbing rose trellis course:**
January 13(Wed), 21 (Thur), 30 (Sat)

🌹 **Rose plant pruning course:**
February 3 (Wed), 11 (Thur), 20 (Sat)



Kusabue-no-Oka ☎ 485-7821 Open 9:00-17:00
Closed on January 1

◆ Until middle March, Mondays will remain closed.
Admission fees: Adults: 410 Yen, Free for infants.
Elementary and Jr. High School Students: 100 Yen.



To apply: By postcard, fax or e-mail. Include your name, address, telephone or fax number, e-mail address and your desired date to participate and send to:
Kusabue-no-oka Bara-en,
〒285-0003 Ino 820,
☎485-7821 / Fax 486-9356
koushuukai@kusabueroses.jp

- ▶ Both courses will be held from 10:00 to 12:30 on the dates above.
- ▶ Reservation required
- ▶ Cancelled in case of rain
- ▶ Fee: 1,000 Yen (Admission fee is not included)
- ▶ Capacity: 10 people, first-come, first-served basis
- ▶ Items to bring: Pruning scissors, leather gloves

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL BENEFITS FOR SINGLE-PARENT HOUSEHOLDS.

This is a temporary benefit to support single-parent households that are particularly vulnerable to their livelihoods due to the spread of the new coronavirus infection. Target persons are those who are raising children born on and after April 2, 2002 (under 20 years old if the child has a disability above the standard).

Also, those who fall under the next categories:

- ① Those who have not received the child-rearing allowance for June 2020 due to receiving public pension benefits, etc.
※The amount of income in 2018 are at the level covered by the child-rearing allowance.
- ② Those whose family economy has suddenly changed due to the influence of the new coronavirus infection and the expected income for one year after the sudden change is at a level where a child-rearing allowance is paid.

Benefit amount: 50,000 Yen per family. 30,000 Yen will be added per person after the second child.





<Additional benefit:> For those who fall under the ①category and those who have received the child-rearing allowance for June 2020 who suffered sudden changes in their household budget due to the influence of the new coronavirus infection and their income has significantly decreased. The benefit amount will be of 50,000 Yen per family.

Application method: Please bring the required documents or send them by mail to the Children and Youth Division of the City Hall (〒285-8501 Sakura Shiyakusho Jidou Seishounen-ka).

Application deadline: February 26, 2021 (Friday)

※The application is submitted only once. Those who have received the payment cannot apply. Please contact the Children and Youth Division ☎ 484-6140 for further details.

HEALTH INFORMATION – JANUARY 2021

Health Information for Mothers & Children				Holiday & Night-time Emergency Medical Services 
HEALTH CHECKUPS	JAN. 2021	PLACE	RECEPTION	Sundays & Holidays Night-time Treatment Dentistry & Internal Medicine at Kenkō KC ☎239-2020 19:00 ~ 21:45 Emergency Pediatric Internal Medicine for children aged 15 or younger at Kenkō KC ☎485-3355 Every night 19:00 ~ AM 5:45 On Sundays & holidays, open 9:00 ~ 16:45 & 19:00~AM 5:45 Night-time Consultation on children's acute illnesses: ☎#8000 (19:00 – 6:00, 365 days) on acute illnesses (for anyone): ☎#7009 (18:00 – 6:00 AM, 365 days; 9:00 – 6:00 AM on Sunday & Holidays) To Find an On-Duty Doctor (*) 8:30~22:00 (Sundays & Holidays) ☎484-2516 Recorded audio guidance on contacting: (daytime) • a surgeon • a dentist • a doctor of internal medicine (night-time) • a surgeon (*) <i>Treatment is provided at each doctor's office</i>
4-month checkup for children born in August 2020 	Tue. 05	Kenkō KC	An appointed time will be indicated	
	Wed. 13	Seibu HC		
	Fri. 29	Nambu HC		
8-month checkup for children born in April 2020 (“ <i>Mogu-Mogu Class</i> ”)	Tue. 19	Kenkō KC	Reservation required	
	Wed. 06	Seibu HC		
18-month checkup for children born in July 2019	Thur. 07	Kenkō KC	13:10 – 14:40 An appointed time will be indicated	
	Tue. 26	Seibu HC		
	Thur. 14	Nambu HC		
	Fri. 08	Kenkō KC		
3-year checkup for children born in July 2017	Wed. 27	Seibu HC		
	Fri. 15	Nambu HC		
	Wed. 13*	Kenkō KC		 13:15 – 14:15 An appointed time will be indicated
Fri. 22	Kenkō KC			
Mon. 18*	Seibu HC			
Dental Checkup for children born in January or July 2018. ※ Checkup for children aged 2 years old is cancelled until March 2021. ※(On the days with a *mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available.)	Mon. 25	Seibu HC		
	Thur. 28*	Nambu HC		
Child Development Consultation for pre-schoolers (“ <i>Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan</i> ”)	Thur. 21	Kenkō KC Application required	9:00 – 12:00	
 Maternity Class for expectant fathers & mothers of babies due from Mar. ~ May. 2021	Sun. 31	Seibu HC	9:00 – 12:00 13:00–16:00	



Health Consultation for Adults



Consultation with a public health nurse	Mon. 18	Kenkō KC	13:30 – 15:30	Child Abuse Consultation/Reporting Children & Youth Section, City Hall (Daytime): ☎484-6263 Chiba Pref. Hotline (24 Hours): ☎252-1152 Sakura Police Station: ☎484-0110
	Fri. 29	Seibu HC	9:30-11:30	

Kenkō Kanri Center

☎485-6711



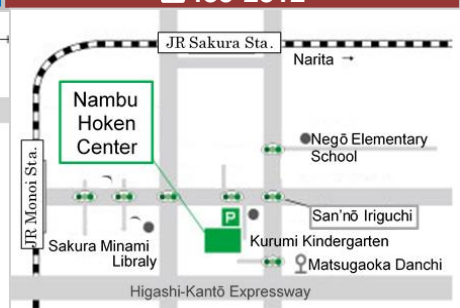
Seibu Hoken Center

☎463-4181



Nambu Hoken Center

☎483-2812



Rubella Vaccinations

If a woman in early pregnancy is infected with the rubella virus, there is a high risk of her baby having various congenital disorders. Free coupons were sent from early June 2019 for antibody tests and vaccinations in order to prevent the spread of rubella infection. First, an antibody test is performed and if the test result does not meet certain criteria, it will be subject to the 5th routine immunization for rubella. Male candidates born between April 2, 1962 to April 1, 1979 and who are not yet been vaccinated, please consider getting vaccinations. ※For women wishing to get pregnant and their partners, Sakura City provides a partial subsidy for vaccinations for those who have low antibody values. Please consult with your family doctor if you are considering being vaccinated.

➤ **Deadline for vaccination: March 31, 2022**

Please contact the Health Promotion Section (Kenkō Zōshin-ka) ☎ 485-6711 if you have not received the coupon, lost it or moved in from outside the city.

*Have you received your free voucher
for antibody testing and vaccination?*

BLOOD DONATIONS

Thanks to generous donations, blood transfusions save the lives of countless patients on a daily basis. A blood donation facility will be installed at Aeon Town Yūkarigaoka on January 17, AM 10:00~11:45 and PM 13:00~16:00

- ▶ 400 ml of blood per person is kindly requested for donation.
- ▶ For safety reasons, a questionnaire and medical examination will be conducted in Japanese. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Social Welfare Section ☎ 484-6135

POPULATION OF SAKURA CITY ※ () Increase/Decrease from previous month

As of the end of November, the population of Sakura City was 173,740 ※ (-57) (85,649 males and 88,091 females) in 78,483 households. The total includes 3,743 registered non-Japanese residents.