



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.

Message from Sakura City Mayor



Nishita Sango
Sakura City
Mayor

Towards a city full of smiles and energy!

Happy New Year!

I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations to all the citizens for having been able to reach the New Year safely. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who is cooperating in preventing the spread of infection during the prolonged coronavirus crisis. Last year, while taking measures to prevent infection, we

were finally able to resume business such as tourism, culture and sports activities in the city.

With the cooperation of citizens, local communities and high school students, we were working hard to prepare for the opening of the Yume Sakura-kan on March 4th of this year. In this way, it is a great pleasure to be able to welcome the opening of this facility with the support of thoughts and connections of so many people.

We will continue to earnestly address the issues that the region is facing with “Hope for the Future and the Development of an Attractive Town” where young people want to live in and with everyone’s desire to make of Sakura City a better place. Citizens, let’s join hands and welcome the New Year full of smiles and energy. We look forward to your continued support during this year!

Message from Sakura City Council Chairperson



Takagi Daisuke
Sakura City
Council
Chairperson

Towards a vibrant and safe city!

We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year! I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the citizens with hopes for a peaceful New Year.

As the impact of the new coronavirus infection continued last year, we were hit by soaring prices that are directly linked to our lives due to the rise in crude oil prices and the historic depreciation of the yen.

Under these circumstances, the City Council continued last year’s survey to ascertain the current situation and issues in the citizens’ lives. This year’s theme is “Understanding the Actual Situation of Children in the Coronavirus Crisis”. We would like to thank the cooperation of many parents who make use of nursery schools and after-school childcare centers. The results will be announced on the website, etc. within the fiscal year.

The Council will continue to closely monitor changes in social conditions and will do its utmost to resolve various issues together with the government, related organizations and citizens. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation. May this year be fruitful for all the citizens!



Let's enjoy the New Year at Kusabue-no-Oka!



ONE-DAY FREE ADMISSION ON JANUARY 2 (MONDAY)

- ◆ January 3 (Tue): Temporary closure.
- ◆ From January 4 (Wed): The usual schedule resumes.

Due to rail repair work, the mini locomotive ride service will be suspended from January 16 (Mon) until the end of February. Details will be announced on the homepage and bulletin board in the park as soon as they are decided. Inquiries: Nōsei-ka (Agricultural Administration Section) ☎484-6141

SETSUBUN* Event: January 29 (Sunday)

- ◆ Slack-line, swing-line experiences. From 10:00~16:00
- ◆ Mamemaki (bean-throwing) Event: From 10:00~15:00

Kusabue-no-Oka ☎ 485-7821 Open 9:00-17:00
Admission fees: Adults: 410 Yen, Free for infants.
Elementary and Jr. High School Students: 100 Yen

🌹 Climbing rose trellis courses:

▶Jan. 18 (Wed), 21 (Sat) & 26 (Thu)

🌹 Tree roses pruning courses:

▶Feb. 1 (Wed), 9 (Thu) & 18 (Sat)



Reservation required.

- ▶Time: From 10:00 to 12:00
- ▶Fee: 1,000 Yen (Admission fee to the park is not included.)
- ▶Capacity: 10 people per course/day, first-come first-served.
- ▶Cancelled in case of rain.
- ▶Items to bring: pruning scissors, leather gloves.
- ▶To apply: By postcard, fax or e-mail. Include your name, address, telephone / fax number, e-mail address and your desired date to participate and send to:

Kusabue-no-oka Bara-en,

〒285-0003 Iino 820, ☎ / Fax 486-9356

✉ koushuukai@kusabueroses.jp

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 4 (Wed)** at the City Hall, Housing Section (Jūtaku-ka), city branch offices and city service centers (Nishishizu Fureai Center, Yatomi Community Center and Sakura citizens' service center). Applications will be accepted **January 16 (Mon) from 8:30 through January 31 (Tue) until 17:15 hrs.** Please attach the necessary documents to the application form and bring them to the City Hall, Housing Section. **Post mailed documents are not accepted.**

Jūtaku-ka (Housing Section)
☎484-6168



Location	Type	Houses available	Floor plan	Rent ¥
Oja	General	1	3DK	23,100~45,300
		2	2DK	18,200~35,700
	Disabled	1	2DK	18,100~35,600
Fujisawa	Elderly	1	2DK	15,000~29,600
Horinouchi	General	1	3DK	20,300~39,900

- ※ 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 (Waste Management Section) ☎ 484-6149

◆The New Year garbage collection schedule is as follows:

January 2023	1 (Sun.) ~ 3 (Tue.)	No garbage collection
	4 (Wednesday)	Burnable garbage collection starts. The normal collection begins.

- ◆Dispose of the garbage in the morning of the collection day, before and until 8:30 AM, not the night before.
- ◆Please put waste in the designated garbage bags at the assigned collection site.
- ◆Business-related garbage cannot be put out.
- ◆Oversized garbage collection reservation starts from January 4th, (Wednesday). Please call the facility that corresponds to the area where you live:
 - Inba Bōekisha, ☎483-5022 - For those who live in Sakura, Negō, Wada & Yatomi areas. Also, Usui and Shizu area at the **northern side** of the Keisei Line railroad only.
 - Igarashi-Shōkai, ☎443-4676 - For those who live in the Chiyoda area. Also, Usui and Shizu areas at the **southern side** of the Keisei Line railroad only.

INCOME TAX RETURN AND MUNICIPAL/PREFECTURAL TAX RETURN NOTICE (KAKUTEI SHINKOKU)

From February 16 to March 15, the City Hall will stop accepting submissions of 2022 final income tax returns (Kakutei Shinkoku) as well as 2023 Municipal / Prefectural tax returns. Submissions will be accepted as usual at the Chūo Kominkan (Central Public Hall). From the perspective of preventing the spread of infectious diseases, please cooperate in submitting by post mail:

- ▶For submission of Municipal/Prefectural tax returns:
Sakura City Hall, Shimin Zei-ka
〒285-8501 Sakura Shi Kairinjimachi 97
 - ▶For submission of income tax returns:
Narita Tax Office
〒286-8501 Narita Shi, Karabe 1-15
- Inquiries: **Shimin Zei-ka (Municipal Tax Section)**
☎ 484-6115

TAKOAGE TAIKAI (KITE FLYING CONTEST)

Takoage (Kite flying) is a traditional New Year's pastime in Japan. At this contest, you can fly kites of any size or design, handmade or purchased. Prizes will be awarded for kites that are judged to be unique or those which flew the highest.

If you would like to participate, please come directly to the venue on the day of the event. Free of charge/No need for pre-registration. Subject to cancellation in case of stormy weather. ※Fishing rods are not allowed.

Date & Time: January 22 (Sun) 9:30 ~ 11:30
Place: Iwana Undō Kōhen, at the Koide Yoshio Commemorative Athletics Stadium.

Children's Policy Section (Kodomo Seisaku-ka) ☎484-6190



NOTICE OF CITY FACILITY'S TEMPORARY CLOSURE

The Millennium Center Sakura will be closed on January 9 (Monday) due to equipment maintenance. In addition, the elevator in the building will not be operating, so please be careful when using the connecting passageway to Keisei Sakura Station. Inquiries: Millennium Center Sakura ☎ 483-3081

Shichifuku-Jin

STAMP-COLLECTING TOUR

January 1~10



Why don't you visit "the seven gods of good fortune" while taking a leisure stroll in Sakura, a town that has been certified as a Japanese heritage?

◆**Sale of vermillion paper seals:** 400 Yen each. You can obtain them from 10:00~17:00 at the Sakura Tourism Association and Tezukuri Kōbō (only until 16:00 at each temple and shrine):

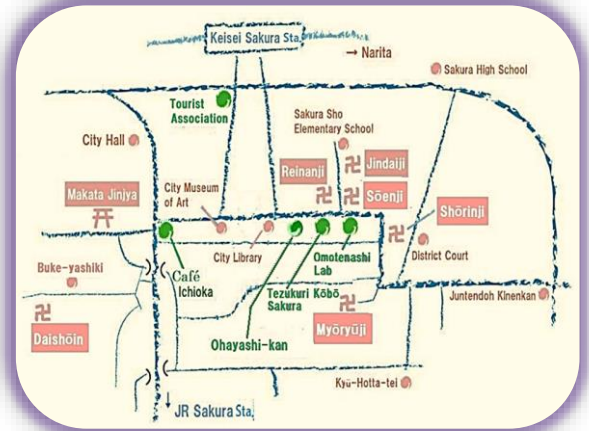
- **Tezukuri Kōbō Sakura**, closed Jan. 1 (Sun) & Jan. 2 (Mon) Opens from Jan. 3 (Tue). Closed on the following Mondays as well as the first and third Tuesdays.
 - **Ichioka Japanese sweets parlor**. Will open from January 1~3 & 7~10, closing on January 4~6 as well as Sundays and holidays.
 - **Sakura City Tourism Association**. Closed Jan. 1~3
- ※For 2,000 yen you can buy at Tezukuri Kōbō Sakura and Ichioka Japanese sweets parlor a fully-stamped notepad from all temples and shrines

◆**Vermillion stamps' fees for each temple and shrine.**

One stamp of a vermillion seal costs 200 yen (300 yen for the two stamps of *Makata Jinja Shrine* and *Daishōin*). You can obtain them from January 1 through January 10 and on the 10th of every month from 10:00 ~ 16:00)

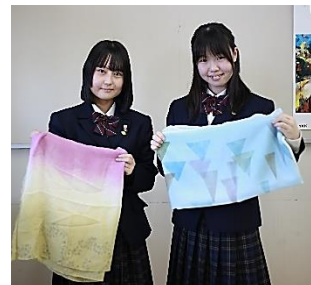
※Daishōin no Daikokuten and Shorinji Bishamonten are hidden Buddhas and cannot be viewed.

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



THE CHANGE OF THE 4 SEASONS IN SAKURA CITY THAT COLORS YUME SAKURA KAN

Inquiries: Shakai Kyoiku-ka (Social Education Division) ☎ 484-6189



Preparations are underway for the opening of Yume Sakura-kan, scheduled to open on Saturday, March 4).

A project is being undertaken to create Yuzen dyed works (Yuzen dyeing is a technique in which patterns are drawn on handmade paper stencils).

Inspired by the 4 seasons in Sakura City, the Yume Sakura-kan is collaborating with 3rd grade students of Sakura Higashi High School, from the Fashion Design Department and as an instructor, Ms. Makiko Kuwabara, a hand-painted Yuzen artist who has her own studio in the city.

The students will create sheets of Yuzen dyed fabrics that include images of the Castle Ruins, cherry blossoms in Joshi Park, the windmill and sunflowers in Sakura Furusato Square, etc.

The artworks depicting the four seasons in Sakura will be displayed on the shelves of picture books and children's book sections at the floor library of Yume Sakura-kan.

Please come and enjoy the unveiling of the Yuzen dyes that will decorate the new library!

INFLUENZA VACCINATION FOR THE ELDERLY

The period of routine influenza vaccinations for the elderly (the period during which the city-issued influenza vaccination voucher can be used) has been extended to January 31.

If you would like to be vaccinated, please check the latest information on medical institutions implementing vaccinations on the city website.

※In January, vaccination is possible only at some medical institutions.

※Those who turn 65 after January 2, 2023 are not eligible.

Inquiries: Bōshi Hoken-ka (Maternal and Child Health Section) ☎ 312-7688

CONGRATULATORY MONEY FOR SCHOOL ENTRANCE AND EMPLOYMENT FOR CHILDREN OF SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES

Congratulatory money will be sent in late January to the families of eligible recipients of Child Rearing Allowance and single-parent households (Children scheduled to enter elementary, Jr. High School or High School in April, Jr. High School graduates this year and those who are thinking of getting a job after graduating from Jr. High School).

Please contact us if you do not receive the documents or have not received the above benefit before.

Benefit amount: 10,000 Yen per eligible child.

Application period: February 1 (Wed) to February 28 (Tue) ※ Submissions cannot be submitted on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. ※Congratulatory money cannot be paid after the deadline.

Inquiries: Kodomo Katei-ka (Child and Family Support Section) ☎ 484-6140



HEALTH INFORMATION – JANUARY 2023

Kenkō Kanri Center ☎485-6712	Seibu Hoken Center ☎463-4181	Nambu Hoken Center ☎483-2812	Holiday & Night-time Emergency Medical Services
HEALTH CHECKUPS			
4-month checkup for children born in August 2022 ※An appointed time will be indicated 	31 (Tue)	Kenkō KC	9:30 – 11:00 &13:30 – 14:15
	17 (Tue)	Seibu HC	9:30 – 11:00 &13:30 – 15:00
	18 (Wed)	Nambu HC	13:30 – 15:00
8-month checkup for children born in April 2022 (“Mogu-Mogu Class”) ※ Application required.	10 (Tue)	Kenkō KC	13:15 – 15:15
	25 (Wed)	Seibu HC	9:15 – 11:45
	18 (Wed)	Nambu HC	9:15 – 11:15
18-month checkup for children born in July 2021 ※An appointed time will be indicated	12 (Thur)	Kenkō KC	13:10 – 14:40
	19 (Thur)	Seibu HC	
	26 (Thur)	Nambu HC	
3-year checkup for children born in July 2019 ※An appointed time will be indicated	13 (Fri)	Kenkō KC	13:10 – 14:40
	20 (Fri)	Seibu HC	
	27 (Fri)	Nambu HC	
Dental Checkup for children born in Jan. or July 2020 or in Jan. 2021 ※On the days with a (*)mark, consultation on Speech Development is also available. ※An appointed time will be indicated.	11*(Wed) 24 (Tue)	Kenkō KC	 13:15 – 14:15
	16*(Mon) 30 (Mon)	Seibu HC	
	23*(Mon)	Nambu HC	
Child Development Consultation for pre-schoolers (“Suku-Suku Hattatsu Sohdan”)	19 (Thur)	Kenkō KC Application required	9:00 – 12:00
Maternity Class of babies due from March ~ May 2023 (Application required) For expectant mothers: For mothers and fathers:	16 (Mon)	Kenkō KC	13:00 – 15:20
	29 (Sun)	Seibu HC	9:00 – 12:15
Health consultation for Adults Consultation with public health nurse Application required			9:30 – 11:30
	23 (Mon)	Kenkō KC	
	11 (Wed)	Seibu HC	

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

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 (*) **Treatment is provided at each doctor's office**

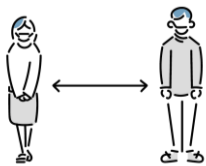
Child Abuse Consultation/Reporting
 Child & Family Support Section, City Hall
 (Daytime): ☎484-6263
 Chiba Pref. Hotline (24 Hours): ☎252-1152
 Sakura Police Station: ☎484-0110

Night-time Consultation
On children's acute illnesses:
 ☎ #8000 or 242-9939
 19:00 – 6:00 AM, 365 days

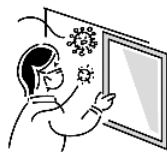
On acute illnesses (for anyone):
 ☎ #7009 or 03-6735-8305
 18:00 – 6:00 AM on weekdays and Saturdays.
 9:00 AM – 6:00 AM on Sunday & Holidays

CORONAVIRUS INFECTION UPDATE

During the year-end and New Year holidays let's apply thorough infection control measures to prevent the spread of the infection and to balance socio-economic activities.



Let's keep a safe distance to avoid infection through droplets. When talking at close range, let's wear a mask.



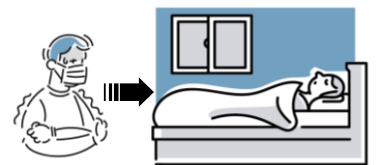
Let's ventilate rooms frequently even in cold weather. If possible, open windows and doors.



Let's update on coronavirus vaccinations as well as the vaccination against the flu.



Let's avoid long hours eating and drinking in groups as well as loud voice communication. Infection risk increases with these and similar actions.



Let's rest when feeling unwell. Avoid going out including going to work or school if you have cold symptoms, etc.

The temporary vaccination period for the new coronavirus vaccine is until March 31, 2023. Those who wish to receive the vaccination should apply as soon as possible.

To make a reservation:

▶Enter the vaccination site through the QRC →

▶Through the New Coronavirus Vaccination Call Center: ☎0120-387-052 (8:30~17:00)

Including Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays.

※Closed from Dec. 29 ~ Jan. 3



If you have fever or other related symptoms, please call the Chiba Prefecture Fever Consultation Call Center (24 hours):

☎ **0570-200-139**

Inquiries: Kenkō Suishin-ka (Health Promotion Section) ☎ 485-6711