

広報ひこね（英語版）

# Community Newsletter *KOHO HIKONE*



## July 2024

- Cooling Centers In Hikone (P. 2)
- Fireworks Rules and Regulations (P. 3)
- Fun Activities For Elementary Schoolers (P. 5)
- Food Poisoning Prevention (P. 9)



**[Official Hikone Website] [New Facebook Page!]**

Contact Info	Telephone Number
Hikone City Hall	0749-22-1411 (Switch Board)
Human Rights Policy Division (To Speak to Our English Interpreter, Please Call the Number on the Right.)	0749-30-6113
FACEBOOK	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng">http://www.facebook.com/hikone.eng</a>

**You can talk to our English interpreter via phone at the given number above or in person at the Hikone city hall.**

**This English Version of *Koho Hikone* Is Issued Monthly.**

### This Foreign-Language Community Newsletter Is Available At:

- Hikone Fukushi Centre
- Hikone Bunka Plaza
- Hikone City Library
- Hikone City Hall (1F)
- AEON TOWN Hikone
- Nakachiku Kominkan
- Shiga Bank (Ohyabu Branch)
- “Gyomuyou Super” (Toga-cho)
- Beisia Hikone
- Inae-chiku Kominkan
- Mega Center TRAIAL Hikone
- Mega Don Quijote Toyosato
- Don Quijote Hikone
- Hikone City Hospital

## Interpreting Services (Available in English, Portuguese, Chinese, and Vietnamese)

### Onsite Foreign-Language Interpreting Services Are Available At The Hikone City Hall!

Please say “*eigo tsuuyaku onegai shimasu*” at the information desk of the city hall.

“えいご つうやく おねがいします”

City Hall Opening Schedule: Weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

\*Please note that the availability of our English interpreter is subject to change.



**\*Please Contact Each School Before You Attend.**

## Japanese Language Classes in Hikone

Day	Time	Location	Organization Name	Cost
Saturday	2:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Naka-chiku Community Center (Oyabu-cho, 2610)	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE Katsurada-San Tel: 090-5156-6916	100 yen per lesson
Monday to Friday *Closed on holidays	① 9:30 AM to 10:50 AM ② 11:00 AM to 12:20 PM ③ 1:30 PM to 2:50 PM ④ 3:00 PM to 4:20 PM ⑤ Online Classes	Innovation Office Nayashichi (Shiro-machi 1-7-16)	SMILE Mizuno-San Tel: 070-5661-7345	200 yen per lesson
1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Higashi-chiku Community Center (Daito-cho 1-26)	Hikone UNESCO Association, Japanese Language Class “JUMP” Learning Japanese as a foreign language educational support for children Tel: 090-2384-9760	Free

## Japanese Conversational Club “Nihongo Hiroba”



### [Opening Schedule]

- ① Saturday, 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, June 8, July 6, August 3
- ② Friday, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM, June 21, July 19, August 9

\*Please search the link shown below or scan the QR code for monthly schedules and more.

<https://x.gd/gJBbE>

[Location] Kokusai Koryu Salon

[Fee] 100 JPY each time (A drink and snacks will be offered.)

[Contact Info] Tel: 0749-22-5931, Email: [hikone-il@za.ztv.ne.jp](mailto:hikone-il@za.ztv.ne.jp)



# Information



## **Cooling Centers In Hikone**

Cooling centers are designated locations, operated by the city, where a safe and cool environment is provided for the public to stay cool. In total, 24 centers will be opened across Hikone during a period of extreme heat or when Japan's heatstroke alert system is issued. The following places are some of the buildings designated as cooling centers. Please visit the Hikone's official website to see more details, such as opening hours, etc.

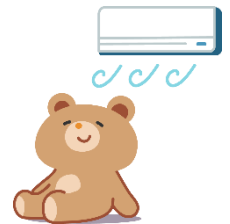
### **[Cooling Centers]**

Hikone City Hall, Fukushima Center, Kusunoki Center, Kodomo Center, Inae Branch Office, etc.

### **[How To Be Notified When Cooling Centers Are Scheduled To Be Opened]**

Please register your email address for the Hikone Email Emergency Information System to receive a notice from the city about the opening of cooling centers and other emergency information via email in real time. You can select to receive notices through this system in English or three other foreign languages.

All you have to do is to scan the QR code, and register your email on the registration page.



**Contact Info: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel: 0749-24-0816**

## **Notice Of Matsubara And Shingaihama Lakeside Beaches**

The Matsubara and Shingaihama lakeside beaches are no longer maintained by the city. With that said, both lakeside beaches are still open to the public. The Matsubara parking lot is scheduled to be open during the following period.

### **[Availability of Matsubara Parking Lot]**

Period: July 26 (Fri) – August 15 (Thu)

Time: 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Fee: 700 Yen for Cars, 200 Yen for Motorbikes

**Contact Info: Hikone Tourism Exchange Division, Tel: 0749-30-6120**

## **Prefectural Summer Traffic Safety Campaign: July 15 – 24**

As the season for summer outdoor activities is fast approaching, the volume of traffic increases. On top of this, as school children go on their summer vacation, children and seniors are more likely to fall victim to traffic accidents.

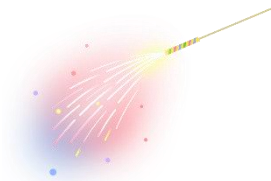
- While behind the wheel, make sure to stop at a red light and stop sign in case someone running into the road out of nowhere.
- Walking and looking at your smart phone distracts you from surroundings, which puts you in danger.
- When you ride a bicycle, please wear a helmet to protect your head from potential dangers.

**Contact Info: Hikone Traffic Policy Division, Tel: 0749-30-6134**

## **Fireworks Rules and Regulations**

Fireworks are fun and beautiful, but their main ingredient is technically “gunpowder.” Please take extra caution when playing with fireworks in order to prevent fires, injuries, and other accidents from occurring. The following are important points for playing with fireworks in a safe manner.

In addition to the safety points below, do not play with fireworks in the middle of night, and ensure to clean up after using fireworks not to make a nuisance of yourself.



- Do not let children play with fireworks alone.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby, and soak spent fireworks in water to fully extinguish them.
- Do not play with fireworks when weather is windy and/or dry.
- Do not light fireworks with a match or lighter, use a candle instead.
- Do not light many fireworks at the same time.
- Play with fireworks away from a house, something combustible, or other people.
- Do not let sparks of fireworks set clothes on fire.
- Do not keep fireworks in a pocket or take apart fireworks.
- Do not peek into fireworks that stopped producing light and smoke halfway.

## **Sunday My Number Card Issuance**

Date and Time: July 7 (Sun), 9:30 – 12:30

Location: 1F, Hikone City Hall



**Contact Info: Hikone Life Service Division, Tel: 0749-30-6151**

## **Support Programs for Single Parents**

There are various programs to assist single-parent families. Each program has its own eligibility criteria, so please directly contact the relevant division of the Hikone City hall if you need more clarification.

The Childrearing Support Division offers consultation services on divorce for those who are wondering how to file for divorce.

### **[Support Programs Offered By Hikone Childrearing Support Division]**

- A consultation service on general concerns in relation to childrearing.
- Legal help to obtain the agreement regarding child support from a former spouse.
- Support for single parents to find a job.
- Support for single parents to obtain qualifications and skills.
- Student loans for children from single-parent families who want to seek higher education.
- Child rearing benefits (*Jido Fuyo Teate*, not *Jido Teate*) for single parents.
- Places for children in junior-high and high-school to interact with university students and volunteers.

### **[Support Program Offered By Hikone Insurance And Pension Division]**

- Financial assistance for medical expenses.

### **[Support Program Offered By Hikone Tax Division]**

- Tax cut for single parents.

**Contact Info: Hikone Childrearing Support Division, Tel: 0749-26-0994**

**Hikone Insurance And Pension Division, Tel: 0749-30-6136**

**Hikone Tax Division, Tel: 0749-30-6140**

## **Pension Exemption And Deferral For Fiscal 2024**

If you meet certain conditions, you can be exempt from or postpone pension contributions.

Please be careful if you leave your balance for pension contributions unpaid, your claim to receive disability pension benefits or pension survivor benefits may be turned down.

### **[Where You Can Apply For Pension Exemption And Deferral]**

Hikone Pension Office, Hikone Insurance And Pension Division, Branch Offices Of Hikone City Hall

### **[Important Notes]**

- If your application is accepted, you will be exempt from or can postpone paying pension contributions from July 2024 until June 2025.
- You can also apply for pension exemption and deferral for up to two years and one month retrospectively.
- You can apply for pension exemption and deferral starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

**Contact Info: Hikone Health And Pension Division, Tel: 0749-30-6136.**

# Event

## Fun Activities For Elementary Schoolers At Shimin Koryu Center

### **[Standing Picture Frame Making]**

Date and Time: July 29 (Mon), 10:30 – 11:30

Fee: 200 JPY per group, 500 JPY per picture frame

Important Note: Please come with a bag or two to bring a picture frame back home, and something to drink.

Location: Shimin Koryu Center (Hikone, Satone-cho)

Application Period: July 1 (Mon) – 10 (Wed)

### **[Woodworking Class]**

Date and Time: August 1 (Thu) and 2 (Fri), 10:00 – 11:00

Fee: 200 JPY per group, 500 JPY per creation

Important Note: Please come with a bag or two to bring a picture frame back home, and something to drink.

Location: Shimin Koryu Center (Hikone, Satone-cho)

Application Period: July 1 (Mon) – 10 (Wed)

### **[Molkky (Finnish Throwing Game)]**

Date and Time: August 9 (Fri), 10:30 – 11:30

Fee: 200 JPY per group

Important Note: Please come with something to drink and a towel.

Location: Shimin Koryu Center (Hikone, Satone-cho)

Application Period: July 1 (Mon) – 10 (Wed)

### **[Science Class: Let's Make A Charcoal Battery]**

Date and Time: August 23 (Fri), 10:30 – 11:30

Fee: 200 JPY per group

Important Note: Please come with something to drink.

Location: Shimin Koryu Center (Hikone, Satone-cho)

Application Period: July 1 (Mon) – 10 (Wed)

**Contact Info: Higashiyama Jidou-kan, Tel: 0749-23-3582**

## **Students Needed! – Techno College Maibara**

Techno College Maibara is now accepting applications for its vocational training programs that are set to start in October. For more information, visit their official website by scanning the QR code. Please note that one of the requirements is to be able to speak and read at least day-to-day Japanese. The application due date is August 15 Thursday.

**Contact Info: Techno College Maibara, Tel: 0749-52-5300**



## **Hikone Morning Market**

With the three key elements of “Food Safety”, “Local Production Local Consumption” and “Handmade”, you can find and buy locally grown produce, tofu, fish dishes, handmade accessories and more at Hikone Morning Market!

July 21 (Sun) 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Osue-Cho, Gokoku Shrine

## **Japan Birdman Rally 2024**

Date and Time: July 27 (Sat), 28 (Sun)



Venue: Matsubara Lakeside Beach (Hikone, Matsubara-cho)

\*The rally will be cancelled due to severe weather.



**Contact Info: Hikone Toursim Exchange Division, Tel: 0749-30-6120**

## **Pools For Children**

### **[Opening Hours]**

July 20 to August 20, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

### **[Locations of Pools]**

- Sotobaba Park (Hikone, Kyo-machi, 2-chome)
- Takei Park (Hikone, Hassaka-cho, 1467)



### **[Important Points]**

Both pools will be opened for younger than pre-school children only. Parents/guardians must accompany their child for safety purposes. Please visit the Hikone official website to see more details of how to use a pool for children.

## **Story Time In English**

An instructor Kitamura-san will read picture books and sing songs in English.

Date and Time: July 27 (Sat), 10:30 – 11:15

Target Age Group: 4-year olds to elementary schoolers

Capacity: 10 groups \* Up to three people in one group

Application Period: Starting on July 13 \*first-come, first served

Telephone Numbers: 090-8579-9701 or 0749-22-0649 (City Library)

## **University Of Shiga Prefecture's Campus Tour**

University of Shiga Prefecture is set to offer its guided campus tours for prospective students.

### **[Day and Time]**

July 20 (Sat) and 21 (Sun) from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM

### **[How to Apply]**

Please scan the QR code and submit a web form.



**Contact Info: University of Shiga Prefecture, Tel: 0749-28-8217**



# Consultation

Consultation Service	Schedule	Location	Telephone Number
<b>Legal Consultation</b>	July 26 (Fri) 13:00 – 16:00 *5500 yen per consultation *Reservations available from July 17.	Hikone Community Development Division	0749-30-6117
<i>Akiya Bank</i> (Vacant House) <b>Telephone Consultation</b>	Mon – Fri 10:00 – 18:00	<i>Akiya Bank</i> Office	0749-23-2123
<b>Consultation for Recovery from Cancer</b>	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 16:00 *Priority given to people who have an appointment.	Municipal Hospital Cancer Support Center	0749-22-6050
<b>Consultation for Working During Cancer Treatment</b>	Support for Finding a Job July 3 (Web), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only. Support for Continuing to Work July 17 (Wed), 13:30 – 15:30 *Offered by reservation only.		
<b>Child Development (Disability) Consultation</b>	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.	Development Support Division (Hirata-cho)	0749-26-8282
<b>Language Development Consultation</b>	Mon – Fri 8:30 – 17:15 *Offered by reservation only.		
<b>Human Rights Consultation in Foreign Languages</b>	Mon – Fri 9:00 – 17:00		0570-090-911
<b>Consumer Affairs Consultation</b>	Mon – Fri ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:15	Consumer Affairs Center	0749-30-6144
<b>Road Accident Consultation</b>	Tue, Thu ① 9:00 – 12:00 ② 13:00 – 16:00	Traffic Accident Consultation Center, Hikone Office	0749-27-2230
<b>Labour Law Consultation</b>	July 26 (Fri) 18:30 – 20:00 *Reservations available from July 1. *30 minutes per person. *The first 3 people who call can schedule an appointment.	Procced Arena HIKONE	0749-30-9228

## Information from the Hikone Health Promotion Division

**Tel: 0749-24-0816, Fax: 0749-24-5870**

### August Health Check-ups for Infants and Young Children

Location: Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho)

Starting with the health check-ups for infants and young children in April 2024, you are required to make an appointment in advance via a mobile app “母子モ (Boshi Mo)”. If you come to the Kusunoki Center for your child’s check-up without an appointment, you will be told to return with an appointment.



#### August

Target Age Group	Date	Eligibility
10 months olds	6 (Tue)	Children born between 2023 September 16 and 30
	21 (Wed)	Children born between 2023 October 1 and 15
1 and ½ years olds	9 (Fri)	Children born in 2023 January.
	23 (Fri)	
2 and ½ years olds	8 (Thu)	Children born in 2022 January.
	22 (Thu)	
3 and ½ years olds	19 (Mon)	Children born in 2021 January.
	26 (Mon)	

**Contact: Hikone Health Promotion Division, Tel: 0749-24-0816**

### Food Poisoning Prevention

Here are some practical tips to prevent food poisoning as a muggy summer is approaching.

- Make a habit of washing hands before cooking, touching meat, fish, and eggs, before eating and while cleaning up after a meal.
- Clean kitchen knives and cutting boards thoroughly each time, and use different kitchen utensils for meat, fish, and vegetables.
- Refrigerate perishable food as soon as possible after purchasing it.
- Eat cooked dishes as quickly as possible as food can go off even while being kept in a fridge.
- Be sure to cook food well for safety purposes.
- Be sure to heat food well when using a microwave.
- Disinfect kitchen knives, cutting boards, kitchen towels, etc. in boiling water and dry them well.