

The city where everyone wants to live

広報 ひこね (英訳版)

Community
Newsletter,
Koho



Nos.1367-1368

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Multicultural Coexistence
Human Rights Policy Division
Hikone City Hall

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Multicultural Coexistence
Human Rights Policy Division

HIKONE (Abridged Edition)

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2017.1



Name of Division	Telephone Number
Hikone City Hall (Representation)	0749-22-1411 (Main Number)
Hikone City Hall (JINKEN SEISAKU KA) 彦根市役所 (人権政策課)	0749-30-6113 (Direct Number) 直通番号

You can ask English Interpreter Service at the reception in Hikone City Hall.

Please say “English Interpreter please” in Japanese, “*EIGO TUUYAKU ONEGAI SHIMASU*”.

●“KohoHikone” foreign language version by Hikone City is issued once every month.

This newsletter is available at

- * Head Post Office
- * Yujin Yamazaki Hospital
- * Jinno Clinic
- * Hikone City Hall 1F
- * AEON TOWN Hikone
- * Viva City 2F(near the children play ground)
- * Shiga Bank (Oyabu Branch)
- * “GyomuSuper Market”(Toga-cho)
- * BeisiaHikone
- * Hikone City Hospital

Various Services 様々なサービス

●Interpreters are available if you request this service at the reception desk.

Please say this Japanese sentence “*eigotuyakuonegaishimasu.*” 英語通訳お願いします。
 (It means “please get me an English interpreter”.) えいご つうやく おねがいます。
 We might change the interpreter’s availability.

HikoneCity Hall: Weekdays 8:30 a.m.to 0:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:15 a.m.



Japanese Classes

Day	Hour	Location, Place	Organization Name to Contact	Cost
Wednesday すいようび	7:00 p.m.to 8:30 p.m.	Shimin kaikan 市民会館	Hikoneshi Kokusai Kyoukai 彦根市国際協会 Tel (0749)-22-5931 (Not available from Dec. to Feb.)	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Saturday どようび	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Naka-chiku Kouminkan 中地区公民館	Hikone Kokusai Kouryu-kai VOICE ひこね国際交流会 VOICE なえむらさん(NAEMURA) Tel 090-7118-5250	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Sunday にちようび	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	Nishi-chiku Kouminkan 西地区公民館	Volunteer Nihongo Kyoushitsu SMILE ボランティア日本語教室スマイル よしおかさん (YOSHIOKA) Tel (0749)-24-7241	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回
Monday~ Friday (Except forholidays) げつようび~きんようび	① 10:00 a.m. to11:30 a.m. ② 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. ③3:30 p.m. to5:00 p.m.	Innovation Office “NAYASHICHI” Shiro-machi1-7-16	“Smile s Satellite”(Weekday Class) NAYASHICHI Tel (0749)-29-5077 or みずのさん(MIZUNO) Tel 070-5661-7345	100yen / lesson 100 円 / 1 回

【Hikone International Lounge News】

Computer use is free in the Hikone International Lounge. We are waiting for your use!!

INFORMATION



☆Protect a Water Pipe against the Cold of Winter

- How to prevent frozen water pipes.
Please wind lagging materials around a water pipe. When you use blankets or clothes, please cover them with the plastic tape.
- When you realize a frozen water pipe
Please put a towel on the frozen pipe and pour lukewarm water to melt the ice.
Don't pour hot water. There is a danger of the burst of the water pipe.
- When the water pipes burst.
Please close a valve in the water meter box and make the leak of the water pipe repaired with plastic tape.
Call the designated water-supply utility to repair them.

*Regarding repair water pipe on your site please be sure to ask designated water-supply utilities.

*The repairing cost owe to the person who asks the repair.

*The water supply utility will be closed throughout the New Year holidays, so please be careful the frozen water pipe.

*Regarding water supply business, the company is designated by the Hikone city under the law.

Inquiries: Water Supply and Sewage Direction Tel 0749-22-2722 Fax 0749-22-5433

☆Sanitation Center

On January 9(Mon) garbage collection will be carried out as usual.

Sanitation center will not accept direct drop-off of garbage.



Inquiries: sanitation center Tel 0749-22-2734 Fax 0749-24-7787

☆Dermatology Medical Treatment at Hikone Municipal Hospital

Because only one full-time dermatologist will examine after January 1st, the first medical examination is limited to a person having a letter of reference. Hikone Municipal Hospital cooperates with local medical institutions and universities and makes an effort for the making better medical system. We ask for your understandings and cooperation.

Inquiries: Dermatology Outpatient Reception at Municipal Hospital (3-Block)

Tel 0749-22-6050

☆The Central City Hall Will Undergo Construction for Earthquake Resistance and Extension Work. Temporary Relocation and Its Construction Work Are Planned to Start in August.

Schedule

January - March	Demolition work of the wooden annex
March - July	Construction work for multistory parking space
August	The start of movement from the Central City Hall and service to a temporary office at west exit of Hikone station (Service at civic center will continue until the new office is completed)
September 2017 ~ March 2019	Earthquake resistance construction and extension work
May 2019	Scheduled to start service at new office building

*About temporary office at west exit of Hikone station

Period: August 2017~May 2019

Place: AL PLAZA HIKONE (Daito-cho) A part of the third floor and the fourth floor

*Several departments may be located to other places due to the limit of space

*For more information, see further issue of Koho Hikone

Inquiries: Public property administrative bureau Tel 0749-30-6114 Fax 0749-30-6147

☆Hikone Multicultural Symbiosis Promotion Plan (In Japanese Only)

In order to achieve the idea of shaping the multicultural society where each resident can live accepting cultural and ethnic differences in each person's backgrounds and sense of values, the city of Hikone is set to open the contents of the plan to the public. Please give your opinions to the city of Hikone by mail, fax, phone or just handing it directly at the Hikone Human Rights Division.

A booklet of the plan is available at:

- Hikone Human Rights Policy Division (3F)
- Public Information Area (1F)
- Each Branch Office of Hikone City Hall
- Website of Hikone City Hall

Period of the plan's availability & submission: January 16th (Mon) to February 17th (Fri)

Inquires and place to submit: Hikone Human Rights Policy Division

Address: 522-8502, 4-2, Moto-machi, Hikone

Tel 0749-30-6113 Fax 0749-24-8577

E-mail kokusai@ma.city.hikone.shiga.jp

★The My Number Card Is Required For Your Tax Return

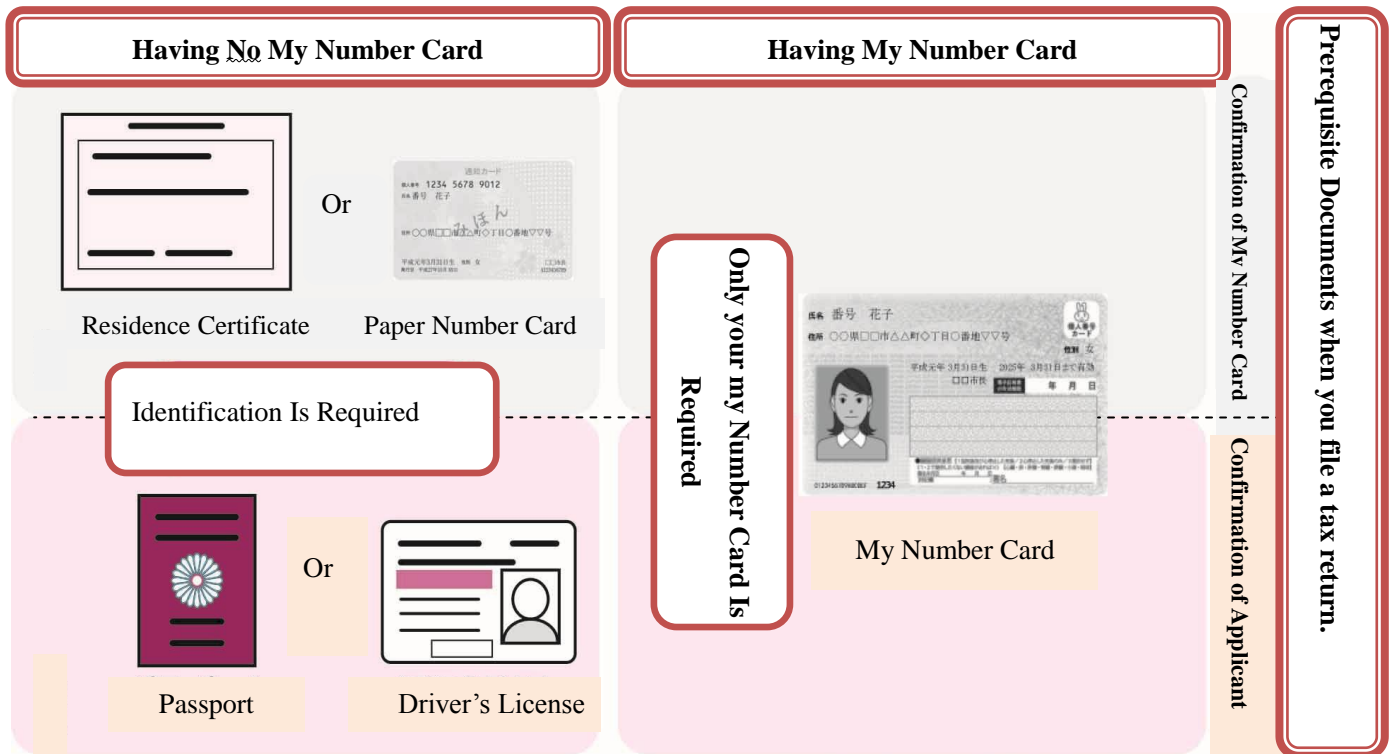
- Application filed by an applicant him/herself
 Either 1 or 2 is required
 1: My Number card
 2: Identification (A driver’s license, passport, etc.)
- Application filed by a proxy
 Both 3 and 4 are required
 3: A copy of the applicant’s My Number card
 4: Identification of the proxy’s
 (A driver’s license, passport, my number card etc.)

*When you leave filing the application to your proxy, you need a power of attorney.

Information on tax return for fiscal 2016 will be provided in the February issue of Hikone Community Newsletter.

As for the application of your My Number Card, please contact or visit the Citizen’s Affairs Division. (Tel 0749-30-6111)

Inquires: Residential Tax Section, Tax Division
 Tel 0749-30-6140 Fax 0749-22-1398



☆Automatic Transferring Service: Recommended for Paying Taxes

Please apply at the bank where you have an account taking the application form, your bank book and *inkan* (seal: valid for your bank account). The application form is available at the appropriate section of each item, the accounting office (1F, City Hall), and a window of each bank. Once you apply then it will be automatically renewed every year.

< Illustration >

A Financial Institutions Offering Services:

Shiga Bank, Risona Bank, Shiga Chuo Kinko (Credit Union), Kansai Urban Bank,
Ogaki Kyoritsu Bank, Kyoto Bank, Kinki Rodo Kinko, etc., and Postal Offices

B Items which can be paid through automatic transferring system:

1 the municipal fixed property tax, 2 the automobile tax (for light cars)
3 the habitation tax (for City and Prefecture), 4 the national health insurance premium
5 the nursing care insurance premium, 6 the medical insurance premium for the elderly (over 75 years old)
7 the municipal house rent, 8 the water and sewage bill, 9 the sewage disposal bill
10 the sewage using cost, 11 the sewage using (for agriculture) cost, 12 the nursery fee, 13 the kindergarten fee
14 the fee for after-school clubs for children

*3 4 5 6: Unnecessary in case these are paid through deduction from your monthly salary/pension.

C Inquiries for detailed information:

1 2 3: Tax Div. 0749-30-6109
4 5 6: Health Insurance and National Pension Div. 0749-30-6145
7: Architecture and Housing Div. 0749-30-6123
8: Hikone City Water and Sewage Bill of Consumer Service Center 0749-27-2802,
Water Management Div. 0749-22-2722
9: Living Environment Div. 0749-30-6116
10: Sewage Management Div. 0749-22-5458
11: Agricultural and Fisher Administration Div. 0749-30-6118
12&13: Children's Welfare Div. 0749-23-9597
14: Life-long Study Div, City Board of Education 0749-24-7974

☆Treatment Fee to be Partly Paid by the Insurance

In case the elderly get the acupuncture, *moxa* treatment or massage the fee will be partly paid by the insurance.

Object: Those who meet all the following conditions.

- ① 65 years or older and policyholder of Hikone City Nursing-care Insurance.
- ② Those whose nursing-care level is “*yoshien1*” or lower on the first day of treatment.
- ③ Those who have constantly paid the premiums of nursing-care insurance.
- ④ Those who continuously take the treatment 12 times, once a week at the treatment institution assigned by Hikone City.

*Please ask Seniors’ Welfare Division or at your institution.

Objective Fee:

The fee for the treatment and the home-visit care (which are not covered by the medical insurance).

Fee to be paid:

The total fee for the three last treatments; the maximum amount is shown in the following chart.

Application:

Fill in the application form available at Seniors’ Welfare Division or at a treatment institution assigned by Hikone City. Then get certification (on the back of the paper) by your treatment institution, and submit it showing your Nursing Care Insurance Certificate.

Classification	Maximum amount per once	Maximum amount per year
Treatment cost	3,000 yen	9,000 yen
Visiting fee	1,800 yen	5,400 yen

Application & Inquiries: Seniors’ Welfare Division:

Tel 0749-23-9660 Fax 0749-26-1768

☆Minimum Wage by Industries

The spinning industry, the chemical fiber industry, dyeing industry, The fiber industry,	789yen
Glass, cement, ceramics, carbon, graphite, carbon fiber industry	874yen
General purpose instrument, manufactural instrument, business-use instrument,	875yen
Meter, measuring instrument, analytical instrument, testing machine, Optical instrument, lens, electrical parts, device, electronic circuit, Electronic parts, information and communication equipment	859yen
Automobile manufacturing industry	880yen
Retailers	803yen
Shiga prefecture minimum wage	788yen

Inquiries: Hikone city labor standards supervision office

Tel: 0749-22-0654 fax: 0749-26-0241

Shiga labor bureau

Tel 077-522-6654 Fax 077-522-6442



☆You Can't Take Influenza Test at City Hospital Emergency Center

We don't provide Influenza test as a rule because seriously ill patients are placed emphasis on the first. Please take Influenza test at following medical institution

- Medical institution
The department of internal physician (general consultation), the pediatric department, at City hospital
- Opening hours Monday ~ Friday (except national holidays) 8:00 ~11:00
Holiday medical emergency clinic
- Opening hours Sunday, National holidays, and Year-end and New Year holidays 10:00~18:30
The family doctor (Clinic)

Inquiries: City hospital medical work service center
Tel 0749-22-6050 (Extension 1262) Fax 0749-22-6331

☆Be Careful With Online Shopping

The online advertisements are part of online resale business. Therefore, the cooling-off period cannot be applied. Whether you can return your online purchases must be followed under the conditions shown in each advertisement.

However, in the case that no clear condition on returns is mentioned, consumers have the right to return purchases at their own expenses within 8 days after the arrival.

One of the important lessons to learn is not to be lured by words like "Trial", "Steal", etc. On top of that, you are also advised to avoid placing an order on impulse and to take some time before doing so.

Please buy a product after reading thoroughly its online advertisement and, just in case, make yourself aware of "the conditions on returns".

Inquiries: Hikone Consumer Affairs Center Tel: 0749-30-6144
Availability: 9:00 a.m. - 0:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. on Weekdays

RECRUITMENT



★Multicultural Exchange Class (Intermediate Level)

- Let's have fun learning Portuguese and Brazilian Culture

We learn Portuguese you can use in your day-to-day life. The main purpose of the class is to let class participants experience Brazilian culture & tradition and deepen their knowledge of the multicultural coexistence.

Day & Time: February 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, March 6th (Total 5 Classes)

Location: Daigaku Satelight Plaza Hikone (Al Plaza Hikone F6)

Eligibility: Residents who work or go to school within Hikone City.

Anyone wishing to learn Portuguese and Brazilian culture & tradition

*As for foreign residents, Japanese conversational abilities are required for the application

*You can apply for the Multicultural Exchange Class (Intermediate level) even you did not participate in the previous class for beginners.

Fee: 1000 yen

Application Period: January 4th (Wed) to February 3rd (Fri)

Lecturer: Natalia Abreu (Coordinator of International Relations of Hikone)



Inquiries: Hikone Human Policy Division

Tel 0749-30-6113 Fax 0749-24-8577

★City Apartment Houses are Inviting Residents

Housing: Nakayabu apartment house one apartment, Okamachi apartment house one apartment

Blue Lake Hassaka apartment house one apartment, Inaenishi apartment house one apartment

Application forms will be available from Monday, January 16.

Application period: Monday, January 23~Wednesday, February 1

Acceptance date: The middle of March

Move-in date: After the end of March.



*Please apply to the Architectural Administration Division (2F City Hall) by the applicant or the applicant's family who live with the applicant (or who will live with).

*There are some conditions for applying, so please ask for further details.

Inquiries: Architectural Administration Division

Tel 0749- 30-6123 Fax 0749-24-8517

☆Pupil-care Club Opens in The Spring Vacation and During Fiscal 2017

Requirements: The elementary school pupils whose guardians work outside the house and can not take care during the daytime. The lower grades are given priority in the club. If the number of applicants exceeds the limit, the pupil will be refused admission to the club.

1. The vacation of the end of the school year: Saturday, March 25, 2017 ~ Friday, March 31, 2017 (Except Sundays)
Time: 8:00 ~ 18:30
Fees: ¥3,000 and material fees per pupil
2. The vacation of the beginning of the school year: Saturday, April 1, 2017 ~ Saturday, April 8, 2017 (Except Sundays)
Time: 8:00 ~ 18:30
Fees: ¥3,000 and material fees per pupil
3. The period of fiscal 2017: Saturday, April 1, 2017~ Saturday, March 31, 2018
Time: After school ~ 18:30 (weekdays)



8:00 ~ 18:30 (Saturdays, substitute holidays, vacations of summer, winter, the beginning of the school year and the end of the school year)

Fees: ¥6,000 (per month) and material fees per pupil

- The pupil enrolling until the end of March, 2017 and the pupil who will apply for admission to the club from April 1, need not pay fees of No. 1 or No.2. But fees for Summer vacation and for Saturdays will be needed separately.
- The place and the capacity of the pupil-care club differ in each pupil-care club. See the guide to the pupil-care club for further information in each elementary school

Application Period: Wednesday, January 4 ~ Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Application: Fill out the application form and apply to the pupil-care club with the working certificate.

Inquiries: Hikone City Board of Education Life-long Learning Division

Tel 0749-24-7974 Fax 0749 23-9190

EVENT



☆Hikone City Japan-China Association “ Chinese New Year Party “

Date & Time: Sunday, January 22 10:00 ~ 16:00

Please come at 9:00, if you can join the preparation of cooking . Bring your apron.

Place: Civic Center Meeting Room (*Osue-cho*)

Fee: ¥1,000 ¥500 for students and free for little children

Application Period: From Monday, January 16 to Friday, January 20 9:00 ~ 17:00

Place for Application: International Exchange Lounge (Closed on Saturday & Sunday) Tel 0749-22-5931

Inquiries: Hikone Japan-China Amity Association (Mr. Kitamura) Tel 090-3924-2998

(Call only on the afternoon of weekdays, Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays)

E- mail: onushi1818@yahoo.co.jp

☆Experience Making Miso (Soybean Paste)

Date & time: Saturday, January 28 and Sunday, January 29 13:30 ~ 16:00

Place: Green Pier Hikone (*Kiyosaki-cho*)

Capacity: 20 groups each day Please join with families with children.

Fee: ¥2,500 per group Please bring aprons and triangular bandages.

Apply by phone or fax witten 1.your name 2. your address 3. your phone number 4. the date you can come.

Application & Inquiries: Green Pier Hikone Tel 0749-25-3909 Fax 0749-25-3972

☆Let's Play in English at Civic Exchange Center (The former Higashiyama Kaikan Hall)

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 17 10:00 ~ 11:00

Place: Civic Exchange Center (*Satone-cho*)

Requirements: Three years old children and under and their guardians

Fee: Free

Capacity: 25 groups (First-come-first-served basis)

Application starts: At 9:00 on Thursday, January 5

We will invite the aged who are more than 65 years old.

Application & Inquiries: Civic Exchange Center Tel & Fax 0749-23-3582

*Apply by phone or fax.

☆Let's enjoy New Year Games

Date & Time: Saturday, January 21 13:00 ~ 15:00

Place: *Fureai-no-yakata* (*Hassaka-cho*)

Requirements: City Elementary School students and their guardians

Fee: Free

Capacity: 20 groups (First-come,first-served basis)

Application Period: From Friday, January 6 to Saturday, January 14

Application & Inquiries: *Fureai-no-yakata* Tel 0749-25-4452 Fax 0749-47-5088

*Apply by phone or at the window of *Fureai-no-yakata*.

☆“HIKONE DE ASAICHI” (The Fresh Morning Market in Hikone)

Selling local fresh vegetable, bean curd, soy sauce, and local lake sea foods under the concept "Safetyfood", "Local production for local consumption", "Handmade".

Date & Time: Sunday, January 15 8:00~12:00

Place: Gokoku- Jinjya(shrine) (Osue-cho)

Inquiries: “HIKONE DE ASAICHI” Executive Committee Tel 0749-24-4461

E-mail:hikonedesaichi55@gmail.com



Consultation

	Date & Time	Place	Contents
Human-Rights Counseling	January 4 & 18 (Wed) February 1 & 15(Wed) 13:00 ~ 15:00	Consultation Room (City Hall 1 F)	Counseling about bullying and all acts of discrimination Tel0749-22-0242
Alcohol Consultation	January 6&February 3 (Fri) 14:00 ~16:30(by reservation)	Public Health Center	Issue of alcoholism Tel 0749-21-0283 Fax0749-26-7540
Consultation for Reclusive and Unsociable People	January 12 (Thu) 15:00 ~ 17:00 (by reservation)		Helping sufferers 16 years old and over and their families. Tel 0749-21-0283 Fax.0749-26-7540
Consultation for Troubled Minds	January 19&February 16 (Thu) 13:30 ~ 15:30 (by reservation)		Medical instruction. Introduction of a medical institution and facilities Tel0749-21-0283Fax0749-26-7540
Consultation for Depression	February 17 (Fri) 14:00 ~ 15:30 (by reservation)		Supporting a patient with depression and its family from the side of medical care health and the welfare Tel0749-21-0283Fax0749-26-7540
Child-care Consultation	January19&February16 (Thu) 10:00 ~12:00	<i>Fureai no sato</i> (hassaka-Cho) (by reservation)	Consultation on the development and the child care of the child *The deadline is January 12 (The first 2person, around 1hour per one person) *That place is closed until January 5 Tel 0749-25-4452
Child-care Consultation for parents having elementary schoolchild	January 23 (Mon) ①9:00 ②10:00 ③11:00 (by reservation)	Children's Center	Consultation about the development of mind and body of the child and the child care *The deadline is January 19 (The first 3 person, around 1hour per one person) Tel 0749-28-3645 Fax 0749-28-3646
Law Consultation	January 27& February 24 (Fri) 13:00 ~ 16:00 (by reservation)	Community Relations Division (City Hall 1F)	*Consultation fee: 5400 yen per 30 minute session (Please pay on the consultation day) *The first 6 person from 8:30 on January 18 & February 15) *Only those who live or work in Hikone Tel0749-30-6117Fax0749-22-1398
Labor Law Consultation	February 3 (Wed) 18:30 ~ 20:00 (except Monday) (by reservation)	Hikone San Paresu (Koizumi-cho)	Lawyer answers about trouble at a workplace and difficult problem to work *The first 3person from 9:00 on January 18 *Monday is closed and when Monday is holiday, the next day will be closed Tel.0749-26-7272 Fax. 0749-26-7377
Child・Family Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) 8:30 ~ 17:15	Consultation Room for Children	Child care issues, childabuse, domestic violence etc Tel0749-23-7838 Fax0749-26-1768
Human-Rights for Everyone, Dial 110	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) 8:30 ~ 17:15		Consultation telephone about human-rights trouble Tel 0570-003-110
Developmental Disorder Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:00 (by reservation)	Welfare center for the disabled (Hirata-cho)	4 years old or older person who has a developmental disorder or feels uneasy about it. Only person living in Hikone Tel 0749-26-8282
Consumer Life Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:15	City life Environment Division (City Hall 1 F)	Consultation about the trouble of consumer life, contracts, etc Tel0749-30-6144
Consultation for Bullying/Hot Line	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) 9:00 ~ 17:00	School Support Room (Board of Education)	The experienced person in the education guides you ※The anonymity is possible ※You can consult on the municipal government website Tel 0749-24-7977
Traffic Accident Consultation	Every Tue & Thu ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:00	Koto Joint Government Building 2F	Consultation by telephone is also available from Monday to Friday except holiday Tel0749-27-2230

☆Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer Checkup

● Breast cancer checkup

There is no visually examine and palpation.

Eligibility: women aged 40 and over as of March 31, 2017 who live in Hikone City

A deadline of application for the ticket : Until February 20 (Mon) 2017

A deadline of reservation to a medical institution : Until February 27 (Mon) 2017

①Telephone for reservation of cancer checkups: **0749-24-3719**

②Reserve for checkup to a medical institution after receiving a ticket.

③Please go to a medical institution with the ticket and checkup fee (500 yen).



● Cervical cancer checkup

Eligibility: women aged 20 and over as of March 31, 2017 who live in Hikone City

Date: Until March 31(Fri) 2017

Please go to a medical institution directly after reservation.

*Once every two years for breast and cervical cancer checkup.

Those who have a Hikone- issued free coupon this fiscal year are eligible for it even if they had a checkup last year.

*Please ask for details. Tel 0749-24-0816 Fax0749- 24-5870 The Health Promotion Division

☆Rakuraku Kin-en (Quit Smoking Easily) Consultation

A smoking habit is nicotine dependence. If you try to quit smoking, we support your challenge.

Date & Time: Wednesday, January 11 & February 8 9:00~ 10:00~ 11:00~

Place: Kusunoki Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

Capacity: 1 person / each time slot (Reserved)

Contents: • Check for your lung's contamination (Measure the carbon monoxide density in your exhalation.)

• Check for your addiction to cigarettes (Measure nicotine density in your urine)

• Consultation on how to quit smoking



Inquiries: The Health Promotion Division Tel 0749- 24-0816 Fax0749-24-5870

☆Eating Habit Consultation

Advice about your eating habits by a dietitian manager with your health checkup result.

Date & Time : Feb 6 (Mon) ① 9 : 00 ② 10 : 30

Capacity: 1 person each time slot (Resereved)

Place: Kusuniki Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

*Any consultations concerning your meals are also available at anytime.

Inquiry: Health Promotion Division Tel 0749- 24-0816 Fax 0749- 24-5870

☆Baby Salon

Date & Time : Tuesday, Jan 10 & Feb 7 9:45~11:30 (acceptance 9:30~9:45)

Place: Children's center multi-purpose room

Eligibility: 2~6-month old infants & their guardians

Things to bring: your Maternal and Child Health Handbook, a bath towel

Contents: Exchanging experiences about child-raising and making friends



☆NYUYOJI KOBETSU SODAN(Individual consultant for infants)

Please bring your Maternal and Child Health Handbook,

Date & Time : Thursday, Jan 12, 26 & Feb 9 , 23 9:30~11:00

Place: *Kusunoki* Center 1F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

*Consultation by a nutritionist is available on Thursday, Jan 26 & Feb 23 .

☆Weaning Period Consultation

* Let's give food twice a day.

Date & Time: Friday, Jan 6 & Feb 3 9:45~11:30 (Acceptance 9:30~9:45)

Place: *Kusunoki* Center 2F (Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

Eligibility: 7~8 months old infant & their guardians

Things to bring: your Maternal and Child Health Handbook



☆Class for New Parents

Contents: Guidance & experience about baby care (how to bathe, change a diaper, and hold your new baby)

Date & Time: Saturday, February 25 9:30~12:00 (Acceptance 9:15~9:30)

Place: Hikone City Health & Welfare Center Annex2F

Eligibility: Pregnant Women, over 24 weeks pregnant and their partners having a resident registration in Hikone City

Capacity: 18 couples- Mothers who expect their first child delivery sooner have a priority

Things to bring: Your Maternal or Paternal and Child Health Handbook

Application: Wednesday, February 1st~Friday, February 10

Call the Health Promotion Division Tel 0749-24-0816 Fax 0749-24-5870

*There is no nursery



☆Health Check-ups for Infants

January

Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital) / 13:00~14:00

4-Month-Old Babies	17 (Tue)	Born between Sep 1 and 15, 2016
	24 (Tue)	Born between Sep 16 and 30, 2016
10-Month-Old Babies	11 (wed)	Born between Mar 1 and 15, 2016
	18 (Wed)	Born between Mar 16 and 31, 2016

Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital) / 13:00~14:00

18-Month-Old Babies	13 (Fri)	Born between June 1 and 15, 2015
	20 (Fri)	Born between June 16 and 30, 2015
2-Year-6-Month-Old Children	12 (Thu)	Born between June 1 and 15, 2014
	19 (Thu)	Born between June 16 and 30, 2014
3-Year-6-Month-Old Children	16(Mon)	Born between June 1 and 15, 2013
	23(Mon)	Born between June 16 and 30, 2013

February

Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital) / 13:00~14:00

4-Month-Old Babies	21 (Tue)	Born between Oct 1 and 15, 2016
	28 (Tue)	Born between Oct 16 and 31, 2016
10-Month-Old Babies	8 (wed)	Born between Apr 1 and 15, 2016
	15 (Wed)	Born between Apr 16 and 30, 2016

Kusunoki Center 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital) / 13:00~14:00

18-Month-Old Babies	10 (Fri)	Born between July 1 and 15, 2015
	17 (Fri)	Born between July 16 and 31, 2015
2-Year-6-Month-Old Children	9 (Thu)	Born between July 1 and 15, 2014
	16 (Thu)	Born between July 16 and 31, 2014
3-Year-6-Month-Old Children	13(Mon)	Born between July 1 and 15, 2013
	20(Mon)	Born between July 16 and 31, 2013

*As individual notification of Health Check-ups is for 4 month-old babies only, please check the Suku-Suku book for what contents and items to bring.

*For Health Check-ups for 18-month-old-babies, a toothbrush is necessary and for 2-year & 6-month-old-children, a toothbrush and cup are necessary. There will be a class on the correct way of brushing your child's teeth.

*For Health Check-ups for 3-years & 6-month-old children, there is an urinalysis. Please bring a first morning urine sample in a clean bottle.

* If you are unable to come on the date specified or if you have any questions about the Health check for infants, contact The Health Promotion Division [Tel:0749-24-0816](tel:0749-24-0816)、[Fax:0749-24-5870](tel:0749-24-5870)



Brazilian Way to Mop the Floor



When you come across different customs in a foreign country and talk about “culture shock”, what usually pops up in most people’s minds is either language barriers or cultural differences. There are, however, some smaller environmental changes that might take foreigners by surprise other than quintessential things like “language barriers and cultural differences”.

When I started living in Japan, I was surprised by common Japanese household items and furniture. For instance, Brazilian food has a lot of roasted dishes, so a majority of Brazilian families have an oven which is big enough to cook a whole turkey in their home kitchens.

Later I realized that a majority of Japanese kitchens have a small toaster oven and a fish grill in the middle of the cooking stove, but there’s nothing like the big ovens we see in Brazil. When I asked my Japanese friends about that, it was surprising to hear what they said: “When we cook Japanese dishes, there’s no need to use the oven. That’s why many Japanese households only have a toaster oven.”

In addition, I was confused with one more household item that is commonly used in Brazil but is not seen as much in Japan – a squeegee.

Different from the traditional Japanese *tatami* mats used in Japan, either hardwood flooring or marble flooring is a popular choice for flooring materials in Brazil, so when people have to clean the floor, they oftentimes use a mop soaked in a bucket of water mixed with a little soap. Afterwards, to wipe the residue of water on the floor, we use a tool called “rodo”, which is like a broom with a flat and smooth rubber blade.

When I started living in Japan, I really wanted to clean the floor of my apartment with water. For this, I shopped around for a cleaning tool similar to the “rodo” at numerous stores, only to find there was nothing like that. Later, I witnessed how Japanese do their cleaning and noticed that instead of cleaning the floor with water, they use a floor wiper and wet wipe sheets.

Since then, I got used to the “Japanese Way of Cleaning Floors” and found new ways to clean the floor even without a “rodo”. But honestly, I never imagined that there would be such a difference between Japan and Brazil. It is amazing to see that these small environmental changes can also cause a culture shock, isn’t it?



“Natalia’s Room” is a monthly column published in the Japanese version of Koho Hikone Newsletter since June 2014. Natalia is from Brazil and has been working as Coordinator of International Relations of Hikone since coming to Japan in 2014. This column features topics related to multicultural coexistence, such as differences in cultures and living in Japan as a foreigner.

