

The city where everyone wants to live

広報 ひこね (英訳版)

Community
Newsletter,
Koho
HIKONE



Nos.1374-75

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Multicultural Coexistence
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English

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
- * Jinnō Clinic
- * Hikone City Hall 1F
- * AEON TOWN Hikone
- * Viva City 2F(near the children play ground)
- * Shiga Bank (Oyabu Branch)
- * “Gyomu Super Market”(Toga-cho)
- * Beisia Hikone
- * 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.

Hikone City Hall: Weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 0:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.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 for holidays) げつようび~きんようび	① 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. ② 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. ③ 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Innovation Office “NAYASHICHI” Shiro-machi 1-7-16	“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!!

☆Do You Know The Recycling Symbols?

The Recycling Promotion law obliges manufacturers to display the designated recycling symbols on applicable products. When these products need to be disposed of at home, the symbols serve as a visible clue to sort them out into each recycling category. The following are some quintessential recycling symbols. Please refer to each description and put them into practice in your daily life.



- ① Symbol of Aluminum
It is mainly used for beverage cans made of aluminum.
- ② Symbol of Steel
It is usually applied to beverage cans made of steel.
- ③ Symbol of Plastic Bottle
This is specifically for bottles manufactured from polyethylene-terephthalate; PET.
- ④ Symbol of Plastic Packages
The symbol means so-called “Plastic Packages” in terms of waste management in Hikone.
It is used for packages and containers made from plastic.
- ⑤ Symbol of Paper
This symbol is displayed on paper packages and containers. The products with the symbol can be disposed of by tightly binding together with cardboard for recycling.

Inquires: Citizens’ Affairs & Environment Department

Tel 0749-30-6116 Fax 0749-27-0395

☆Garbage Collection During The Golden Week

Date	Mar 3 rd (Wed)	Mar 4 th (Thu)	Mar 5 th (Fri)
Garbage Collection	NO	YES	YES
	NO Collection For Glass Bottles/Jars And Cans		
Garbage Disposal at the Sanitation Center	NO	NO	NO

Inquiries: The Sanitation Center:

Tel 0749-22-2734 Fax 0749-24-7787



INFORMATION

☆Temporary Halt for the Issuance Services at Convenient Stores

Type of Certificate	Resident Certificate	May 5 th (Fri, Holiday)	Until 14 th (Sun)	From June 6 th (Sat) to June 11 th (Sun)
	Inkan Registration Paper			
	Family Registry Certificate Supplementary Family Registry Certificate			
	Tax/Tax Payment Paper	No Service	Until June 11 th (Sun)	
	Password for Issuance Registration Process (Jyuki Card)		May 8 th (Mon) to 10 th	

Inquires: Citizens' Affairs Division
Tel 0749- 30-611 Fax 0749-22-1398

☆Opening hours is extended from June——Hikone city library

From June, we will extend the opening hours on Wednesday until 7:00 P.M. to welcome more people.
 There will not be any change for the opening hours for the rest of the week (open hours 10:00AM- 6:00PM) and closing days (Monday, national holiday and fourth Thursday).

Inquiries: Hikone City library
Tel 0749-22-0649 Fax 0749-26-0300

☆Hikone city hospital

Electric installations at the hospital will be checked and cannot be used.
 In the planned power outage in the hospital (10:30~15:30), we cannot accept emergency case.
 In the case of sudden illness (Internal, Children), please go to the Holiday Emergency Hospital (Kusunoki-center 1F).(Tel:0749-22-1119)

Date:May21 (sun) 11:30~14:30

Place: Hikone city hospital

☆The department of ophthalmology in Hikone city hospital

At the department of ophthalmology was closed on Wednesday.

But now we examine patients on Wednesday.

Schedule of the department of ophthalmology

Morning: Monday ~ Thursday

Afternoon: Thursday

*Reception Time: 8:00~11:00

*Those who have appointment or reference letter are given preference over the others.

Thank you for your understanding.



Inquires : The department of ophthalmology (5block)

Tel:0749-22-6050 Fax: 0749-26-0754

☆Take Procedures to Join the National Pension System When You Become 20 Years Old.

Notice from *HikoneNenkin-jimusho*(Pension Office)

In Japan, all citizens aged 20 to 60, including foreign residents, should join the National Pension system. You can receive pension when you get old, if you pay the premiums of National Pension to qualify to receive a pension. Those who paid the premiums can receive a pension when he/she became challenged by an accident. Also when a person died unfortunately by an unexpected accident, his/her dependent family can receive a pension. The system helps to support each member. Half amount of *Kiso-nenkin* (Basic Pension) is paid from the national treasury. Be careful if you fail to take proceedings to join or forgot to pay premiums, you and your family might not have your pension.

For those who find it difficult to pay national pension premiums due to financial reasons such as students and so on, there is an exemption system and grace system special for young people. If you think you are eligible for it, please apply at *Hoken-nenkin-ka* or branch offices for when you take proceedings to join the system

※When you apply an exemption system for young people, you need a copy of student card or a certificate of student registration. For further information, please ask *Kokumin-nenkin-ka* or branch offices for details.

Inquiries: *HikoneNenkin-jimusho* (*Kokumin-nenkin-ka*)

Tel 0749-23-1114 Fax 0749-23-9033

☆NET119 Emergency Call Systems

Those who have difficulties in hearing or speaking can use this system.

The targets of this system are;

1. Those who live in Hikone city or Inugami district.
2. Those who are difficulty of hearing or speaking and cannot call 119.



☆Hikone City Hirata Kodomo-en (Nursery School) Has Opened

Name: Hikone City *Hirata kodomo-en* (Nursery School)

Hikone City *Hirata-cho* 303-1 Tel 0749-23-7120 Fax 0749-23-7119

Capacity: 200 children

- It opens from 7:30 a.m. through 7:00 p. m. on weekdays and from 7:30 a.m. through 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays.
- It is closed Sundays, Holidays and from December 29 through January 3.
- It's floor is 1844.48 square meters.
- It is the two-story wooden house.



Inquiries: Early Childhood Division

Tel 0749-23-9597 Fax 0749-26-1768

☆Treatment Fee to be Partly Paid by the Insurance (Some points were reformed in April 2017)

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 'yoshien 1' or lower on the first day of treatment or those who are objectives of an assist service.
- 3 Those who have constantly paid the premiums of nursing-care insurance.
- 4 Those who have continuously taken the treatment 9 times, once a week at the treatment institution assigned by Hikone City

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 as follows.

Treatment cost: 3,000 yen (per treatment) 9,000yen (per year)

Home-visiting fee: 1,800 yen (per treatment) 5,400yen (per year)

Application:

Fill in the application form available at Seniors' Welfare Division or at a treatment institution assigned by Hikone City, or the application form taken from Home-page of Hikone City. Then get certification (on the back of the paper) by your treatment institution, and submit it.

Application & Inquiries: Seniors' Welfare Division:

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

RECRUITMENTS & EVENTS

☆Family Support Center Lifesaving Training

Contents: This is a lecture of lifesaving training for infant. We encourage people those who care child to participate, too

Date: Friday, June 9 9:00~12:00 (Reception desk opens at 8:45~)

Place: 2nd floor in The Annex of Welfare Center (Hirata-cho)

Participation cost: Free

Deadline for application: Friday, May 26

Child care service: ¥200 per child (Reservation required, free of charge for a member of Family Support Center)

Apply and Inquiries: Hikone city Family Support Center

Tel &Fax 0749-24-3920

*Please apply by phone or Fax. Only in Japanese

☆Let's plant sweet potatoes and enjoy digging them on October !

Date & Time: May 20 (Sat) 13:30 ~ 15:00

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

Target: Elementary school children and their guardians

Capacity: 20 people on a first-come-first-served basis

Fee: Free

Application period: May 2 (Tue) ~May 14 (Sun)

Application: Call 0749-25-4425 or visit *Fureai no yakata*(Hassaka-cho) to apply

Belongings: Drink, towel, work gloves, small scoop, writing instrument,

*Please wear the clothes which may become dirty on the day

Inquires: *Fureai no yakata*

Tel 0749-25-4425 Fax 0749- 47-5088

☆Pokka Pokka Hiroba

Let's sing and dance with music therapist.

Date & Time: May 26 (Fri) 10:00 ~ 11:00 (acceptance 9:45~)

Place: Welfare Center (Hirata-cho) Annex 2F

Target: Preschool Children & their guardians

Capacity: 30 sets on a first-come-first-served basis

Fee: ¥ 200 (include insurance)

Child Care: ¥200/each

Application Deadline Date: May 20 (Sat)

Application & Inquires: Family Support Center

Tel & Fax 0749-24-3920

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

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

Date & Time: Sunday, May 21 8:00~12:00

Place: GOKOKU- JINJYA (shrine) (Osue- cho)

Inquiries: “HIKONE DE ASAICHI” Executive Committee

Tel 0749-24-4461 hikonedesaichi55@gmail.com

☆Hikone Eco (Ecological) Market “YUMEBATAKE”

Please make a lucky find from reused and recycled goods. *If it rains, the event will be called off.

Date & Time: Thursday (holyday), May 4 10:00~15:00

Place: KOJINYAMA Park (Hinatsu cho) *In the event of KOJINYAMA park spring festival

Inquiries: The Living Environment Division

Tel.0749-30-6116 Fax074-27-0395

☆Stall for Rent ---- Hikone Eco (Ecological) Market “YUMEBATAKE “----

“YUMEBATAKE” is a flea market for selling unwanted household goods and handmade goods

Date & Time: Saturday, May 27 10:30~15:00 *If it rains, the event will be called off.

Place: Hikone Municipal Hospital (Hasaka-cho) In the event of Hikone municipal hospital FUREAI festival

Capacity: 30 stalls (first come, first served)

Stall Fee: 500 yen for each stall.

Application deadline: The application must reach us no later than Thursday, May 18

How to apply: Please send a double postcard to “The Living Environment Division”

(〒522-8501 4-2 Moto-machi Hikone)

- The initial half of the double postcard-----①Your Address ,②Name, ③Phone number
 - ④Item for sale ⑤The number of participants
 - ⑥The license number of the vehicle used for unloading
 - ⑦Desired date of stall

- On the return part of the double postcard, please write: ①Your Zip code, ②Address, ③Name



Inquiries: The Living Environment Division

Tel 0749- 30-6116 Fax 0749-27-0395

☆Events at The Children's Center

★Enjoy Easy Yoga for Parents and Children with a Yoga Instructor

Date & Time: ①Fri. May 19 ②Mon. May 29 10:00 a.m. ~ 11:30 a.m.

Eligibility: ①Children born between April 1, 2014 ~ Feb. 29, 2016 & their guardians.

②Children born between March 1 ~ December 31, 2016 & their guardians.

Capacity: 20 pairs/each day (first come, first served)

Participation Fee: ¥200/1 pair/each day

What to bring : Towel, something to drink.

Application Period: ①Sat. May 6 ~ Mon. May 15 ②Sat. May 20 ~ Thurs. May 25

*Childcare is unavailable.

★Let's Blow Various Soap Bubbles

Date & Time: Sat. May 20 1:30 p.m. ~ 3:00 p.m.

Eligibility: Children Jr. high school students and under

*Infants need to be accompanied by their guardians.

Capacity: 40 children (first come, first served)

Participation Fee: ¥100

Application Period: Wed, Holidays, May 3 ~ Wed. May 17



★Watching Jupiter and Spring Constellations with Big Telescope

Date & Time: Fri. May 19 7:30 p.m. ~ 9:00 p.m.

Eligibility: Those who have interested in astronomical observation

*Children elementary school students and under need to be accompanied by their guardians.

Capacity: 30 people (first come, first served)

Participation Fee: ¥300 (free for infants)

Application Period: Sat. May 6 ~ Sun. May 14

*This gathering will be called off in case of bad weather.

You should ask whether the gathering will be held or not after 4:00 p.m. on the day.

Inquiries: The Children's Center

Tel 0749-28-3645 Fax 0749-28-3646

☆Started "Cha Cha Cha Hiroba" a Hikone City Regional Children's Welfare Center in April

"Cha Cha Cha Hiroba" has opened as a play place for babies and infants at Higashiyama Children's Hall (Satone-cho).

*Also as a place for exchanging experiences about child-raising, making friends, childcare counseling and so on.

Open Hour: Mondays ~ Fridays 9:00 a.m. ~ 5:00 p.m. *place for a play will change after 3:00 p.m.

*Opening time at Higashiyama Children's Hall changed to 9:00 a.m. after starting the *hiroba*.

Eligibility: Babies and infants (5 years old and under) & their guardians.

Inquiries: Higashiyama Children's Hall Tel & Fax 0749-23-3582

***A Regional Children's Welfare Center at Hikone Baby Daycare Center
(Nakayabu2-chome) was closed at the end of March.**



Consultation

	Date & Time	Place	Contents
Child-care Consultation	May 11(Thu) 10:00 ~12:00 (by reservation)	<i>Fureai no Yakata</i> (<i>Hassaka-cho</i>)	Consultation about the development and the child care of the child *The deadline is May 6 (The first 2 person, around 1hour per one person) Tel 0749-25-4452 Fax 0749-47-5088
Child-care Advice	May 11 (Thu) 10:30 ~12:00	Children's Center	Dental hygienist advises on infant raising Tel 0749-28-3645 Fax 0749-28-3646
Human-Rights Counseling	May 17 (Wed) 13:00 ~ 15:00	Consultation Room (City Hall 1 F)	Counseling about bullying and all acts of discrimination Tel 0749-22-0242
Law Consultation	May 17(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 May 17) *Only those who live or work in Hikone Tel0749-30-6117Fax0749-22-1398
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
Synthetic Consultation for Child & the Young	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 17:00	Child & the Young Consultation Center	Consultation for person who has troubles in social life (NEET or unsociable person etc). Tel 0749-47-3001 Fax 0749-26-1768
Child・Family Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) 8:30 ~ 17:15	Consultation Room for Children	Child care issues, child abuse, domestic violence etc Tel0749-23-7838 Fax0749-26-1768
Developmental Disorder Consultation	Every Mon. ~ Fri. (except holidays) ①9:00 ~ 12:00 ②13:00 ~ 16:00 (by reservation)	Welfare Center for the Disabled (<i>Hirata-cho</i>)	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 ※Health Promotion Division advises for a child who is 3years old or younger Tel 0749-24-0816
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
Consultation for Troubles	Every Wed & Fri (except holidays) 13:00 ~ 16:00	Welfare Center	Consultation for various troubles that happen in your life Tel 0749-22-2821 Fax 0749-22-2841 *Exclusive telephone for consultation: 0749-22-0294

☆The Measures against of Harassment in the Workplace
and Consulting Services on Working Conditions

The harassment in a workplace is an act of damaging person's character unjustly and shouldn't be allowed. It also prevents worker's ability and could do harm to the order of workplace and social reputation. In addition to the revised Child Care and Family Care Leave Law came into effect in January 2017, the measure against this kind of harrasments would be obligations of employers. We have to engage in these problems to create an ideal workplaces.

Consulting Services on Woking Conditions

▶Consulting about sexual or maternity harassment

Tel 077-523-1190

▶Consulting about power harassment or dismiss

(Shiga Labor department Consulting Service on Working Condition) Tel 077-522-6648

Inquiries: Shiga labor department employment situation ・ uniformity room

Tel 077-523-1190 Fax 077-523-3277

**Information from The Health Promotion Division Tel: 0749-24-0816
at Kusunoki Center (Hassaka-cho) Fax: 0749-24-5870**

☆Vaccination about Pneumococcal Disease for the Elderly

This vaccination will be finish on Saturday March 31, 2018.

※Elderly People (over 65years old) be able to have the vaccination one time by the public money furtherance at the recommended age.

Qualification for the fiscal year 2017

- ①People aged 65,70,75,80,85,90,95,100 years old(From April 2, 2017)
- ②People aged 60~64 who have defect on heart, kidney or respiratory, or who have defect on a function of immunity by human immunodeficiency virus.

Please make the reservation for the vaccination to a medical institution .

Fee: 2350 yen ※ If you receive the welfare benefits, you don't need to have to pay (Please bring the free ticket)

Hikone City already sent the questionnaire sheets to receive the vaccination to the eligible people on April.

If you haven't had 23 values Streptococcus pneumonia vaccination and want to have it, please receive it early.

Those who lost the questionnaire or become residents of Hikone City after last April, please ask the City Health Promotion Division.

Inquiries: The City Health Promotion Division

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



☆Information of fixed vaccination “Teiki Yobo Sesshu”

Vaccination types are very important in order to have resistance to illness and to prevent from becoming ill. Before receiving a vaccination, please check a maternity passbook and read the description well. If you are not sure about the vaccination conditions, please consult with City Health Promotion division.

Eligibility: Children who have resident registration.

Date and Time: Reservation system

Fee: Free



If your child does not receive the vaccination at the recommended age, you will be charged.

Vaccination	Recommended Age (Age Limit for No Fee Vaccination)		Interval, Times
BCG		Until 1 day before 1 st birthday	1 shot
Hib Vaccine		2 months old before 5 th birthday	1-4shots Depending on age At 1 st shot
Pediatric Pneumococcal Vaccine			
Hepatitis B Vaccine		Until 1 day before 1 st birthday	3 shots (2 nd shots) More than 27 days after 1 st shot (3 rd shots) More than 139 days after 1 st shot
DPT-IPV Diphtheria, Pertussis, tetanus and Inactivated polio	1 st phase	The age of 3 months up to 7 years and 6 months	3 shots with 20-56 days intervals
	1 st phase booster		1 year-1 year 6 months after completion 1 st phase
DT Diphtheria, Tetanus	2 nd phase	6 th grade of elementary school-aged children (Over age 11 , under age 13)	1 shot
MR Measles and German measles	1 st phase	The age of 1 year up to the day before becoming 2 years old	1 shot
	2 nd phase	For one year before entering school	
Chicken pox vaccination	1 st phase	Over 1 year old, under 3 years old	From 6 months to 12 months interval after the initial vaccination.
	Additional		

Japanese encephalitis	1 st phase	Over age 3, under age 7 years and 6 months	2 shots at 6-28 days intervals
	Additional		1 shot, about 1 year after the 1 st phase
	2 nd phase	Over age 9, under age 13	1 shot
Human Papilloma virus vaccine	This vaccine is not currently recommended by Hikone city.(6 th elementary-1 st year high school girls)		3 shots

• If you wish your baby to get vaccinated earlier for going abroad , it will be able to receive vaccination from 6 months old when you consult with City Health Promotion Division.

• **In case of getting a vaccination outside of Hikone City**

If you wish your child to get vaccinated outside of Hikone City, you need to apply to City Health Promotion Division before.

The City Health Promotion Division

Tel 0749-24-0816 Fax 074924-5870

☆”PIYOPIYO SALON”

Let’s talk freely about the enjoyment and the problem of childcare with a guest midwife.

Date & Time: Wednesday, May 24 10:00~11:30 (Reception : 9:45~10:00)

Place: Kusunoki Center 1 F

Eligibility: 2~3month old infants and their guardians who have resident registration in Hikone city.

What to bring: Maternal and Child Health Handbook, Bath Towel (The baby rapper is also ok.)

☆Baby Salon

Date & Time : Tuesday, May 2 10:00~11:30 (acceptance 9:45~10:00)

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, May 11&259:30~11:00

Place: KusunokiCenter 1F(Next to Hikone Municipal Hospital)

*Consultation by a nutritionist is available on Thursday, May25

☆Weaning Period Consultation



* Let's give food twice a day.

Date & Time: Friday, May 12 10:00~11:30 (Acceptance 9:45~10:00)

Place: *KusunokiCenter*2F(Next to HikoneMunicipal Hospital)

Eligibility: 7~8 months old infant & their guardians

Things to bring: your Maternal and Child Health Handbook

☆Health Check-ups for Infants



April

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

4-Month-Old Babies	16(Tue)	Born between Jan1 and 15,2017
	23 (Tue)	Born between Jan 1 and 31,2017
10-Month-Old Babies	10(Wed)	Born between July1 and 15,2016
	17(Wed)	Born between July 16 and 31, 2016

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

18-Month-Old Babies	12(Fri)	Born between Oct1 and 15,2015
	19(Fri)	Born between Oct16 and 31,2015
2-Year & 6-Month-Old Children	11(Thu)	Born between Oct1 and 15,2014
	18(Thu)	Born between Oct 16 and 31,2014
3-Year & 6-Month-Old Children	8 (Mon)	Born between Oct1 and 15,2013
	15(Mon)	Born between Oct 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 for18- 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 Fax 0749-24-5870

☆Helpline for Child Care

Consultation telephone about child Rearing and Vaccination for the child.

Date & Time Monday~Friday 8:30~17:15

Tel: 0749-26-0192

☆Dental check-up for pregnant women

Let's check your teeth and receive the guidance for the proper way to use toothbrush.

Exchanging experiences about pregnant and making friends.

Date & Time : Thursday , May 25 13:30~15:30 (Acceptance 13:15~13:30)

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

Eligibility : Pregnant women , over 16 weeks pregnant having a resident registration in Hikone City

Application: Monday, May 1~Monday, May 15

Things to bring : Your maternal and Child Health Handbook, Mirror, toothbrush, cup and towel

*There is no nursery.



☆Class for New Parents

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

Date & Time: Saturday, May 27 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: Monday, May 1st~Monday, May 15

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

*There is no nursery

☆Eating Habit Consultation

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

Date & Time : June 26 (Mon) ① 9 : 00 ②10 : 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.

☆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, May 10 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



The Kingdom of Qualifications



Every time I look through flyers inserted in magazines, etc., I am strongly intrigued with advertisements for the acquisition of qualifications. What makes me so interested in them is that there are numerous qualifications and proficiency evaluation tests available for anybody in Japan, which is unimaginable in Brazil. There are even times when I am stunned to see the tests like “How To Put Things Away And In Order”, “World Heritage Sites” and so on, wondering why on earth these unusual qualification tests even exist in Japan. What’s more, there are generally different grades - for instance, grade 1, 2, and 3 - in the same field of almost every test, so test takers are likely to take a specific test over and over again in a bid to get a higher grade. This unique Japanese culture left an impression on me that the Japanese are ardent about taking qualifying tests and obtaining their certificates.

It goes without saying that qualifications are must-haves depending on the line of work. On the one hand, it is compulsory for people who want to work in the medical or legal field to take the examinations and earn the work-related qualifications. On the other hand, in the field of tourism, cosmetology and business, hands-on experience is more valued than qualifications, so there are no officially authorized examinations to measure individual skills. To make a comparison, working as a hairdresser requires the national license in Japan, but there is no such a thing in Brazil. In order to be a hairdresser by profession in Brazil, we need to go to a vocational school to learn techniques and train skills just like Japanese students do, but getting employed as a hairdresser only requires a diploma.

Furthermore, what I find peculiar about these phenomena is there are Japanese own foreign language tests for English, French, Chinese, just to name a few, conducted by Japanese linguistic foundations. With respect to foreign languages, language tests are usually sponsored by the national governments and are held particularly for international students who are studying their official languages. Most of these tests can be taken anywhere in the world, and once you passed one of these you can get a certificate alongside its qualification.

For this reason, it took me by surprise that Japan has own foreign language testing predominantly aiming at its own people though aforementioned language tests are more internationally recognized. The unique system of these Japanese own foreign language examinations can be a motivation for the Japanese; however, it is hard for me to understand why they prefer Japanese own examinations to internationally authorized ones at times.

Offering a variety of qualifications of any lines of work and establishing its own qualifying exams, Japan has been greater than any other country as “the Kingdom of Qualifications” to me. So what kind of qualifications do you have in Japan?

“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 feature topics related to multicultural coexistence, such as difference of cultures and living in Japan as a foreigner.

