

END OF TERM EVENT!

Please come along and join us for dinner at a Japanese restaurant. Let's enjoy Japanese food and games! All students are welcome to bring friends.

Date:
Time:
Place:
Cost:
RSVP:



Japanese summer festivals 日本の夏祭り

Winter is upon us!
But on the other hand it's almost summer in Japan.

Speaking of summer, it is Matsuri (festival) season in Japan. There are countless local Matsuri and most festivals celebrate the shrine's deity or a seasonal / historical event.

Gion Matsuri, the festival of Yasaka Shrine, is one of the most famous festivals celebrated in Japan. This traditional and brilliant festival event has been held for over 1,000 years, and various events are staged throughout the entire month of July. It dates back to 869AD and it was originally started to counteract the epidemic spreading across Japan at the time. The highlight of the festival is 32 beautifully decorated floats that parades through the city on July 17th.

Traditional festivals in Japan involve fireworks, Bon Odori (Bon dances), and Ennichi (community fairs) with each region celebrating every summer.

Bon dances were originally a religious ceremony held to send off these spirits, but they have become local festivals for entertainment. Ennichi is the festival day which is related to the Shinto shrine. People are wearing yukata (summer kimono), dance to traditional music and enjoy summer nights. In some places, people can also enjoy food such as Wata Ame (cotton candy), Takoyaki (octopus ball) and Yakisoba (fried noodle), and entertaining shows such as goldfish scooping, haunted house and shooting games.



Noriko's Thoughts

Winter season is approaching, but which season do you prefer, summer or winter?

Personally I definitely prefer summer, I hate winter!

It was January of 2005 when I first arrived in Melbourne. Imagining Australia's summer to be warm and sunny. However, to my disbelief Melbourne was not, even though it was summer, I still felt that the clothing I bought was inadequate. So, I had to go shopping.

Important Information about Term 3 お知らせ

Our New Term 3 will commence from the 4th of July and run until the 17th of September.

In order to plan our new term schedule we ask that you please confirm your next term scheduling with either Phillip or Noriko.

Contact Details: 0401 886 629 | info@ijapanese.com.au

— Please Make Sure —

Entrance Door

Due to security at the main entrance door, we are sorry for the inconvenience for some students but could you please notify your teacher when you are running late.

We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Cancellation System

If you are unable to attend your class, we ask that you notify us as soon as possible.

Private Lessons;
48 hours notification is required to reschedule lesson within the same term.

Group lessons;
You will be able to reschedule and join another group lesson or reschedule a private lesson at a \$15 rescheduling fee.
If you happen to cancel a catch up lesson, you are still required to pay for it.

PROMOTION

Where offering YOU our current students a promotion !!

All you need to do is introduce a friend & you both receive 1hour Bonus Lesson!

[Conditions Apply]

Student's Interview 生徒さんに聞く



From Top left: Yuli, Ferry, Weifan, Irwan

From Bottom left: Reza, Gina, Felicia

We'd like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest group of student who have all just returned from a trip to Japan. Some of them went to Japan after the country was stricken by natural disasters.

Q:How was the trip to Japan?

A: Yuli - Trip to Japan, in feb, was amazing. The whole experience exceeded our expectations.

A: Gina - I was gobsmacked by the beauty of Kyoto and the Japanese culinary. With recent disaster that has breaking everyone hearts, the people of Japan are still held their head high because they are believes that tomorrow will be better. The people of Japan are still smiling and kindly keen to help us, the foreigner by taking us directly to our destination with consequences to reroute their own trip or upset their pooch for distracting the afternoon walk although we have confused them for not being able to speak Japanese but still asked for a direction with our body language. Our trip to Japan was almost over a month ago, but the memory is still well-pictured in my head as I write this.

Q:What surprised you the most about Japan?

A: Gina - The individual beauty of each city that we visited, the genuine hospitality of Japanese people, the castles, the shrines and the culinary.

A:Reza - There are allocated spots for smokers and people don't smoke while walking on the street, especially in Tokyo. Though we were also surprised that smoking inside a restaurant or cafe is still allowed.

A:Yuli - Everywhere was clean!!! It was difficult to find rubbish bins on the street, yet it was clean. And we were surprised how people are very efficient and they make full use of space and time. And, as a pastry chef, I'm surprised how amazing the patisserie work there! They all look so oiishi and beautiful!!!

Q:What do you like most about Japan, & Why?

A: Reza & Yuli - We think we like the advanced public transport, especially in Tokyo, where the train network is dauntingly complicated but it works really well! We could get to places easily and trains are frequent and on time as well as the food!

Q:What made you decide to learn Japanese?

A: Gina - The authenticity of Japanese hospitality, they were so keen to help us with our broken Japanese.

Recommended websites お勧めウェブサイト

We would like to recommend some websites which might help your self learning.
Please browse them!

Namiko's Blog Lessons

You can find this blog in 'about.com'.
The blog presents many interesting topics about Japan, such as current news and customs. It's written in English, Japanese and Roma-ji, there are also some useful phrases, so you can understand the articles easily.

http://japanese.about.com/od/namikosbloglessons/Namikos_Blog_Lessons.htm

JapanesePod101

This website can be used by people with a wide range of needs from beginners to advanced learners wishing to study themselves.
There are lots of materials such as JLPT, Kanji and vocabulary.
All you need to do is choose your level, topic and listen to audio which will help you to check your grammar points and vocabulary.

<http://www.japanesePod101.com/>



Please tell us your recommendations!

We need your help....

We appreciate if you would tell us any good restaurants or websites.

Also if you wish to participate in 'Student's Interview', please let us know.

info@ijapanese.com.au



From Phillip フィルより

Japan is recognized for its love of motor sports and have produced some iconic sports cars like the Nisan Skyline, Mazda RX8, Toyota Supra, Subaru WRX STI and Mitsubishi EVO just to name a few. I must say I was a little disappointed with the lack of Japanese sports cars in Japan when I visited earlier this year.

In recent years the Japanese car industry has moved away from manufacturing powerful sports cars to smaller, more fuel efficient cars. Due to smaller roads, cheaper registration and Insurance, these types of almost van like or cube looking vehicles have become quite popular in Japanese lifestyles. Even though Japanese people don't embrace sports cars like they used too, car manufactures still produces them to satisfy the rest of the lead foots.

Now there's a new trend emerging from Japan, but is it the local market or global market demand? I'd like to think it's the people of Japan missing their sports cars over the years. With the release of the Nissan GT-R in 2007 and now the Lexus LFA.

Japanese supercars are making their debut on the streets of Japan with a touch of renaissances.



Nissan Cube



Quiz

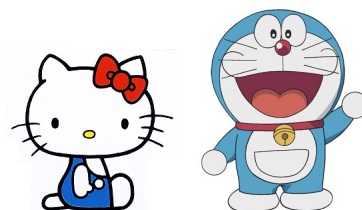
Try this simple Japanese Quiz.

Hello Kitty & Doraemon are well-known Japanese characters throughout the world.

They must get along with each other, Right ?

BUT!

Why can't Hello Kitty & Doraemon communicate with each other?



Answer on Page 4 →

Questionnaire

Along with this Newsletter you will be given a Questionnaire!

We strongly ask that if you wish to participate please fill in and return to us.

Any feedback, Positive or Negative will be grateful and will help us to build a better and more enjoyable school for the future.

iJapanese free service for students!

Write a diary in Japanese!
日本語で日記を書こう!
And Noriko will check your writing anytime for free!

The best way to improve your Japanese is to use it on a daily basis.

We recommend writing a diary in Japanese. It would help your Japanese skill not only writing but also speaking, listening and reading.

We are happy to help you improvement your Japanese!

Quiz Answer

Because Hello Kitty doesn't have a mouth and Deraemon doesn't have ears!

From Noriko のりこより

I always seem to ask students' about themselves in class, but I have probably never told them much about myself..... So now it's my turn, if you are interested in knowing.

I was born in Fukuoka, I grew up in Fukuoka, went to school in Fukuoka, worked in Fukuoka.

I first started working at a construction company as a bookkeeper/administrator. It was a bit of a boring job. So one day, off the top my head I wanted to learn something new! So I thought to myself "OK, let's do it"

Next step, What to learn? I actually didn't really know what to learn. I just wanted to learn something new. I started looking in the local newspapers for new ideas. As I glanced over the paper I found English learning classes, going to gym and Aloha dancing classes but none of these really caught my eye until I turned the page to "a course for becoming a Japanese teacher".

The next day I visited the school and signed up straight away. It was a very interesting course because of the way in which it made me look at Japanese, it was like the fish scales had fallen from my eyes!

After the course I decided to quit my job and go to Melbourne for a internship in teaching Japanese as a volunteer. After completing the internship I returned to Fukuoka and taught at a local Japanese school. It was amazing experience in Melbourne and I missed it greatly.

Two year later I had an opportunity to return to Melbourne, so I jumped at the opportunity and now I have been teaching for over 6 years and have helped to start a successful business.



I really enjoy teaching and always laugh with my students. No sooner did I start teaching that I realized teaching people is also about learning from them. I have learnt a lot of differences between Japan and other countries, such as custom, culture and thinking about life. Which I had not thought of before becoming a teacher.

I learn something new every day from students. Just the other day when I was teaching a 7 year old girl, she was looking at the map of Japan and said 'Japan looks like a seahorse!' Yeah, that's right. I have learnt something new today too!



Thanksご挨拶

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our students for learning with us at iJapanese Language & Culture School and we hope you have enjoyed learning Japanese with us.

We are pleased to announce an increase in students and we are currently expanding our resources so that we can make sure that our school continues to be the best in Melbourne.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you during the new term!



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