



KCC NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2021

Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center

Palette Kashiwa

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Chiba,

Japan 277-0005

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Refreshing Autumn Walking Tour

On the third walking tour, we'll visit historic shrines and temples in the Kashiwatanaka area. Let's enjoy a half-day trip to explore a local history while interacting with each other.

Date: November 14 (Sun)

*To be postponed in case of rain; November 21 (Sun)

Meeting: 13:00 at Kashiwanoha Campus Station East Exit

Breakup: 16:00 at Kashiwanoha Campus Station West exit

Walking course: Kashiwanoha Campus Station>>Kichijoin temple>>Himemiya shrine>>Tenman shrine>>Ioji temple

Capacity: about 20

Fee: free

Application: Directly to KCC office counter by November 10 (Wed) or by email; boshu-2@kira-kira.jp

What to bring: drinks and towels

Desirable outfit: comfortable clothes and shoes



Himemiya shrine



Tenman srine

Kashiwa Citizen Activity Festa

Date: November 23 (holiday)

Place: Double Deck at Kashiwa Station East Exit, Wood Deck, Howdy Mall, Palette Kashiwa

Many volunteer groups in the city will participate. At Palette Kashiwa, we will introduce international exchange activities in Kashiwa city and Foodbank KCC. In addition to KCC, there are organizations in the city that collect food donations to provide them to people in need. We accept food donations for the organizations from 10:00 to 16:00. Please come to see.

Cross-cultural Tea Time: The Hapsburg Empire and the fate of ethnic minorities

The main theme of this speech is about the Hapsburg Empire that had lasted until World War 1 since being elected Holy Roman Emperor in the Middle Ages, and the different ways of life taken by two ethnic minorities under the control of the empire,

and also food and culture related to the empire.

Date and time: November 27 (Sat), 13:00-14:30

Place; Palette Kashiwa ABC

Lecturer: Mr.Toshimitsu Ishigure, Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Slovenia

Capacity: 39

Fee: 300 yen

Application: directly to KCC office counter by November 25 (Thurs) or

by email; boshu-1@kira-kira.jp



National Flag of the
Hapsburg Empire
in 15th century



Mr. Toshimitsu
Ishigure

The 6th food Bank KCC for Foreign Residents

Date and time: November 28 (Sun), 12:30-14:30

Place: Palette A

Food: Canned food, dried noodles, bottled water and sweets are distributed free of charge.

* Distribution will end as soon as we run out of stock. If you want, please come early.

* Please bring an eco-bag.

Inquiries: KCC office, 04-7157-0281

Announcement from other organization:

"Online Study Session" for KIRA members

Date and Time: November 18 (Thurs), 20:00-21:00

Contents: Introduction and experience of online interaction with domestic/overseas

Lecturer: Kumiko Yamaguchi (Interactive Training in Communication-Japan)

Fee: free

Capacity: 25

Apply at KCC office or send your name and phone number to boshu-1@kira-kira.jp. We will provide you with necessary class information.

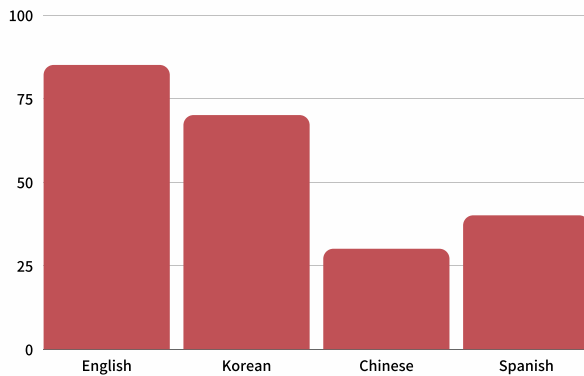
KCC Questionnaires for Students in Language Classes 2020

In KCC, 18 language classes in total are being held. (7 English, 6 Korean, 2 Chinese, 3 Spanish classes)

At the end of November, 2021, we did questionnaires to their students.

Following is the results. The results include KIRA classes (3 English classes, 2 Korean classes and 2 Chinese classes) in Kashiwanoha.

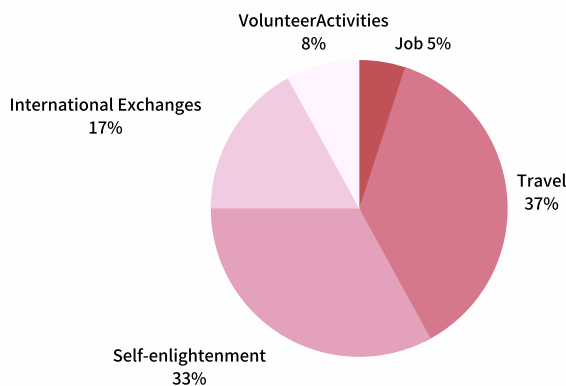
①Number of Students



The number of students are the following order: English, Korean, Spanish, Chinese.

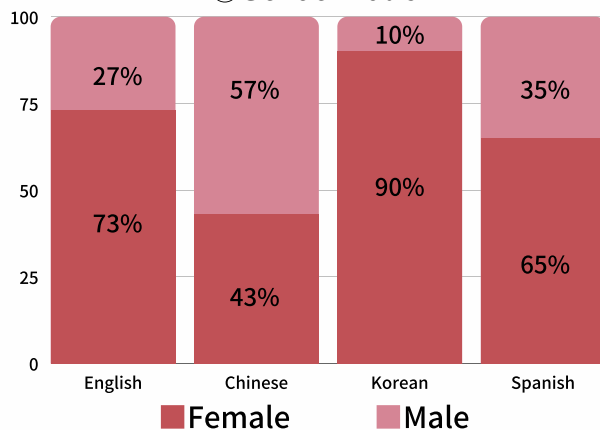
English is the most popular because of its huge popularity of speakers in the world. Regarding Korean classes, the number became small compared to when we had the Korean boom. Last year the courses started from the second semester due to the pandemic. The number of the students decreased from 281 to 236, which means as much as 45 people gave up taking the courses.

②Purpose of Learning



Travels and self-enlightenment make up 70 percent while 25 percent of the purpose is international interaction and volunteer activities, and 5 percent was for jobs. There are many retired people seeking some fun in their life after finishing parenting. The small number of young people is attributed to the time schedule of the course. They can't take classes on weekdays because of their work.

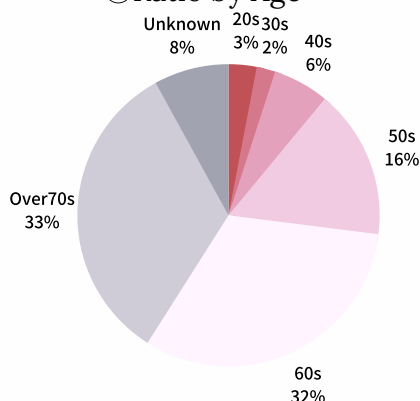
③Gender Ratio



73 percent of all the courses are women, and 27 percent are men, which means women are more interested in our courses than men do.

Women are overwhelmingly the majority, especially in Korean classes. Korean dramas and celebrities are highly popular in Japan. In addition, the country is relatively easy to access, so they want to learn Korean to go shopping in Korea.

④Ratio by Age



70 percent of the students are in their 60s or above and below 50s are 27 percent. Elderlies are the majority since they have more leisure time. Only 3 percent are in their 20s, which is extremely few. The reasons are that it's difficult for them to join the day time and week day classes since they have schools and work.

The History of Foreign Language Lessons

Our foreign language lessons trace back to 2004, when Japanese volunteers started teaching “English Lessons for Beginners”. Those easy and useful classes such as “Travel English” and “English for Host Families” were quite popular especially among housewives. We added English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean classes by native speakers as we acquire more and more demand from students. At first, each language course had one class, however, with the increase in number of students, we started offering classes according to certain levels. Actually, Korean classes were very popular when there was a Korean boom. In 2009, English classes and Korean classes opened in Kashiwa-no-ha as well. Number of semesters were changed from three to two in 2014, and the number of classes became about forty. While classes during weekdays are popular among those who retired from their job and housewives, the ones on Saturdays have more workers and students.

Answering those voices from students saying “We want somewhere to show my improvements.”, the first English speech contest was held in 2009 whose participants were not only the ones taking our lessons, but also other citizens and high school students. To make it as exciting as possible, awards such as the Mayer Award. Instructors from Torrance and tutors of the classes joined as judges. Since then, the contest has been held every year, and the number of participants have been increasing with the citizens and those who went to Torrance as delegates. It is one of the casual international events in this city because families, friends, and teachers of participants come to cheer them up.

Let's Talk in English

“Let's Talk in English” has been held since January 11th, 2008, with the demands from citizens that they want opportunities to casually talk with foreign citizens. It started as “Let's talk with Dave” held by Dave Brown, who was a tutor of English classes. 4 people joined the first event. At first, the tutor was a volunteer. In return, each participant paid 100 yen to get the tutor a present. Gradually, the number of students and tutors increased. Then, in 2011, the name of the event was changed to “Let's Talk in English”. At the same time, tutors came to get paid. Having become even easier to participate in ever since it's held in Palette Kashiwa, we sometimes have more than ten attendees. The current tutor Steve is the tenth tutor, and the tutors are always native speakers. There are a variety of topics of conversation such as seasonal events and general things. Since it's held on Saturdays, many young people, sometimes even with their children, join it. We would like everyone to feel free to participate even if your English is not fluent because this is not a lesson.



Every 3rd Saturday 12:00pm-1:00pm@Palette Kashiwa. No reservation and fee required. (No event in August and December)

Learn about Japanese Culture Online

Since it's difficult to hold events in person in this pandemic situation, we are introducing Japanese culture through online platforms such as Youtube. This May, our staff learned three kinds of calligraphy, and posted about it. Also, the video “Flower Arrangement” we uploaded last fall was made with English subtitles, which is our new attempt. In October, a lecture on how to use Furoshiki (a wrapping cloth) by a General Foundational Juridical Person “Furoshiki Study Club” was broadcasted online at “Kashiwa de International Exchange Festa 2021”. We will upload this on Youtube as well. We are looking forward to having this kind of event with everyone. In the meantime, we will try to make the best use of online content so that everyone can know more about Japanese culture.



Introducing many ways to use furoshiki

NOVEMBER Events

Japanese Classes

Online Classes

Thurs 10:00 - 11:30
Japanese Intermediate and up

Sun 10:00 - 11:30
Beginning I, Intermediate I (2 classes)

In Person Classes

Thurs 10:00 - 12:00
Intermediate I at Shonan Community Center

Online Japanese Kashiwa Classes

Tue 10:00 - 11:30
Japanese for all Beginning II (1st of the 28 lessons)

Tue 19:00 - 20:30
Japanese for all Beginning I (1st of the 14 lessons)

Wed 10:00 - 11:30
Japanese intermediate and up

Wed 19:00 - 20:30
Japanese for all Beginning I (1st of the 8 lessons)

Thurs 10:00 - 11:30
Beginning Conversation I (Beginner, Beginning 1)

Thurs 13:00 - 14:30
Beginning Conversation 2 (Beginning 2)

Fri 19:00 - 20:30
Japanese for all Beginning II (1st of the 36 lessons)

Sat 9:30 - 11:20
Intermediate Conversation

Information about COVID-19 for foreign residents

Available in multiple languages



Free legal advice and administrative procedure support for foreign residents

Lawyers and administrative procedure specialists will be available to help foreign residents with legal questions and documents. Any questions or problems are all right, such as visa, domestic violence, divorce, or trouble at the workplace. Please register beforehand.

Date and Time: Nov 24 (WED) 13:00 - 17:00

Place: Palette Kashiwa

Reservation: KCC (Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center) Office

Consultation for Foreign Residents

Monday: Spanish

Tuesday: Koren (Only the 2nd and the 4th Tuesday)

Wednesday: Chinese

Thursday: English

Friday: Chinese

※1pm-5pm everyday

Consultation Counter for Foreign Residents (Main city hall 3F)

TEL: 04-7168-1033

No reservation needed

Kashiwa information delivery service

Sign up to receive email announcements from the city, such as information about earthquakes, fires, crime, and infectious disease outbreaks in the language of your choice. Send a blank email to this address to register.



Also, please read Kashiwa City Magazine. It contains information about COVID-19 vaccination.



Questions? Please contact the office of Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center (KCC)

Tel: 04-7157-0281 Fax: 04-7165-7321

Hours: 8:30 - 17:15 Closed on Sundays and national holidays