304th Edition April 2019

Takasaki International Relations Society 高崎市国際交流協会

Population: 373, 833 Area: 459.16 km² Takasaki City: Registered Foreign Residents:

There are 5,503 foreign residents from around 60 different countries residing in Takasaki City from China, Philippines, Vietnam, etc... (28th February 2019)

Foreign Language Courses

The Takasaki International Relations Society (TIRS) offers foreign language courses with the aim of promoting international understanding by increasing the number of citizens who have a basic knowledge of the language and culture of other countries.

Location: Chuo Kominkan (Suehiro-cho 27) Maximum number of students per course: 20. Minimum of 10 people required for the class to go ahead. Participants will be selected on merit if there are more than 20 applicants.

Fee: 3,000 yen for TIRS members, or 5,000 yen for the general public, plus textbook of around 3,000 yen. *Students can become a member of TIRS (2,000 yen per year) on the first day of the course and receive the members' discount.

To apply for either course: Send a postcard by Wednesday 17th April to the TIRS office (address below) with the following details:

Course name

TAKASAKI CITY

- 公 Your name, address & contact number
- A few words about why you want to take the course

Vietnamese for Beginners

Course duration: 12th May-14th July, every Sunday for 10 lessons, 10am-11:45am.

Course content: Greetings, self introductions, basic conversational phrases, Vietnamese alphabet, etc. Teacher: Huyen Toyama (Vietnamese living in Takasaki for 12 years)

Brazilian Portuguese for Beginners

Course duration: 15th May-17th July, every Wednesday for 10 lessons, 10am-11:45am.

Course content: Greetings, self introductions, basic conversational phrases, beginners grammar, etc. Teacher: Chieko Matsumoto (TIRS Cultural Instruc-

tor who lived in Brazil for many years)

=Information from Takasaki City=

Takasaki City One-Stop Center for Families Raising Children

Takasaki, Ta-machi 71, 2nd Floor

This center for families raising children and prospective parents offers useful information and advice in a range of related issues.

Child raising consultations & playroom Staffed by public health nurses, childcare workers and educational experts, parents can access information and ask questions about raising their children. Principals of local nursery schools and kindergartens are available on a daily basis to give advice. The playroom has blocks and other simple toys where children can play freely or take a rest. Open: Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-6pm. Closed public

Jobseeker help desk for parents

This desk offers information on job vacancies and training programs for parents looking to get back into the workforce.

Open: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-5pm. Closed public holidays.

Childcare Center "Kashinoki"

Provides childcare for children so parents can have some "me" time, attend to personal business, do the shopping, etc. Long-term or regular use is not possible.

Open: Everyday, 7:30am-10pm.

Age: 6 months-grade 3 elementary school children

Cost: 300 yen per hour

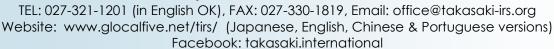
holidays.

To use: Registration in advance is necessary.





TIRS Takasaki International Relations Society (International Relations Corner) 2nd Floor Takasaki City Hall, Takamatsu-cho 35-1, Takasaki, 370-8501





March 2019

TAKASAKI & YOU

Kurabuchi Kodomo Observatory

The Kurabuchi Kodomo Observatory opened in March in Kurabuchi Mizunuma Park. The Observatory is home to a Mitaka 30cm astronomical telescope, allowing children (and adults!) to enjoy the beautiful starry sky of Kurabuchi. The telescope once belonged to the City Youth Science Center and was located in Suehiro-cho, but it fell out of use when it's protective casing was damaged in the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake. It's new home of Kurabuchi Mizunuma Park also has a soccer field and a trail run and is close to the popular hot springs of Aimagawa Onsen.

Observatory Hours: 7pm-9:30pm in April and May (times vary according to the season). Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

Address: Kurabuchi-machi Mizunuma 2930

Entrance: Free

Takasaki Haru Matsuri

Dates: Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th April

Time: 10am-4pm both days

Place: Motenashi Square & Kannonyama

Details: Motenashi Square - Children's activities,

Daruma painting, outdoor food stalls, etc.

Kannonyama - Hula dance performances, craft activities including making a bird house, etc.

Shinmachi Sakura Matsuri

Dates: Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th April

Time: 10am-3pm both days

Place: JSDF Camp Shinmachi (Shinmachi 1080)

Details: Brass band performance and other music and dance acts on the stage, self-defense force demonstrations and vehicles on display under the cherry blossoms.

Cherry Blossom & Flower Viewing Spots

Takasaki Park (Miyamoto-cho 127)

A beautiful park right near city hall with a fountain, children's play equipment and gorgeous gardens. During the cherry blossom season in late Marchearly April, the park is lit up at night and street vendors selling food and drink are on site. The trees along the moat are lit up too and there are walking paths through those trees.

Mt. Ushibuse (Yoshii-machi Taira)

More than one thousand cherry trees of different varieties are in bloom along the road to the top of the mountain in mid April. Great for a hike, or a drive to the summit.

Jigen-ji Temple (Shimotaki-machi 19)

50 weeping cherry trees in the gardens of this temple are in bloom in early April, some as old as 250 years (see photo).



Misato Moss Phlox Festival (Misato-machi, Matsunosawa 12-1)

Period: Early April-early May, 9am-4pm.

Park Entrance: 300 yen

Details: 260,000 moss phlox decorate this 3-hectare park in elaborate swirls of pink, white and purple.

Features local food and handicraft stalls.

きゅうじつとうばんい

休日当番医

'Kyujitsu toban i' are the medical clinics on duty on weekends and national holidays. Surgery hours are 9am to 6pm. Be sure to take along your health insurance card. **Schedule changes monthly, see 15th-of-the-month Takasaki Koho for full list. For other cities, see your local city magazine.



Night Clinic: (1F Public Heath Center Takamatsu-cho) Mon-Fri=7:30pm-10pm; Sat, Sun, pub. hol=7pm-10pm **Children's Emergency Health Consultations**: Dial #8000 to speak with a health professional for advice on whether to go to the hospital (Mon-Fri=6pm-8am next day; Sat, Sun, pub. hol=9am-8am next day).

Date	Sun 7th April	Sun 14th April	Sun 21st April	Sun 28th April	Mon 29th April (Pub. Hol.)	Tues 30th April (Pub. Hol.)
Internal Medicine (Naika)	Fujie Naika lin (Kamitaki-machi) 2 027-352-7800	Yamana Clinic (Yamana-machi) 13 027-350-5777	Jonan lin (Shimowada- machi 3) \$2027-322-5760	Onogaki lin (Nakai-machi 3) 23 027-352-2233	Aizawa Clinic (Egi-machi) 13 027-322-6224	lwata Naika Clinic (Ishihara-machi) 13 027-327-1241
	Honda lin (Shimotoyooka- machi) \$2027-323-8060	Toori-machi Shin- ryo-sho (Toori-machi) \$2027-322-6534	Ishizawa Iin (Showa-cho) 25 027-327-1911	Momonoki Clinic (Yawata-machi) 23 027-344-3130	Tachbana Naika lin (Miyamoto-cho) 25 027-322-3133	Wakaba Clinic (Kenzaki-machi) #3027-344-3354
Pediatrics (Shonika)	Oguri Shonika lin (Kaminakai- machi) \$2027-327-7887	Miyashita Clinic (Shinbo-machi) 13 027-322-6534	Inui Shonika Naika Iin (Miyamoto-cho) \$027-322-3252	Hamajiri Clinic (Hamajiri-machi) 13 027-363-8311	Koizumi Shonika lin (Renjaku-cho) 13 027-322-3985	Kodomo Clinic Sone (Kamikobana-machi) \$027-360-4580 Zennyoji lin (Kuragano-machi) \$027-346-2382