



Minami no Kaze

Vol.12
December 2013

Minami Lounge Information



We wish you a happy Holiday Season and a successful New Year !

The holiday season is coming soon. Many of you may have already started writing season's greeting cards and *nenga-jo*, New Year's cards, to your respected teachers, longtime friends, or new acquaintances you met in this year, .

It is the season you think back of this year, and talk about New Year's plans with your neighbors or colleagues. Let us enjoy encounters with new people, wishing it will be a precious step to build sympathetic and trusting relationship.



Its FLU season

We are in the middle of the winter season. Cold and dry weather tend to make you catch chest diseases. Influenza and food poisoning by norovirus are typical diseases in this season.



Ordinary cold is caused by various viruses, and its typical symptoms are sore throat, running nose, cough and sneeze. Systematic symptoms of whole body are rarely seen. Body temperature goes up, but not as high as flu case. Serious case seldom occurs. Influenza is caused by influenza virus. Temperature suddenly goes up as high as 38C or more, with systematic symptoms such as headache and joint muscular pains. Symptoms of ordinary cold such as sore throat, running nose and cough also appear. Case may become serious; accompanied by complication of pneumonia for elderly and immune deteriorated patients.



Followings are points not to catch flu:

1. Vaccination before an epidemic of influenza. It makes the infection rate low, and may prevent serious condition.
2. Pay attention to people around when you have to cough. If you cover your mouth with your hand, wash your hand immediately.
3. Make it custom to wash your hands and gargle your throat. Keep the room at appropriate temperature and humidity.



[NOTE] Revised Road Traffic Law effective on 1 Dec 2013: Bicycles must run on the left side of the road: Max fine 5000 yen



Bicycles are convenient for everybody, from small children to senior citizens. You can run rapidly as you like. Easy to ride, but you tend to forget one thing; the traffic rule.

The Road Traffic Law was revised on 1 December 2013: Bicycles must run on a certain part of the road; running in the opposite direction is forbidden. Fine is newly introduced. You cannot just say, "I didn't know that!" All of the bike-riders in Japan have to know it!

The revised points on bicycle ridings are as follows: concerning roads which do not have separated footpaths;



[Before] You could run toward both directions on the roadside.

[Now] You may run only on the left side of the designated roadside.

Police may inspect your bicycle whether there is an appropriate brake with it. If not, use of the bicycle may be banned.

You might think the revision too strict, but pedestrians have been actually killed by bikes. According to the law, bicycle is a kind of vehicles. Please realize it well and ride a bike safely.

Please refer to URL of MLIT: <http://www.mlit.go.jp>

► Many peoples enjoyed Minna-no-Wa! Festival 2013

As many as 600 people enjoyed the festival. Japanese speeches were made by fourteen people from sixth grader to elderly one. They are studying the Japanese language classes listed below. Some lady speakers wanted to make their speech in Japanese Kimono. It may be tough to make speech in tightly wrapped Kimono, but they looked very good.



Japanese Speech Contest

Philippines' Dance

Shamisen Performance



Thai Dance

Niko Performance

Peru Dance

Name of Class	Place		Hours	Level	Fee
YM Nihongo	Minami Center	Wed	18:30~20:00	2 classes for beginners and intermediate students	¥100/month
		Fri	13:00~14:30		¥100/month
Minami V Club	Minami Lounge	Tue	10:00~11:30	Beginners & intermediates.	¥100/each class
Tomo/Minami Class		Thurs	10:30~12:00	Students enjoy studying and eagerly learning.	¥500/3 months
Ai/Nihongo Club		Sun	13:30~15:00		¥500/6 months
IE Minami Nihongo C	Nagata Chiku C	Sat	9:30~11:30		Free
Nihongo de Smile	Minami Lounge	Sun	13:30~14:30	Elementary/middle school Japanese & other subjects.	¥1000 (for the first time only)
Tabunka Free School Yokohama		Mon, Tue, & Turs	10:00~16:30	For high school entrance preparation.	Entrance fee, education fee & textbook cost
Tanoshii Nihongo	Nakamura Chiku C	Sat	12:30~14:30	beginners to advanced students	¥100/month

► Minami Lounge provides daily life information in multi languages.

1. Free Advice for Living Information

Office Hours: everyday (except the 3rd Monday) 09:00 – 17:00

Phone: 045-232-9544 (in Japanese) / 045-242-0888 (in below listed languages)

【Available languages】

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Chinese	Chinese	Chinese	Chinese English	Chinese Thai	Chinese Tagalog	Chinese

2. Free Consultation by Specialists (appointment required by phone at 045-242-0888)

3. Other Consultation Services:

YOKE Information Corner provides useful information for daily life, and also free consultation for residence status and educational issues. (Phone: 045-222-1209)

Monday – Friday: 10:00 – 17:00 (closed between 11:30 until 12:30 for lunch break)
(Inquiries are accepted until 16:30)

2nd & 4th Saturdays: 10:00 – 13:00 (inquiries are accepted until 12:30)

Available languages: English, Chinese, Spanish and Japanese

Closed on Sundays, National Holidays, from 29 Dec thro 3 Jan, and 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays

★ Minami Lounge is managed by YOKE on behalf of Minami Ward Office

