

Misawa International Association News



Japanese New Year Celebration

Jan 25, 2015, Sunday from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
at Misawa International Center

New to Japan? Or, want to start off the New Year on a good food? Come join us as we demonstrate how to celebrate the New Year, Japanese-style! The New Year season is one of the most important holidays in Japan. Everyone goes home to spend time with the extended family and many activities are done to ensure good luck for the year--- such as eating lucky dishes, writing beautiful calligraphy, and pounding mochi!



Sign Up
NOW

Fee for MIA member s :
¥800 for adults (13 years/+)
¥500 for children (3-11years)

Fee for non-member s :
¥1,000 for adults (13 years/+)
¥700 for children (3-11 years)

ABC Circle

Every Wednesday, 10:30 am - 11:30 am

¥500/circle for MIA member
¥800/circle for Non-MIA member
Join our cross-cultural exchange circle. Make new friends as you learn some Japanese as well as teach some English.

Survival Japanese

Dec 8, 15, Jan 13 Mondays
10:00 am - noon
¥1500 / 3 classes

Want to learn Japanese cooking? Sign up and bring your Apron!!
Sign up is required

Japanese Intermediate Class

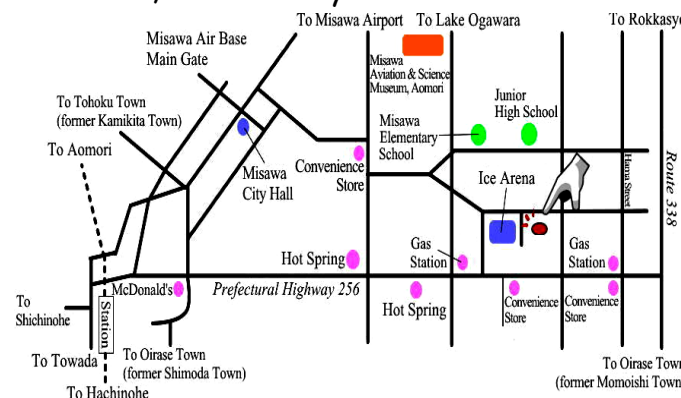
Dec 2, 9, 16
Tuesdays,
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
¥1000 / 3 classes

All the classes and events will be held at Misawa International Center.
For more information, please contact Misawa International Association.
Phone: 080-6022-1349 Email: kokusai@city.misawa.lg.jp



Misawa International Center

TEL:0176-51-1255 FAX:0176-51-1211 Email: kokusai@city.misawa.lg.jp
Address: 230-1 Aza-Sonosawa, Oaza-Misawa, Misawa City 033-0022

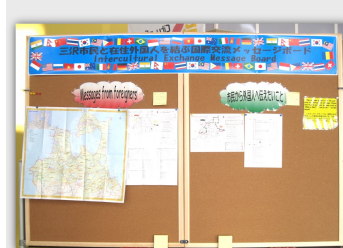


Thank you for reading!!

Misawa City International Relations publishes the monthly free paper, "Misawa City News". We keep you informed of what is happening in Misawa.

Subscribe Now!!

Want to stay up to date with what's going on in Misawa City? Get a FREE email subscription to Misawa City News! Please send your name and email address to: kokusai@city.misawa.lg.jp



Intercultural Exchange Message Board

Come and see our message board! Located in Misawa International Center Hall, near the International Exchange Lounge (if you're standing in the entrance way, the board is off to the left). This message board is for you!

Please post courteous messages or announcements for an intercultural exchange purpose such as English lessons, play dates for kids, advice in Japanese life and more. We look forward to your messages!

みさわしていにゅーす

Misawa City News

No.118

December, 2014



Tonami Winter Fantasy

Dec 6 (Sat) - Dec 25 (Thu)
at Tonami Clan Memorial Tourism Village
GPS coordinate: N40.787243,E141.361916

There will be fireworks, live music, Misawa dishes sold by local food vendors and free gift giveaway by Santa! The time for the Christmas Tree Lighting will be 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm during the above schedule.

Opening Events Schedule: Dec 6 (Sat)

11:00 Meet Santa & Get Gift
(free gift to the first 100 children)
11:30 Mochi Tsuki (rice cake pounding)
12:30 Meet Hokkina & Hokinosuke
(Misawa's local mascots)
13:10 Stage Performance
14:00 Mochi Tsuki (rice cake pounding)
15:00 Stage Performance
16:00 Meet Santa & Get Gift
(free gift to the first 100 children)
16:45 Illumination Lighting
17:00 Stage Performance
18:00 Fireworks

Art Towada Winter Light Displays

from Dec 4 (Thu) - 25 (Thu)
from 4:30 - 10 pm
GPS coordinate: N40.614332,E141.209107

Around Koma Kaido Art Park (located in front of the Towada Art Museum) Enjoy a magical world of fantasy art, illuminated with about 300,000 blue LED lights!

Misawa Commercial High School Brass Bands Annual Winter Concert

Dec 21 (Sun), starting from 5 pm
At the Misawa Civic Center

Enjoy the lively, robust sounds of the MCHS Brass Bands as they perform classic and new favorites!

Admission: ¥400 in advance (now available at the MCHS and Misawa Civic Center) or ¥500 at the door. Doors open at 4:30 pm.

Towada Projection Mapping

Dec 5 (Fri) - Dec 6 (Sat)
from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Projection Mapping will held at 3 places below. Enjoy the artistic night!!!

Towada Art Center

GPS coordinate: N40.614332,E141.209107

Towada Art Station

GPS coordinate: N40.615124,E141.212870

Towada City Plaza

GPS coordinate: N40.613563,E141.214755

Heart Full Concert

Dec 14 (Sun), starting from 4 pm
At the Misawa City Hospital in the Atrium
(on the 1st Floor)
GPS coordinate: N40.6669614,E141.389802

Take a break from your busy holiday season to hear the ethereal voices of this singing group. They perform many Christmas Classics such as "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" and more! Fee is FREE!!!

Ring in the New Year Concert

Jan 6, (Tue) 2015
starting from 6:30 pm
At the Misawa Civic Center

Start off the new year on a good note! Sit back and enjoy the musical talents of the students and graduates of several local music college. Plus, it's FREE!

Christmas Market in Kosaka

Every Saturday before Christmas
on Dec 6, 13, 20 Saturdays
and Dec 24, Wednesday.
At Tenshi-kan in Kosaka town, Akita Pref.
GPS coordinate: N40.328324,E140.743112

Enjoy Germany in Japan --- in Akita! Get your Christmas shopping done; enjoy good German beer, gluhwein & foods, live shows, Christmas light displays and more!
Fun for all ages!

Komakko Land Christmas Fiesta

From Dec 20 (Sat) - 25 (Thu)
At "Towada Horse Park"
GPS coordinate: N40.614661,E141.130321

Come out and enjoy this winter wonderland! Christmas Party will held on Dec 21 (Sun), from 10 am. There will be a day full of activities such as photo with pony, free cake give away for the first 150 children and Bingo game.

DECEMBER TIMELINE

師走 Shiwasu is a Japanese word for December which literally mean "teachers run around." This word reflects the busiest month of the year. Here are some things to know about December.

冬支度 Fuyujitaku: Getting ready for winter

You can clean the stove filter, setup the "Kotatsu" (wooden table frame with an electric heater underneath covered by futon, or heavy blanket), find your winter jackets, scarf, glove, hat and warm socks; take out snow shovel, switch to windshield wipers and tires; keep teabags and hot chocolate in stock and don't forget to clean ski, snowboard or sled.

クリスマス Eve Christmas Eve

Celebrating Christmas in Japan is very different than in the west. You'll see a lot of couples walking and holding hands. You'll also find it difficult to book a reservation in a nice restaurant on that day. Depending on the family, Christmas cakes are consumed on Christmas Eve. Chicken is a common dish on that day!

大掃除 O-souji: Winter Cleaning

Just like Spring Cleaning, there is a saying for Winter Cleaning to prepare for the new year. It's special cleaning like wiping windows, washing screen doors, clean floors, deep cleaning of stoves and stoves and ventilation fan.

しめ飾り Shime-kazari: Sacred Straw Festoon

It consists of straw rope, pine and bitter orange and it's placed above entrance door to ward off evil spirits.

紅白歌合戦 Kohaku Utagassen:

Red & White Singing Festival

This an annual event divides the most popular music artists of the year into competing teams of red and white. The "red" team is composed of female artists and the "white" team is all male.

初夢 Hatsu-yume: The first dream of the year

The first dream had in the new year. It is considered good luck to dream of Mount. Fuji, a hawk and an eggplant.

Let's Speak in Nanbu! Part 12

Believe it or not, even though Japan is a small country, it has a variety of colorful accents and dialects. Not far from Misawa-- the area from southern Aomori to northern Iwate Prefectures--one of the main dialects is Nanbu-ben (ben 弁 means "dialect; speech-type"). Here are some useful expressions!

あんべ わりい Anbe Warii

I don't feel good.

I'm not comfortable with...

あんべ Anbe: feel わりい Warii: not good

Early
December

年賀状 Nenga-jo: New Year's Greeting Card

The Japanese have a custom of sending New Year's day postcards similar to the Western custom of sending Christmas cards. People edit store cards to create original designs and greetings. They are then mailed before December 4th to arrive on January 1st.

Mid
December

お歳暮 Oseibo: Year-end Gift

In Japan, it's customary to give gifts to certain people, such as co-workers, bosses, parents and relatives to express gratitude. Popular items are vacuum-packed Ham, cooking oils, assorted cooking spices, beer, coffee, sweets and, so on. They are delivered by around December 20.

December
24

仕事納め: Last business day of the year

December 28th is the last official day of the year and all business transitions end until after the new year. If this day falls on Saturday or Sunday, last business day is a Friday. This schedule may vary by each company.

December
28

御節料理 Osechi-ryori: New Years Dish

There are traditional Japanese dishes which are eaten during the first 3 days of the new year. Each dish ingredients has a symbolic meaning. Dishes are usually prepared before New Years Day.

December
30

除夜の鐘 Joya-nokane: New Year's Eve Bell

According to Buddhist teaching, people have 108 bonnou (worldly desires). A temple bell is rung 108 times on New Year's Eve to rid a person of these bonnou.

December
31

年越しそば Toshikoshi-soba:

Year-crossing noodles

It's a buckwheat noodles to end the year and to wish that the person has long and healthy life. The long buckwheat noodles symbolize longevity.

Misawa Fish Market Open!



On Wednesday, November 19, 2014, the new port facility completion ceremony was held at the Misawa fishery port. The former facility was devastated by the Great Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011. Since then the Misawa Fishery Association and Fishery Training Center were scaled down and moved to the second floor of the facility in temporary office.

With the assistance from the Reconstruction Agency, the rebuilding of the facility began on January 19, 2013, and the project was completed on September 30, 2014. The new facility is located along National Route 338 and it is built on higher ground than the former facility to reduce any damage from a future tsunami. Also a monument was erected to honor the support provided after the tsunami damage.

The new facility includes bathing, resting and training rooms as well as an office for the Misawa Fisheries Cooperative Association, a direct-sales fresh seafood and processed seafood market. It is open from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm and closed on every Thursday. More developments are expected for the facility soon! GPS coordinate: N40.680307, E141.428461

Misawa Winter Gourmet Fair



December 7, Sunday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
at Miss Veedol Dome

This event will features some of Misawa's winter local specialties such as Seafood Ramen, Yam Gyoza, Kinpira Rice Burger, Yamazaki Pork Cutlet Sandwich, Chicken Curry and Simmered Pork Chitlins. And there is also fun event that featured the winter specialty "Hokki-gai" (Pacific surf clam).

People who make purchase eligible items, can participate in the fishing Hokki-gai game and keep the Hokki-gai when you catch it! Come and eat your fill!

Miss Veedol Dome GPS Coordinate: N40.675138, E141.361592

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kokusai@city.misawa.lg.jp

Misawa Aviation & Science Museum Event Schedule

Science Show - Explosion Experiment!

Why does the explosion happen? Come and find out in our science lab!

The show is free but participants still need to pay for the museum entrance fee.

No advanced sign up is required, just show up at the lab at the schedule time:

Weekdays: (1) 11:00 am (2) 12:30 pm (3) 3:30 pm

Weekends, Holiday: (1) 12:30 pm (2) 3:30 pm

Work Shop - Making Sweets Candle: Dec 6 - 28 (Sat, Sun, Holiday, Winter Recess) at Museum Lab

Making Sweets Shaped Candle that looks just like the real sweets! This special weekend, holiday event is for first come first served people, and it is limited to 20. Fee is only ¥150 per person including materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult all the time. Please sign up at least 30minutes prior to the schedules below.

(1) 11:00 - 11:40 am (2) 2:30 - 3:10 pm.

Holiday Work Shop : Dec 13 (Sat) - 14 (Sun) at the Special Exhibition Room

Looking for holiday decorations? Come and make one before holiday comes! Children must be accompanied by an adult all the time.

Christmas lantern: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, fee is ¥500, first served basis limitedly up to 60 people

Christmas Ornament: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm, fee is ¥250, first served basis limitedly up to 48 people

General Information: Misawa Aviation & Science Museum is open 9:00 am -5:00 pm, every day except Mondays.

If a Japanese holiday falls on a Monday, then the museum will be open on that Monday but will be closed the following day. Admission: Adult ¥500; High School Student ¥300; Free for 15 years old and under. For more information, check out their website at <http://www.kokukagaku.jp/english.html>

