

Ongoing

Language classes



Japanese Beginner's Class

March 7, 14, 21, Mondays, 5 pm - 6 pm
March 1, 8 and 15, Tuesdays, 10 am - noon
Fee: Please ASK!

Japanese Intermediate Class

March 7, 14, 21, Mondays, 6 pm - 7 pm
Fee: Please ASK!

Japanese Advanced Class

March 7, 14, 21, Mondays, 6 pm - 7 pm
Fee: Please ASK!

ABC Circle

Wednesday, 10:30 am - 11:30 am
500 yen / circle for MIA member
800yen / 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.

Recruiting
April 4 start accepting

Language classes

First Time Japanese Class

Apr 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30,
Jun 6, 13, 20, Mondays, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm, Fee: ¥3,000

Japanese Beginner's Class

Apr 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Jun 6, 13, 20,
Mondays, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Fee: ¥3,000

Survival Japanese (Beginner's)

Apr 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Jun 7, 14, 21, 28
Tuesdays, 10 am - 11 am
Fee: ¥3,000

Survival Japanese (Intermediate)

Apr 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, Jun 7, 14, 21, 28
Tuesdays, 11 am - noon
Fee: ¥3,000

Japanese Advanced Class

Apr 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Jun 6, 13, 20,
Mondays, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Fee: ¥3,000

Cooking Classes

Medicinal Cooking Class

Apr 28, Thursday, 10 am - noon
Fee: ¥1,500

Jamaican Cooking Class

May 16, Mondays, 10 am - noon
Fee: ¥1,500

American Cooking Class

Jun 6, Mondays, 10 am - noon
Fee: ¥1,500

Bus Schedule

Between Sky Plaza Misawa and Misawa International Education Center

To MIEC*	Bus #75	Bus #63	Bus #75	Bus #63	Bus #63	Bus #75	Bus #63
America Hiroba	9:11	10:59	12:11	12:59	14:49	15:51	17:49
Ice Arena	9:30		12:30			16:10	
Fukaya *	9:31	11:23	12:31	13:23	15:13	16:11	18:13



To Sky Plaza	Bus #75	Bus #75	Bus #63	Bus #63	Bus #75
Fukaya *	9:09	11:09	12:21	14:21	14:39
Ice Arena	9:10	11:10			14:40
America Hiroba	9:28	11:28	12:46	14:46	14:58

MIEC: Misawa International Education Center
America Hiroba is front of Sky Plaza Misawa.
Fukaya: front of Taro Onsen.

Moment of Remembrance for 3.11 Earthquake and Tsunami on Fri, Mar 11 at 2:46 pm

The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami occurred five years ago and affected the Pacific coastal areas in the Tohoku (North-East) Region of Japan from Miyagi Prefecture to Aomori Prefecture including Misawa.

The devastated areas have been gradually recovering thanks to the outpourings of support not only from the other parts of Japan but also from many other countries in the international communities.

We sincerely thank you for joining in a moment of silence to remember the victims and wish the survivors a better future. A community siren will go off at 2:46 pm on March 11, so please respectfully cease your activity for a brief moment of remembrance.

The 16th Misawa Hokki (Surf Clam) Festival on Sun, March 13 from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM at Misawa Fishing Port

GPS coordinate: N40.680879, E141.434963

Japanese surf clam locally known as Hokki-gai (pronounced "hoe-key guy") is Misawa's special sea food.

Many attractions will be provided on this event such as a taiko drum show performed by local elementary students and a clam shucking contest. You can also enjoy many delicious local foods!

Please come and have fun!

The 17th Annual Misawa International Children's Ice Festival on Sat, March 12 at Misawa Ice Arena

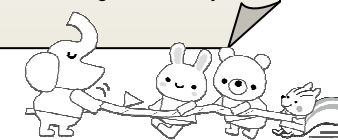
This free event is open to all children aged 6-12 and their parents. There will be many activities for the entire families including Tug-of-War, Ice Frag and more! Please bring your own gloves, winter boots, warm clothes and some cash (yen) for the food and drink vender machines.

Please register by Monday, March 7 at the A&FRC at 226-4735.



PROGRAM

8:30 - 9:10	Sign-in and Reception
9:15 - 9:25	Opening Ceremony
9:30 - 9:35	Warm-up Exercises
9:40 - 10:10	Ice Frag
10:15 - 10:50	Ball carrying race
10:55 - 11:20	Sled Races
11:25 - 11:45	Tug-of-War
11:50 - 12:00	Closing Ceremony



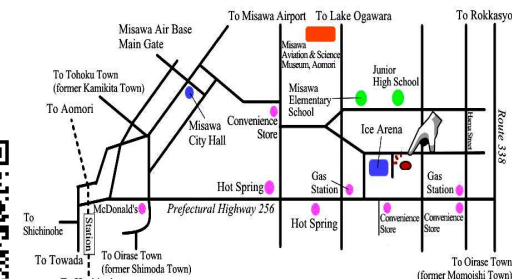
International Relations Division, Misawa City Office

Address: 230-1 Aza-Sonosawa, Oaza-Misawa, Misawa City 033-0022 TEL:0176-51-1255 FAX:0176-51-1211

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Please scan the QR cord with your smartphone. Or visit our website. <http://www.city.misawa.lg.jp/16545,87,411.html>



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: info-mia@mctvnet.ne.jp

MARCH TIMELINE

3月 弥生 Sangatsu

Sangatsu is March in Japanese and is also called "Yayoi". Yayoi means the month of to begin to sprout plants.

大相撲三月場所 O-zumou Sangatsu Basho: March Grand Sumo Tournament

Grand Sumo Tournaments are held 6 times a year. A spring tournament this year will be held at Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium (EDION Arena) from March 13 through 27. (<http://www.sumo.or.jp/en/index>)



March 3

雛祭り Hina Matsuri: Girl's Day

March 3 is celebrated as the Doll Festival or Girl's Day. Families who have a young daughter display a set of beautiful Hina dolls and eat traditional foods such as chirashi-sushi and clam soup to pray for their daughter's good health and happiness. This custom is believed to have started back in the Heian Period (about 1,000 years ago).



Let's celebrate the Doll Festival and sing a Hinamatsuri song, eat sushi and cake decorated for this special day!

March 13

ホワイトデー White Day

March 14, one month after Valentine's Day, is marked as White Day in Japan. Valentine's Day in Japan is observed by only girls and women giving chocolates to boys and men. In 1978 the Confectionery Industry Association started "White Day," as an "answer day" to Valentine's Day, when men should give women gifts, which include now cookies, flowers, marshmallows or even jewelries.

According to the *Sanbai-Gaeshi* Rule 三倍返し, which means, "triple the return", men must give a return gift that is 3 times the value of the received Valentine's gift. Don't forget to give your Valentine a White Day present!



March 14

お彼岸 Ohigan: Equinoctial Week

Higan means "the other side of the river crossed by the dead" in Buddhism. It occurs twice a year, which are the weeks of Vernal Equinox Day and Autumn Equinox Day. People visit their ancestors' graves during these weeks.



March 18-24

春分の日 Shunbun no hi: Vernal Equinox Day

On this day the sun reaches the vernal equinox and the length of day and night is almost equal. It is designated as a national holiday in Japan.



March 21

卒業式 Sotsugyo-shiki: Graduation Ceremony

Most Japanese schools hold a graduation ceremony in March. Students wear a suit or their school uniform and receive their diploma from the principal. The ceremony highlight is a function where graduates and students recite party words and sing special songs. To make the ceremony special, they usually spend a lot of time for practicing.

You could see tears on the eyes of many students, teachers and parents. Some of them can't help but cry because it is hard for them to say goodbye with a lot of memories in the good school days.



March 31

年度末 Nendo-matsu: End of Year

March is the end of the fiscal and academic year in Japan. For both business and school, the year starts on April 1 and end on March 31 of the following year.



March is also the season of farewell for many people. Most schools have a graduation ceremony and many companies have job transfers during this time of the year.

In addition, governments and companies become extremely busy to get their accounts and affairs in order and done.

Let's Speak in Nanbu! Part 26

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!

このケーキ食べてもいがかべが?
Kono Keki Tabetemo Igabega?
Can I eat this cake?

Kono Keki : This cake
Tabetemo : Eat
Igavega: Can I?

Hokkaido Shinkansen 3.26 Debut!

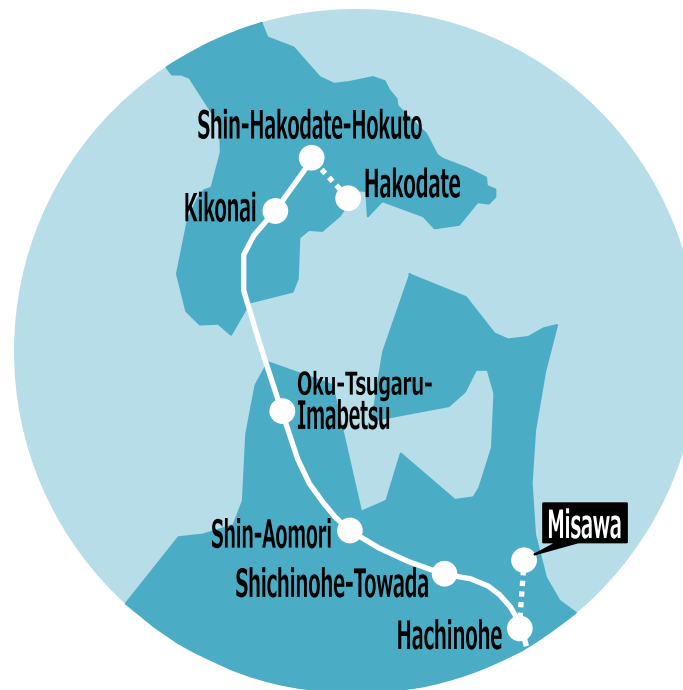


Hokkaido Shinkansen (bullet train) Scheduled to Launch in 2016 March 26

Hokkaido's first shinkansen train will start operation in 2016 spring, connecting northern Honshu Island (Shin-Aomori) with the southern tip of Hokkaido Island (Shin-Hakodate-Hokuto).

The shinkansen route will eventually extend further into Hokkaido, making high speed rail traffic between Honshu and Hokkaido possible. This benefits not only travelers but also Hokkaido and Aomori residents: shortened travel hours will encourage people to travel more often between the two islands and this will further stimulate cultural and business communications between Hokkaido and Japan's northeastern and metropolitan capital areas.

Further extension of the shinkansen route to Sapporo is under construction.



Shin-Hakodate-Hokuto - Shin-Aomori	About 1 hour
Shin-Hakodate-Hokuto - Sendai	About 2.5 hours
Shin-Hakodate-Hokuto - Tokyo	About 4 hours

Misawa Aviation & Science Museum Event Schedule



Science Show - Demonstration of burning some material and causing an explosion : March 1(Tue)-31(Thu) at Museum Lab

Come and see the demonstration. 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:
Weekday (1)11:00am (2)12:30 am (3)3:30pm Weekend (1)12:30 pm (2)3:30pm

Workshop - Let's make a Suncatcher! : March 5 (Sat) - 31 (Thu) at Museum Lab

Suncatcher makes small rainbows appear on the wall when it receives sunshine. Before making a suncatcher, you will be making your own handmade beads. Fee is only ¥250 per person including materials, but the workshop is limited to 20 people each day. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. You need to make a reservation in advance at Museum Lab reception. If you want to sign up, please check the schedules below:
Reception (1)10:30am-11:00am (2)2:00pm-2:30pm
Schedule (1)11:00am-11:30am (2)2:30pm-3:00pm
Weekend, Japanese holiday (March 21), March 29, 30, 31 only

Toy Hospital in Museum: March 27 (Sun), 10:00 am - noon

Do you have any toys that need to be repaired? Toys worth repairing often have sentimental value, monetary value or both. Bring them to the Toy Hospital and have the toy doctor bring new life to your broken toys!! Medical care is FREE!!! We will ask you to pay for repair parts and hospitalization fee as needed. (¥100 / time). Please bring the power cable, instruction manuals and all accessories that come with electronic toys. Dangerous toys such as "Toy Guns" are not acceptable due to safety reasons.

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

If a Japanese holiday falls on Monday, then the museum will be open on that Monday but will be closed the following day. Admission: Adult ¥510; 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>