

Niigata English Journal

Edited & Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

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Mail magazine: email us at kyokai@nief.or.jp to receive this newsletter every month

Our blog: www.niigataej.wordpress.com



Don't be like my coworker there, wear warm biz! Especially with the ventilating we are doing this year, I am wearing more layers and using my lap blanket to keep warm at work.

NCIEF Contact Info
 •025-225-2727
 •kyokai@nief.or.jp

CIR Lecture: Winter in the USA

Your friendly neighborhood CIRs present in Japanese about some aspect of life in their home countries. This time, Charlie will present about what winter is like in the US: Christmas, New Year's, food, desserts, snow, and more!



When: December 12th (Sat)

Time: 10:30-12:00

Place: CrossPal Niigata 5th Fl. Exchange Hall

Fee: Free

Capacity: 20 people (first come first served)

Sign-up: by phone (025-225-2727) or email (kyokai@nief.or.jp)



Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents

Need legal advice? On Friday, December 18th there will be an opportunity to meet with a lawyer and receive free consultation regarding legal matters. If you don't speak Japanese, language support can be provided.



Date: December 18th (Fri) 13:00-17:00

Place: CrossPal Niigata 2nd floor

Requirements: Must be a non-Japanese resident living/working in Niigata

Language Support: English, Mandarin Chinese, Korean, French, Russian, and more

Spots Available: 5 (reservation required)

Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person

Reservations: Tell us your name, nationality, phone number, gender, and what you wish to discuss.

For more info/reservations: 025-225-2727 or kyokai@nief.or.jp



PSA: Continuing Measures Against the Coronavirus and Flu

We have entered into flu season which lasts through February but of course this year we must also deal with COVID-19. To protect yourself, avoid closed spaces without proper ventilation, close contact, and crowded places. If you do have to go somewhere, wear your mask, wash your hands frequently, and avoid going out for dinner or drinks, especially in groups of more than 5 people.

If you start to show symptoms such as a fever, fatigue, or cold-like symptoms, call your doctor for a phone consultation. They will decide whether to see you at that clinic or if you should go somewhere more suitable. You may also call Close Contact Hotline (025-212-8194; Hours: 9am-5pm everyday). Outside of hours you can also call the Emergency Medical Consultation Hotline (025-284-7119; Hours: 7pm-8am).

It is also advised that you use a contact tracing application on your smartphone so you can be notified if you may have been exposed. The Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare has created COCOA (Covid-19 Contact Confirming App) which can be found in your phones app store and is available in English.



主催: (公財)新潟市国際交流協会クロスパルにいがた 2階 〒951-8055 新潟市中央区礎町通 3-2086
 Niigata City International Exchange Foundation CrossPal 2F, 3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori, Chuo-ku
 TEL: 025-225-2727 E-mail: kyokai@nief.or.jp Website: <http://www.nief.or.jp/>



Enjoy this scene of the Minatopia with Toki Messe in the background and a Christmas tree to the left, drawn by the head of the NIEF, Mr. Mashima, for you to color if you'd like!

Charlie's Recipe Corner

Ingredients (about 30 cookies)	
Milk	1/2 c (110 ml)
Butter (unsalted)	110g
Sugar	1 1/2 c (300 g)
Cocoa powder (unsweetened)	1/4 c (50 g)
Rolled oats	3 c (300 g)
Peanut butter (smooth)	1 c (250 g)
Vanilla extract	1 TBSP
Salt	A pinch

Peanut Butter No-bake Cookies

It's Christmas season and in the US that means cookies! I've already done the two classics you would find in my household during this time of year—chocolate chip and sugar—so this time I decided to mix it up. This cookie can be seen during Christmas time but I think is more common in the summer because it doesn't require an oven. That is why I thought it would be perfect to share with us living in Japan where ovens aren't as common. The peanut butter and cocoa may be a little expensive or hard to come by but you don't need much of either and this recipe makes over 2 dozen cookies. I hope you can give this quick and easy recipe a try!

METHOD

1. Lay parchment paper on a surface or baking sheet.
2. In a medium-sized sauce pan add the milk, butter, sugar, and cocoa powder.
3. Cook on medium heat, stirring frequently, until everything is dissolved.
4. Boil the mixture for one minute.
5. Turn off the heat and mix in the peanut butter, oats, vanilla, and salt and combine well.
6. Using a cookie scoop/disher or a spoon, drop spoonfuls of the mixture onto the parchment. They will not spread much so you can drop them close together.
7. Let cool completely and harden (30 min) before eating.
8. Store in a cool place for up to a week (if they last that long)





Events

Key: G-General; U-University Students; H-High School; J-Junior High School; E-Elementary School

International Friendship Center Exchange Salon Exhibition: Introduction to Niigata's Oversea Offices

Niigata City has overseas offices in Beijing and Seoul.
Come and learn about the work that they do!

Date: Nov. 5th (Thu) – Dec. 23rd (Wed) 9:00–17:00
Closed: Sun., Holidays, and the 4th Mon. each month
Place: Niigata International Friendship Center (CrossPal 2F)
For more info: 025-225-2727 (NIEF)

JOCA Niigata Children Event

Sponsored by Japan Overseas Cooperative Association Niigata, you can enjoy playing card games, making greeting cards, trying on folk costumes.

Date: December 12th (Sat) 10:00–12:00, 13:30–15:30
Place: Children's Creative Learning Center (Ikutopia)
For more info: 025-281-3715 (Children's Creative Learning Center)

Notices



Foreign Resident Consultation Center of Niigata

Provides various free consultations for foreign residents. See below for information about upcoming events.

Reservations: Please make a reservation by phone or email in advance.

Place: Foreign Resident Consultation Center of Niigata (2nd floor of Toki Messe)

TEL: 025-241-1881

Email: nia10@niigata-ia.or.jp



Immigration Procedures Consultation

The Immigration Bureau is holding a temporary information and consultation once a month. Come and ask questions related to immigration and residency status.

Date: December 8th (Tue) 13:00–17:00

Languages: Japanese, Thai, Vietnam, Chinese

Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata Consultation

Niigata Prefectural Gyosei Shoshi (Administrative Clerk) main office provides a free consultation once a month.

Date: December 23rd (Wed) 10:00–17:00

Languages: Japanese, Chinese

Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents

There will be an opportunity to visit with a lawyer and receive free consultation regarding legal matters.

Date: January 21st (Thu) 13:00–17:00

Language: Japanese, English, Spanish, Portuguese, Mandarin Chinese

Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person



Niigata City International Exchange Channel

(新潟市国際交流チャンネル)

Niigata City set up this channel on YouTube and Twitter. You can get information about international exchange programs and Niigata's sister cities.

YouTube

URL: [youtube.com/channel/UC_J3anOQ52seAttalhphNsw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_J3anOQ52seAttalhphNsw)

Twitter

Account: @ngt_kokusai_ch

URL: https://twitter.com/ngt_kokusai_ch

Ikutopia Shoku Hana 2020-2021 Winter Illumination ~ Color of Life ~

This gorgeous illumination takes over the gardens at Ikutopia. Also enjoy the fantastic "light and sound show".

Date: Nov. 14th (Sat) – Jan. 11th (Mon) 17:00–20:00

Closed: Dec. 31st (Thu), Jan. 1st (Fri)

Place: Ikutopia (Seigoro, Chuo Ward)

Fee: G- ¥500 J/E- ¥300

For more info call: 025-282-4181 (Ikutopia)



PSA: Discounted Bus and Taxi Fare in Niigata City!

Niigata City is running a campaign through the end of March 2021 to encourage ridership on public transport.

1) Students 3,000 yen present

Who: Students who live or go to school in Niigata City
What: 3,000 yen in points on your Ryuto card

How: Get an exchange ticket from your school or in the mail, fill it out, turn it in to a ticket counter



2) Half off one-day passes

Who: Anyone who buys a pass

What: Half off all one day passes!

Adult tickets 1000=>500

Children's tickets 500=>250

How: Buy the ticket where they are sold (Bandai bus center, Niigata Station ticket counter, etc)



3) 300 yen off taxi coupons

Who: Anyone who rides a taxi in Niigata City

What: Ride a taxi and get a 300 yen off coupon for your next ride.

How: Ride a taxi in Niigata City, receive

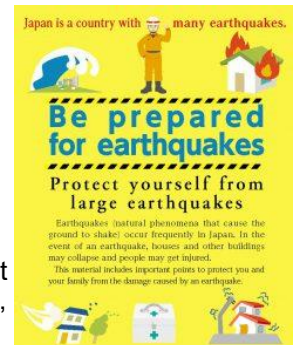


Some restrictions may apply. For more information (Japanese only) scan the QR code, call the hotline (0570-022-922), or search "Niigata City mirai-bus-taxi"

PSA: Be Prepared for Earthquakes Booklet

The Institute of Scientific Approaches for Fire & Disaster has created a booklet of information about earthquake preparedness. They have made it available in English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Portuguese in addition to the Japanese.

Learn about how to get more earthquake information in different languages, how to start preparing, and what to do if one happens.



URL: www.bousai-kensyu.com/knowhow/pamphlet01/



Classes

Japanese Courses offered by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Beginner through Intermediate 2	-Classes of varying difficulties are available at different times throughout the week. -Pricing info & the Autumn Session Schedule are available in the "Support for Foreign Nationals" section of the NCIEF website: https://www.nief.or.jp/	Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka Tel: (025) 225-2727
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Japanese Study Support Group for Children & Students: Niko Pal Club (Free of charge)

Day of the week & Hours	Room No.	Content	For more info.
Every Sat 10:00 – 12:00	402	This Japanese study circle offers support to children in the international community who are struggling with Japanese and other school studies.	Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka Tel: (025) 225-2727
Every Wed 9:30 – 11:30 (but Dec. 30 th)	202	To help students get the Japanese language skills needed to go to school in Japan.	

Himawari / Kotonoha at Hayadori Community Center (37-1 Hayadori, Kita Ward)

Every Wed & Sat (but Dec. 30 th) 14:00 - 17:00	Japanese Study Support for children Copy Fee	Ms. Kawasaki Tel: (090) 2756-0967
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Japanese Classes by Volunteer Groups at CrossPal Niigata

Day of the week	Hours	Room No.	Level	Fee	Organizations & Info
Every Wed (but Dec. 30 th)	13:00 - 14:30	201 or 202	Beginners	¥500/ month	Niigata Nihongo Kaiwa Kyoshitsu
Every Thu (but Dec. 31 st)	13:00 - 14:30	201 or 202	Beginners		
Every Fri	13:00 - 14:30	201, 202 or 306	Beginners & Advanced Beginners	Cost of materials	Niigata Nihongo Gakushu Kai
Every Sat	10:30 - 12:00	201 or 306	Advanced Beginners	¥500/ month	Waon
First & Third Sat (No classes in December)	10:30 - 12:00	309	Newspaper Class (Intermediate)	Cost of materials	Yaponika
Every Sun	15:00 - 16:30	201	Introduction - Beginners	Cost of textbook	Niigata Nihongo Volunteer

Nihongo Kyoshitsu Waon II at Higashi Ward Plaza (1-4-1 Shimokido, Higashi Ward)

First & Third Tue of the month: No classes in December	10:00 - 14:00 Beginners- Fee: ¥300/ time	Ms. Takenaka Tel: (025) 277-3621
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Nihongo for Foreign Residents at Ekinan Community Center (4-12-20 Yoneyama, Chuo Ward)

Every Sun (but Dec. 27 th)	10:00 – 12:00 Beginners – Advanced Fee: ¥2,000/month	Ms. Nagai Tel: (090) 2849-8425
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Konnichiwa! Nihongo at Kobari Elementary School Volunteer Room (2-36-1 Kobari, Nishi Ward)

Every Thu (but Dec. 17 th , 24 th , 31 st)	10:00 – 11:30 Beginners – Advanced Fee: ¥300/month	Ms. Wakatsuki Tel: (080) 8431-0310
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Taiken Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Uchino Machizukuri Center (413 Uchino-machi, Nishi Ward)

Every Tue (but Dec. 22 nd , 29 th)	10:00 – 12:00 Beginners–Advanced One term ¥3,500 + Textbook & Copy Fee	Ms. Miyamoto Tel: (090) 6228-6630
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Iroha Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Kuzutsuka Community Center (1-1-18 Toei-cho, Kita Ward)

Every Sat	10:00 – 12:00 Beginners – Advanced Fee: ¥1,000/month	Mr. Hasegawa Tel: (080) 4058-6640
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Akiha Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Niitsuchiku Kominkan (2-5-6 Niitsu Higashi-cho, Akiha Ward)

Every Thu (but Dec. 31 st)	13:00 – 15:00 Beginners – Advanced Fee: ¥1,000/month	Mr. Hasegawa Tel: (080) 4058-6640
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Shirone Nihongo Volunteer KOCOBO at Shironechiiki Seikatsu Center (1136-1 Shirone, Minami Ward)

Every Sun & online by appt	19:00 – 21:00 Beginners – Intermediate Fee: ¥200 / time	Ms. Yoshizawa kocobo.niigata.shirone@gmail.com
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Cultural Classes

International Cooking Class	When: Dec. 17 th (Thu), 19 th (Sat) & 20 th (Sun) 11:00 – 14:00 Fee: Foreign residents, students- ¥1,800; Japanese citizens- ¥3,800 Where: Ms. Ueno's residence (3-4-16 Ogijima, Akiha Ward) Menu: Japanese New Year dishes (zoni mochi soup, a variety of osechi dishes and more!) Please sign up at least three days before class. For more info call: 0250-24-6859 Ms. Ueno
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Consultation Services

Niigata Help Association TEL: 025-228-2212	Every Day: 10:00 – 23:00 Spanish, English, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, etc.
Niigata International Association TEL: 025-241-1881 Email: nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp URL: https://www.niigata-ia.or.jp/	Weekdays: 10:00 – 17:00 Chinese, English, Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese, Spanish, Portuguese
Helpline for Foreigners TEL: 0120-279-338	Call the toll-free number and press 2 after the Japanese guidance
Niigata Medical Care Information Network URL: http://qq.niigata-iyaku.jp/	English, Chinese, Korean
Hello Work, Foreigner Advisory Service TEL: 025-280-8609 Niigata Misaki Godo Chosha #2 (1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chuo Ward, Niigata City)	1 st – 4 th Wed 13:00 – 16:00 English & Chinese



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(Written and edited by Charlene Woolson & Ayako Homma)

CrossPal will be closed
Dec. 28th ~ Jan. 3rd