

The municipal office of Niihama-city opened "The Comprehensive Child-raising Support Center" in the municipal health center at 4-chome Shonai-cho, Niihama on October 1st to provide continuous support starting from pregnancy to childcare. At this center, not only are consultations on pregnancy, childbirth and childcare etc. available, but also advice on regional support services on postnatal care, helper dispatch for households or childcare etc. One or two nurse(s) or public health nurse(s) are on hand for professional advice every week day, and it is also possible to make an individualized support plan with their help depending on each family situation. Two separate consultation rooms have been prepared. To simplify various procedures and make information on health examinations or vaccinations more easily obtainable, the department in charge recommends using "the Maternal and Child Health Handbook" (Boshi-Techo) software which was put into operation last August.

The center is open from 8:30 AM to 5:15 PM on week days. For further information, please contact the Comprehensive Child-raising Support Center in the city hall, tel. 0897 35 1101.

<December Events>

Jazz pianist from Niihama, Kohji Ono & his trio band's Xmas jazz concert at Akagane museum

Local players will join in some sessions.

Dec. 15(Sat) 4:00 PM~

Ticket ¥ 3,000 Advance Ticket ¥ 2,500 (available at Akagane museum)

Tel:65 1554

Lighting up of the street

Switching on ceremony at 4:00PM, Dec 2

Opening of street vendors, dancing and other events

Place: Noborimichi Minami Shotengai street

Period: Dec. 2(Sun), 2018~Feb. 24(Sun), 2019

For further information, please contact Noborimichi Minami Shotenkai Tel:65 1260

ONE POINT JAPANESE

“変わる”と“変える”

A: あれ? 髪型が変りましたね。

Are? Kamigata ga kawarimashita ne.
(Oh, your hairstyle has changed!)

B: ええ、ちょっとイメージを変えてみたかったです。

Ee, chotto imēji o kaete mitakattan desu.
(Yes, I wanted to change my image a little bit.)

A: よく似合っていますよ。Yoku niatte imasu yo.

(It suits you very well.)

(電話で) (Denwa de) (on the phone)

S: すみません、明日のレッスンは、急用ができたので、他の日に変えていただけませんか。

Sumimasen, ashita no ressun desu ga, kyūyō ga dekita node, hoka no hi ni kaete itadakemasen ka.
(Excuse me, about tomorrow's lesson, something came up, so could you change it to other day?)

T: ちょっとスケジュールを確認してみますね。

Chotto sukejūru o kakunin shite mimasu ne.
(Well, let me check the schedule.)

明後日の2時からなら大丈夫ですよ。

Asatte no niji kara nara daijōbu desu yo.
(The day after tomorrow at 2 o'clock is OK.)

S: では、その時間をお願いします。ありがとうございます。

Dewa, sono jikan de onegaishimasu. Arigatō gozaimasu.
(Then that time, please. Thank you.)

A: 忘年会、7日は参加者が少ないので、14日に変えましょうか。

Bōnenkai, nanoka wa sankasha ga sukunai node, jūyokka ni kaemashō ka.
(There are not many participants for the year-end party on the 7th, so shall we change it to the 14th?)

B: そうですね。じゃあ、日にちが変わったこと、連絡しておきますね。

Sōdesu ne. Jā, hinichi ga kawatta koto, renraku shite okimasu ne.
(That's true. OK, I'll tell everyone that the date has been changed.)

★ (予定・計画・日にち・髪型) が変わる / を変える

★ ~が変わる... (vi) to change~ ★ AがBに変わる A changes to B

★ ~を変え... (vt) to change~ ★ AをBに変える change A into B

< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai >

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama.

Feel free to contact us at: Tel 0897-34-3025 (Manami Miki).

e-mail: manami-m@js6.so-net.ne.jp

What's New?



Shodoshima, a scenic beauty in the seto-inland sea

Karthik Malladi

Recently, I along with my wife have been to Shodoshima for a weekend trip. Our aim was to explore this beautiful island, off the coast of Takamatsu, in the Seto inland sea. It has been about 4.5 years for me in Niihama and for almost 3.5 years of which I have had a car and had the freedom to explore this beautiful island of Shikoku. I got married last year and luckily, my wife also is someone who loves travel, and she is someone who does not get car sick when we drive on mountain roads. I like driving on mountain roads and we were looking for new places to explore and we came across Shodoshima with its beautiful mountain roads. Although I have been to Shodoshima earlier, the last time I went there, I felt a day was just not enough to explore this beautiful island. And to my surprise, the island was huge and had a circumference of about 140km. When we decided to go to Shodoshima, the aim was to drive down to Shodoshima and spend a night, so as to explore the island at our own convenience. We booked a hotel at Tonosho area which was closer to Angel Road.

On searching for the possible ferry routes to Shodoshima, we had three options to get there from Takamatsu.

1. Take the ferry from Sunport terminal to Tonosho port (closer to the hotel)
2. Take the ferry from Sunport terminal to Kusakabe port (centrally located)
3. Take the Jumbo ferry from Takamatsu Higashi port to Sakate port (cheapest)

We took the cheapest option and the fare for two way travel between Takamatsu and Shodoshima was 5000 yen for the car and 1400 yen for 2 persons to travel to shodoshima. In addition to this, there is a faster

option of taking the high speed ferry from Takamatsu to Shodoshima, but I suppose the ferry runs seasonally and when we went to Shodoshima, the high speed ferry was not operational.

The areas we explored were the Kankakei Gorge which has earned a Michelin Star for the scenic beauty, and Tonosho area amongst others. For the Kankakei Gorge, the ideal time would be in fall. I recommend you check the autumn foliage information in advance as the photos they've shown were worth exploring the area in fall. The Kankakei Gorge was formed due to the volcanic activities a few thousand years ago and the ropeway is a must see attraction in the island. The drive up to the gorge is picturesque with view points from which we could see the whole island of Shodoshima.

In addition to the Kankakei Gorge, we went to the Angel Road during Low-tide and met a professional painter who was trying to capture the beauty of the Angel Road. Since, Tonosho is to the western part of the island, we caught the beautiful sunset over the seto-inland sea with some really picturesque mountains scattered all across the sea. We were spellbound by this beauty of an island. Tonosho also has the world's smallest strait, the 'Dofuchi Strait' at a width of 9.93m. You can ask for a crossing certificate of Dofuchi strait from the Tonosho Town office for a measly amount of 100 Yen. This could be an omiyage for yourself from Shodoshima.

We visited Angel Road early in the morning, and also in the evening. I recommend spending some time around Angel Road. Although, there was a caf across the Angel road, the Angel Caf. I suppose this caf is also operated seasonally, we could not order anything at the caf, but could sit at the caf with their chairs spread out. On asking the hotel staff, they informed us that we could have something from the vending machines. This is what we did. I request you to take permission for the same. For all the Ohenro enthusiasts, Shodoshima also has its own version of ohenro with the island's own, 88 temples.

The island is also a popular cycling spot and hosts the Setouchi Triennale art festival (once in 3 years) in 2019.

I would love to go to this island again, as it felt very special.

What are your thoughts about Shodoshima, have you visited the island. If not, what are you waiting for, go ahead and visit this beautiful place at the earliest.

The other places we visited in Shodoshima are:

- * Daikannon Statue (Buddha's tooth stored in a Kannon Statue on top of a hill with views across the island)
- * Marukin Soy Sauce Factory/Museum
- * Eiga no Mura
- * Choshikei Osaru no Kuni (Monkey Park and water falls)
- * Olive Park
- * Osaka Castle Stone ruins and michi no eki
- * Drive along the coast of Shodoshima

I am Karthik Malladi from Hyderabad India. I work as an engineer in Niihama and follow football passionately. I like traveling and exploring new places. I would call myself a foodie but it is hard to find vegetarian food in Japan, hence, I end up cooking and eating vegetarian food.



Information in English & Chinese on the Web

*What's New?

*How to sort garbage and trash

Visit  <http://www.city.niihama.lg.jp>

Clair:*Multilingual Living Information

<http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengorev/en/index.html>

This newsletter is published by SGG, a volunteer group that helps foreigners living in Niihama. If you need any advice, information, or support, please contact SGG. SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions, or ideas for monthly articles.

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*The editors for this month are M. Shimamura & T. Matsuoka

MOVIES

TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

- November 2 ~ VENOM PG 12 2D English/ Dubbed
- November 9 ~ BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY 2D English
- November 15 ~ Burn the Stage: the Movie 2D Korean
- November 23 ~ Police Story Bleeding Steel 2D Chinese
- November 23 ~ FANTASTIC BEASTS THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWALDHESTER
2D English/Dubbed, 3D Dubbed
- November 30 ~ THE NUTCRACKER AND THE FOUR REALMS 2D English / Dubbed
- December 14 ~ THE GRINCH 2D Dubbed
- December 21 ~ RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET:
WRECK-IT RALPH 2 2D Dubbed
- December 21 ~ A STAR IS BORN 2D English

Information Service

Internet: <http://niihama-aeonmall.com>

Tape (24 hrs): 050-6868-5019(in Japanese)

Movies might be changed without notice. Please check.

Niihama FM 78.0 MHz

Disaster preventive radio

(from Monthly City News, Shisei Dayori, November 2018)

The disaster preventive radio transmitter will help protect the community. In the case of an emergency the disaster preventive radio transmitter automatically starts to receive and announce the emergency information loudly, even if the power is off. It has an AM and FM wave receiver, and in the case of emergency it will start announcements by flashing a light. It functions on dry battery power, making it usable outdoors.

How to buy the disaster preventive radio:

Period for application : June 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019

Acceptance of application and Sales

9:00AM to 6:00PM at Heart Station, Niihama Telecom Plaza

9:00AM to 7:00PM at Heart Station, AEON Mall Niihama

For further Information call: 0897-32-7777