

The Kosei Grapevine

Volume 3

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Issue 10

Welcome!!

Happy New Year everyone!!

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Year. The winter term is very short and there are a lot of events on before the final exams in March. Have a great term everyone!!

おめでとございます。楽しい冬休みでしたか。3学期は短いですが、3月の学年末テストまで盛りだくさんに行事があります。充実した学期にしましょう！

Eiken Stuff

On Sunday, the Eiken written test was held. For students who have already passed the written test, please come and see the native teachers as soon as possible so you can start practicing for the speaking test. The speaking test will be held on Sunday 20th February so please start practicing soon. The native teachers are friendly, able and willing to help you prepare for the speaking test but **YOU MUST TAKE THE FIRST STEP!** Please come to the English room and make an appointment!

英検 23日は英検1次試験でした。すでに合格している生徒は2次試験の練習にきてください。2月21日が英検2次の日です。外人の先生方は喜んで練習の手伝いをしますが、まず英語科に練習の予約にきてください！



Jolene at Kosei

Jolene Skeen, the 11th grade student at Tauranga Girls College is interested in learning Japanese. Mai homestayd at her house last year and Jolene is staying at her house and studying at Kosei till the end of this month. This is by her:

I think Kosei Gakuen is a wonderful school, with many positive attributes. The teachers are all patient and supporting. The students are always polite and kind. Compared to my school in NZ, Kosei is definitely a lot bigger and more populated. In every class I have been greeted with smiles and polite conversations. The students and teachers are all patient with my Japanese, and help me to understand better in class. My favorite subject that I have been involved in while at Kosei, was the tea ceremony class, it was very interesting for me to take part in, as it was a new experience. My experience at Kosei

New Zealand News

On Sunday January 16 at 6.20pm the Kosei Study Aboard class took off from Narita Airport to spend the year studying and living with a New Zealand family. Once all the bags had been checked in and the girls had been given their boarding passes everyone gathered just behind the Air New Zealand counter to say some last words. It was quite an emotional time for some but for others exciting! We wish the 1F class all the best for their study abroad year and look forward to hearing about them throughout 2011.

We're all looking forward to seeing them back in Japan in December and hearing all their stories. **Kia kaha girls!!**

1月16日(日)留学クラスが1年間ホームステイをしながら勉強をするために胸をふくらませてNZに出発しました。出発の準備が済みボーディングパスを入手した後、お別れの挨拶をするために集まった時の写真です。悲喜こもごもの別れでした。彼らの健闘を祈り、1年間彼らからの便りを楽しみにしましょう。12月の帰国が今から楽しみです。ガンバレ！



Speech from a 2E Student

I'm Yuki. I used to go to Bethlehem College. For this program which is studying in NZ for a year, I thought that communication in English is a main point but I learnt that communication means building up good relationships with people. I thought I have to be able to speak English more to know each other, and I always tried to smile to everyone. Therefore, I could have a good relationship with my host family. They were like a real family. I also had precious friends. When I had a problem, they supported me a lot and encouraged me, so I could get over it. I think that is a really important experience for me and it has given me a lot of confidence. To the IF students, I suppose that most of you might be very worried and are nervous, but I just want you to be brave, take a step forward, try to communicate as much as possible and have a lot of various experiences. Thank you.



Gakuen has been very positive and I am enjoying myself very much. I would like to thank the teachers and students for their kindness towards me. I look forward to coming back to visit Kosei in the future.

ジョリーンがNZから1月末まで佼成に短期留学に来ています彼女の家に去年舞がお世話になりました。今度は彼女が舞の家に滞在しています。ジョリーンの目には佼成がどのように映っているでしょう。彼女からのメッセージです。

Around the world "Coming of Age Day"



Every culture in the world has its own ways of celebrating the transition from child to adult. How and when that happens depends entirely on where in the world you live. Students who graduated Kosei and turned 20 last year got together at the cafeteria on Jan 10 to celebrate the Coming-of-Age day, as is held all over Japan. This was the first ceremony at Kosei. New adults, born in 1990 in nice out-fits attended ceremonies and other festive events all over Japan, which has become the custom.

成人式

1月10日校成で「成人を祝う会」が初めて催されました。子供から大人として認められる年齢は国・文化によって異なります。外国人の先生方にスコットランド・アイルランド・NZでの時期やお祝いの仕方を書いて頂きました。

In Scotland, depending on how you look at it, people come of age when they reach 16, 18 or 21 years old. At the age of 16, you can get married without the consent of your parents, but you have to wait until you are 18 before you can vote, smoke and drink alcohol. Turning 21 has few legal effects but it is considered the most important celebration of adulthood. This is traditionally the age at which we are given the key to the house, although this concept is somewhat outmoded nowadays. (Most of us have had the key of the door for many years before turning 21!) The occasion is usually marked with special birthday gifts as well. Even though turning 18 is nowadays celebrated as the time when someone reaches adulthood, a 21st birthday still holds that special magic! (Stefan)



The Grapevine Staff

In most western societies, this is just a simple legal convention, whilst in some countries like Japan, an official "coming of age" ceremony is held to mark the occasion. This legal convention indicates that adolescents are no longer considered minors and are granted the full rights of an adult. **In Ireland** this is the case at the age of 18. When you turn 18, you can then legally vote, purchase alcohol and tobacco and get married without parental consent. In the past, the coming of age in Ireland, like in most western societies, was 21, hence today we still have 21st birthday parties. However in recent years 18 birthday parties are becoming more popular. 18 and 21st birthday celebrations are typically extravagant parties in formal wear, with lots of presents and cards been given and champagne served, as at other formal celebrations. There is no official ceremony to mark this event, just a party and celebration with one's family and friends. At these parties, it is usual that parents and siblings put together a display of baby photos, early childhood photos, videos etc... of the young adult in order to embarrass him/her. It is a lot of fun to have such a party, because it is the only time that you can celebrate being young with all your family and friends before you fully take on the responsibility of real adulthood and real life!! (Caroline)

日本では成人式がいろいろな所で開かれ、着飾った20歳の若者が大人の仲間入りをします。一方西洋の国では日本のようなお祝い会はなく、16、18、21歳等々の誕生日にそれぞれ家族内で成人に達したことを祝い、鍵等の特別なプレゼントや、NZでは1.4リットルのビールを90cmの長いグラスで一気飲みするユニークな儀式もあるようです。以前は21歳からでしたが現在多くの国が18歳から法律上大人と見なし 選挙権・喫煙・飲酒・運転・親の同意がなくても結婚等が認められます。



In Japan, people come of age when they become twenty, but **in New Zealand** people come of age when they turn twenty-one. In the past, you weren't allowed to drink, vote, or marry until you were twenty-one, but now-a-days you can drink and vote when you are eighteen. However, the traditional coming of age party is still held when people turn twenty-one. At a twenty-first birthday party, many people dance, drink, and enjoy a meal, but the main event is watching a person drink a yard-glass of beer. It is called a yard-glass because it's one-yard long. It holds about 1400ml of beer. It is very difficult to drink all of it quickly, but it must be finished without stopping. They also usually receive a key. These are often made from mirror or wood. They represent the key to life. (Mark)



Important Upcoming Dates

- Jan 23 Eiken English Test
- Jan 29 Chorus Contest
- Feb 1 Entrance Exams for Junior High – no classes
- Feb 8 Memorial for broken needles
- Feb 9 Achievement Tests for Junior High School students
- Feb 11 National Holiday – Founding Day
- Feb 12 Entrance Exam for High School – no classes

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