

Hiragana News

ひらがなニュース



Asaka-area International Society

http://ais1989.hp-ez.com

Chairperson: Akiko Suzuki

November Schedule



10:00 – 12:00

Date	Subject	Place
Nov.01(Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Asaka Library Shichōkakushitsu
Nov.08(Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table (BoardMeeting13:00-)	Community Center 2F Ongakushitsu 2F Bikōshitsu
Nov.15(Fri.)	Fall Excursion (event)	*See the details below
Nov.22(Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 1F Shūkaishitsu
Nov.29(Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 2FGakushūshitsu



FALL EXCURSION

Let's go to Japan's proud "National Museum of Nature and Science" in Ueno!

Date & Time: Nov.15(Fri.) 9:30 (Rain or Shine)

Meeting Point: Asaka Station's ticket gate

*Please buy a ticket to JR Yamanote line's Ueno Station

Application Dead line: Nov.13(Wed.)

*Entrance fee to the museum is covered by AIS. Those 65 years old and over are free of charge. (Please bring some form of ID)

*Please feel free to eat lunch AFTER the event. There is a restaurant within the museum.

Contact Yoshida for application & inquiry



Home Stay in Malta

Akiko Yamashita (Japan)

This summer I did a home stay. My last one was 20 years ago. The place was an island floating in the Mediterranean Sea called the republic of Malta. Its official languages are Maltese and English. I could enjoy my vacation and maybe learn English at the same time. So I chose this as my destination.

In the morning, I went to an English language school. In the afternoon and on weekends, I enjoyed sightseeing. Since it was during summer vacation, the place was full of students who wanted to study English from Europe and other areas. Some adults who use English at work and housewives like me also attended the school. There was a wide variety of nationalities and ages in the classroom. Sometimes I went to a pub with my classmates and enjoyed a bit of international exchange.

The capital city of Malta is Valletta. The city itself is registered as a world heritage. You can see the superb view of the beautiful harbors of the opposite bank from the park in Valletta. There are some more world heritage sites in Malta. It is said that the world's oldest megalithic temples are worth taking a look. Needless to say, its beautiful beaches are one of the attractive parts of Malta. Though I stayed there for only eleven days, I had a wonderful time there.



Minutes of Board Meeting

Oct.11 (10 Board Members and 5 Observers)

*Report from each group

*About Open School

*AIS's 25th Anniversary events

*On Oct.06(Sun.), Tomita and Y. Itoh attended the liaison meeting of "Japanese Classes along Tojo line"

Information

*Study Group: "Let's think about Japanese Language"

Date: Nov.08(Fri.) 9:00 – 9:50



Welcome to AIS!

New Members:

Ms. Yu Hua Wang (China) Ms. Kaori Kin (China)

Ms. Hui Ming You (China)

Dumpling making was enjoyable!

Kaori Kin(China)

"There is a cooking class in AIS today!" I was very excited about it since that morning. I had chosen an apron and a head cover for the class a month ago. Many AIS members were there already when I arrived at the cooking room. They were busy boiling white wood ear mushrooms and separating flour in bowls. People at the reception welcomed me with a smile.



At first, we made dumpling wrappers out of flour and chopped ingredients for the dumplings. The dumplings we made were a vegetarian type, but magically, they had a taste of meat! Surprise! The soup was so good, well blended with extracts of peanuts and Japanese mushrooms. The mild sweetness of dessert mixed well with various fruits and white wood ear mushrooms, and was easy to eat. I had a second bowl of it. I was impressed with the way in which everyone cleaned up the space after the class. They worked very hard until the space was shiny. Yan Cui san, thank you for the delicious meal. Please teach us again.

Tea Break Mid-Autumn Festival (E.I.)



While I was in Singapore, there was a Mid-Autumn Festival. Around China Town area, many Chinese lanterns were hanging over the streets and they lit up the area at night. During the season, they eat moon

cakes while enjoying the harvest moon.

Moon cake stands were everywhere in the shopping malls and on the streets. It was like Japan's chocolate sales on the Valentine's Day or cakes sales on Christmas. There were various kinds of moon cakes: big and small, traditional ones and those wrapped in a layer similar to Daifuku's rice cake, ones using fruits or chocolate for the contents and etc. I heard that there is a custom of sending moon cakes to those whom you would like to thank and to business relations as a form of gratitude at this time. It reminded me of the Japanese custom of summer gifts and year-end gifts.

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