

Hiragana News

ひらがなニュース



Asaka-area International Society

http://ais1989.hp-ez.com

Chairperson: Akiko Suzuki

May Schedule



10:00 – 12:00

Date	Subject	Place
May 02 (Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
May 09 (Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table (Board Meeting: 13:00-16:00)	Community Center 1F Shūkaishitsu (2F Bikōshitsu)
May 16 (Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
May 23 (Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Ongakushitsu
May 30 (Fri.)	Ornament Making	Asaka Library Shichōkakushitsu

Ornament Making

May 30 (Fri.) 10:00 -

Let's enjoy making ornaments for AIS' 25th
Anniversary Opening Ceremony in June!



The Charm of "The Tale of Genji"

Kayo Yokoi (Japan)

"The Tale of Genji" was written by Murasaki Shikibu more than a thousand years ago. I was unwilling to read it when I was a student. It was considered to be a romantic love story whose hero, Hikaru Genji, was extremely good looking. Recently, I have been invited to join a reading club to read its modern translation by Yosano Akiko. The Tale of Genji, consisting of 54 chapters, is not an easy read. The reading club was formed so that we'll be able to finish this book by reading it together.

We have read as far as "Fujino Uraba". Women at that time had a hard time carving out their own lives, but I am very fascinated to find the author depicting many different types of happiness in women's own ways. Sometimes, I can empathize with their lives, and sometimes I can't. I am pretty sure that ladies working in the imperial court of that era felt the same about the characters in that story. The Tale of Genji has been adapted into a manga entitled "Asaki Yumemishi" by Yamato Waki. I love her pictures (you can borrow it from a library).



You can enjoy "The Tale of Genji" from various perspectives, such as color matching (e.g., the color combination of their many layers of robes), the events of that era and their attitude toward flowers, like enclosing flowers in their letters and composing poetry about them.

Minutes of Board Meeting

April 04 (13 former and new board members and 3 observers)

*Report from each group

*Preparation for Annual General Meeting

*AIS' 25th Anniversary events

*On Mar. 23 (Sun.), 10 AIS members participated in Kurome River Embankment Clean Up. We thank those who participated.

Information

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

: May 09 (Fri.) 9:00 – 9:50



AIS is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, and we're going to have an opening ceremony in June. Please come!

Date & Time: June 20 (Fri.) 10:30 ~

Place: Asaka Community Center 2F



Welcome to AIS! New Member:

Ms. Shikha Badoni (India)



Pleasant Experience with Japanese School

Dinh Thi Thuy Mai (Vietnam)

A Vietnamese 5th grade girl came to an elementary school near my house. I was asked to help her with her Japanese language and to mentally support her. It was really a chance for me to improve my Japanese, as well as to know more about Japanese school.

I attended the music, science and physical education (PE) classes.

In the music class, children sang songs and practiced playing different musical instruments for their participation in music festivals and competitions among the elementary schools in my city. They also practiced the songs for the graduation ceremony. Looking at and listening to them, I was really touched by the melodies and lyrics as well as the kids' facial expression.

During the science class, the students were divided in groups, and they conducted many experiments. Instead of reading from the textbooks, the kids had lively and interesting lessons.

All the students enjoyed the PE class. Japanese schools pay special attention to physical education. Teachers and children cooperate and work together in harmony, where safety is a priority.

All the teachers of the school were very enthusiastic and devoted.

I feel so happy and lucky because my son was also educated in Japan from the first day of his elementary school until his high school graduation. It is my dream that someday children from my home country can also have such a good education like the one that the Japanese kids have.

