

# TSUKUBA Seasonal Newsletter

Autumn 2023

English

Published by:  
Global City Promotion Division,  
Tsukuba City Hall  
on September 15th, 2023

**From Monday, October 2, 2023,**

**the reception hours of Tsukuba City Hall and branch offices will change**

Reception Day and Time	Facilities to be affected
<b>Monday to Friday</b>  8:45 am to 4:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Tsukuba City Hall and Community Building: All departments</li><li>■ Branch Offices: Oho, Toyosato, Yatabe, Sakura, Tsukuba and Kukizaki (6 locations)</li><li>■ Community Center: Tsukuba, Oho, Yoshinuma, Toyosato, Yatabe, Matsushiro, Ninomiya, Kasuga, Shimana, Onogawa, Sakura, Kurihara, Takezono, Namiki, Hirooka, Azuma and Kukizaki (17 locations)</li><li>■ Health Center: Oho, Yatabe and Sakura (3 locations)</li></ul>
<b>Saturday</b> 8:45 am to 4:30 pm	Only the main building of Tsukuba City Hall will be open (Please note that services are limited on Saturday)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday</b> 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm	Only the main building of Tsukuba City Hall will be open (Please note that services are limited after 4:30 pm)

- ※ There will be no change in the counter and telephone reception hours for other facilities such as daycare centers, children's centers, libraries, and fire departments.
- ※ Though reception hours will change, opening hours of facilities such as Community Centers will remain the same.

**Reception hours of the Tsukuba One-Stop Inquiry Desk for Foreign Residents will also change**

**Telephone number: 029-883-1313** ※Phone calls will not be answered after 4:30 p.m.

Phone calls can be made in Japanese, English, and Chinese only. On the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of Tsukuba City Hall, consultation is available in 22 languages.

◇Tsukuba City Multilingual website\* is available in English, Plain Japanese, Chinese, and Korean  
<https://www.city.tsukuba.lg.jp/english/index.html>

◇Foreign language newsletters are published in English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Portuguese, Spanish, Indonesian, and Vietnamese. <https://www.city.tsukuba.lg.jp/english/1015289>



## Autumn

In the Kanto region, where Tsukuba City is located, the temperature gradually drops in September and October, and mornings and evenings get cooler and more comfortable as autumn arrives. This pleasant time of the year is considered the best period to be active. As the season unfolds, it becomes an ideal time for engaging in various activities such as sports, savoring delicious meals, indulging in reading, and immersing oneself in the arts!

### What do you think autumn is best for?

We asked our foreign student representatives who help translate seasonal newsletters about their favorite things in autumn and why they think so.

*“Autumn is my favorite season in Japan primarily because the weather gets comfortable after a long and scorching summer. Every place bursts into a picturesque and vibrant display of autumn colors, and it is the best season to be outside, take walks, run, climb mountains, and burn a lot of calories, especially before winter sets in, making us want to stay curled up in a blanket!”*

## Fun Autumn Events in Tsukuba! A selected few are mentioned here

From Friday, Sep. 15 to Sunday, Sep. 24	• Premium Beer and Food Festival, Autumn 2023 @Tsukuba Center Area
Sunday, Oct. 1	• Indonesia Japan Friendship Festival@TsukubaCenterArea • 75 <sup>th</sup> Mt. Tsukuba Gama Festival @ Mt. Tsukuba
From Sunday, Oct. 1	• Sunset & Stardust Cruising @ Mt. Tsukuba The ropeway will operate at night only on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.
Late Oct. to early Nov.	• "Autumn Festival at the foot of Mt. Tsukuba" and "Mt. Tsukuba Maple Festival" At the same time, there are maple tree illuminations on Mt. Tsukuba
Saturday, Nov. 4 and Sunday, Nov. 5	• Tsukuba Civic Cultural Festival will be held in 7 communities of the city. For details about the locations, please refer to the Tsukuba Art Channel website.
Sunday, Nov. 26	• Tsukuba Marathon Large-scale traffic controls will be implemented. Please be careful when you go out. For details, please see the marathon website.
Saturday, Dec. 16	• Ukrainian Music and Christmas ~We love Music Concert~ 3 pm to 4:30 pm @ Als hall Admission: 1,500 yen (reservation required) For details, see Multilingual Website (*see the bottom of this newsletter cover) around mid-Nov.

When you search 「ドまんなかつくば」 “Domannaka Tsukuba” on Facebook and Instagram, you will find out about events held at Tsukuba Center. Why not visit these events?

### Fruit picking September ~ November

Autumn is also a season for fruit-picking such as chestnuts, pears, grapes, and persimmons. During this season, many farms carry out "fruit picking". With an entrance fee, you can pick fruits by yourself. Please note that many places may charge you extra if you want to take home more fruits than the designated amount. In addition, there are places where you can eat as many fruits as you like within a certain time limit. Fruits are delicate, so please handle them carefully while picking!



## Applications for FY2024 entries to daycare centers and kindergartens

### ● Daycare centers

We will accept the first round of applications for new admissions and transfers for April. Details including the necessary documents and electronic applications will be available in Japanese from October, in English from November on the Tsukuba city website. Please refer to "Guidance for daycare center entrance" on the website.

### ● Public kindergartens will accept applications from late October

The public kindergarten your child will attend is determined by the district that you live in. If you wish for your child to attend a kindergarten other than the designated one, please consult directly with that kindergarten. Details will be updated on the Tsukuba city website in September.

### ● Pre-enrolment health checkups will be held for those entering elementary and compulsory education schools

For those entering elementary school or compulsory education school from FY 2024, school health checkups will be held by each school from mid-October to the end of November. Take your child to the health checkup at his/her designated school. Do not forget to take your health checkup notice with you, which will be sent to you by the end of September. For those moving to Tsukuba City after September 1, 2023, please contact the Health Education Division. For details, refer to the city website.

Children required to have health checkup: Those born between April 2, 2017 and April 1, 2018

### Free Consultation for Foreigners in Joso City Hosted by the Immigration Services Agency

**Date & Time:** Sunday, October 22, 2023 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Location:** Joso City Hall (Address: 3222-3 Suwa-cho, Mitsukaido, Joso City)

Free consultations are available regarding the status of residence, laws, and daily life (interpretation available)

**Supported languages:** English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Filipino and Nepali

### Free 1-day consultation with a lawyer for foreigners in Chikusei City

**Date & Time:** Sunday, November 26, 2023 10:00 am to 3:00 pm (Reception until 14:30)

**Location:** Shimodate Community Center (Address: 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Arterio, 372 Hei, Chikusei City)

Consultation with a lawyer (interpretation available)

**Supported languages:** English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Portuguese, Spanish, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Tagalog, and Sinhala

For details, please contact  
Ibaraki International Association's Consultation Center for Foreigners  
Telephone number: 029-244-3811



## Typhoon season is coming!

There are many typhoons in Japan in the autumn season. Typhoons cause a lot of rain and strong winds. Due to heavy rains, water is not drained in time, and it leads to water covering roads or floods in rivers.

Due to strong winds, power lines are cut and power outages occur. Clotheslines or buckets may fly toward you, so please be careful. If there's a typhoon rolling in, please bring items outside or on your balcony into your house. Due to the poor road conditions, any packages that you have ordered may also arrive late. Stockpile (BICHIKU 備蓄) enough necessary items in your house, so that you would be able to stay indoors for a few days for safety.

Regarding information on how to prepare for the typhoon:

<https://www.pref.ibaraki.jp/bugai/kokusai/tabunka/jpn/disaster/documents/english2.pdf>

Weather Information by NHK World: <https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/>

### Notice from Tsukuba International Association

#### ●Free guidance on elementary, junior high, and high schools

Going to Japanese schools is a fun experience for kids and adults alike, but there are many challenges involved. You can resolve your concerns and queries by attending a guidance session on Japanese school life. We will appoint interpreters whenever possible so that you can understand the session in your native language. If you attend the session well before your child attends school, you will have plenty of time to understand the contents and be prepared for when your child actually attends school. No matter how long you plan to stay in Japan, please attend the session so that you can know more.

Both of the following sessions will be conducted at the Tsukuba International Conference Center, 4<sup>th</sup> floor (2-20-3 Takezono, Tsukuba City). Reservation required in advance. Please see the website (<https://www.inter.or.jp/pre-school.html>) for details.

Saturday, September 23 Afternoon	Intended audience: Children who wish to go to high school and their guardians
High School Guidance	•How high school is different from junior high school, club activities, entrance examinations, expenses, etc. •Listen to what high school pupils say
Learning Japanese Language	Japanese level check for children, and consultation on Japanese learning
Saturday, October 14 Afternoon	Intended audience: Children enrolled in or about to enroll in elementary or junior high schools and their guardians
Elementary and Junior High School Guidance	School life, admission procedure, things to prepare, expenses, etc.

#### ●Japanese Lessons for Foreigners on ZOOM: October 2023 to March 2024

Classes for learning daily Japanese for adults will be conducted online via Zoom.

Please see the website (<https://www.inter.or.jp/>) for details.

Daytime course: 10 am to 11 am. Evening course: 7 pm to 8 pm

Classes for four different levels, 15 lessons in total per class

#### ●Japanese Speech Contest

We plan to hold a Japanese speech contest in February 2024. Details will be posted on the association's website in early October, so please check them.

Inquiries: Tsukuba International Association 029-869-7675 [info@inter.or.jp](mailto:info@inter.or.jp)

