



CHIBA NEWS



STUDENT EDITION, SEPTEMBER 2024

Class 8

Explore Japan: Top Tourist Spots Revealed



Mt.Fuji, a World Heritage Site

Tokyo Sky Tree

The Tokyo Sky Tree offers a fantastic perspective of Tokyo’s suburbs and metropolitan regions. Visit it if you’d like to view Tokyo from all angles.

Akihabara

If you enjoy Japanese animation, this is the place to go. The neon town has an enormous selection of anime merchandise.

Shibuya pedestrian crossing

You should visit this spot if you want to experience Tokyo. The largest crossing in Japan is this one.

Harajuku

You may enjoy dining and shopping in Harajuku. There’s a large Nike store, a variety of Restaurants, etc.

Furthermore, if you’re a Sneaker-head, you may enjoy it a lot because there are many shoe stores here and they have many collections.

Kanagawa Prefecture

In Kanagawa Prefecture, there is a beautiful city called Yokohama. It has a Chinatown where you can enjoy Chinese food and culture. There is also a fashionable town called Minato Mirai, which is perfect for a date.

Shizuoka Prefecture

In Shizuoka, Mt.Fuji is the highest mountain in Japan. Mt. Fuji has a beautiful shape. You should see it at least once in your life.

Osaka’s representative tourist spots

Two of the most famous

tourist spots in Osaka are Dotonbori and Shinsaibashi.

Spot 1: Dotonbori

Dotonbori is popular among foreign tourists visiting Japan who want to take a food tour of Osaka. It is one of the representative tourist spots in Osaka.

Spot 2: Shinsaibashi

Shinsaibashi has many shops that are popular with young people, such as fashion and miscellaneous goods.

Churaumi Aquarium

Kuroshio Sea is one of the largest aquariums in the world, measuring 35m wide, 10m deep, and 27m deep. Approximately 70 species, including manta rays and tuna are bred here, and the whale shark, the world’s largest fish, is a highlight.

Churaumi Aquarium has 710

species of fish, many of which are attractive and exciting to watch. Please give it a try.

Fushimi Inari Taisha

It is in the Kyoto Prefecture and is the main shrine of the approximately 30,000 Inari shrines nationwide. This historic shrine celebrated its 1300th anniversary in 2011 and is visited by many worshipers from all over the country. Among them, the tunnel of Vermilion Torii gates on the approach to Okusha Shrine is called Senbon Torii, and it is mysterious and beautiful, making it a popular spot for posting on social media. There are many tourists, and it is very lively.

By, Shota Aihara, Sei Ota,
Yumi Ochi, Yuhiko Kaneda,
Keita Sayama

ENTERTAINER

Preserving History: The Story Behind the Atomic Bomb Dome

Why do you think foreign tourists visit the Atomic Bomb Dome in Hiroshima so much? First of all, last year, as many as 569,602 foreigners visited the Atomic Bomb Dome. It is thought to be the influence of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the G-Summit. I think the Atomic Bomb Dome is a legacy that conveys the misery of war to the present day. It is necessary to know what happened in Hiroshima and think about the respect with which this atomic bomb dome was built. On August 6, 1945, during World War II, a nuclear bomb was dropped on Hiroshima and hit the Atomic Bomb Dome.

The Atomic Bomb Dome was scheduled to be demolished after the war but preserved to appeal to future generations about the terrible atomic bombs. It has remained in the hearts of the people all over the world.

Recently, the number of visitors to Miyajima has been increasing. Look at this graph. The proportion of foreign tourists among the number of visitors to the island is increasing year by year. First,

Itsukushima Shrine is said to be one of the most beautiful places on earth and has breathtakingly beautiful scenery online. Its natural beauty is highly praised, and many foreigners come to see it. These things can be said to be the reason for the increase in tourists.

However, some things could be improved. For example, tourists' actions can damage the torii gate.

Some tourists get their coins stuck in the cracks at low tide, which makes the cracks bigger and damages the gate itself.

Another problem is the large number of deer on Miyajima. Although Itsukushima Shrine often attracts tourists, it also poses several problems. Therefore, people must take care of this world heritage site.

When deer rummage through trash cans, trash is scattered everywhere, which affects their health.

By Yuma Maruyama,
Kazuki Nakamoto,
Hisoka Takahashi, Hana kawakami,
Rio Taniguchi



The Atomic Bomb Dome



Itsukushima Shrine



Miyajima



Sakura Josui: Tokyo's Hidden Gem

Sakura Josui is a place name in Setagaya Ward, Tokyo. It borders Akazutsumi in the east, Miyasaka, Kyodo, Funabashi in the south, Kamikitazawa in the west, and Shimotakaido, Sugunami Ward in the north.

It is said that it is derived from the fact that there was a row of cherry trees on the embankment of Tamagawa Josui, which was flowing on the north side.

There is a railroad crossing on the east side of Sakurajosui Station.

It's called an unopened railroad crossing because it only opens for a few minutes during the commuter rush.

That's why some people cross

through the station. Local people and students are also angry. It is also one reason you don't want to live in Sakurajosui.

Shimotakaido is Setagayaku in Tokyo. Nichidai Sakuragaoka Highschool students use this station.

However, some students use Sakurazyōsui station. It is next to Shimotakaido station. Shimotakaido is Fudōson of Sōgen-ji Temple it is what Takaido has changed. We can go there Keio-dentesu or Setagaya line. The Shimotakaido Tsukayama Ruins, which are the remains of a settlement from the paleolithic age to middle Jomon period, is located in the area centering on Tsukayama park.

The bridge is said to have been named after the Muromachi period warlord Ota Dokan, who built the Shimotakaido Hamadayama Hachiman Shrine.

The alleys centered on the station have many stores, from private to chain stores. According to the Shimo-Takaido Shopping Street Promotion Association, many people moved to Shimo-Takaido after the Great Kanto Earthquake, and a market for fresh products was created in front of the station.

By Rintaro Ueyama, Yuzuki Ando, Shunta Kikuchi, Hiyori Hatanaka, Saki Hachisaka



Sakurazyōsui station



Shimotakaido station

ENTERTAINER

Compulsory Education and School Rules Worldwide

ABOUT COMPULSORY EDUCATION AROUND THE WORLD

The duration of compulsory education differs depending on countries. For instance, pupils in Italy receive five years of elementary education. On the other hand, it is six years in Japan. Speaking of Junior high school, while there are three years of compulsory education in Korea and Japan, students in France receive four years of mandatory education. Although there are variations in the duration and the allocation of

school years in elementary and Jr. High school levels, almost all countries adopt three years of high school education.

Interestingly Germany, France can get a compulsory education for free.

ABOUT GRADE SKIPPING SYSTEM

This system is excellent, and students can skip grades to advance to higher or go on to higher education.

This system is rare in Japan but has spread to other countries. For example, there are cases like

this. The 12-year-old students graduated from university in America.

ABOUT RULES

School rules overseas differ from those in Japan, and many schools have more relaxed rules. For example, in the United States, it's okay to dye your hair or have piercings.

However, some countries have stricter rules. In Taiwan, school rules state that underwear must be white or skin-colored.

ABOUT SAFETY

In some areas, there is a system called school resource officers in which police officers come to patrol schools.

Something like that happened in Japan about 15 years ago, but now that system almost disappears.

It is hoped that schools will become so safe that there is no need for police patrols.

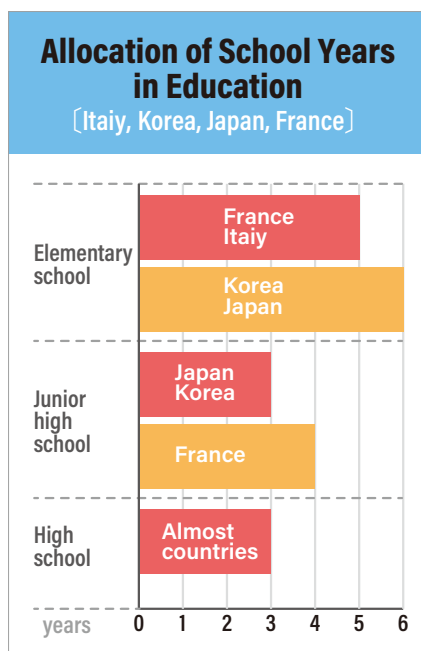
THE REST AND HOMEWORK

American schools don't give children homework during summer vacation.

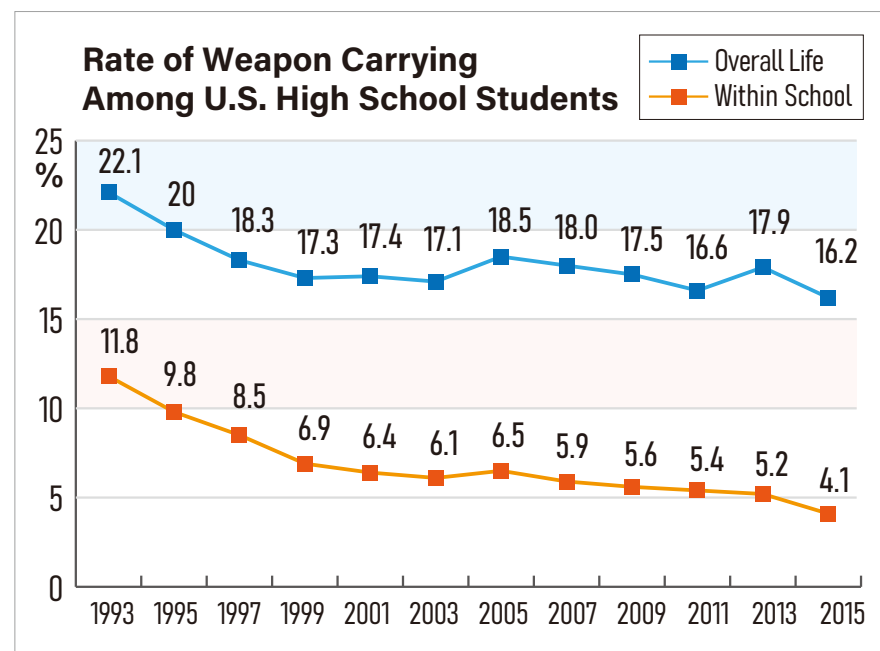
This is because the way of thinking about summer vacation differs in Japan and America. In America, summer vacation is a time to have a good time with family, so children travel.

Japan's summer vacation should be like America's because I want to make memories with my family.

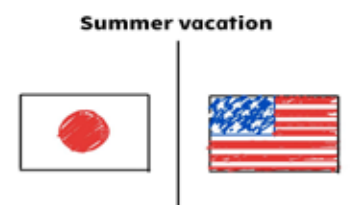
By Minori Nozaki, Taiga Kimura, Rena Hizikata, Yuina Miyazaki, Yugo Yoshida, Kengo Eguchi



<https://gooddo.jp/magazine/education/4082/>



<https://honkawa2.sakura.ne.jp/8810.html>



Japan's Gender Equality Challenge

What comes to your mind when you hear "gender gap"?

The "gender gap" refers to the disparity arising from differences between men and women.

According to Sekaihabu, in the world ranking of gender gaps, European countries such as Ireland ranked first, Norway ranked second, and Finland ranked third. On the other hand, South Korea is 105th, China is 107th, Japan is 125th, and Asian countries are getting lower.

Japan is ranked 125th, but why? One is the difference in employment opportunities and wages between men and women.

In Japan, the culture of women doing housework has been

deeply rooted for a long time.

Because of this, women tend to be viewed as inferior to men. Also, when women get married and have children, they need maternity and childcare leave. But it seems complicated to take maternity leave in Japan today.

Therefore, we need to create a society where maternity leave is easy. So, what is Japan doing in this situation?

The government has set a goal of increasing the proportion of women in leadership positions to 30% as soon as possible by 2030. Other companies have also set targets for female employment rates, but concrete measures still need to be taken. Japan needs to create an environment that makes

it easy for women to work as soon as possible.

By Aoi Kokubo, Rento Kurata, Kakeru Matsui, Mai Shimura, Ume Suganuma, Kanon Terao, Kousei Odawara

Latest Gender Gap Index: Major Country Rankings

rank	Country	rank	Country
1	Iceland	30	Canada
2	Norway	40	France
3	Finland	43	United States
4	New Zealand	79	Italy
5	Sweden	105	South Korea
6	Germany	107	China
15	United Kingdom	125	Japan

<https://prtimes.jp/main/html/rd/p/000000144.000024321.html>

 ENTERTAINER

Political Correctness in Anime Sparks Debate

In recent years, we have often heard the term “political correctness.” Political correctness refers to expressing things fairly and impartially without hurting others.

However, many people say these activities are too extreme and impact Japan. Examples include Japanese anime, television, and video games. Japanese anime often has Japanese protagonists and is said to be discriminatory against other races. And some are made with that in mind.

Some stories are overly careful not to anger others, which makes the acting boring. A prominent

example is 2023’s *The Little Mermaid*.

The main character of this film was played by an African American actor, unlike the animated version’s white skin and red hair.

It attracted attention even before its release. In the United States, as in Japan, voices said, “I want the live-action version to be faithful to the animated version, not racism against black people,” in response to the live-action version, which differs from the animated version.

The main character of the live-action version appears in the film with brown skin and natural

dreadlocks.

It looks different from the animated version. However, the director of the live-action version said, “I simply looked for the best people. I met with candidates of all races, but there was no intention behind it”. However, this “difference in appearance” caused controversy in the United States. Hashtags criticizing the casting of the main character spread.

Racist remarks were also made one after another.

In Japan, criticisms such as “They completely ignore the appearance of the main character familiar from the anime” and

“They are neglecting their fans for the sake of a bright future for black people” were also made on social media, and the irritation of political correctness increased. Political correctness is necessary to make our society a more livable place for everyone.

This activity has saved many people.

Therefore, this activity cannot be completely denied. A balance between freedom of expression and consideration is required for future expressions.

By Daiyu Tanaka, Ayumu Takeuchi,
Momoko Hayashizaki,
Yuika Suzuki, Goro Tamura

Improve Health with Quality Sleep Tips

“Sleep quality” is deeply connected to our health. Good-quality sleep keeps us healthy and energetic, while poor-quality sleep makes us more susceptible to illness. So, what does good quality sleep mean?

It is said to be the state of mind in which one can get the necessary amount of sleep, does not feel sleepy during the day, and is in good physical and mental

condition.

According to Resent, the amount of sleep we need varies from person to person.

If you feel sleepy during the day, you should get more sleep. The key is to adjust our sleep time to suit ourselves.

To get a better night’s sleep, you must focus on one more thing: avoiding blue light before bed.

When exposed to it at night, blue light is emitted from

smartphones’ screens. The body interprets bright light containing blue light as daytime, and the body’s internal clock suppresses melatonin secretion. It is believed to suppress the body and make it difficult to sleep. So we should avoid touching it for two hours before going to bed. Let’s do these things and take the first step towards better health through sleep.

By Hiroto Asakura, Koki Hiraishi,
Minato Hoashi, Rina Hodota,
Ayame Hori



Good quality sleep?

Japan Battles Rising Food Waste Crisis

Nowadays, much food is mass-produced in Japan. This has many benefits for producers. But if they don’t sell, it’s all thrown away. The second problem is that people who buy food leave it uneaten. For example, this increases production efficiency and reduces the cost per piece. However, it is mass-produced, and any excess is discarded.

This discarded food is collectively called food loss. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 5.22 million tons of food is wasted annually in Japan.

That’s the equivalent of 1,500 large trucks. Additionally, Japan ranks 14th in the world in terms

of food loss. There are two main reasons for disposal.

First, there needs to be more mass production and demand. Producers produce large quantities in the hope of selling them in large quantities. For instance, apples that have passed their expiration date or have flesh still attached to the stem may be discarded.

For these reasons, food loss is currently on the rise.

In response, Japan has also begun to take steps to eliminate food waste. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries runs a “food bank” that collects products that do not meet standards, which are discarded during the food manufacturing process, and

provides them free to welfare facilities and other organizations.

That’s why we need to be proactive in doing what we can to stop this, like not buying too much food.

By Ryota Sakamoto, Daiki Kurihara,
Kyoma Sato, Ayaka Kumagae,
Rikka Wada, Miyu Morita

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Publisher : Nihon University Sakuragaoka High School
Project Supervisor : Class 8, Homeroom Teacher Mikihiro Chiba
Editor: Kosei Odawara ,Taiga Kimura
Contributing Editors: Ayano Usukura
Contact: 3-24-22 Sakurajosui, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, Japan, 156-0045
URL: <https://www.sakura.chs.nihon-u.ac.jp>