

# MITAKA CITY NEWS



November 1, 2014 No. 180

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MITAKA CITY NEWS providing business and event information of Mitaka city is published on 1st of every month.

## Encounter a Two-Day-Fun Event with Urban Agriculture The 54th Mitaka Harvest Festival

The annual Mitaka Harvest Festival is coming up in the fall. This is a fun event at which you can feel more about the importance of agriculture and deepen the understanding toward urban agriculture through the evaluation, display and sale of agricultural products and livestock grown in the city.



Last year's evaluation event



A treasure ship made of vegetables

**Date and Time:** November 8 (Sat.) and 9 (Sun.), 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (until 3:00 p.m. on November 9)  
**Venue:** Mitaka Municipal Office inner garden and other

### ◆ Evaluation and Treasure Ship Exhibit

After the evaluation of vegetables, fruit trees, flowers and potted trees produced in the city, a public exhibition and sale will be conducted. In addition, a treasure ship of vegetables will be exhibited and the "treasures" (vegetables) will be given free of charge to those who want them (numbered tickets will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis). Please come and enjoy the appraisal process and see firsthand the wonderful quality of Mitaka's agricultural products and livestock.

**Inquiries:** JA Tokyo Musashi Mitaka Branch, Tel: 0422-46-2152; City Livelihood and Economy Section, Ext. 3063

## Autumn Fire Prevention Campaign— November 9 (Sun.) to 15 (Sat.)

### Everyone Should Be Conscientious about Preventing Fires

We're approaching the time of year when fires tend to break out more easily due to the increased use of heating equipment and much dryer air. Everyone should take care when using heating equipment and be conscientious about preventing fires, such as by not leaving flammable items around the house.

During this campaign, the Mitaka City Fire Brigade will conduct evening patrols from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. In addition, on November 9 (Sun.) from 9:00 a.m., there will be fire prevention P.R. parades of 14 vehicles, including firefighting vehicles, starting from Mitaka Fire Department and continuing to both the east and west sides of the city.

**Inquiries:** Disaster Preparedness Section, Ext. 2284



Celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Sister-City and Town Relationship between Yabuki Machi and Mitaka City

## The 23rd Mitaka Citizens Ekiden Relay

This year's Mitaka Citizens Ekiden Relay is part of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the sister-city and town agreement between Yabuki Machi in Fukushima Prefecture and Mitaka City. A total of about two hundred teams will participate in the relay—including everyone from junior high school students to senior citizens, and several from Yabuki Machi, all with four runners per team. They'll be running 12.6 kilometers through four sections of the City, passing on the team sash between runners.

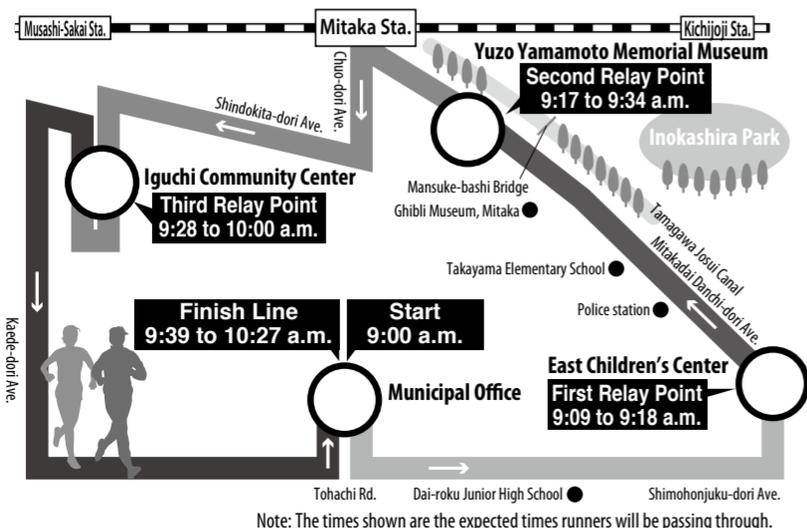
We hope that as many people as possible will come to cheer the runners on enthusiastically from the sidelines and strengthen bonds through sports.

**Sponsors:** City, City Board of Education, and Mitaka City Amateur Sports Association

**Date and Time:** November 30 (Sun.), 9:00 a.m. start (held in light rain)

**Course:** Municipal Office (start) — 3.2 km — East Children's Center (first relay point) — 2.6 km — Yuzo Yamamoto Memorial Museum (second relay point) — 3.2 km — Iguchi Community Center (third relay point) — 3.6 km — Municipal Office (finish line)

**Note:** Traffic will be regulated on the day of the event.



Note: The times shown are the expected times runners will be passing through.

**Inquiries:** Sports Promotion Section, Ext. 3325

## The 2nd Mitaka-Ekimae Marugoto Ehon-ichi Through November 16 (Sun.)

Mitaka-Ekimae Marugoto Ehon-ichi offers various events involving *ehon* (picture books) that are conducted in cooperation with shops located mainly in the shopping district near Mitaka Station's south exit. For example, there are "Picture Book Spots" where you can enjoy picture books at your leisure, and a "Picture Book Stroll Quiz Rally" in which you can tour cooperating shops. Some shops also have their own programs so that the entire town is bustling with ways in which you can enjoy picture books.

### ◆ "Storytelling in Town"—Tour Cooperating Shops near Mitaka Station

**Date and Time:** November 16 (Sun.), 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

On the final day of the event, members of a group called The Storytellers will visit cooperating shops to read various picture books out loud. Where they will appear is for you to find out on the day. In addition, there will be a live picture book performance by Papa's Ehon Project at Citizen's Cooperation Center from 11:00 a.m. to noon.

**Inquiries:** Mitaka Picture Book House in the Astronomical Observatory Forest, Tel: 0422-39-3401

**URL:** <http://mitaka-ehon-ichi.jimdo.com/>



## Information

Information about Mitaka International Society for HOspitality

### MISHOP Office

**Days:** Monday through Saturday (Closed on Sundays and national holidays)

**Hours:** 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** Mitaka City Chuo-Dori Town Plaza 4F, 3-30-12, Shimorenjaku 181-0013

**Tel:** 0422-43-7812 **Fax:** 0422-43-9966

**E-mail:** [mishop@parkcity.ne.jp](mailto:mishop@parkcity.ne.jp)

**URL:** <http://www.mishop.jp/>

**Established:** November 23, 1989

### Population and Number of Households As of October 1, 2014

Numbers in brackets are changes from previous month.

**Number of Registered Residents 181,751 persons (+429)**

**Number of Households 90,196 households (+230)**

## New System for Children and Childcare Support Starts

**Inquiries:** Child Development Section, Ext. 2731

In August 2012, the national government established three laws related to children and childcare. The new system for children and childcare support that officially goes into effect across the country in April 2015 comprehensively advances preschool education and daycare as well as community support of children and childcare.

### ◆ Main Points of the New System

- In addition to the kindergartens, day nurseries and certified *kodomo-en* facilities that already exist, the new system will establish new community based childcare services, such as small-scale childcare, childcare within workplaces, family-style childcare and home visit childcare, to ensure that there is no waiting list of children requiring childcare services, and to provide even more diverse facilities, programs and services for users to choose from.
- For certified *kodomo-en* facilities—which blend the good qualities of kindergartens and day nurseries—the new system will simplify procedures for service providers to set up their establishments and increase the number of facilities by improving and reinforcing financial support.
- The new system will improve children and childcare support programs for all families according to the needs of the community, such as by increasing the number of locations where parents can have more exchanges with their children.

### ◆ Facilities You Can Use under the New System

Type of Facility	Facility Description	Approval Category Required for Use*
Kindergartens	Preschool education and daycare are provided until the early afternoon for children from three years of age up to the time they enter elementary school. Some kindergartens provide daycare during after education hours and during summer and winter vacations.	No. 1
Day Nurseries	Childcare is provided until evening (as a rule, eleven hours per day) for children from under a year old up to the time they enter elementary school if their families cannot provide adequate care at home. Day nurseries are open year-round with the exception of Sundays, national holidays, and the yearend/New Year holidays. Extended-hours daycare can also be arranged.	No. 2 or 3
Certified <i>Kodomo-en</i> Facilities	Until evening (as a rule, eleven hours per day) for children who need it. These facilities are generally open year-round with the exception of Sundays, national holidays and the yearend/New Year holidays (some facilities are also closed on Saturdays). Until the early afternoon for children who do not need daycare, and there are school holidays, such as summer and winter vacations.	No. 1, 2 or 3
<New> Community Based Childcare Services	Small-scale childcare (between six and nineteen children), childcare within workplaces (such as at childcare facilities of private companies available for local children), family-style childcare (five children or fewer), and home visit childcare (individual care for children with disabilities or illnesses at the guardian's home). As a rule, daycare is provided eight hours per day year-round with the exception of Sundays, national holidays and the yearend/New Year holidays. Extended-hours daycare can also be arranged.	No. 3

\*Under the new system, the facilities that can be used are determined according to the three approval categories. For this reason, when applying to a facility, approval from the city is required.

- No. 1 Approval: If your child is three years of age up to the time they enter elementary school, and you would like him/her to receive preschool education only.
- No. 2 Approval: If your child is three years of age up to the time they enter elementary school, there is a reason for needing daycare, and you would like him/her to receive daycare at day nurseries or other such facility.
- No. 3 Approval: If your child is under three years of age, there is a reason for needing daycare, and you would like him/her to receive daycare at day nurseries or other such facility.

**Note:** To receive No. 2 or 3 Approval, one of the following conditions must apply as a reason for needing daycare:

- Employment (all types of employment, such as full-time, part-time, evening, and labor at home)
- Pregnancy or childbirth
- A parent is ill or disabled
- Providing nursing care, or nursing a family member who lives in the same household or is hospitalized for a long period
- Recovering from a disaster
- Job-hunting (this includes preparation for a startup business)
- School (this includes vocational training, such as at a vocational school)
- When there is danger of abuse or domestic violence
- If you are in the process of obtaining childcare leave, already have one child in childcare, and need to continue using childcare services

**Note:** The approval categories for using the facilities are standardized categories. There may be cases when facilities cannot be used; please contact the Child Development Section for more information.

### ◆ Applying for Admission under the New System

Applications for admission to day nurseries, certified *kodomo-en* facilities (No. 2 or 3 Approval) and community based childcare services in FY2015 will be accepted from November 11 (Tue.). (Please read the article on the right for more information.) Applications for kindergartens and certified *kodomo-en* facilities (No. 1 Approval) will be accepted at facilities from November 1 (Sat.).

**Note:** Some kindergartens will be switching to the new system, while others will continue to use the current system. The application procedures and the way to settle childcare fees vary depending on each facility. Please contact the Child Development Section for more information.

## FY2015 Nurseries Enrollment Applications

(Day Nurseries, Certified *Kodomo-en* Facilities, Community Based Childcare Services)

**Inquiries:** Child Development Section (Municipal Office 4F, #45), Ext. 2732

**Eligibility:** Those who wish to enroll or transfer their children in the school year starting April 1, 2015. (This includes those put on a waiting list for FY2014 and those wishing to transfer their children in the new school year.)  
**Note:** If you would like to enroll a newborn with an arrival date on or before February 17 (Tue.), you are considered eligible in 2015. (However, babies who are actually born on or after February 4 [Wed.] are not eligible for the screening process.)

**Application Period:** November 11 (Tue.) through 20 (Thu.), 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; applications are accepted on Saturdays and Sundays as well. Submit the required documents to the reception locations listed below.

**Reception Locations:** November 11 (Tue.) through 16 (Sun.) at the Mitaka City Public Hall, "San San Kan"; November 17 (Mon.) through 20 (Thu.) at the Municipal Office Building-2, 4F meeting rooms 242 and 243

**Note:** Information on nursery enrollment is available at the Child Development Section, municipal office branches, day nurseries, Nobinobi Hiroba, and Sukesuku Hiroba. It can also be downloaded as an electronic document from Mitaka Kosodate Net (URL: <http://www.kosodate.mitaka.ne.jp/>).

◇ Mitaka City also accepts applications for nurseries outside of the City. Please file your application with the Mitaka City Child Development Section no later than ten days before the deadline designated by the local government that administers the nursery in which you wish to enroll your child. Please confirm the details, such as the documents required, with each local government.

## FY2015 After-School Clubs Enrollment Applications

**Inquiries:** Children and Youth Section (Municipal Office 4F, #41), Ext. 2713

**Eligibility:** (1) Those with a child who will enter first through third grade of elementary school in April 2015 and require after-school childcare (until 6:00 p.m.; extended-hours daycare until 7:00 p.m.) because the parent works, etc.; and (2) those currently enrolled in after-school clubs in the City who would like to have their child remain enrolled from April 2015.

**Application Period:** November 14 (Fri.) through 25 (Tue.), 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; applications are accepted on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays as well. Submit the required documents to the reception locations listed below.

**Reception Locations:** November 14 (Fri.) through 16 (Sun.) at the Mitaka City Public Hall, "San San Kan"; November 17 (Mon.) through 25 (Tue.) at the Mitaka Municipal Office Building-3, meeting room 311

**Note:** Application forms are available at the Children and Youth Section, Mitaka City Council of Social Welfare, municipal office branches, after-school clubs, day nurseries and kindergartens in the City.

## Events of Mitaka City Arts Foundation

Mitaka City Arts Center, Tel: 0422-47-5122

**Hours:** 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Closed:** November 4, 5, 10, 17, 25 and 26 **HP** <http://mitaka-art.jp/ticket> (Japanese only)

☺ = A nursery service is available. (Please apply 2 weeks prior to each performance.)

**Notes:** 1. Junior high school students or older who purchase U-23 tickets must bring a photo ID that confirms their age as of the day of the performance. 2. Preschoolers will not be admitted.

### Mitaka City Arts Center Concert Hall "Kaze"

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**Anúna** ☺

**November 24 (holiday)**

**Performance starts at 5:00 p.m.**

Tickets now on sale. All seats reserved.  
Members: ¥4,500; non-members: ¥5,000; U-23 (23 years of age or younger): ¥3,000

**Program:** "May It Be" (from the movie *Lord of the Rings*), "Danny Boy" (a traditional Irish song), "Greensleeves/Scarborough Fair" (traditional English song), "Jerusalem" (seventeenth-century Catholic hymn), "Pie Jesu" (original in Latin) and more

Anúna is a mixed chorus group of men and women formed in 1987 with the concept of reviving Irish music of the Middle Ages in the present age. Enjoy the mystic a cappella music overflowing with tonal clarity together with the warm echoes of Concert Hall "Kaze."



Kenichi Mizuuchi

**Theatre Musick in London** ☺

**December 6 (Sat.)**

**Performance starts at 5:00 p.m.**

Tickets now on sale. All seats reserved.  
Members: ¥3,400; non-members: ¥3,800; U-23 (23 years of age or younger): ¥2,000

**Performed by:** Kenichi Mizuuchi (recorder), Paul Herrera (violin), Kaori Toda (violin), Toshihiko Amano (viola), Emmanuel Girard (cello), Akemi Murakami (harpsichord)

**Program:**

John Eccles: Collection of Airs from *The Mad Lover*  
Johann Pepusch (arrangement): "Greensleeves," Scottish folk songs, Lillibullero from *The Beggar's Opera*, and more

Enjoy famous theater music tunes that enchanted the people of London during the Baroque Era in candlelight.