



Issued by: **Matsudo International Exchange Association (MIEA)**  
 (A Public Interest Incorporated Foundation)  
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# MIEA STATION

Summer, FY 2026 (English Edition)

## ☆2026 – The 55th Anniversary of the Matsudo-Whitehorse Sister City Relationship☆

Matsudo City and Whitehorse City of Australia celebrate the 55th year sister city partnership this year. Over half a century, the two cities and residents have continued to deepen their friendship together through education, culture, and other fields.

Each year on the anniversary of the Matsudo-Whitehorse sister city affiliation (May 12), both cities hold a simultaneous tree-planting event called 'Green Tree Day'. This year, the 21st annual 'Green Tree Day' was held at Matsudo Municipal Mabashi-Kita Elementary School, and all the 6th grade students participated. Followed by an online video call conversation with the Mayors of the two cities and students, both cities simultaneously planted Burashino-ki (Bottlebrush tree, native to Australia), encouraging continued friendship and greenery promotion.



Online video call between the students of Mabashi-kita Elementary school and the City Mayor of Whitehorse



### Commemorative Events Celebrating the 55th Anniversary

#### 【The 45th Speech Contest in English for High School Students in Matsudo】

The contest is held every year, preparing children as the next generation to become international experts. High school students living or enrolled at a school in Matsudo will make speeches in English on their own opinions.

Date: August 22 (Sat.) 13:00- Venue: Matsudo Citizens Theater (Shimin Gekijo)

※ No application required for viewing

#### 【Sister City Delegation】 scheduled in February, 2027

Students who received excellent results at the English Speech Contest and junior/senior high school students chosen by the public are sent to our Sister City Whitehorse. They will experience homestay and a school program at Koonung Secondary College, Melbourne, Victoria, and expand the ring of exchange.

※The delegation program to Santa Clarita, California, U.S.A. is also scheduled in March, 2027



The students of both cities deepening exchange.  
(Feb. 2026)



### How did the sister city relationship begin?



Matsudo City's relationship with Australia first began in 1958. A girl student from Matsudo's Daigo Junior High School sent a letter to the Australian Embassy requesting eucalyptus seeds. The embassy complied with her request, giving 100,000 seeds.

Matsudo City's Mayor at the time visited Box Hill City (now Whitehorse City) in 1970 which further deepened goodwill. The official sister city documentation was signed on May 12, 1971.



The history of 55 years are summarized in the form of a timeline, displayed in front of the Kokusai-Yuko room, (4th floor, Bunka Hall, Matsudo Building)

# Language Course

※For details and to apply, scan the QR code and check the contents.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>English</b><br/>           ① Jul.25 (Sat.)<br/>           ② Oct.7 (Wed.)<br/> <b>10:30-12:00</b></p> <p><b>Taiwanese Mandarin</b><br/>           ① Jul.25 (Sat.)<br/>           ② Oct.3 (Sat.)<br/> <b>13:00-14:30</b></p> | <p><b>Language Salon<br/>~Cultures &amp; Languages~</b></p> <p>Enjoy speaking with native speakers</p> <p>Facilitators:<br/>           English: High School ALTs, Matsudo Cultural Ambassadors<br/>           Taiwanese Mandarin:<br/>           Ms.Huang Meijung (from Taiwan, Matsudo Cultural Ambassador)</p>                                                                                                | <p>Venue: Salon Space in Matsudo Bunka Hall (4th floor, Matsudo Bldg.)<br/>           Eligibility: People who can make everyday conversation in those languages.<br/>           Capacity: English 15 persons<br/>           Taiwanese Mandarin: 10 persons<br/>           ※Selected by lottery if applications exceed capacity<br/>           Fee: MIEA members free<br/>           Non-members 500 yen<br/>           Application period:<br/>           ① Till Jul.15 (Wed.)<br/>           ② Sep.1(Tue.)-Sep.15(Tue.)</p>  |
| <p>① Aug.22 (Sat.)<br/>           ② Sep.26 (Sat.)<br/> <b>15:00-16:30 each</b></p> <p>※Participating in only one lesson is also possible.</p> <p>※ Another lesson in Jan. and Feb. are also planned.</p>                         | <p><b>Deutsch-aktuell<br/>~Get to know Germany nowadays in the German language~</b></p> <p>Read, Listen, Speak, and Write in German on different topics each time. The course will give students the opportunity to think of environment and social issues.</p> <p>※ This course will be conducted mainly in German.<br/>           Instructor: Ms. Eva Bilik (from Hungary, part-time university lecturer)</p> | <p>Venue: Matsudo Information Centre (2nd floor hall)</p> <p>Eligibility: those who can speak elementary German (A2 level)</p> <p>Capacity: First 15 persons</p> <p>Fee: MIEA members 1,000 yen<br/>           Non-members 1,300 yen</p> <p>Application by:<br/>           ① Aug.6 (Thu.)<br/>           ② Sep.8 (Tue.)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p><b>Sep.11-Nov. 20<br/>Friday<br/>15:15-16:45<br/>【10 lessons in total】</b></p>                                                             | <p><b>Elementary Chinese Course II</b></p> <p>This course is for beginners learning Chinese for the first time. Starting with Pinyin, you will learn expressions and phrases used in daily life. Those who have experience learning Chinese are also welcome!</p> <p>Instructor: Ms.Luo Guang Sui (from China, high school Chinese language instructor)</p>                                                     | <p>Venue: International Friendship Room (Kokusai Yuko Room)<br/>           Eligibility: Those 16 years plus<br/>           Capacity: First 10 persons<br/>           Fee: MIEA members 10,000 yen<br/>           Non-members 13,000 yen</p> <p>Text: published by ナツメ社出版<br/>           title『ネイティブが教えるマンガで身につく! 中国語』</p> <p>※ Purchase by yourself (ISBN:978-4816363580)</p>                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>Oct.1-Dec.17<br/>Thursday<br/>10:30-12:00</b></p> <p>※ Except for Oct. 22 &amp; Nov. 26</p> <p><b>【10 lessons in total】</b></p>         | <p><b>Let's study English literature, and Make friends with Sherlock Holmes!</b></p> <p>Detective story<br/>           'The Memories of Sherlock Holmes'</p> <p>Read the story, solve and discuss a mystery. Alongside English study, learn about British culture.<br/>           Instructor: Ms. Sarah Holland (from the U.K., part-time university instructor)</p>                                            | <p>Venue: International Friendship Room (Kokusai Yuko Room)<br/>           Eligibility: Eiken Grade 2 or higher, CEFR-B1 or higher, or other equivalent level<br/>           Capacity: First 20 persons<br/>           Fee: MIEA members 10,000 yen<br/>           Non-members 13,000 yen<br/>           Text: English edition of 'The Memoires of Sherlock Holmes'</p> <p>※Purchase by yourself (ISBN13-9781515279143)</p> <p>Application:<br/>           Starts on Aug. 15 (Sat.)</p>                                     |

## MIEA World Tour

※For details and to apply, scan the QR code and check the contents.

|                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Jul.29 (Wed.)</b><br/><b>10:30-12:00</b></p>  | <p><b>Chinese Handcut Paper Art (Kiri-E) Experience</b><br/>Learn the history of Chinese Papercut Art, and experience and complete your own work<br/>Instructor: Ms. Jin Chunhua<br/>(from China, Matsudo International Cultural Ambassador)</p>                                                      | <p>Venue: Workers' Hall (Kinro Kaikan)<br/>Eligibility: Primary 5 students and above<br/>Those who can use scissors and cutters.<br/>Capacity: First 20 persons<br/>Fee: MIEA members Free<br/>Non-members 500 yen<br/>Application deadline: Jul. 17 (Fri.)</p>  |
| <p><b>Sep.5 (Sat.)</b><br/><b>14:00-15:30</b></p>   | <p><b>A Natural Treasury! Introduction to Madagascan Culture</b><br/>Miura-san experienced life in Madagascar. She will talk about life and nature, plants and animals there.<br/>Lecturer: Ms. Miura Hiroko<br/>(Japanese, Matsudo International Cultural Ambassador, and former ODA consultant)</p> | <p>Venue: Matsudo Citizens Hall (Shimin Kaikan)<br/>Capacity: First 40 persons<br/>Fee: MIEA members Free<br/>Non-members 500yen<br/>Application: Starts on Jul.15 (Wed.)</p>                                                                                    |
| <p><b>Sep.26 (Sat.)</b><br/><b>14:00-15:30</b></p>  | <p><b>Taiwanese Tea and Culture Workshop II</b><br/>A tasting to experience differences in fermentation processes with Taiwanese sweets.<br/>Lecturer: Ms. Huang Meijung<br/>(from Taiwan, Matsudo International Cultural Ambassador)</p>                                                             | <p>Venue: Matsudo Citizens Hall (Shimin Kaikan)<br/>Capacity: First 10 persons<br/>Fee: MIEA members 1,000yen<br/>Non-members 1,500yen</p>                                                                                                                      |

## Commemorative Event Celebrating the 55th Anniversary of Sister City Relations

**Oct. 17 (Sat.)**

**10:00-15:00**

**Venue: Matsudo Citizens Hall (Shimin Kaikan)**

**Application**

**Deadline:**

**Jul. 31 (Fri.)**

### Recruiting Caterers and Exhibitors (Groups) for the 31st Matsudo International Culture Festival

**Caterers:** Introduce and sell world foods.

(Caterers are required to submit a food business license or inspection results from a public health center.)

**Exhibitors:** Introduce Japanese or overseas culture, present volunteer and other activities. (Commercial sales and exhibition are not permitted.)

**How to apply:** Download the application from the MIEA homepage. Email us with the completed form or submit it directly to our office. Application forms are also available at the MIEA office.

### High School Guidance for Students and Parents whose native language is not Japanese

Volunteer groups and teachers will collaborate in giving guidance to non-Japanese Junior High School students who wish to enter Japanese Senior High Schools and their parents. Information sessions will explain the purpose of high school, enrollment procedures, education expenses, and the Japanese education system. Current students will also share their experiences in the information sessions.

| Place    | Date          | Venue                              | Nearest Station                                              | inquiry                                           |
|----------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Matsudo  | Sep.27 (Sun.) | Matsudo Civic Hall (Shimin Kaikan) | Matsudo Sta., JR Joban Line or Keisei Line.                  | Ms.Mitsuhashi<br>TEL090-9291-3831 FAX047-317-5798 |
| Ichikawa | Oct.4 (Sun.)  | Gyotoku Bunka Hall I&I             | Gyotoku Sta., Tokyo Metro Tozai Line                         | Mr.Miyazawa<br>TEL090-2468-1037 FAX047-338-9168   |
| Chiba    | Oct.11 (Sun.) | Uchiba Nishi-Chiba Campus          | Nishichiba Sta. JR Sobu Line or Midoridai Sta., Keisei Line. | Mr.Shiratani<br>TEL080-3175-9539 FAX043-424-4364  |

Organizer: Boso Multicultural Network, Academic Guidance Committee Entry Fee: Free, Material Fee: 100yen/copy



## FY2026 Elementary Japanese Class (2nd Term)

◆Eligibility: 15 years old or older (born before April 1, 2011),  
excluding Jr. High School Students.

◆Fee: MIEA membership Fee of 1,000yen for FY2026 plus 1,000 yen per class (per term)

Q MIEA Shokyu Nihongo

Registration begins  
Aug.4 (Tue.)



| 【 In-person Classes 】                                                                                                                                             |      | Venue: Kokusai Yuko Room (Bunka Hall) |              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Class                                                                                                                                                             | Day  | Time                                  | Term         |
| Elementary                                                                                                                                                        | Tue. | 10 : 10- 12 : 10                      | Sep.8-Dec.15 |
|                                                                                                                                                                   |      | 12 : 30- 14 : 30                      |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                   |      | 18 : 45- 20 : 45                      |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                   | Wed. | 10 : 10- 12 : 10                      | Sep.9-Dec.9  |
|                                                                                                                                                                   | Fri. | 10 : 10- 12 : 10                      | Sep.11-Dec.4 |
|                                                                                                                                                                   |      | 12 : 30- 14 : 30                      |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                   | Sun. | 10 : 10- 12 : 10                      | Sep.13-Dec.6 |
|                                                                                                                                                                   |      | 12 : 20- 14 : 20                      |              |
| <b>Kanji</b><br>Study N4 Level Kanji.<br>(For those who can read and write hiragana and katakana)                                                                 | Wed. | 10 : 10- 12 : 10                      | Sep.9-Dec.9  |
|                                                                                                                                                                   | Sun. | 14 : 30- 16 : 30                      | Sep.13-Dec.6 |
| <b>Conversation Space:</b><br><b>Kaiwa Hiroba</b><br>(For those who can read and write hiragana and katakana, and who can carry on simple, everyday conversation) | Wed. | 13 : 00- 15 : 00                      | Sep.9-Dec.9  |
|                                                                                                                                                                   | Thu. | 13 : 30- 15 : 30                      | Sep.10-Dec.3 |
|                                                                                                                                                                   | Sun. | 14 : 30- 16 : 30                      | Sep.13-Dec.6 |
| 【 Online Classes 】                                                                                                                                                |      |                                       |              |
| Class (level)                                                                                                                                                     | Day  | Time                                  | Term         |
| <b>Elementary Class</b><br>(For those who can speak a little)                                                                                                     | Thu. | 10 : 00- 12 : 00                      | Sep.10-Dec.3 |
| <b>Conversation Class</b> (For those who can carry on simple, everyday conversation)                                                                              | Tue. | 13 : 30- 15 : 30                      | Sep.8-Dec.15 |

## The 1st. Lecture on Japanese Language Education

### ~ Education Guidance Method on Japanese Language

### Supporting Children and Parents of Foreign Nationals ~

Date: Oct. 31 (Sat.) 10:00-12:00 Venue: Matsudo Workers' Hall (Kinro Kaikan)

Lecturer: Ms. Aiso Tomoko, associate professor of Chiba Meitoku College

Participants: Those who are interested in Japanese language education.

Capacity: First 40 persons Fee: Free

Application: Starts on Sep.1(Tue.)

\*Another lecture will be held in February, 2027.

Registration begins  
Sep.15 (Tue.) →



MIEA Station is published in Japanese, English, Chinese, and Vietnamese.  
We sincerely thank the following people for their cooperation in translating the Summer issue

★ Chinese: Ms. Fan Xiaoyun ★ Vietnamese: Ms. Le Thi Hue

★ English: Mr.Shimada Akio

Each language ▼

