

THE KEIKA CHRONICLE

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JHS RECITATION CONTEST

On Sunday the 11th of November, three of our Keika Girls' Junior High School students participated in the "Kiyotada Tazaki 18th Private Junior High School English Recitation Contest".

The students who participated this year were:

- Yui Ohkawa (1st year)
- Miki Okukawa (2nd year)
- Mio Kumotani (3rd year)

It was the first time these girls have participated in a recitation contest. They had to learn, remember, and present an English passage for the contest. Recitation is a bit difficult because you need to remember the passage, and you must also try and say the passage with good, clear pronunciation.

On the day, there were students from many different schools. There were even some students who came all the way from Okinawa to participate.

The girls were very nervous but they worked so hard and performed brilliantly on the day. Well done to these girls! They did a fantastic job!

A massive thank you to the teachers and family members who came and showed their support on the day.

CONTENTS:

- JHS RECITATION CONTEST
- AUTUMN FOLIAGE
- UPDATE FROM RAE
- COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD - RUSSIA





AUTUMN FOLIAGE

Do you know what the word “foliage” means? Foliage is the leaves of a plant or a tree. When people say “autumn foliage”, they are talking about the variety of coloured leaves that you can see in autumn.

In Japan you can clearly see and feel the different seasons. Autumn is no exception. The autumn foliage in Japan is so beautiful and it’s no surprise that many people go on trips in order to see the changing colours of the leaves.

Where did you see autumn foliage this year? Did you go anywhere special to see autumn foliage?

MT. TAKAO (Rae)

On Labor Thanksgiving, I hiked Mt. Takao with friends. It was so nice to have some fresh air and see some trees... but it was so busy! It was like hiking in Shibuya because there were so many people! Still, I was happy to get some exercise and see good people.

When I was done hiking, I ate some fresh dango that they sold at the stalls. I love dango! I wanted to try the bacon they sold, but the line was much too long, so I will try that next time.

It was perfect hiking weather that day. It was cool, but I only needed a light hoodie to stay warm on the walk. I love autumn foliage in Japan. The red and orange colours are so beautiful this time of year.



KYOTO (Justine)

I’m often told by Japanese people that the best place in Japan to see autumn foliage is Kyoto, so visiting Kyoto in autumn has always been on my “bucket list”. This November, I was finally able to fulfill my dream.

Kyoto did not disappoint. Everywhere I looked, there was a sea of beautiful coloured leaves. The streets were littered with fallen leaves that crunched loudly as you walked along.

My favourite place that I visited was *Shinnyodo Temple* because the colours of the leaves were a bright vivid red. This temple was not as crowded as other places, so it was very enjoyable. Thank you to Mr. Kawamoto for recommending this place to me.

UPDATE FROM RAE

I have been in Japan for almost four months now. It has been an interesting and challenging time in my life!

I came to Japan to have a new experience, and to better my language skills in Japanese. I have always wanted to return here, ever since I lived in Kyoto when I was eighteen years old. Of course, Tokyo is a much different place than Kyoto. I don't think I ever could have prepared myself for life in such a massive city.



A mega city like Tokyo makes all of Canada's cities seem very small. This is truly a city which never sleeps. I also don't think anywhere else in the world would have such beautiful shrines and temples next to tall skyscrapers and busy shopping districts.

This city is a true blend of tradition and modernity. Still, there are things I miss about Victoria. In Tokyo you cannot see the stars at night, and though Japan has a lush climate, I find it hard to not be surrounded by trees and crystal clear lakes.

I think that Tokyo is a city that is unlike any other. It's where Japan meets the entire world. I just think the entire world is too big for me. I still have not gotten used to the busy trains and the crowded streets. They are filled with busy people leading busy lives. Do you think that people in Tokyo take time to slow down and to enjoy the simple things in life? I'm not so sure.

Still, I love the smaller, weirder and more hidden parts of Tokyo. Despite being such a big city I always feel safe as I explore behind of the veil of where tourists most often go. Someone could live here for years and never see everything Tokyo has to offer. I want to keep exploring and see what I can find.



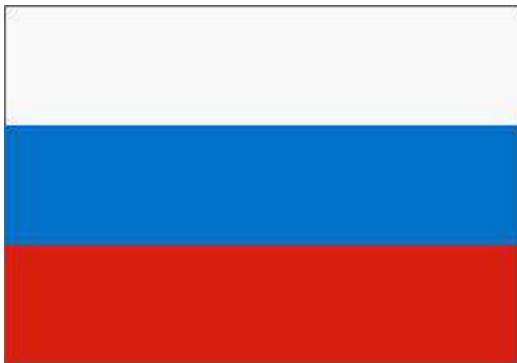


RUSSIA

Russia is a country with land in both Europe and Asia. The 2014 Winter Olympics was held in Sochi, Russia.

Russia is the largest country in the world. It is famous for many things. For example, Russia was the first to send a man into outer space. Yuri Gagarin, an astronaut, became the first human in space on *Vostok 1* in 1961.

How much do you know about Russia?



Country: **Russia**

Capital City: **Moscow**

Language: **Russian**

Population: **143,956,000 people**

FAMOUS PLACE

St. Basil's Cathedral
(in Red Square, Moscow)



FAMOUS FOOD

Borscht
(beetroot soup with sour cream)



FAMOUS PEOPLE

Maria Sharapova
(tennis player)

