

## TOHO CINEMAS Niihama (AEON Mall)

March 29 $\sim$	Ghostbusters :Frozen Empire	Dubbed
March 29 $\sim$	Oppenheimer R15+	Sub
April 26 $\sim$	Godzilla x Kong	Sub
April 26 $\sim$	Suga Agust D Tour D-Day the Movie	
May 10 $\sim$	Kingdom of the Planet of the A	Apes Sub
May 31 $\sim$	Ride on	Sub

Movies might be changed without notice. So please check the homepage for information.

#### Information Service Internet: niihama-aeonmall.com Tape (24hrs) :050-6868-5019 (in Japanese)



This newsletter is published by SGG, a volunteer group that helps foreigners living in and around Niihama. If you need any advice, information, or support, please contact SGG.

SGG would welcome any suggestions, questions, or ideas for monthly articles.

> sheep@abeam.ocn.ne.jp email: yukiko-m@shikoku.ne.jp k.toshiko.0305@gmail.com havatine@nbn.ne.jp

\*The editors for this month are T. Hoshita & Y. Amano

# **ONE POINT JAPANESE** 「~と いっても」の 使い芳 (How to use 'When I say..., still' / 'You could call it..., but')

A: あれ!手作り弁当ですか。Are, tezukuri bentō desu ka? (Wow! Is that a hand-made boxed lunch?) B:ええ、外食やコンビニ弁当はあきちゃって。

Ē, gaishoku ya kombini bentō wa akichatte. (Yes. I'm tired of eating out and of convenience store boxed lunches.)

A: 自炊だ なんて、えらいですね。 Jisui da nante, erai desu ne.

(I'm impressed that you cook for yourself!)

B:自炊と いっても、簡単な 料理ばかりですよ。

Jisui to ittemo, kantanna ryōri bakari desu yo. (When you say I'm cooking for myself, still it's just simple dishes.) レシピサイトに わたしにも 作れそうな 料理が あるんです。 Reshipi saito ni watashi nimo tsukuresō na ryōri ga arun desu. (On Internet recipe sites, there are dishes I think even I could make)

- A:Bさん、最近 漢字の 勉強を して いるんですね。 B-san, saikin kanji no benkyō o shite irun desu ne. (B-san, you've been studying kanji recently, haven't you?)
- B:<u>勉強と いっても</u>、日本の マンガを 読んで いるだけですよ。

Benkyō to ittemo, nihon no manga o yonde iru dake desu yo. (You could call it studying, but I'm just reading Japanese manga.)

漢字に ひらがなが ついて いて、とても 助かります。

Kanji ni hiragana ga tsuite ite, totemo tasukarimasu. (Having hiragana with the kanji is very helpful.)

A:これ、アメリカ旅行の おみやげ。

Kore, amerika ryokō no omiyage.



(This is a present for you from my trip to the U.S.) おみやげと いっても、時間が なくて、成田空港で 買ったんだけど。

Omiyage to ittemo, jikan ga nakute, naritakūkō de kattandakedo. (When I say it's a present from the U.S., still I bought it at Narita Airport because I had no time.)

< by Niihama Nihongo no Kai>

NNK also provides Japanese lessons for foreigners living in Niihama. Feel free to contact us at:

Niihama Kokusai Koryū Kyokai (Niihama International Center) Tel:0897-65-1579 E-mail:niihamashikokusai@gmail.com

# What's New?

Niihama City

No.345

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## **Reliquary Container Found at Saijo Ruins**

(Ehime Shimbun: April 12, 2024)

240 years ago today, a farmer noticed something shining under a stone while he was repairing the rice field waterway. Five Chinese characters '漢委奴国王' were inscribed on it. This great discovery of the gold seal made Shikanoshima in Fukuoka Prefecture famous overnight.

An investigation showed that the gold seal was a present to a Japanese king of the Na country from Emperor Guangwu of the later Han Dynasty in the first century. People there must have been excited. Just one two-centimeter square seal made it clear that it was a very important historical event.

Here is another important discovery for local historians: a reliquary container in the shape of a five-ring pagoda was found at the ruins of Miyanouchi in Saijo. It was made in the 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century and is considered to be the oldest in Ehime. Around the ruins was a manor related to a temple in Kyoto. The reliquary might have been brought here because many people and goods went back and forth in those days. It sets off the imagination!

I attended a one-day presentation to the public. The venue was packed with people, all huddled shoulder to shoulder. The reliquary container was almost the same size as the gold seal, and the design of the five-ring tower was very elaborate. Voices of surprise were heard around the venue.

These days amazing news stories for archeology enthusiasts appear one after another. At Heijokvo in Nara, Mokkan (narrow strips of wood on which an official message is written) were unearthed. They were related to Emperor Shomu. Similarly in Nara, the nation's largest serpentine sword was opened to the public for the first time. I can't help but wonder what kind of discovery will be next.

Archeology has an air of romance. It gives us a reason to be connected to our hometown. The nonstop questions and answers at the venue made me realize that these discoveries really energize archeology fans. In the history of Ehime, there are a lot of mysteries, including the location of Ivo Province. Someday I'd like to know a big discovery like that of the Gold Seal.



# **Preventing Restitution Troubles**

(Ehime Shimbun, March 26, 2024)

Terminating your rental contract can leave you apt for conflict with the landlord over covering restitution for damages like scratches on the walls. Confirm the items applicable for restitution in the contract document before you sign it, and record the condition of the rooms before you move in.

It is important to understand the general rules about restitution beforehand. If you clean and maintain the rental appropriately, spontaneous damages such as wallpaper discoloration from sunlight should be covered by the landlord. If facility failure happens while living there, consult the landlord immediately. When you vacate the house, don't forget to check the invoice. If you are unsure about anything written, ask the landlord to explain. If you are not satisfied, call the consumer hotline at 188.

# MAY EVENTS

### $\cancel{5}$ 5/1~5/31 Peony Flowers at Minetopia Besshi.

40 different kinds (about 30,000 flowers in total) are in full bloom. You can enjoy Matcha at Senju-tei on 5/18 (Sat) & 5/19 (Sun) for ¥500.

#### $\cancel{5}$ 5/12 (Sun) Voyage on the Seto Inland Sea by Patrol Boat

Boat leaves Marine Park Niihama 10:00AM, 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 2:00PM. Capacity is 16 (Elementary school students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian). Free admission. Reservation is required and it starts on May 1. TEL: 0897-46-4100 Marine Park Niihama

#### $\cancel{5}$ 5/22 (Wed) Test of J Alert at around 11:00AM

**Emergency National Simultaneous Communication Test** is held.

 $\therefore$  5/28 (Tues) Laughter Yoga

at Akagane Museum 6:30PM-7:40PM Free Admission



## 90 Carp Streamers in the Sky

(Ehime Shimbun: April 3, 2024)

About 90 colorful carp streamers are leisurely swaying through the sea breeze at Marine Park (3-chome, Habu, Niihama). You can enjoy them until the end of May.

Management at the beach started the carp streamers project in 2019, aiming to revitalize the local area. Some of about 500 carp streamers donated from all over Japan are swimming in the sky.

A lot of families enjoyed picnicking under the streamers of varying sizes, brightly painted black, red, and blue on a fine and clear April 1st. Kawabata Yuno (3) visiting from Saijo with her parents enjoyed the carp streamers, saying, "I love the blue ones".



## **Online Information in English from Niihama City**

 $\Rightarrow$  A Guide for Living in Niihama



- $\Rightarrow$  The Niihama Medical Institution Map
- $\Rightarrow$  How to Sort Your Trash and Garbage



- What's New? in English
- ☆ Niihama Tourist Information https://niihama.info/



 $\Rightarrow$  Help with legal matters, discrimination, insurance, etc Japan Life Guide

(Nartionwide service) multilingual



 $\Rightarrow$  Yorisoi Helpline for foreigners TEL:0120-279-338 10:00 a.m.~10::00 p.m. Multilingual Your privacy will be protected.