Cloncurry Japanese News!

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Have you seen pictures on the news of Japan during the SARs or swine flu epidemic? I’ll bet you saw hundreds of people wearing face masks… In truth, face masks are one of the hottest selling items in Japan, but it is the SICK people who are buying them! That’s right, in Japan people who are sick wear the masks out of courtesy for others to protect the people around them from their germs!

Did you know?

Konnichiwa —
Genki desu ka? —
Yookoso —
Arigatou —

So far this term, the students have learnt how to say their name, age and job in Japanese. We also had a numbers competition to see who could count the fastest in the class! They have a short speech assessment coming up in week 6.

CULTURE CLUB!!!

We had our first Japanese Culture Club meeting on the 20th of February and I was really happy with the turn out! For the first meeting we had about 15 students hand in their permission slips and turn up, which is a great number! Since then I have already had quite a few more students hand in notes ready for the next meeting. The students really enjoyed learning about and doing traditional Japanese calligraphy – they learned the importance of calligraphy, how to make the ink and write the strokes carefully. All the students took a turn at grinding the stone into ink and they all took home a number of written characters. Thanks for coming guys! Don’t forget the next club meeting on the 6th of March (week 6)! Keep those permission slips coming in!

MONTHLY JAPANESE WORDS!

Do you want to try and interact with your child and get involved in their learning but not sure how to? Have a go learning these few basic words and try them out!

Konnichiwa — This is your basic greeting - it means both “hello” and “good afternoon”

Genki desu ka? — This means “how are you?” or, literally, “how is your health?” The response is - “hai, genki desu.

Yookoso — This means “welcome” and is used when welcoming someone into a house or event. Don’t use it as “you’re welcome” - as this is different.

Arigatou — When you want to say “thank you” for something, this is the word to use.

Year 6

So far this term, the students have learnt how to say their name, age and job in Japanese. We also had a numbers competition to see who could count the fastest in the class! They have a short speech assessment coming up in week 6.

Year 7

The students have just completed their mid-term assessment which was a listening test on times and daily activities in Japanese. We have been exploring the different daily activities in Japan, such as regular baths after having showers.

Year 8

In Japanese, we have been learning how to invite friends to go somewhere and then negotiate the time, place, transport and activities. The students have just completed their paired speeches in front of the class. Great work guys!

Special Mention

Thank you so much to the students in the Year 8 class who, after hearing how stressed the teacher was from losing so many Japanese classes to other school events, volunteered to do their speech assessments and get them out of the way! You were all so helpful!! Thank you so much!

Special Mention

A special mention for Zariah Zaro, Zoe Murach, Mavrik Noon, Skye-Taye Wehrman and Luke Walden in Year 6 (Orange). These students have shown such a huge interest in Japanese over the last few weeks and are really applying themselves in class to learn as much as possible! Keep it up guys!!