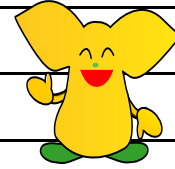


ステップアップレッスン・今月のフレーズ (夏の会話編)

1	It's very hot today! 今日はとても暑いね!
2	I'm thirsty. 喉が渴いたよ。
3	I want to drink something cold. 何か冷たいものが飲みたいな。
4	The rainy season is drawing to a close. 梅雨も終わりに近づいているね。
5	A barbecue on the beach would be nice! 浜辺でバーベキューなんていいね!

Enjoy the summer!
(夏を楽しもう!)



Teacher's room

Hello, everyone! How are you? After one month at WinBe, I feel like I am getting to know our students. Everyone tries their best and classes are a lot of fun. I am excited about our future studies together. Don't forget to join me for the BBQ on July 23rd!! See you all there! Mike

やあ、みんな！元気？WinBeに来て1ヶ月が過ぎ、だんだんみんなのことが分かってきた気がします。みんな一生懸命で、レッスンはとても楽しいです。これからも一緒に勉強していくのが楽しみです。7月23日のバーベキューパーティーに来るの、忘れずにね！みんなパーティーで会いましょう！マイク

Manager's room

WinBeでは、先月新しい先生を迎えたのを機に、まず大人の生徒さんを対象に、新しい試みを始めました。「Talking on the phone with Mike先生」です！電話では相手の顔が見えませんし、身振り手振りが使えないので外国語で会話するのはとても難しいことです。私個人が思う、「外国語をマスターした」という状態は、①ジョークを理解できる ②その言語で夢をみる そして③電話で会話がスムーズにできる ということです。どれも、すぐに達せる領域ではありませんが、その瞬間を迎えたときの感動はひとしおです。週1度のレッスンの効果を高めるために、のちのちは1人でも多くの生徒さんと電話できればと考えています！

They are almost like student council presidents who serve one-year terms.

Even though June 8 marks the first anniversary of Kan's tenure as prime minister, he appears to have made up his mind to quit in the summer, having been cautioned against staying on by those around him. If he resigns, he would be the fifth prime minister to quit in five straight years. They are almost like student council presidents who serve one-year terms. With the addition of Kan, Japan will have a dozen former prime ministers who are alive and kicking.

In most industrialized countries, the number of retired presidents or prime ministers who are alive usually stands at less than 10. Japanese prime ministers' "best-before dates" periods are short, and their social status is light. Because the post carries so little weight, politicians are constantly embroiled in power struggles. Apparently, the next prime minister's job will also be to keep the seat warm for whoever comes next. In the meantime, such terms related to political conflict as coalition, splitting, new parties and reorganization are expected to be heard over and over again.

Every time a general election is held, as much as 80 billion yen (\$1 billion) in taxes evaporate. It is wasteful to treat politicians as throwaway commodities. Recently, however, many lawmakers do nothing but take part in political wrangling just for the purpose of increasing the number of members in their groups and are not properly doing their job commensurate with the amount of taxes they receive in the form of remunerations. While there is talk about forming a grand coalition, the idea is also intended to protect their parties rather than the stricken areas of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Both the media and public must refrain from jumping to conclusions. We tend to think rashly that it makes no difference who comes to power, but such political nihilism is undesirable. All the more because we are facing a national crisis, we must keep a close eye on politics so that dubious leaders do not take advantage of our helplessness to seize power or that an oppressive society does not appear. We must not tolerate violence to relieve frustration.

今月の読み物

1年交代の首相たち

6月8日が就任1年の記念日なのに、周辺に続投をいさめられ、菅さんも夏に辞める覚悟らしい。これで首相は5人続けて「1年交代」。まるで生徒会長だ。お元気な「元首相」は実に12人に増える。

存命の元大統領や元首相は数人というのが主要国の相場だろう。日本の首相は賞味期限が短く、地位は軽い。吹けば飛ぶから権力争いが絶えない。次もつなぎのようだし、しばらくは連立、分裂、新党、再編といった政局用語が幅を利かせそうだ。

総選挙をやるたびに、約800億円の公費が消える。政治家の使い捨てはもったいないのだが、昨今、国会議員の多くはアタマ数として政局に参じるばかりで、血税に見合う仕事をしていない。大連立にしても、被災地より自党を思っているのではないか。ただ、メディアも世論もせっかちは禁物だ。もう誰がやっても同じ、という政治的二ヒリズムが怖い。無力感を突いて妙なりリーダーや息苦しい社会が生まれ来ぬよう、憂さ晴らしの暴力を許さぬよう、こんな時こそ目を光らせたい。



7月の予定表

6月20日(月)~25日(土)	児童英検実施
6月30日(木)~7月2日(土)	レッスン休み
7月19日(火)~22日(金)	} プチ留学 } フォニックコース
7月26日(火)~29日(金)	
8月2日(火)~5日(金)	
8月23日(火)~26日(金)	
7月23日(土)	バーベキューパーティー



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