



WHITE STONE JOURNAL



お正月休みはどうでしたか。マックス先生と
セーラ先生は「日本のお正月」を満喫したみたい。
あっ、2月3日は「節分」だよ。

Newsletter by the Shiroishi ALTs
Vol.85, February 2014

This past winter vacation I had a super great time!
First, I went to Naruko onsen. When I went, it was snowing a lot.
It was difficult to walk to the ryokan, but it was beautiful scenery.
I also tried kuri dango at a shop. There was a big, fluffy dog
there called Sora. I had fun petting him. (-ω-) → → →

Next I went to Takekoma Shrine on New Year's Day.
There were so many people! I had fun and ate a lot
of delicious food like sankaku aburage.

The same day I tried mochi-making.
It was tiring but very interesting. We made natto
mochi, kurumi mochi, goma mochi, zunda mochi, and
ozouni. I was full after eating so much mochi!

Last, I went to Yamadera. There was a lot of snow
again so it was dangerous. I went all the way to the
top! Best Japan vacation ever~

By Max Darlington マックス・ダーリントン

★ヒント★

- *fluffy: ふわふわした *had fun 楽しんだ、遊んだ
- *petting: かわいがって



結構疲れるなあ。
こももじゅうい。

Happy Horse Year! How did you spend the New Years?

I had an interesting New Years! Since I am in Japan this year,
I experienced an authentic Japanese New Years!

Before New Years, I hung the Japanese New Years decoration
shimenawa in the entrance way of my apartment and cleaned my
apartment until it's clean and shiny. Then on New Year's Day, I went
to the shrine and got an omikuji. I also tried to make mochi (餅つき)!

The hammer was very heavy and the mochi-making was very difficult.
But eating the mochi we made definitely made it more tasty! My favourite is mochi with red beans. I completed the New
Years' celebrations at Dontosai Festival by burning New Years decorations in a bonfire and praying for good fortune!

I know there must be more to Japanese traditions and I really want to experience more of the Japanese culture!
Please teach me more - 今年もよろしくお願ひします!

★ヒント★ *authentic: 本物の *red bean: 小豆 *bonfire:(祝いの)大かがい火

By Sarah Lam セーラ・ラム



どの味を
食べようかな

ついたお餅は
違うだろうなあ...



うまくつけるかな。



この杵、重いよ。



2月といえば、聖バレンタイン・デー。フローレンス先生が聖バレンタインデーにまつわる話を書いています…。「皆さん、愛を信じますか。西暦3世紀のローマでのこと。皇帝クラウティウス二世は結婚制度を廃止しました。というのは結婚した男性は自分の家族を残して戦争に行きたがらないからです。ところが、キリスト教司祭の、名はバレンタイン。彼は内緒で結婚させていました。が、ついには捕らえられ投獄され死刑の判決を受けました。投獄中たくさんの人に神の愛を語りました。そこで彼はある盲目の看守の娘と親しくなり、やがて彼女の目は見えるようになりました。処刑の日バレンタインは……。」さて彼は何をしたのでしょうか。

欧米ではどうい習慣があるの？

最後に、フローレンス先生が皆さんに質問しています。

先生に会ったら、是非答えてあげてネッ！

* 当時のローマでは、キリスト教が迫害されていました。



Do you believe in love?

In the third century, one priest in Rome surely did.

His name was Valentine.

The emperor Claudius II abolished marriages since he thought that married men made bad soldiers – they didn't want to leave their families.

Valentine, though, kept on marrying young couples – secretly, of course.

He got caught, thrown in jail and sentenced to death.

Many people visited him in jail, and he found friendship in the daughter of his prison guard. She was blind. He healed her.

On the day he had to die, he left her a note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. He signed it: "Love from your Valentine".

Nowadays Saint Valentine's Day is considered in many countries as the day of love and friendship – there's no "White Day", actually!

Couples of any ages exchange sweet words and presents as proves of their love, and red roses, symbol of passion.

Now, could you explain to me where "White Day" is from?

★ヒント★

* **priest:** カトリック教の司祭

* **abolished:** 廃止した

* **got sentenced:** 判決がくだされた

* **loyalty:** 忠誠、忠義

* **prooves / proves:** 証明する



By Florence Ohno フローレンス・大野

◆編集後記◆



女性から男性にチョコレートを贈るのは、日本独自の習慣です。では何故チョコレートなのでしょう。これは東京都内のデパートで開かれたバレンタイン・セールでチョコレート業者が行ったキャンペーンが始まりだそうです。クリスマスもそうですが、キリスト教になじみの薄い日本では本来の意味が忘れられて、commercialismに走ってしまいがち？ 最初は本命チョコでしたが、義理チョコや、近年は友チョコなどが存在しますね。慎重派は、建前チョコもあるかな？ (皆の前でとくあえず渡し、後でこっそりと本命(本音)の-No.1の男性にチョコを渡すんです…。 Happy Valentine's Day!

ご意見・感想が
ございましたら、
こちらまでお寄せ
ください。



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*「ホワイトストーンジャーナル」は下記の白石市のホームページでご覧頂けます。
Please visit our English website: www.city.shiroishi.miyagi.jp/section/english/index.html