



White Stone Journal

Newsletter by the ALTs of Shiroishi – 2017年1月号 Vol. 120



Happy New Year!

今年もどうぞよろしくお願ひします！



あけましておめでとうございます / Happy New Year!

I am writing this in December when I am doing presentations on Christmas and I have discovered some differences between Christmas in Canada compared to here in Japan so I thought I would share those. The biggest difference is that Christmas is family time back home. In Japan it seems to be more for couples and going to events like illuminations, which is also fun but certainly different. Christmas back home is more like New Years here, a time when the whole family comes home to be together. Another difference is that we buy real Christmas trees in Canada, not plastic ones, and also we put the presents under the tree instead of somewhere else in the house. Finally, in Canada, Christmas is a time of receiving presents, which seems to be a popular idea in Japan too but more than receiving, giving is emphasized. Therefore, it is a time people might donate to charities or give winter clothes to the homeless and more. Also, we would give presents to all of our friends and family, so I would give one to my brother for example, one to my mom, one to my aunt, etc. Whereas kids only seem to receive one present in Japan from Santa and do not give presents themselves or receive them from other family members.

I had experienced Christmas in Japan before but I never really understood all of these differences until I started teaching about Christmas here so I thought that would be something interesting to share with you all.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Until next time,

Billy ビリー

ビリーは、カナダと日本のクリスマスの過ごし方の違いを書いています。クリスマスはどういう人と過ごすのかな。(日本のお正月みたいなのかな) プレゼントについても、どういうところに重きをおいているのかな。ツリーは???



★ヒント★

- emphasize: 重点をおく、強調される
- donate: 寄付する
- whereas: ~であるのに、ところが



リチャードは「雪」を見たことがなかったみたいですよぉ〜!(^)!

降雪の日は自転車に乗れなくなっちゃうね・・・❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️❄️

It's snowing! This may be hard to believe, but I saw snow for the first time last week. It doesn't snow very much in Australia and even in Winter it doesn't get very cold at all. My students are always surprised when I tell this to them. It will start getting harder to travel around Shiroishi because I won't be able to ride my bicycle in the snow. Nevertheless, I hope to spend an enjoyable White Christmas here in Shiroishi. Until next time, Thanks,

Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!

Richard **リチャード**



白石市で友達ができただけ、その人たちとクリスマスを楽しむのが待ちきれないよ!(^)! ケラは今何かを習っているようですよ…何でしょう？

▼富士山をバックに



Merry Christmas everyone!

I hope the holiday season is making everyone excited. I keep accidentally singing Christmas Carols as I rush around! I cannot wait to celebrate Christmas with the new friends I've made here in Shiroishi! I have gotten involved in martial arts here in Miyagi with both temporarily trying out the Junior High Judo Club and joining a Brazilian *Jujitsu* class at Cerejira in Ogawara. (Cerejira is Portuguese for Cherry Blossom.) I am always sore but I can feel myself growing stronger every day! I have also gotten involved in Tea Ceremony but sitting in *seiza* for so long can be hard! I love being busy and I feel happy that I am finding so many amazing things to learn here in Miyagi!

Kara **ケラ**

- ★ヒント★
- get involved in: 関わる、参加する、没頭する
 - martial arts: 武術、武道
 - try out: 十分に試してみる
 - Portuguese: ポルトガル語
 - sore: 痛い • amazing: すばらしい
 - temporarily: 一時、少しの間、暫定的に



Happy Holidays!

▲ホストファミリーと・・・(^)♪



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<http://www.city.shiroishi.miyagi.jp/soshiki/1/1245.html>

