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**January 2018**

**Foreign Mothers Meetup**

This group is for foreign mothers (including pregnant women) living in Oshu.

When？　Jan. 30 (Tues) 10 AM – 11:45 AM

Where？　Central Child-rearing Support Center (Izumi Nursery School)

　☎　　 Mizusawa Health Center (℡ 23-4511)

**Oshu City Newsletter**

**Sunday/Holiday Doctors**

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| **Mizusawa Ward** |
| Day |  | ☎ | Address |
| Open Sundays, holidays 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. Open nights every day 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm. | Oshu Kanegasaki Holidays Clinic | 25-3935 | 21-1 Taga Mizusawa |
| **Esashi Ward (Mornings, check times in advance by phone)** |
| Day |  | ☎ | Address |
| Jan 1st | Kikuchi Int. Medicine Gast. Children’s Clinic | 35-2622 | 2-1-1 Toyotacho  |
| 2nd | Sekiya Clinic | 35-3511 | 5-20 Odori  |
| 3rd | Takahashi Int. Med. Clinic | 35-6668 | 1-30 Odori  |
| 7th | Taniguchi ENT Clinic | 35-2927 | 5-22 Odori |
| 8th | Ito Internal Med. Clinic | 35-4006 | 3-12 Kawaramachi |
| 14th | Ito Family Clinic | 35-0035 | 11-14 Nishi Odori |
| 21st | Oikawa Orthopedic Surgery Clinic | 35-2917 | 1-1-32 Youkamachi |
| 28th | Kikuchi Int. Medicine Gastroenterologist Children’s Clinic | 35-2622 | 2-1-1 Toyotacho  |
| **Dentists (9:00 – 12:00)** |
| Day |  | ☎ | Address |
| Jan 1st | Matsumoto Dental | 44-5578 | 88-1 Nishijizono Nishine, Kanegasaki Town |
| Tsuda Dental | 56-6480 | 131 Shinura, Aza Mikka-machi Maesawa |
| 2nd | Yaegashi Dental | 23-5226 | 1-29 Fukuromachi, Mizusawa |
| 3rd | Sakuraba Dental | 47-2033 | 117-1 Aza Toge, Oyama, Isawa |
| 7th | Otani Dental | 22-8148 | 324-3 Aza Takayashiki, Mizusawa |
| 14th | Chida Dental | 41-3322 | 3-1-7 Ekihigashi, Maesawa |
| 21st | Otemachi Dental | 51-8820 | 5-1 Otemachi, Mizusawa |
| 28th | Hatakeyama Dental | 35-8811 | 3-1-26 Toyota-cho, Esashi |
| ★Children Emergency Helpline (☎ 019-605-9000) Open daily 7 PM-11 PM |

**Taking Applications for 2018 Scholarships (Student Loans)**

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| School type | Preparation money | Student loan（monthly sum） |
| High schools | Public | Up to 50,000 yen  | 10,000 yen |
| Private | Up to 100,000 yen | 10,000 yen |
| Technical colleges | Up to 100,000 yen | 20,000 yen |
| Universities | Up to 250,000 yen | 40,000 yen |

Oshu City lends money free of interest to help with educational fees.

You can apply if you meet conditions including living in Oshu since before October 1st, 2017, not having unpaid municipal taxes. Apply by filling out application form and submitting to Board of Education.

　☎　 Board of Education Secretariat General Affairs Office (35-2111 ext. 412)

**Free Law Consultation** Make appointment at Citizen Services Division. If you want to consult in a foreign language, please bring someone who can interpret for you. The lawyer can’t answer questions about status of residence (visas), but can about marriage, other issues.

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| Place | Time & Date |
| Main City Hall, Gen. Consultation Room | Jan. 10th (Wed) 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM |
| Esashi Gen. Branch Office, Resident Consultation Room | Jan. 23rd (Tues) 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM |

**Taxes**

National health insurance (payment #7) is due by Wednesday, January 31st.

　☎　 Tax Payment Division, Main City Hall (℡ 24-2111 ext. 341)

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| **Bus Schedule** |
|   | City Bus | Mizusawa Community Bus, “Z Bus” | Maesawa Bus, “Heart Bus” | Koromogawa Community Bus “Koromogawa Bus” | Mizusawa City Loop Bus |
| Friday, Dec 29th | Regular schedule | Regular schedule | No bus service | Regular schedule | Regular schedule |
| Sat, Dec 30th  | No bus service | No bus service |
| Sun, Dec. 31st  | Sunday/holiday schedule | No bus service |
| Mon, Jan 1st  | No bus service |
| Tues, Jan 2nd  | Sunday/holiday schedule |
| Wed, Jan 3rd  |
| Thurs, Jan 4th | Regular schedule | Regular schedule | Regular schedule | Regular schedule | Regular schedule |

**Donto-sai**

Burn New Year decorations and pray for a healthy, safe year.

When? Jan 14th, early morning to 10:30 AM. Shinto ceremony from 9:30 AM, mochi throwing at 10:00 AM. Bring New Year decorations by 10:30.

Where? Odori Park (Esashi Ward)

　☎　 Oshu Chamber of Commerce Esashi Branch (35-2514)

**Esashi Fujiwara no Sato Treasure Hunt**

Hunt for tons of treasures, including a 10000 yen toy gift certificate, 400 grams of Maesawa beef, 5000 yen sushi gift certificate and more! Everyone who joins gets to eat Senbei-jiru soup.

When? January 6th (Saturday), 7th (Sunday), 14th (Sunday) all from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Where? Esasji Fujiwara no Sato

Cost 500 yen (600 yen for high school aged people and older)

Reservation by phone required.

　☎　 Esashi Fujiwara no Sato (35-7791)

**Events**

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| **New Year`s Schedules** |
| **Garbage** |  **Recycling** |
| Mizusawa ward: no garbage collection from Sat, Dec. 30th to Wednesday, Jan 3rd. Last garbage collection days for Mizusawa this year:* Areas collecting on Mondays, Thursdays: last day is Dec. 28
* Areas collecting on Tuesdays, Fridays: last day is Dec. 29

Esashi, Maesawa, Isawa, Koromogawa wards: normal collection schedule. | Mizusawa ward: No Sunday recycling on Dec. 31st. Weekday recycling restarts on Jan 4th.Esashi, Maesawa, Isawa, Koromogawa wards: normal collection schedule. |
| Tanko Regional Sanitation Center (Tel. 24-5821) takes garbage for a fee until Friday, December 29th (8:45 AM-4:45 PM) It will reopen on Thursday January 4th.  |

**Maesawa Folk Entertainment Festival**

6 groups show off their thrilling dances and other performances. Free of charge.

When? Jan 22nd from 1:00 PM (venue opens 12:30)

Where? Maesawa Fureai Center

　☎　 Executive Committee Office (Maesawa General Branch Office, 56-2111 ext. 256)

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**Ide Kumano-jinja Shrine Sominsai**

This traditional festival has been going on for over 400 years. Men of an unlucky age (yakudoshi), wearing only loincloths and tabi socks, climb a bonfire (hitari-nobori) and compete to grab a bag filled with talismans (somin-bukuro) to pray for a good harvest and protection against misfortune.

When? January 20 (Saturday) 6:00 pm to early next morning

Where? Ide Kumano-jinja Shrine

　☎　 Esashi General Branch Office Industry Promotion Division Commerce and Sightseeing Contact (35-2111 ext. 211)

**Sports/Exercise Classes**

**Free Ski Rental for Oshu Elementary/Middle School Students**

Ski, snowboard, and other equipment rental are free for elementary and middle school students living in Oshu. (Renting a second time on the same day costs money.)

How to rent for free: show proof that child is elementary/middles school student (such as student book or name tag), and personal ID of guardian.

**2017-2018 Ski Season**

* Koeji ski area, Kunimidaira ski area: December 23rd to March 11th (Closed Dec. 28th to Jan 3rd)
* Himekayu ski area: December 23rd to March 4th (Closed Dec. 28th to Jan 3rd)

**For more info:**

Koeji Ski Area (Tel 39-2105)

*http://www.esashi-iwate.gr.jp/koeji* (Japanese)

Himekayu Ski Area (Tel 49-2105)

*http://www8.plala.or.jp/himekayu* (Japanese)

Kunimi Ski Area (Tel 52-6411)

*https://www.facebook.com/KunimidairaSki* (Japanese)

**Z Arena Sports Festival: Indoor Snowball Fight**

When: February 4th (Sun) 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Where: Oshu Central Gymnasium (Z Arena)

Who can join: Teams of upper year elementary school age children and older (1 “coach,” five team members, two replacement team members)

Cost: 1000 yen per team

Applications: submit paper application by Sunday, January 28th

☎ Questions, applications Oshu Central Gymnasium (Z Arena) (22-7000)

**Working Youth Home Classes:**

People 34 years old or younger who live or work in Oshu can join these classes.

**★Self Seitai (Body Work), Isawa**

When？ Every Monday Jan. 22th to February 5th (3 times total) 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Where？ Oyama Community Center Class size 20 people Cost 500 yen

※Application deadline: Jan. 17th (Wednesday)

**★ Bouldering Class**

When？ February 4th, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Where？ Clambon Climbing in Murasakino, Kitakami

Class size 20 people　　Cost 2000 yen

※Application deadline: Jan. 30th (Tuesday)

☎ Questions, applications

Oshu City Working Youth Home（24-2917）,

Esashi Satellite (35-7011), Isawa Satellite (47-0527)

**Maesawa Iki Iki Sportsland:**

★Smile Bowling Tournament

When: January 13th 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon

Cost: 2000 yen per team of 5 people elementary school age and older, with maximum of three replacement bowlers. First 8 teams to apply can play.

★Sports Conditioning

When: January 21st (Sunday) 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Cost: 500 yen (200 yen elem. students, 300 yen middle school students)

☎Questions, Applications Maesawa Iki Iki Sportsland (56-7290)

To apply, tell your name, telephone number, and the class you want to take to Maesawa Iki Iki Sportland by the day before the class.

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