



KCP eZasshi 雜誌 February 2010

January 2010

Happy New Year, Japan-lover! Here's what's new, from KCP International Japanese Language School.

In this eZasshi

T shirt results

Life at KCP, Part One: A look at the campus

KCP T shirt--the results are in

We have a winner! Three of them, to be exact. Each received a hefty Best Buy gift card and will get a free KCP T shirt when they are available. Here they are, in order of first, second, and third place.

Demons out! Luck in!

Learn Japanese through
proverbs

Summer deadlines



JAPANESE
LANGUAGE
SCHOOL

Above, First place--the winner!



Second place



Third place

Life at KCP photo-reportage series

Part One :: A Look at the Campus



The KCP main building, early morning sun, in a relatively sane part of Tokyo's otherwise very busy Shinjuku district.



KCP, street level. Students waiting for buses, hooking up with friends.



One of the classroom buildings. Note street sign in both kanji and romaji (romanized letters).



A typical KCP classroom. It's so peaceful, empty! (For less peaceful classrooms, see further photos.)



Computer lab, almost empty. These computers have flat screens, plenty of USB ports, internet access, CD drives, and software such as Word and Excel.



The KCP library, full of good reference materials to support your learning.



The student lounge, where students eat, drink, and chat. Onsite vending machines plus local stores nearby. Obento is a favorite. Bulletin board posts pics of recent school events and co-curricular activities.



Students enjoying learning games in language class.



Everyone is involved, even those not part of the discussion. Classes are a mix of Americans and students from other Asian countries.



Small-group exercises. For language, this is a great way to learn. Real communication can happen in a small group.



And small-group work with a teacher to check in occasionally is even better. KCP teachers are known for their ability to both generate interest and respond to the needs of each individual.

"Demons out! Luck in!"

Setsubun / Bean Throwing Festival

Setsubun is the day preceding Risshun (立春)--the first day of spring, according to the old Japanese calendar, or the so-called lunar calendar. On the day of Setsubun (usually February 3), the custom is to throw roasted soybeans while chanting "Oni wa soto! Fuku wa uchi!" (鬼は外! 福は内! / "Demons out! Luck In!") in order to prevent evil ogres from entering one's house. It is believed that the ogres are warded off by throwing beans, and that good fortune will then come to the home. On this day, events with entertainers and athletes are held at shrines all over Japan.

Entertainers throw packets of beans to the crowd.



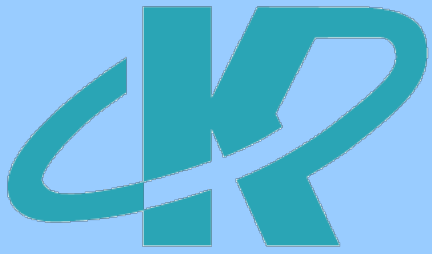
Then, everyone eats roasted soybeans--the same number of beans as their age--to enjoy a year of good health and fortune.

Photo courtesy Wikipedia

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Learn Japanese through proverbs

秋茄子は嫁に食わすな



Romaji--Akinasu wa yome ni kuwasuna.

Literally-- Don't let your daughter-in-law eat your autumn eggplants.

Meaning--Don't let yourself be taken advantage of.

Background--Eggplants are delicious in the fall season when they tend to be seedless. A mean mother-in-law would rather not share such a delicacy with her daughter-in-law.

Summer deadlines

Love that summer in Tokyo! KCP app. deadline--March 6, for summer and February 23 for summer short-term.



[Applying to KCP](#)

Happy February,
Mike and the KCP International team

KCP Japanese Language School . . .

full immersion for the motivated student.

www.kcpinternational.com

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