## KIRITAKA English Journal Vol.17

~Stay Independent, Stay as ONE TEAM~ January 20th, 2023

### Kiryu is a city of TV dramas & movies!

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The other day, I watched a TV drama which had just started on Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. The script for this drama was written by a popular TV talent; Bakarizumu (rhythm), so I had been looking forward to watching it.

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While I was watching it, I was very surprised by one scene. I could not believe my eyes! I shouted, "That is "RYU-EN"!" Ryu-en is one of my favorite Chinese restaurants in Kiryu. I started eating there when I was a Kiritaka student. In those days, Ryu-en was always crowded with a lot of Kiritaka students! I have been a big fan of "Ryu-en" since then! One of my favorite dishes is "Ryu-en Don"! Why don't you try it?

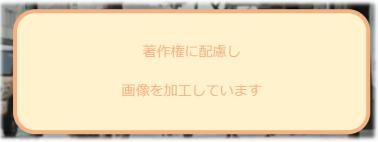


Ryu-en Don

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In the first episode of the drama, the main character "Asami" works for "Kita-Kumagaya City Hall". I checked some scenes of "Kita-Kumagaya City Hall". Of course, "Kita-Kumagaya city" does not actually exist. I realized that it was "Kiryu City Hall"! What do you think of these scenes?



This scene on the left was probably taken on "Suehiro-street" in Kiryu! In the first episode of this drama, I noticed these three places! I was so excited to notice that some places near Kiritaka appeared in a drama broadcasted all over Japan!



If you are interested, please check it out!



### **★KT's Power Song** ★

Let me introduce one artist. To tell

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the truth, I have just recently come to know her through "First Take". I listened to her songs and was completely captivated by her voice. Since then, I have tried to know more about her. The more I knew about her life, the more deeply I came to be impressed by her strong spirit.

Just after she graduated from a university in Atlanta, she got married to an African-American man she met there. They then had a daughter, but she unfortunately became a widow. She went back to Okinawa, and established her own company. Furthermore, she became an artist! What a life she lives! Why don't you listen to her messages! <a href="https://youtu.be/1zUq\_5ia1sl">https://youtu.be/1zUq\_5ia1sl</a>

I hope the KIRITAKA English Journal will be accepted by students and their parents,

and become a regular issue. (Toru Hoshino)



# Kiwi Corner





**Happy New Year everyone!** And welcome back to school! I hope you all had a wonderful winter break, and that you could eat lots of delicious food to keep you warm.

How did you spend your New Year's Eve and New Year's Day? Maybe you ate toshikoshi soba on New Year's Eve, and then watched Kouhaku on TV before counting down for the new year. Or maybe you did ninenmairi at a shrine. Or maybe you even got up early to see the first sunrise of the new year! In Japan, there are many different ways to celebrate the new year. In this edition of the Kiwi Corner, I'd like to show how

the New Year is celebrated around the world.

In many countries, **fireworks displays** are started at midnight to celebrate the beginning of the new year. Many cities around the world have truly impressive shows, one of the most famous being in **Sydney**, **Australia**. According to the organisers of the event, around 1.5 million people go to Sydney harbour to watch the incredible display.



Sydney Harbour New Year's fireworks display



In **Spain**, however, you'll find people eating **grapes**! It seems that there is a tradition to eat one grape each time the clock strikes at midnight. The idea is that this will bring you 12 lucky months for the coming year.

Let's eat some grapes at midnight!

Another famous tradition is in **New York City**. All year around, Times Square is a very famous place in the center of Manhattan, with thousands of tourists visiting every day. However, on New Year's Eve, it becomes packed with people who want to see one thing:

the **Times Square Ball Drop**. From 11:59p.m. on New Year's Eve, a giant

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New Year's celebrations in Time Square, New York City

glowing ball is slowly dropped from the top of a large flag pole so that it reaches the base at exactly midnight on the 1st of January.

Anyway, I hope you had a wonderful winter break, and I wish everyone the very best for the new year!

For this month's article, I'd like to introduce this song. It's the theme song from one of my favorite Disney movies, Meet the Robinsons. This song is about looking forward to an even better and brighter future. I think it's a good song to start this new year off with. You can listen to it here: <a href="https://youtu.be/snsiCF1TUdA">https://youtu.be/snsiCF1TUdA</a>

(Liam Campbell)



# Lauren's Newsletter



### New Year, New Goals!

Welcome back everyone, and Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful winter break. As the new year begins, many people use this time to make new goals to achieve by the end of the year. These are called New Year's resolutions.





There are many resolutions people make every year. Most people use this goal to start a new hobby or change an old habit. While goals are a wonderful way to improve, many people give up on their resolutions very early on in the year. Here are some tips to make sure you achieve your goals by the end of 2023.

**Tip 1**: Choose a resolution that is right for you.

Make sure to pick a goal that you can achieve and has meaning for you. Maybe you like to run and want to run faster. Or maybe you want to travel abroad to the U.S. and want to improve your English.

#### Tip 2: Be specific

For example, if you want to improve your English, make sure to be specific.

Do you want to improve your writing, speaking, listening, or reading? Maybe you want to improve your reading. What kind of materials do you want to



read? Newspapers? Novels? Recipe books? If you choose novels, how many do you want to read? After choosing a specific goal, next is to make your goal measurable.

#### **Tip 3**: Measure your progress

Let's say you decide to read 3 novels this year. Now let's make some smaller goals. When do you want to finish



each novel? How many pages can you read each day? Making these smaller goals will help you keep track of your progress and help you achieve your goal by December. For example, your goal could be to read for 30 minutes every day, or read 10 pages every week.

Now it is time to use these tips to think of your own New Year's resolution! What goal do you want to achieve this year? How will you keep your progress? Best of luck with your resolutions and I hope you have a great year this year!

To start off the new year, I'd like to introduce a song that is about starting each day with a positive attitude.

Please enjoy!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5-

spSmS81w

Your Friendly Neighborhood ALT,

(Lauren Taylor)