

KIRITAKA English Journal Vol.20

~Stay Independent, Stay as ONE TEAM~ April 28th, 2023

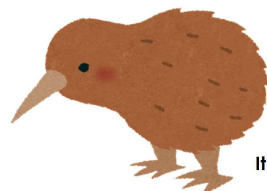


A new year has begun at Kiryu High School! To the new first grade students, welcome! To the returning second and third grade students, welcome back! It is wonderful to see you again.

For those who don't know me, my name is Liam Campbell. This is my third year at Kiryu High School, and I am the assistant homeroom teacher for 1-8. I am from **New Zealand**, a beautiful island nation like Japan, but I have lived in Gunma for ten years. It's a pleasure to meet you all.



Welcome to Kiryu High School!



New Zealand's famous Kiwi.

You may be wondering about the title of this page, "**Kiwi Corner**". The kiwi is the **national bird** of New Zealand. It is very rare and is only found in New Zealand.

It's very cute, don't you think? Also, New Zealanders are commonly called "Kiwis", so I decided to give the name "Kiwi Corner" to my section of this monthly journal.



This is not a kiwi.



The beaches in Tauranga.

My hometown is a city called "**Tauranga**." It is slightly bigger than Kiryu, and it is famous for its **beautiful beaches**. Tauranga is also famous for kiwifruit, and the kiwifruit company Zespri is based there. If you ever get the chance, please visit!

Through this article, I hope to introduce to you some interesting aspects of New Zealand culture, and also cultures and events from around the world. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Finally, I'd like to introduce a new song to everyone. According to this song, today is the day that your life begins; no more waiting around for things to happen. It's time to take control and make your dreams a reality. The song is motivational and inspiring, and it will give you the courage to go after what you want in life. You can listen to the song here: <https://youtu.be/NKuo3vd7Jl8>

(Liam Campbell)



Lauren's Newsletter



California's Super Bloom!

Hello everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful spring break and are ready to do your best this school year! To start off this year's English journal, I want to talk about the beautiful spring flowers in California. Specifically, I'm going to talk about California's **super bloom**! A super bloom is when many wildflowers bloom at the same time. It rained a lot this winter, so this year's super bloom is very special. In fact, there are so many flowers blooming this year that they can be seen from space! How cool is that!



A picture of the 2023 super bloom from space



California poppies in Southern California

The last super bloom in California was in 2019, so locals and tourists are very excited to see this year's blossoms. Many people are visiting California this year to see the bright yellow, orange, blue, and purple flowers. People can see the blooms all throughout the state, from the Bay Area (San Francisco) in Northern California, to Los Angeles in Southern California. One flower many people will see

is the California poppy (or golden poppy), which became the state flower of California in 1903. It is also my favorite flower!

California poppies and other wildflowers started blooming in early March, and will continue to bloom until the end of April or May. In places such as the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve, the best time to see the flowers is usually late March or early April. During this time, many people visited reserves and parks to enjoy the super bloom.

While I was not able to see the super bloom this year, I was able to enjoy the cherry blossom season here in Japan! It was an experience I will never forget and will always cherish. I hope you enjoy this year's flowers and have a great spring!

Your Friendly Neighborhood ALT,

(Lauren Taylor)



A picture of the super bloom in the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve

For this month's journal, I would like to introduce a song about sunshine. Please enjoy!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEhc5ZQ5er0>