

KIRITAKA English Journal Vol.29

~Stay Independent, Stay as ONE TEAM~ January 26th, 2024



Kiwi Corner

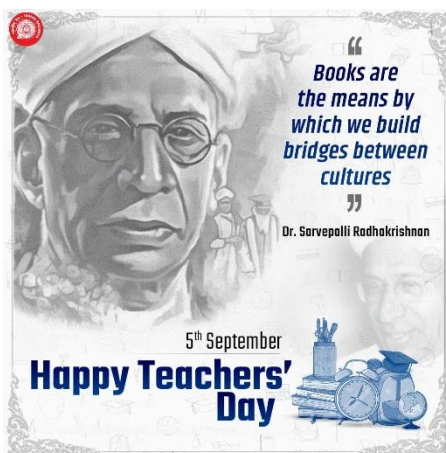


Welcome back everyone! Happy New Year for 2024 and I hope you all had a wonderful break! Were you able to eat lots of delicious food? I sure was! For this month's Kiwi Corner, I'd like to write about Teachers' Day. This is an event that is held on different days around the world, and I'd like to introduce some different ways it is celebrated.

The official UNESCO World Teachers' Day is celebrated on October 5th. Established in 1994, it commemorates the signing of a recommendation by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). While many countries around the world have changed their Teachers' Days to this day, many others celebrate it on different days for cultural or historical reasons.



The logo for World Teachers' Day 2023.



A poster for India's Teachers' Day

In India, for example, the birth date of the second President of India, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, 5 September 1888, has been celebrated as Teacher's Day since 1962. On this day, teachers and students go to school as usual but the normal classes are replaced by activities of celebration and thanks. In some schools, senior students take the responsibility of teaching in order to show their appreciation for the teachers.

On the other hand, Singapore has an official school holiday held on the first Friday of September. Celebrations are usually conducted the day before, where students usually get half the day off. High school students are also allowed to visit their junior high and elementary schools to thank their former teachers as well. It was designated on the first Friday of September to coincide with the upcoming September school holidays (one week) so that students and teachers can enjoy an extended break.



A teacher's desk in Singapore on Teacher's Day.

What do you think? Should there be a Teachers' Day in Japan? Or do you think it is unnecessary? Please let me know. Here is a song from one of my favourite movies about a teacher. You can listen to it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uN4XbRiHv0Q>

(Liam Campbell)



Lauren's Newsletter



A Wintery Visit to Sunny San Diego

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful winter vacation and were able to take time to see some Christmas illuminations and enjoy some winter festivities! As we start the new year, I'd like to share about my winter vacation with you all, for this year I was able to go back home to San Diego.



A picture I took at Sunset Cliffs

After almost a year and a half away from home, I was able to visit my family and friends back home in California! It was so nice enjoying the nice weather and delicious local food. One day, I woke up early and visited one of my favorite spots to view the ocean, Sunset Cliffs. With a Starbucks drink in hand, I watched and listened to the ocean waves below. It was so nice to smell the sea salt in the air and hear the sound of seagulls calling in the blue skies above.

While I was home, I also ate a lot of delicious food! From California burritos to Fettuccine Alfredo pasta, I had a great time eating some of my favorite foods from home. On Christmas day, I enjoyed a turkey dinner and pumpkin pie with my family. My neighbor even brought us some Christmas cookies! One day, I even went to a British tea venue to try some fancy teas and assorted dishes. It was such a fun experience getting to eat different savory and sweet treats from a three-tier tray (also known as a "curate").



My neighbor's Christmas cookies



Holiday decorations at a nearby mall

Besides eating delicious food, I also drove to quite a few places. One day I went shopping at the mall and saw their winter holiday decorations. Also, I traveled with a friend to Los Angeles and saw a play called "A Christmas Story." We even stopped at a Round One and I won a Pochacco plushie (ぬいぐるみ)!



A Pochacco plushie

I hope you enjoyed your winter holiday as much as I enjoyed mine, and I hope you have a great 2024! Let's make this year one to remember!

Your Friendly Neighborhood ALT,
(Lauren Taylor)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I'd like to share a song about Christmas in California. Take a listen here:

