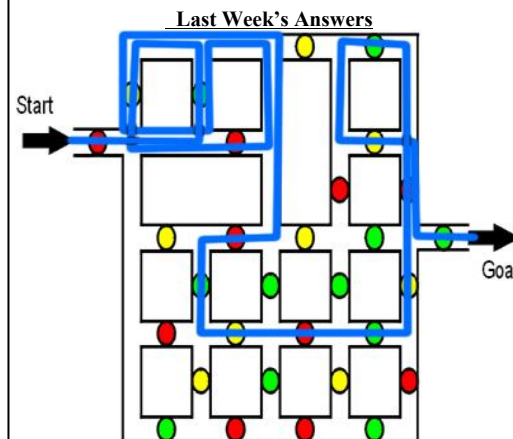


Well, here we are into the second semester¹. I might just be me, but the first semester went past really quickly. We had the 130th anniversary assembly² for the school on Saturday. I know most of you were not there, but I'm sure you stopped what you were doing for a few seconds to think about the long history of our school. We had several people visit from Elmira as well. I'm sure Sara Clara Smith would be surprised and happy to know that the relationship³ she started 130 years ago is still going strong. I hope the school can go for another 130 years.

Something You Didn't Know (Speech Synthesis⁴)

1. In 1791, a Hungarian⁵ scientist produced⁶ a model of the human larynx⁷. It had a mouth with a tongue⁸ and lips⁹. By using a bellows¹⁰, the scientist could make the model speak.
2. The first computer based speech synthesis system was invented in Japan in 1950.
3. Computers analyze¹¹ the surrounding words and the frequency¹² of words to guess whether read should be "red" or "reed". Or 1234 should be "one two three four", "one thousand two hundred and thirty four", "twelve thirty four" or "twelve hundred and thirty four".
4. Voice synthesis has improved¹³ since the 1950s, but people can still tell a machine voice from¹⁴ a human voice. However, studies have shown that when the pitch¹⁵ of the voice is raised slightly¹⁶ to make it sound as though the person speaking is smiling, it becomes a lot more difficult to tell which is the machine voice.

WHERE IS THE PRISONER HIDING?



Announcements

The opening ceremony is on Tuesday. We have the emergency drill as well. We have another holiday Monday next week.

That is it.

Hatsune Miku's 10th "birthday"

This news is a little bit late. In fact, it is a month late. Sorry. August 31st was the 10th birthday of Hatsune Miku. Who is she? Hatsune Miku is a singer. She is famous around the world. She has millions of fans. She has long, turquoise¹⁷ pigtails¹⁸. She is 16 years old. She has always been 16 years old and she always will be 16 years old. You see, she is not a real person.



Hatsune Miku is a CGI¹⁹ character. She sings using Yamaha's Vocaloid 2 software. The first Vocaloid software tried to replicate²⁰ a human voice. It was good, but didn't sound very natural. The second version of the software sampled²¹ a real person's voice. Using that, the programmers can make Miku sing anything that they want. Her voice is sampled from voice actress Saki Fujita.



Miku may not be real, but she gives live concerts on stage. A screen is placed in the middle of the stage and Miku is projected²² onto that. She sings and dances just like a real person. Her name is written as 初音ミク in Japanese. The characters mean 初(first)音(sound)ミク(future). There are many other characters like Miku now, but she was the first and is still the most popular.



- 1.Semester 学期 2.Anniversary assembly 記念礼拝 3.Relationship 繋がり 4.Speech synthesis 音声合成 5.Hungarian ハンガリーの 6.Produce 作成する 7.Larynx 喉頭 8.Tongue 舌 9.Lips 口唇 10.Bellows ふいご 11.Analyze 分析する 12.Frequency 回数 13.Improve 良くする 14.Tell (A) from (B) AをBを識別する 15.Pitch 音の高さ 16.Slightly 少しい 17.Turquoise 青緑色 18.Pigtail お下げ髪 19.CGI (Computer Generated Image) コンピューター生成画像 20.Replicate 複製する 21.Sample デジタル化された 22.Project プロジェクト

★ English News Page ★

Hello everyone! Autumn is here! I really enjoy the crisp¹, cool weather. I also enjoy eating warm, hearty² dishes, such as *nabe*. How about you? I hope everyone had a great autumn break, and is ready to face the second semester with full force. Let's do this! - Krystal

★ Teacher Interview ★

Q: What subject and which classes do you teach?

A: I teach Japanese to 4C, 6A, 6C, 6D, and 6E.

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: I read books or exercise.

Q: What is your special skill?

A: I can use the *naginata*. I've been practicing since I was 3 years old.

Q: What is your favorite thing about autumn?

A: I like the changing colors of the autumn leaves. The scenery is very beautiful.

Q: If you could change one thing about yourself, what would you change?

A: I want to grow 10 cm taller.

Q: What advice do you have for Hokusei students?

A: Please read lots of books! ★



Mr. Monda



A samurai holding a naginata



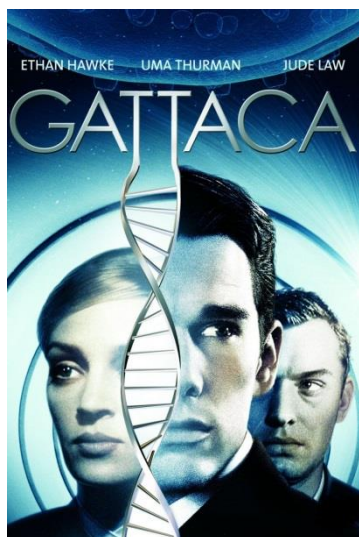
Autumn leaves

★ From the English Lounge ★

Tuesday Movie @ 16:30

Gattaca

Gattaca is an American science fiction film. It takes place in the not too distant future, where children are conceived³ by genetic engineering⁴ to get the best genes⁵ from their parents. However, the main character, Vincent, was conceived naturally, so he struggles with discrimination⁶. His dream is to travel to space, but only people who pass DNA tests can do it. Will Vincent be able to hide his DNA and go to space? Watch *Gattaca* to find out!



★ English Speaking Celebrities ★

Colin Kaepernick is an American football player. He was born on November 3, 1987 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His mother was a single teenager, so she put him up for adoption⁷. He was adopted by a couple who already had two kids, and the family moved to California when he was 4 years old. He started playing football, baseball, and basketball in elementary school. He excelled⁸ in all three sports and got perfect grades in high school. He was drafted⁹ by the Chicago Cubs, a major league baseball team, but he refused because his dream was to play football. He signed with the football team, the San Francisco 49ers, in 2011. His position is quarterback, which is the leader of the team. His team won the Super Bowl in 2013. Recently, Colin is known as a civil rights activist¹⁰. Starting in 2016, he has been kneeling¹¹ during the American national anthem¹² at football games to protest¹³ police brutality¹⁴ against African Americans¹⁵. This has caused much controversy¹⁶. No team has offered him a contract this season, and even President Trump has attacked him on Twitter. However, many football players have joined Colin. He has been compared to Martin Luther King Jr. for his peaceful



★ Horoscopes ★

<p>Aries ♈ March 21-April 19</p> <p>Don't let your imagination take you away this week. Stay real.</p>	<p>Taurus ♉ April 20-May 20</p> <p>Keep a positive outlook this week. Ignore the haters¹⁷.</p>	<p>Gemini ♊ May 21-June 20</p> <p>Love is in the air. This week is a good week for romance.</p>
<p>Cancer ♋ June 21-July 22</p> <p>You're feeling indecisive¹⁸ this week. Follow your heart.</p>	<p>Leo ♌ July 23-Aug 22</p> <p>Try to keep a good balance of study and play this week.</p>	<p>Virgo ♍ Aug 23-Sept 22</p> <p>Appreciate all the good things in your life this week.</p>
<p>Libra ♎ Sept 23-Oct 22</p> <p>You will go on an adventure with your friends this week.</p>	<p>Scorpio ♏ Oct 23-Nov 21</p> <p>Be patient¹⁹. Don't rush²⁰ anything this week.</p>	<p>Sagittarius ♐ Nov 22-Dec 21</p> <p>Don't make any big decisions this week. You're not ready.</p>
<p>Capricorn ♑ Dec 22-Jan 19</p> <p>Difficult times this week will make you stronger.</p>	<p>Aquarius ♒ Jan 20-Feb 18</p> <p>Watch what you say this week. You might cause problems.</p>	<p>Pisces ♓ Feb 19-March 20</p> <p>Don't overthink²¹ anything this week. Read the vibes²² of the situation.</p>

New words: 1. crisp 肌寒い 2. hearty たくさんの 3. conceive (a child) 子を宿す 4. genetic engineering 遺伝子操作 5. gene 遺伝子 6. discrimination 差別 7. adoption 養子縁組 8. excel 優れる 9. draft (sports) ドラフト会議で指名される 10. civil rights activist 少数派の機会均等を確立するための政治運動の指導者 11. kneel 跪く 12. national anthem 国歌 13. protest 抗議 14. police brutality 警察の過剰な暴力 15. African American アフリカ系アメリカ人 16. controversy 論議 17. hater ねたむ人 18. indecisive 優柔不断な 19. patient 我慢強い 20. rush 急ぐ 21. overthink 考えすぎる 22. vibes 雰囲気