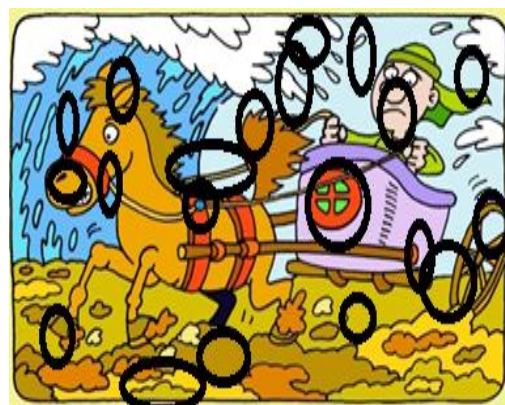


This is a big week in the school calendar! I don't know how many of you remember (obviously¹ all of you) but this is the week of the English Play! On Friday at 16:00 and on Saturday at 14:00. You are all extremely² lucky because you have the chance to watch it twice! This year is Aladdin and the students have been working incredibly³ hard to bring the show to you. They have made the costumes⁴, the sets⁵, the props⁶, designed the makeup, set up the lighting, arranged the music, learned their lines, developed their characters and stressed. All for you. You have to go.

Something You Don't Know (Potato Chips)

1. The first recipe for potato chips can be found in a UK recipe book in 1817. However, these were sliced 6mm thick. The modern style chip was possibly invented in Saratoga Springs, America and potato chips were called Saratoga Chips for a long time.
2. Potato chips were kept in barrels⁷ until American Laura Scudder invented the waxed⁸ bag.
3. Potato chips were only salted until the 1950s, when Irishman Joe Murphy invented a way to add flavor to the chips. The very first flavored chips were cheese and onion.
4. Potato chips bags are filled with nitrogen⁹ to prevent¹⁰ breaking and to keep the chips fresh¹¹.
5. Potato chips were almost cancelled during World War 2. The US government¹² said they were an unessential¹³ food. Many people protested¹⁴ and soon they became an essential¹⁵ food.
6. March 14th is potato chip day. I don't know why.

Last Week's Answers



Announcements

The English Play is on Friday. The English Play is on Saturday. And, that's all you need to think about.

Not Enough Potatoes!

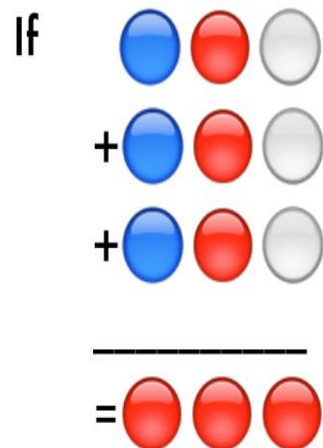
Last week, Calbee Inc and Koikeya Inc, announced¹⁶ that they would have to stop selling some of their potato chips. This is because they cannot get enough potatoes. If potato chips make up a large part of your diet, you are going to have to turn to other, non-Japanese brands. Or perhaps you could try to make your own potato chips at home. Good luck.



The reason for the potato shortage¹⁶ is a typhoon that hit Hokkaido in the summer last year, 2016. The typhoon caused¹⁷ widescale¹⁸ damage¹⁹ to the potatoes and most of the year's crop²⁰ was devastated²¹. The main companies have not been able to find enough potatoes. Calbee increased the number of potatoes they buy from America but they said that the quality of the potatoes was not high enough.



The two companies will try to buy potatoes from other parts of Japan, but most of those have already been bought for other purposes²². Potatoes grown in Hokkaido make up 80% of the potatoes the companies use. Hopefully²³, the weather will not be as bad this year and the potato farmers in Hokkaido will have a bumper harvest²⁴. Not just for our snacks, but for their livelihoods²⁵ as well.



What numbers are ● ● ● ?

- 1.Obviously 明らかに 2.Extremely 非常に 3.Incredibly 非常に 4.Costume 衣装 5.Set 大道具 6.Prop 小道具 7.Barrel 樽 8.Waxed ろうがついた 9.Nitrogen 窒素 10.To prevent しないため 11.Fresh できたての 12.US government アメリカ政府 13.Unessential 不必要 14.Protest 反対する 15.Essential 必要 16.Shortage 不足 17.Cause～の原因となる 18.Widescale 広範囲の 19.Damage 損害を与える 20.Crop 農作物 21.Devastated 徹底的に破壊する 22.Purpose 目標 23.Hopefully うまくいけば 24.Bumper harvest 大農作

★ English News Page 2 ★

Hello everyone! How was your first full week of school? Mine was great! It was my birthday on Monday, April 10th. Many students wished me happy birthday, and I was so happy that I almost cried! Thanks a lot everyone! I love you all! -

★ Teacher Interview ★

This week's teacher interview is with **Mr. Steven Askew**. He is an English teacher who teaches many English department courses. Let's find out more about him!



Q: What is the first thing you do every morning?

A: I put on my glasses, and then I feed the cat. My daughter climbs into my bed to wake me up sometimes.



Q: Who is your favorite Japanese celebrity?

A: Kasuga, because he tries absolutely anything! He's done skydiving, bodybuilding, and wrestling; he can hold his breath¹ for over four minutes, and he travels all over the world! He's amazing!

Q: What is your favorite part about teaching at Hokusei?

A: Going home... Just kidding! I like having fun with the students and learning from them.

Q: If you could have any superpower², what would you choose?

A: The ability to stop time, so I could sleep some more. 24 hours in a day is not enough!

Q: Were you popular with girls growing up?

A: What do you think? (laughs) I went to a boys' school, and I had my first girlfriend when I was 18 years old, so... not really. ☺

★ English Speaking Celebrities ★

This week's English speaking celebrity is **Rihanna**. She is a singer, songwriter, and actress. She was born in Saint Michael, Barbados. Barbados is a small island country in the Caribbean Sea. Rihanna has been singing since she was seven years old. She was discovered⁴ by an American record producer⁵ in 2003. Her music covers many genres⁶, such as pop, R&B, and reggae. She has released eight albums and has won eight Grammy Awards⁷. She has sold over 230 million records all over the world, and is one of the best-selling artists of all time. Recently, she has been trying her hand at⁸ acting. She is going to appear in a few Hollywood movies this year.



★ Horoscopes ★

<p>Aries ♈ March 21-April 19</p> <p>You will meet someone new outside of school. Maybe a new romance?</p>	<p>Taurus ♉ April 20-May 20</p> <p>You will have a sweet tooth this week. Enjoy some cake with your friends.</p>	<p>Gemini ♊ May 21-June 20</p> <p>You'll be feeling moody⁹ this week. Try to spend some time alone.</p>
<p>Cancer ♋ June 21-July 22</p> <p>A teacher will help you out a lot this week. Show your appreciation¹⁰!</p>	<p>Leo ♌ July 23-Aug 22</p> <p>You'll be overflowing¹¹ with self-confidence this week.</p>	<p>Virgo ♍ Aug 23-Sept 22</p> <p>Try to avoid petty¹² arguments with friends this week.</p>
<p>Libra ♎ Sept 23-Oct 22</p> <p>You'll feel more tired than usual, so try not to oversleep.</p>	<p>Scorpio ♏ Oct 23-Nov 21</p> <p>You'll be busy this week, so finish your homework as soon as possible.</p>	<p>Sagittarius ♐ Nov 22-Dec 21</p> <p>You'll have a lot of energy this week, so try some new things.</p>
<p>Capricorn ♑ Dec 22-Jan 19</p> <p>Many people are depending on you this week, so try not to disappoint¹³.</p>	<p>Aquarius ♒ Jan 20-Feb 18</p> <p>You'll be a bit forgetful this week, so write your plans down.</p>	<p>Pieces ♑ Feb 19-March 20</p> <p>Don't worry about what other people think of you. They're just jealous.</p>

New words: 1. breath 息 2. superpower 異常な力 3. stuff もの・こと 4. be discovered スカウトされる
 5. producer プロデューサー 6. genre ジャンル 7. Grammy Award グラミー賞 8. try one's hand at ~をやってみる
 9 moody 気分屋 10. appreciation 感謝 11. overflow あふれる 12. petty ささいな 13. disappoint がっかりさせる