



Newsletter

MARCH 2025

What's up with the class?

Introduction of regular students activities.

ACCENT AND PRONOUNCIATION

We often have accent and pronunciation classes. Practicing with the right pronunciation and accent is tremendously important. Not only for understandable speech, but also for more beautiful speech, students spend extra time on exercises.



REVERSE READING FOR INTERMEDIATE STUDENTS



For reading comprehension, we usually start “reading”: get a book, read sentences in your mind, check unknown vocabulary and grammar, understand the story, and listen to the sound, then practice, practice, practice until it comes automatically from your mouth. However, this unique project focuses on more listening and writing. Surprisingly, reading comes at the very end.

Students listen to the story then dictate the sentences on a shared document. It is often checked by the instructor and corrected until it matches the original story. Understanding the former parts of the story, students repeat this process until the whole story is done. This practice improves listening skills greatly, as well as writing and reading.

REPORT

Siaw En and her family visited our homestay family in Japan

While travelling in Japan, Siaw En's Family visited our host family, Akina and Taka. Staying overnight in their residence, they had many fun activities together.

This February we had an amazing opportunity through Tamaki Sensei for a homestay with Akina San and Takayoshi San's family in Inazawa City, Japan.



We met Akina San's family at the golden clock in Nagoya station and travelled to the town of Arimatsu. We had a delicious seafood lunch at a local restaurant. Then we attended shibori dye- ing workshop (@arimatsukougei_shibori) to learn how to dye our own tenugui.

Our son Kaisen had the opportunity to play with Akina San's children in the evening. Takayoshi San made a delicious Japanese curry dinner and we met his parents and learned about their horticultural business. The next day we visited Oguiss Memorial Art Museum and attended a glass painting jewelry workshop. We later learned how to make delicious sushi rolls for lunch.



I had the opportunity to practice my Japanese with Akina San's family and friends. The homestay experience is very motivating to improve my Japanese so that I can communicate more.

Thank you to Akina San's family for hosting us and making our trip so memorable. Thank you, Tamaki Sensei, for teaching me Japanese and arranging the homestay for me to practice what I have learned.

