

## Japanese Customs



Tanabata

**七夕 (Star Festival)** [July 7<sup>th</sup>]

According to legend, "Tanabata" is the festival that is based on 3 traditions.

1. Chinese tradition that pray for improving sewing skill, 2. Japanese folklore "Tanabatatsume" (woman who is weaving cloths), 3. "Star story". On July 7<sup>th</sup>, people write their wishes on "Tanzaku"(strip of fancy papers), and hang them on bamboo branches.

### What is "Star story"?

It is a love story between a woman named "Orihime(Vega)" and a man named "Kengyu(Altair)".

Orihime was good at weaving cloths, and Kengyu was a cattleman. They got married. But after that, they forgot their duties. Orihime's father "Tentei" got angry about it, and ordered them to live separately in east and west side of Milky way. They cried every day, and her father felt pity for them. So, he forgave them to see each other only one day on July 7<sup>th</sup> every year.

During the time of "Tanabata", many events will be held. Why don't you visit them?

### Free Wi-Fi spot at Mito International Center

You can use free Wi-Fi on the second floor. Please ask more details at the office.

### Mito City International Association (MCIA)

**Tuesday-Sunday, 9am-9pm**

(Closed : Mondays, July 21<sup>st</sup>)

Add 〒310-0024 Mito-shi Bizen-machi 水戸市 備前町6-59

Mito International Center

Tel 029-221-1800 Fax 029-221-5793

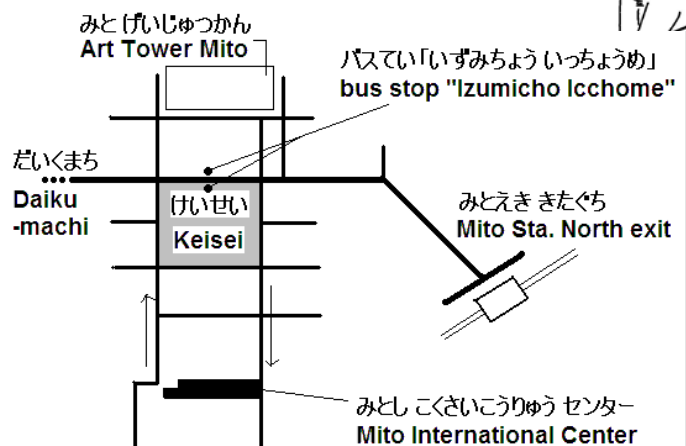
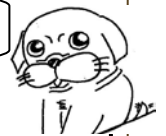
Mail [mcia@mito.ne.jp](mailto:mcia@mito.ne.jp)

HP <http://www.mitoic.or.jp>

Please forward us any opinions or suggestions you may have!



feel free to drop by!



Take a bus from Mito station North exit, bus terminal #4~7 ⇒ 5mins ⇒ ♀ "泉町一丁目" (Izumicho Icchome)



# Culture Pot MITO

In the title "Culture Pot MITO," Mito city is likened to a pot stuffed with various cultures which resembles a multicultural city loved by every citizen. We are hoping that this newsletter will be useful in your daily life and that you will feel more attached to Mito City in the near future.

▼ Photo: Saturday Salon "Tea Party", May 16 at Mito International Center



## FORMAL

In a business situation or with someone you do not know well

ちょっと Japanese



## CASUAL

With your friends

### Expression of Invitation

<sup>shimasenka</sup> 「～しませんか？」 <sup>shimashou</sup> 「～しましょう。」

<sup>Ranchi ni ikimasenka</sup>  
 A: 「ランチに いきませんか？」  
 Would you like to go out for lunch?

<sup>Soushimashou</sup>  
 B: 「そうしましょう。」  
 Yes, I'd love to.

<sup>Dewa ra-menwo tabemashou</sup>  
 A: 「では、ラーメンを たべましょう。」  
 Then shall we eat ra-men.



<sup>shinai</sup> 「～しない？」 <sup>shiyou</sup> 「～しよう。」

<sup>Ranchini ikanai</sup>  
 A: 「ランチに いかない？」  
 Shall we go out for lunch?

<sup>Sou shiyou</sup>  
 B: 「そうしよう。」  
 Sure!

<sup>Jaa ra-menwo tabeyou</sup>  
 A: 「じゃあ、ラーメンを たべよう。」  
 Then let's eat ra-men.

