

Kanji Camp

Japanese Language & Cultural Exploration

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Tutoring@KanjiCamp.info

NEWSFLASH

Special Edition

Summer 2006

Issue Date: 07/01/06

Dear Students and Parents,

Within this News Flash you will find valuable information for Summer and some insights as we head into Autumn. We hope this is helpful in better understanding our programs. Regards, the Tutoring Team

Kanji Campers Gear Up for the International Japanese Exam

Kanji Camp/IBLCI programs attract the best of the best students and professionals from the community. Our students are motivated to study functional Japanese language and culture. Our students are enthusiastic about learning real Japanese and having the opportunity to interact with natives. Despite the weekly verification they receive, most students value real world confirmation of their Japanese competency. Being assessed beyond our internal program, evaluations help students gauge where they are personally with their Japanese language abilities...without internal or external bias. Our instructors support this approach to skill validation.

Kanji Clubbers and JSP Professionals to begin further focusing their studies on the international Japanese competency exam. To be legitimately ready for the basic level of the test students must know approximately 100 Kanji and 800 common Japanese vocabulary words.

Students preparing themselves for the exam are using their Japanese skills in every lesson. The most dedicated students don't speak English at all during their lessons. They greet their instructors in Japanese and engage their instructors in Japanese conversation or query throughout the study sessions. Students pursuing the exam understand the time commitment beyond their tutoring session or group classes to independent study.

Being truly ready for the test usually means disciplined daily practice outside of lessons every week. We recommend regular review of Kanji and highly vocabulary practice, plus engaging in a variety of independent study activities recommended by your instructor. Since Additional ways to prepare include: listening to Japanese conversation CDs, playing Japanese reading computer games, writing Japanese paragraphs or simply practicing for the test. Activities should be planned with your instructor because you do not wish to accidentally access a learning system that could cause unnecessary confusion.

By engaging in a variety of activities, students do not get bored with their language study and bilingual skills quietly becomes a part of daily routine. After all, it is commonly known that submersion in the culture is the best way to learn any language. The risk of always doing the same study without a variety is like with any redundant task, students go on autopilot and then wonder why they are not learning.

The exam is only offered once per year. The exam will be held on Sunday, December 3rd in Chicago. The cost for the exam is \$40, plus students should budget for any related transportation and travel expenses. While we believe sitting for the exam is a good educational experience, we cannot guarantee a student will pass. The exam changes every year and every student reacts differently in exam settings. Never the less, instructors will be making their recommendations about whether or not a student may be ready for the exam in Mid-August. Our recommendations are based on whether or not a student has consistently implemented study suggestions and is showing quality progress and demonstrating Japanese competency.

SUMMER EVENTS



On June 8, 2006 Half the adult JSP (Japanese for Special Purposes) class gathered together for testing out their new language skills at a local Japanese restaurant in Fishers. Good food and fun was had by all.

Kanji Club Dinner

On July 27th, we hope to Kanji Club families will plan to together for quaint dinner at a fun Japanese restaurant. Families will want to plan \$20/person. Please keep us posted on your availability for joining us.

New Payable Procedures . . .

We are discussing the streamlining of accounting even further to allow tuition checks be written directly to the name of your tutor.

We believe this simple procedure change will help instructors with punctual transactions and make year end easier for BlazeCom.

Simply check with your instructor before writing your check. Should you have any questions or concerns, please email Tutoring@KanjiCamp.info



LET'S GO!

**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE INSTITUTE**

A BlazeCom program

the founders of:

Kanji Camp
Japanese Language & Cultural Exploration

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Japanese Fluency Exam
And summer news...

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Parent Questions & Our Answers



Q: My student is really looking forward to studying in the upcoming Japanese classroom. What's the status of this goal and project?

A: Last month we found a location between Rangeline and Meridian on 116th street perfect for our three space goals, even with the bonus of a great backyard for events. Unfortunately, to good to be true, despite various promises, the landlord rented it to someone else.

Q: While we are happy to keep meeting at the convenient public library, I understand the advantage of having a specific classroom offers better access to resources. But what is really motivating the desire to move locations?

A: Physical space, resource management and program development. Our adult JSP group classes are pretty cramped in the public spaces; we'd like students to be more physically comfortable. We'd like our instructional tools to be more readily available for student use. We'd like to prevent loss of valuable resources like time. We'd like to be able to implement the curriculum in the manner in which it was completely written by Mr. E. Public spaces do limit our curriculum and activities.

Q: What's the greatest challenge to getting into a new space for the classroom?

A: Finding a space that meets our budget, size and location requirements.

Q: I'm glad you're considering taking Kanji Camp programs to the next level. But we were sad to hear the deal on the Japanese classroom fell through. Is there anything we can do to help Kanji Camp get into its own classroom?

A: Outside of punctual payment and keeping us posted on good value rental space on the edge of Carmel, Fishers and Noblesville, we always humbly say the same thing...we value your on referrals. Comments we often get from parents of minor students is that they could not understand the value of your program until their student enrolled. Then the benefits were quickly visible.

Oh and please share with us about your driving flexibility. Are you willing to drive a few more minutes to a classroom in Fishers or Noblesville?