

# UKPLUS Osaka Newsletter

Bringing you up-to-date with all the news from your school!

6月16日から30日までのキャンペーン

My Plan:  
**five 4 four**



## Summer Season is here again!!

Every year for the past four years UKPLUS Osaka has offered our students something extra for their class attendance through the summer. Last year and in 2016 we gave away over 200 hours of free lessons as a result of our Summer Season campaign.

This year we are offering our students an even bigger opportunity to get some free lessons. In addition to the usual offer, this year there is an extra bonus for current General English group lesson students. Between June 16th and June 30th General English students can 'top up' their current registration. For every four lessons they buy, UKPLUS will give them an extra lesson. So, for example, if someone buys eight extra 'top up' lessons during this period, we will give them ten!!

Don't forget to register for the **Longest Day social event on June 24th** ... there are three options! Come to all three parts or just come along to one of them. Bring your friends or invite your family members. It's going to be a long, long day of fun! With lots of chances to use and practise your English with people from different countries.

Ask your teacher or a member of staff for more information about the THREE stages to the day which are given below. Come on! It'll be great!

1

### MEET FRIENDS

Take part in lots of fun activities and use your English to make friends. We are expecting guests from several different countries!

2

### EAT FOOD / DRINK BEER

Relax at the Hankyu Beer Garden and enjoy conversation with friends new and old. A perfect chance to practise your English before your summer holiday!

3

### WATCH FOOTY

England against Panama on the big screen in the UKPLUS Osaka school. If you are not bothered about the football, you can still enjoy the atmosphere.

## GW Writing Competition Winner

Thank you to everyone who helped out with the competition related to the previous Newsletter in May. But special thanks to all our students who entered their Golden Week (GW) holiday stories. It was great reading them all!

### The goal ...

To describe your GW holiday activities in only 100 words with a photo to illustrate your writing.

### Choosing the winner

We asked students to choose their favourite and then Tony W looked at the students' Top 4 choices and then he selected the winner based on the criteria above.

### And the winner, chosen by our students is ...

Er, Tony W ... who gained most votes. However, Tony's writing was too long and he submitted more than the allowed ONE photo. So he was disqualified.

Tony says that Yoko and Nobuko's GW adventures were very popular with the students but the winner is Scarlett, who wrote about her visit to a beautiful World Heritage Site in China and included a dramatic picture so that we could imagine being there.

**Congratulations to Scarlett, please collect your prize from Tony B!!**

# MINA, OUR NEW TEACHER

## Could you tell us a little about yourself?

Hi everyone! I'm Mina. I was born in Japan but raised in Germany and, for much of my life, in England. I have lived in Japan for 4 years now.

## What teaching experience do you have?

1. Teaching business English/ general English at various companies such as Panasonic, Mitsui Bussan, Daihatsu and Lions Mansion.
2. IELTS and TOEFL classes for high school/ university students mainly to prepare for their study abroad.
3. Academic English for those who want to attend university in the UK (both for undergrad and postgrad)
4. Kwansai Gakuin university.

## What did you do before you became a teacher?

Before I became a teacher, I was doing a Master's (post-graduate) degree in English language and linguistics at the University of Kent, in the south east of England.

## Do you have any hobbies or interests?

My hobbies are travelling, dancing, listening to music, going to karaoke, going to the gym, watching films, playing pool, and visiting beautiful places in Japan.

## What makes you happy?

My friends, family and boyfriend make me the happiest.

## Could you give our students one piece of advice about studying English?

Don't be shy and afraid to make mistakes! I know learning English can be very challenging at times, but just keep smiling and try your best.

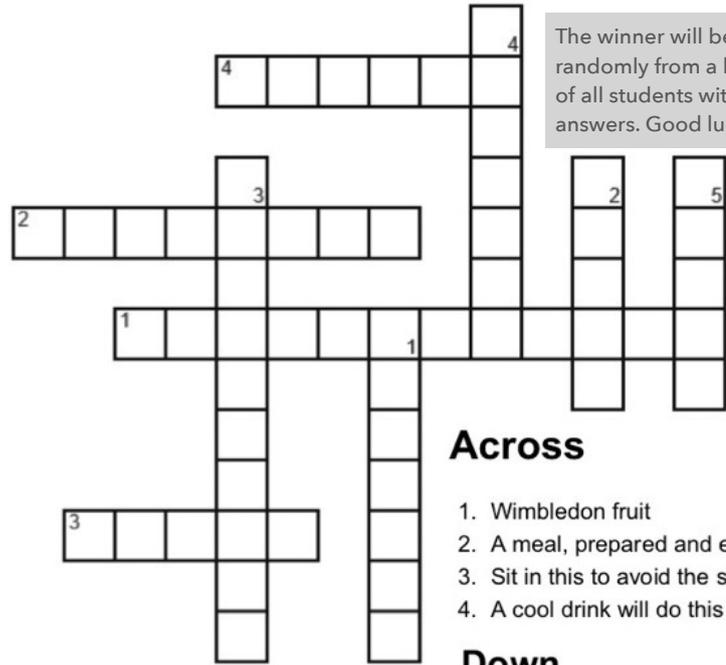
It will be completely worth it in the end!

# Summer Prize Crossword

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Give your entry to staff when you have finished the puzzle . Entries by June 30th.



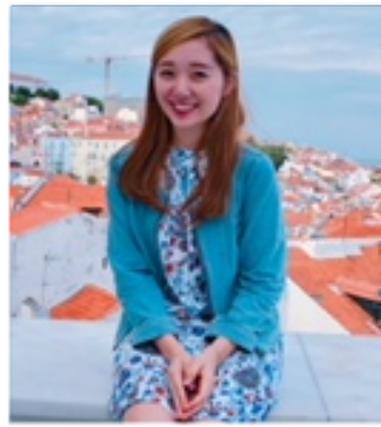
The winner will be selected randomly from a list of names of all students with the correct answers. Good luck!!

## Across

1. Wimbledon fruit
2. A meal, prepared and eaten outdoors
3. Sit in this to avoid the sun
4. A cool drink will do this to your thirst

## Down

1. Very hot
2. Very warm and wet air
3. Suntory has a good one (4, 6)
4. The sound you hear during a storm
5. A \_\_\_\_ of lightning



If you see Mina and / or Trina around the school, say 'hello' and ask some follow-up questions about the information they have given

# TRINA, OUR NEW TEACHER

## Could you tell us a little about yourself?

Originally from the U.K, I lived overseas for much of my childhood. My family moved to Yorkshire in the North of England when I was about 12 years old. I came to Japan in 1990 and I've been living in Nara for the past 21 years.

## What teaching experience do you have?

I began teaching EFL in Thailand in 1989. I have a passion for teaching young learners, particularly phonics and literacy. I worked at Yamaha for several years as a teacher and teacher-trainer. I was the owner/operator of One World, a small language school in Ikoma.

I have taught at elementary, middle, high school and tertiary (university) levels. I am also the co-ordinator of a team that goes to Nepal each year to conduct teacher-training workshops for Nepali teachers. I am really excited to be joining the staff at UKPLUS.

## What did you do before you became a teacher?

Before I came to Japan I combined my two loves - traveling and theatre. I worked both onstage and backstage for various theatre companies in the UK and I traveled to many different countries exploring.

## Do you have any hobbies or interests?

I like reading, writing, gardening.

## What makes you happy?

Oh lots of things; sitting in my garden reading, relaxing at home, visiting friends around Japan. But most of all, I love my family and friends getting together at my house for some good food and lively chat.

## Could you give our students one piece of advice about studying English?

Identify your weaknesses and work on them. It is perfectly natural for us all to want to focus on our strengths, not just in language learning, but it doesn't help us improve. Identify your weaknesses, work on them and you will quickly transform them into strengths.



