



# TES Times

## Happy New Year 2013!

"Happy Snake Year" to you all. I hope that this year bring health, happiness and prosperity to you and your families.

For British people, 2012 was a great year, especially in sports, with the Olympics being held in London, and other sporting successes. This year could see the award of the 2020 Olympics to Tokyo, and I hope that it happens.

Here at TES, we are looking to 2013 as a year to keep improving the service we offer you. We have some exciting new things happening, but I won't go into details until our spring newsletter, as that's when things will be happening. As always, it is our intention to make sure you are all happy and comfortable coming here. We hope that we can make that even truer in 2013.

So far, the weather gods

have been quite good to us this winter, and although it has snowed quite a bit, it is certainly better than last year. I won't be unhappy if it just stays like this until spring! Seinead and Darren have certainly been enjoying the winter, and have been off skiing and snowboarding a lot. Perhaps you will see them up there sometime. If you do, make sure you say hello.

Yoko and I went to Scotland for Christmas, and although it was a very busy time (my family is so big that it takes a long time to see everyone) it was a really enjoyable time. We are still fighting jet lag, even though it's a week since we came back! The weather there was also quite good, with very little rain and temperatures not too close to freezing.

So, 2013 is here, and is remarkably the 8<sup>th</sup> year of

our school. As always, I want to thank you all for making that possible by continuing to come to us, and telling your friends about us. I hope that 2013 can be our best year yet, with lots of events to keep you speaking English and getting to know our teachers better. We have also introduced testing (for those who want it) in the form of TOEIC tests for adults, and Kid's EIKEN tests for kids. I hope that as many of you as possible will feel that you want to challenge yourself or your kids, and take advantage of this chance to do these tests here in Takada, without having to travel to a far off test centre. It is certainly not for everyone, but it does give you an incentive to study more. If you don't want to do a test though, you don't have to. Our classes will always be about more than just studying; we are

### Jan 2013 Issue 17

#### Inside this issue:

From Peter	1
From Yoko	1
Events	2
Holidays	2
From Nicola	2
From Darren & Seinead	3
From Peter	3
Test Information	4
Student Profile	4

happy that you all enjoy seeing your friends and chatting to them (in English, of course!), as much as we are about the people who want to take tests. We are a school for everyone, of every level, and everyone is welcome.

All the best for 2013.



## News from Yoko

あけましておめでとうございます  
皆様、本年もどうぞ宜しくお願い申し上げます。

年末年始に夫の里帰りでもイギリスに同行し、ひどい時差ボケの中仕事始めだった2013年ですが、ニュースレターがかなり遅くなってしまった事を、まづもってお詫び申し上げます。

す。本当にすみません...<m(\_)\_m>  
今年の目標は「-5」です！また、昨年末になりますが、クリスマスパーティへのご参加、ありがとうございました♥

今号は、だいぶ先になりますが、3月のイベント、そして講師の先生方の冬休み報告、次回 TOEICIP® テス

トのご案内、その他、久々の Student Profile もあります。

「こんな特集をしてほしい」又はイベントのご希望など、皆様からの意見もどんどんお待ちしておりますので、今年もどうぞ宜しくお願いいたします！

## Next Event: St. Patrick's Day Party

### ◆◆ St. Patrick's Day Party ◆◆

日時：2013年3月17日（日）

時間：6p.m.～8 p.m.

場所：未定

詳細は、後日お知らせいたします♥

昨年に引き続き、今年も St Patrick's Day, (セントパトリックス・デー) パーティを開催いたします！3月17日のアイルランドにキリスト教を広めた聖人、聖パトリックの命日をお祝いする祭日で、アイルランド共和国の祝祭日です。北アイルランド出身のダレン先生と一緒に、St. Patrick's Day をお祝

いしましょう！

シャムロックを服につけたり、緑の帽子をかぶったりして皆が出かけます。パーティに参加される方は、何か緑のものを身につけての参加をお願いいたします！



詳細は追って、教室内のポスターなどで、2月中頃にお知らせいたします。



## Next Holiday Schedule

当校の次のお休みは **GW休業** です。期間は以下の通りです。

2013/4/28(日)～2013/5/5(日)

5/6 (月・振替休日)からの通常営業です

☆2月11日の『建国記念の日』、3月20日の『春分の日』と祝日は多いですが、当校は通常通りの営業となりますので、レッスンのある方は、ご注意ください。

☆2013年のTES年間休日カレンダーを配布しています。まだもらっていない！という方は、お手数ですが、受付までお知らせください。

## Looking back, and forward...

by Nicola Maruyama

Well 2012 is now over and looking back it was an eventful and busy year. At the beginning of the year Yoshiaki and I were making plans to come to Japan. First we had to sell our house, quit our jobs and pack 8 years of belongings.

We arrived in Joetsu at the end of March and were surprised to find snow. We had forgotten how much snow falls here as Glasgow has virtually no snow at all. However the snow was a good distraction for Faye and Emma as they arrived in their new country.

In April I started work at TES and was delighted to see the school had retained its "family" atmosphere of the church days and to see so many familiar faces. I soon got used to my new

schedule of teaching elementary classes in the morning and classes at TES in the afternoon.

Coming back to Joetsu for me was very familiar but for Faye and Emma it was a change of country, culture, language, family and daily life. Faye, being a bit older, struggled at first and wanted to go back home but soon she started learning Japanese and meeting other children. By June they started Tenshi Kindergarten and we had moved into an apartment. Fast forward to the hot summer and in September Yoshiaki opened his Thai Restaurant Tiki.

All in all it has been a busy year when many new beginnings and fresh challenges. Now we



look forward to 2013 and all it brings.

I wish everyone health and happiness in 2013 and look forward to having fun times together.

Best wishes, *Nicola*

# Seinead and Darren Do Tokyo!

by Darren Thompson & Seinead Friel



Seinead sporting her new ski goggles at Ikenotaira

Hello, and a very happy new year to you all. Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable festive break? We had a busy holiday and it went very fast! It was our first Christmas away from home but we managed to cook a delicious roast chicken dinner with all the trimmings on Christmas day. It felt very Christmassy when we opened all our presents which had been sent from our family and friends back home. Much of our free days were spent snowboarding and skiing at Ikenotaira, thankfully both of us are starting to get a little better at it, and we have not so many bruises when returning from the mountain now!

For New Year we got the bullet train to Tokyo, which was so fast and very comfortable. Seinead mostly enjoyed the massive shops and all the sales by buying a Happy Bag, while I mostly enjoyed the amount of different food and drink! It was the

biggest and busiest city we have ever been to and the amount of people was very overwhelming! On New Year's Eve (Hogmanay), we met up with some of Seineads Scottish friends which was great, we all danced our way into 2013 in a night club in Shibuya.

After spending 4 days in Tokyo we returned to Joetsu, and enjoyed many more mountain days. Hopefully during the rest of the winter season we will get to visit many more ski resorts; any recommendations?

We wish you all the very best of luck in all your endeavors in 2013, and hope you all have a very successful year.

All the best,

Darren and Seinead



Our roast chicken Christmas dinner, topped off with a party hat.

Seinead excited to go shopping, me.....not so much!



# My first Niece's Wedding!

by Peter Docherty

As I wrote at the beginning, Yoko and I went to Scotland this Christmas to see my family. One of the main reasons we decided to go at this time was because my first niece, Marie-Claire is getting married this April! We know that we won't be able to attend the wedding, so we went personally to congratulate the future bride and groom.

Let me introduce my family a bit. Marie-Claire is the daughter of my oldest sister, Ann-Marie, whose husband is also called Peter. They have two kids; one of them is, of course, Marie-Claire and the

other is Paul.

Marie-Claire's future husband's name is, guess what? Paul as well! And my nephew Paul just recently got engaged to a lovely

Bride and groom to be;  
-----Marie-Claire and Paul



girl called Clare. Confused? Now you can imagine how tough it was for Yoko, whose name is quite easy to remember for all of my family, thanks to The Beatles.

On a serious note, as someone who is living in a foreign country, I don't know how many family or friends weddings and funerals I have missed, and am going to miss, but I am lucky to have a family who always think of me while I am away from home; even after 17 years! Meanwhile, I am counting on Doraemon to invent a Dokodemo-door in the near future.

## Takada English School

943-0824 上越市北城町 3-5-5

コスモシティ内 2F

Phone: 025 523 4788

Fax: 025 520 4008

E-mail: enquiries@takadaes.com



あなたの町の英会話

We're on the Web!

www.takadaes.com

# April is the best season to start!

4月に向け充実のトライアル体験レッスン!

2013年4月からの新学期に向けて、2月と3月は特別に毎週月曜日と金曜日の午後、「キッズ英会話」無料お試しレッスンを実施します。皆様の周りでも、英語を習ってみたいという方がいらっしゃいましたら、是非ご紹介ください！ご入学の際には、ご本人の入学金が免除になるだけでなく、ご紹介者様にも受講料が1か月半額になるキャンペーンを3月末まで実施いたします！詳細はお気軽にお問合せください。

大人の方も今がチャンス！

## TOEIC test, Anyone?!

定期的に当校で開催していますTOEIC®IPテストですが、次回の受験日が決定いたしました。ご興味のある方は、受付までお気軽にお声掛けください。TOEIC®IPテスト公開テストと評価は全く同じです。IPテストは公開テストより割安ですので、受験をご希望の方は早めのお申込をどうぞ☆

TOEIC®IP テスト

受験日: 2013年6月2日(日)

テスト開始時間: 10:00 から 12:00 まで

(受験日・時間は応談いたします)

申込締切日: 5月17日(金)まで

会場: 高田イングリッシュスクール

受験料: ¥4,040-

## ♥ TES Student Profile ♥

It's been a long time since we did this last! We hope to ask a different student every edition to answer some questions about themselves and why they study English.

This month's student is:

**Noriko Okamura**

**Question 1: How long have you been studying English?**

For about 5 years now.

**Question 2: How long have you been studying at TES?**

Just two months!

**Question 3: Have you ever been abroad?**

Yes. I have been to U.S.A. ,

Hawaii, Thailand, Taiwan and Korea etc...

**Question 4: Where would you like to go in the future?**

I would like to go to New Zealand and Switzerland.

**Question 5: Have you ever taken any English tests?**

No!

**Question 6: What's your favorite place to eat in Joetsu?**

A restaurant called "Kuriya" near Takada Station.

Thanks a lot Noriko for answering our Interview at

such short notice! I hope you keep enjoying studying here at TES.

For the rather shy Noriko, we have made up an "Avatar" for her.

I don't think this is does her justice; she is much more beautiful in person!

It could be you next issue, so be prepared everyone!!

