LANGUAGE CENTER

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 01

FOR THE MONTH OF

MAY

WELCOME BACK TO SEIRINKAN

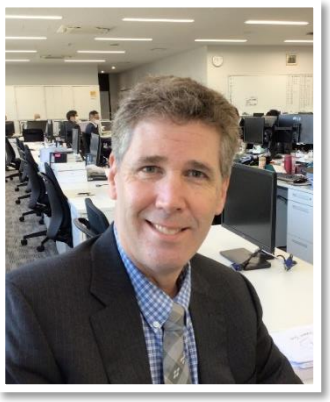
For this year's Language Center we will be joined by two returning English teachers. Ralph first started teaching at Seirinkan in 2016 while Chris joined back in 2018.

RALPH

Hello, I'm Ralph from Cebu, Philippines. I enjoy spending my free time at home watching Netflix shows, cooking, or baking. Now that I am back in Japan, there are so many things that I'd love to do. I'd like to go out more to take pictures and share them online. I'd also love to play tennis again with my friends here. I can't wait to see all of you. I hope that you're just as excited as I am. Let's have fun learning English in class.

CHRIS

My name is Chris Micek, and I was born in Hollywood California. I moved to a small farm in Oregon. In California I rode surfboards, but in Oregon, I rode horses. I traveled to Europe for one year and taught English to people from different countries. A few years later, I met a cute Japanese girl named Chika, and we got married. Soon, our family became bigger when my twin daughters were born. Ten years later, my son came. Now we are five people. My hobbies are skiing, camping, and gardening. I love being outdoors! Another thing I love is good food. In America, people like me are called 'Foodies'. I don't like fast food, but sometimes when I am busy, I like to eat ramen. Nice to be back at Seirinkan!



HAY FEVER (花粉症) IN JAPAN

It is said that 25 million people suffer from hay fever in Japan. The cause of this problem comes from the cedar pollen. The amount of pollen is expected to be higher in many areas, such as Shikoku, Kinki, and Kanto Koshin regions. If you're suffering from hay fever every year, it is best that you stay home during the time when the pollen is predicted to be in the air. Make sure to wear your facemasks when you go out. Some hay fever treatments are now available.

suffer 苦しむ, **pollen** 花粉, **region** 領域, **predict** 見通す, **treatment** 手当て, **available** 便利

TEST YOUR ENGLISH (ANSWERS) 1. in 2. on 3. for 4. with 5. by 6. at 7. after 8. of

GOOD NEWS

ON THE VOGUE COVER AT 106

APO WHANG OD, an indigenous tattoo artist from the Philippines becomes the oldest person to be on the cover of *Vogue*. At 106, Apo Whang Od has been keeping a culture that has been around for a thousand years. Although she is one of the last *Mambabatok* of her generation, Apo has been training and inspiring new artists who wish to continue this ancient form of art. We are used to seeing young and popular celebrities as cover models, but seeing someone in her 100s and still looking fierce is just so refreshing. This is a proof that it's never too late to accomplish anything. As long as you have a good story to tell, just wait and your turn will come.

indigenous 土着, **ancient** 古い, **fierce** 凄じい, **accomplish** 果たす

BEAUTIFUL WISTERIA

You'll never run of things to do in spring. In fact, between the end of April until the first week of May, you can enjoy viewing the beautiful *wisteria* flowers. The *wisteria* festivals are recently becoming more popular in Japan. Luckily, you don't need to go far if you live around Aisai and Tsushima, because Tennogawa Park in Tsushima has exactly what you're looking for – the beautiful and magical *wisteria* flowers. This festival lasts until the 8th of May, so make sure to check it out.

TEST YOUR ENGLISH!

Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions. Use the following: **AT**, **IN**, **ON**, **FOR**, **OF**, **WITH**, **BY**, **AFTER**

1. The teacher will arrive _____ five minutes.
2. I saw his pictures _____ Instagram.
3. I'm so sorry _____ being late.
4. My brother is so good _____ computers.
5. It will be done _____the end of the month.
6. I will meet you _____ the station.
7. The movie started _____ 30 minutes.
8. What do you think _____ the new teacher?

You can see the answers at the bottom part of the first page.