# **December 2020** Photo: Bandai-Atami Ice Skating Rink Monthly news and information about Koriyama City in English

## Holiday & New Years Events

#### **Hatsumode in Koriyama City**

A treasured Japanese tradition is the first visit to a shrine or temple in the New Year, also known as Hatsumode. The most popular shrines Hatsumode in Koriyama are the Kaiseizan Daijingu Shrine and the Asaka-Kunitsuko Shrine, but every shrine hosts its own ceremony. Common activities during Hatsumode are buying omikuji, little white papers that predict your luck for the new year.



#### Nanokado-mairi at Nyoho-ji Temple

The Nyohoji Temple on Hayama-dori Street celebrates the annual Nanokado-mairi from the evening of the 6th to the afternoon of the 7<sup>th</sup> of January. Especially during the evening event, people line up for their first prayer of the year, enjoy local specialties, hot tonjiru soup, draw omikuji, and buy luck charms

(omamori) for the new year. MAP: https://tinyurl.com/Nyohoji

**Note:** Events like Hatsumode tend to draw large crowds. Please be sure to take proper precautions: wear a mask, practice social distancing and refrain from attending events when showing symptoms. Some of the regular events may be limited in capacity and content.



Koriyama City's Multilingual Portal features a page with all Englishlanguage information on COVID-19 from the city administration, such as recent developments, video messages from the mayor, links to multilingual information material, and much more.

www.city.koriyama.lg.jp/multilingual/23413.html



### 'Christmas Dreams in Space Park'

From Nov. 13th to Dec. 25th 2020, the Koriyama Fureai Science Center (Space Park) on the 22th floor of the Big-i building will be dressed in the spirit of the season, during the 'Christmas Dreams in Space Park'-event. At a height of 96m, enjoy the beautiful holiday illuminations. The space park is open until 20:00 and admission is free of charge.

#### Norman the Snowman

The Space Park Planetarium shows various movies. From December 5th to January 31st, it will feature a special winter film called Norman the Snowman (2013) (in Japanese). The 45 minute film is shown from 10:30 and 14:20, on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, as well as every day between Dec. 24th and 30th, and Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>. WEB: www.space-park.jp



#### Fukushima Prefl COVID-19 Hotline for Foreign Residents **COVID-19 Hotline** you showing symptoms **Foreign Residents** associated with COVID-19, or have 00120-992-860

other void-related concerns, do not hesitate to contact Fukushima Prefecture's COVID-19 Hotline for Foreign Residents. The hotline is free, available 24/7, and can accommodate 15 languages (see below) using an on-the-phone interpreter.

TEL: 0120-992-860

Languages: English, Spanish, Portuguese, Korean, Tagalog, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Nepali, French, German, Italian, Russian, Malay, Burmese, Khmer, Mongolian and Sinhalese.

#### IF YOU SUSPECT YOU MAY HAVE COVID-19

Fukushima Prefecture's has a dashboard page for all the necessary information, such as what organizations to contact, latest statistics on COVID-19 in Fukushima, etc.

https://fukushima-covid19.web.app/en

For information, questions or tips, contact: Koriyama City, International Policy Division

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