

#84 「Spread Knowledge, not Sickness!」

投稿日時：2020/08/31  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

This is a **continuation** of one of last week's articles. Many schools in the US are opening and are immediately experiencing **COVID-19 breakouts**.

Besshi English News

🌐 *Monday August 31st, 2020 – Spread Knowledge, not Sickness!*

Many schools are still suffering from **infection spikes** after resuming classes. A university in North Carolina recently reported **over 300 positive COVID-19 cases** from August 20th to August 26th. The university is responding to this by **asking students living on campus to move out by early September**.



#82 「Preparing for Field Day」

投稿日時：2020/08/28  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

This year's **Field Day** in Besshi will take place next Sunday on September 6th, 2020.

Let's hope for some very nice weather!

Besshi English News

② *Friday August 28th, 2020 – Preparing for Field Day*

Everyone at **Besshi Elementary and Junior High School** started preparing for **Field Day** this week. The students are practicing their **Field Day** activities every day. Field Day will be held on **September 6th, 2020**. I hope everyone is excited for this year's **Field Day**!



#81 「The Presidential Race is On」

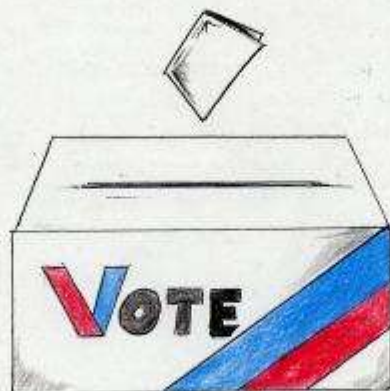
投稿日時：2020/08/27  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

The people of the United States (US) will be **electing their president** later this year. Many people all over the world will be watching how things progress in the US, even months after the day of the election.

Besshi English News

⑧ *Thursday August 27th, 2020 – The Presidential Race is On*

The next **United States presidential election** is scheduled to occur on **November 3rd, 2020**. This presidential election takes place every four years. The US has a strong impact on global issues. **So, this will be a very important election for people all over the world.**



#80 「Whipping up a Storm」

投稿日時：2020/08/26  ALT カテゴリ:

The Japanese word for 'typhoon' is 台風. They sound very familiar!

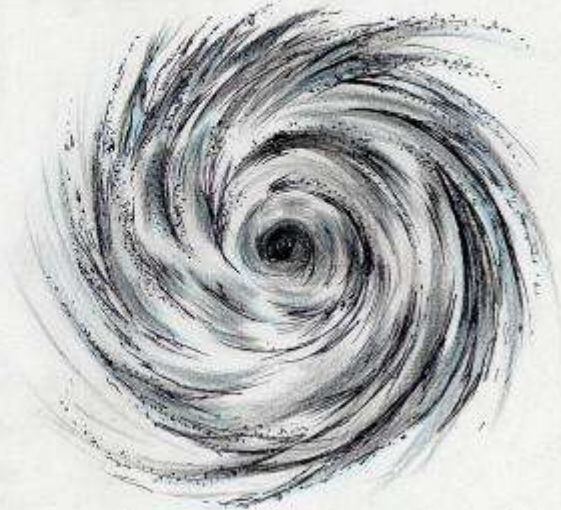
Besshi English News

⑧ *Wednesday August 26th, 2020 – Whipping up a Storm*

The **peak typhoon season** is about to hit Japan.

This season usually occurs in September. **Typhoons** are known as **hurricanes** in some parts of the world.

Hurricane watches have recently been issued in **Texas** and **Louisiana** in the USA as **Hurricanes Marco** and **Laura** approach the states.



#79 「Schools in North America」

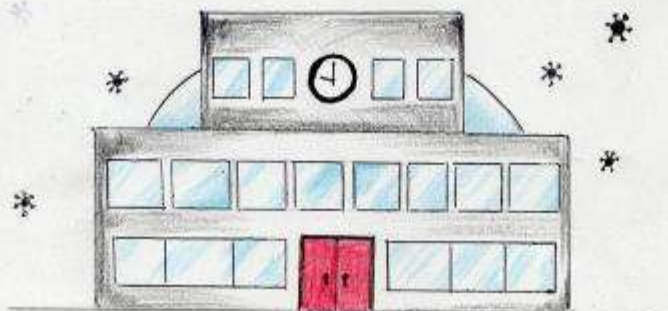
投稿日時：2020/08/25  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

Schools all over North America have also reopened early this August due to **COVID-19** affecting classes earlier this year. Unfortunately, some schools are already facing **serious issues** and **health concerns**.

Besshi English News

㊦ *Tuesday August 25th, 2020 – Schools in North America*

September normally marks the start of the **second school term** in Japan. But in North America, it normally marks the **start of the school year**. Due to **COVID-19**, the new school year in North America started in August. Unfortunately, many places have **reported a sudden increase of COVID-19 cases** since schools reopened.



#78 「The 2nd Term Begins!」

投稿日時：2020/08/24  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

Today was the start of the second term of the school year. We welcomed the students back today. We hope everyone will continue to give their best efforts throughout the next few months!

Besshi English News

⑦⑧ *Monday August 24th, 2020 – The 2nd Term Begins!*

Welcome back! We hope you had a fun and relaxing summer vacation. Were you able to keep up with your studies and homework over the break? **This term is going to be very busy.** So, give it all you got! These times are hard, but **let's try to live life to its fullest!**



Besshi English News - Special Report! (8/19/2020)

投稿日時 : 2020/08/19  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

This is a very hot summer in Besshi.

People say that Besshi is usually cooler because it is higher up on the mountain.

But, on August 19, 2020, Besshi reportedly hit a **daily high temperature** of 35°C!

That's very hot!

There is even a **heat warning** in my **home province** in Canada.

One of the cities near my hometown hit a **record high of 37.3°C** earlier this week!

We hope everyone can stay cool during this very hot summer!

#77 「Have a Nice Vacation!」

投稿日時：2020/07/31  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

The first school term of the year is finally over! Have a fun and safe summer vacation, everyone! We'll see you soon!

Besshi English News

🕒 *Friday July 31st, 2020 – Have a Nice Vacation!*

Today's the **last day of the first school term**. This year's summer vacation is **shorter than usual**. So, be sure to **make the most out of it!** (And don't forget about your studies!)

See you all in a few weeks!



Enjoy your summer
vacation! 

#76 「Hockey is Back!」

投稿日時：2020/07/30  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

A large portion of the 2020 NHL Hockey season was canceled due to COVID-19. However, starting this weekend, 24 teams in North America will get to play in the playoffs!

Besshi English News

🕒 *Thursday July 30th, 2020 – Hockey is Back!*

The **NHL (National Hockey League)** hockey season was put on hold due to **COVID-19** in March. After 4 months, the **NHL (National Hockey League)** playoff **season** is finally here. To prevent teams from traveling too much, all the games will be hosted in **Toronto** and **Edmonton**.



#75 「The Checkmark」

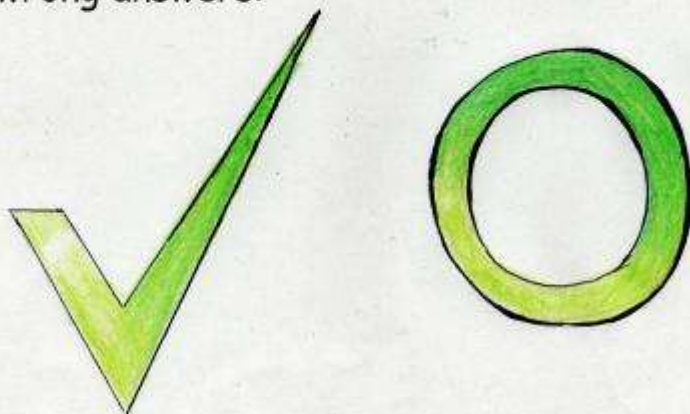
投稿日時：2020/07/29  ALT カテゴリ:

This is just one of the many cultural differences around the world. Apparently, schools in Sweden also use the checkmark for wrong answers.

Besshi English News

75 *Wednesday July 29th, 2020 – The Checkmark*

It's never a good sign when students in Japan see **checkmarks** (✓) on their tests or homework. But in many English-speaking countries such as the USA or Canada, it's totally different. In these countries, a checkmark means '**correct**' instead of '**incorrect**.' We use **X** for wrong answers.



#74 「The Spread Continues」

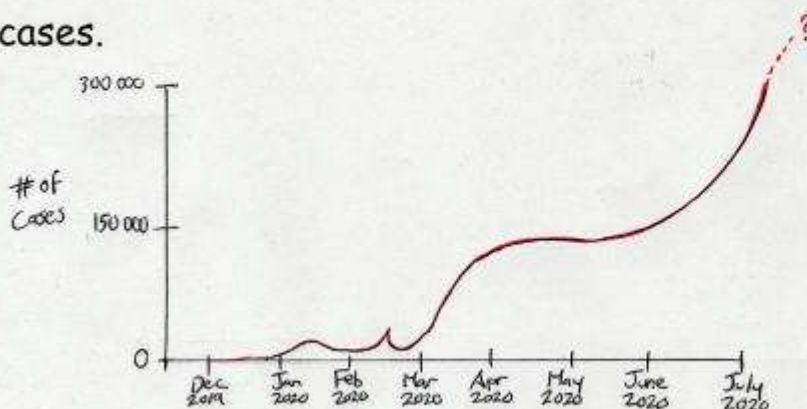
投稿日時：2020/07/28  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

The **global COVID-19 pandemic** has gotten much worse recently. Our **well-being** and **health** should always be first priority.

Besshi English News

㊦ *Tuesday July 28th, 2020 – The Spread Continues*

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** reported over 284,000 new **COVID-19** cases on **Friday July 24th**. This is the **highest daily count** since the start of the **pandemic**. More than half of them were reported in North America and South America at over 173,000 cases.



#73 「The Final Week of the Term」

投稿日時：2020/07/27  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

It's almost **summer vacation**! There's only a few more days of classes before the first term of the school year comes to a close.

Does anyone have any plans for the summer?

Besshi English News

㊦ *Monday July 27th, 2020 – The Final Week of the Term*

We finally reached the **end of the term**! There are still many things to do at school before everyone goes on **summer vacation** in August. Is everyone excited for the three-week break? Let's get through this last week together! **Work hard, play hard!**

5 DAYS LEFT


#72 「Sports Day」

投稿日時：2020/07/22  ALT カテゴリ: Japan

Two holidays in a row! How lucky!

What's your favorite sport?

Besshi English News

 *Wednesday July 22nd, 2020 – Sports Day*

Sports Day comes right after **Marine Day** this year.

This is because people wanted to **celebrate** Sports Day during the **Tokyo 2020 Olympics**. Normally this holiday is held in October. Sports Day **promotes an active and healthy lifestyle** for everyone.



#71 「Marine Day」

投稿日時：2020/07/21  ALT カテゴリ: Japan

The ocean plays a very important role in Japan. Many people celebrate Marine Day to **express gratitude to the ocean and what it offers.**

Besshi English News

① *Tuesday July 21st, 2020 – Marine Day*

This Thursday is **Marine Day**, or **Umi no Hi** (海の日).

It is also called **Ocean Day** in English. Many people

usually like to **visit the beach** on this day. Normally,

Marine Day is held on the **third Monday in July**. It was

changed this year due to the **Tokyo 2020 Olympics** that

was canceled earlier this year.



#70 「Finals are Upon Us」

投稿日時：2020/07/20  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

The **first term** of the school year is finally coming to a close. Now, the students are currently taking their **final tests** to demonstrate what they have learned over the last few months.

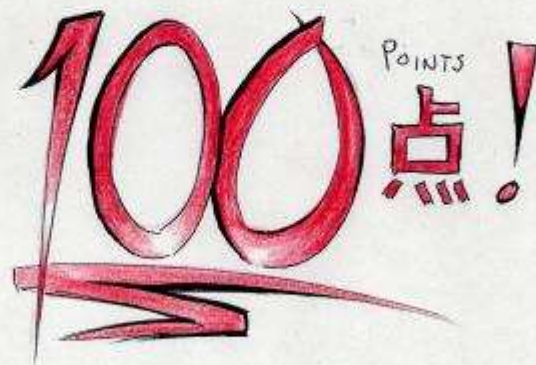
Besshi English News

⑦ *Monday July 20th, 2020 – Finals are Upon Us*

It has been a pretty interesting first term back at school, especially due to the **earlier school closures**.

However, we are reaching the **end of the term**. It means it's now time for **final exams**. Is everyone

ready? **Good luck and do your best, everyone!**



#69 「Slowing Down the Pace」

投稿日時：2020/07/17  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

More and more events around the world are getting canceled due to the **COVID-19 pandemic**. If people want their normal lives back, then everyone needs to take this pandemic seriously.

Besshi English News

⑥ Friday July 17th, 2020 – *Slowing Down the Pace*

The **Chicago Marathon** was recently canceled due to **COVID-19**. It is normally held in mid-October. The **Chicago Marathon** is one of the six **World Marathon Majors**. The other five marathons are held in **Boston**, **London**, **Berlin**, **New York City**, and **Tokyo**. Many of them have also been canceled this year.



#68 「And that Wraps up SEC!」

投稿日時：2020/07/16  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

Another **Special English Class (SEC)** has come and gone. All the students worked so hard leading up to this day. And they continue to improve their English skills every day.

Besshi English News

㊦ Thursday July 16th, 2020 – *And that Wraps up SEC!*

Yesterday, the students participated in the first **Special English Class (SEC)** this year. The students followed the **8 rules of English class** and gave 110% of their energy. Many of them did skits on how to avoid **COVID-19**. Everyone did a great job with their performances! Let's keep on improving our English!



#67 「The World VS COVID-19」

投稿日時：2020/07/15  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

Someone once told me that **preventing the spread of COVID-19** is like a school group project. Everyone has to play their part to succeed. Everyone has to **cooperate**.

Besshi English News

㊦ Wednesday July 15th, 2020 – *The World VS COVID-19*

We are over 7 months into the **COVID-19 pandemic**.

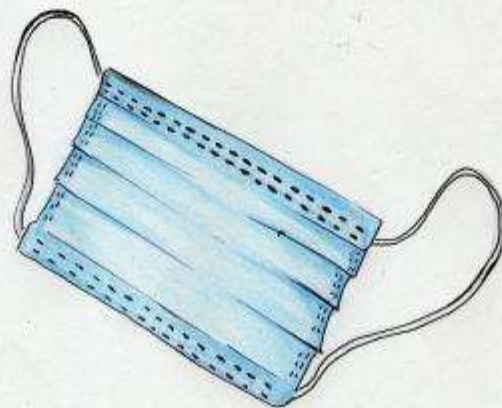
How is the world doing against it? According to the

World Health Organization (WHO), Japan has nearly

22,000 cases. **India, Brazil, and the USA** are the

countries with the most cases. **The USA alone has over**

3 million cases.



#66 「Math in Different Countries」

投稿日時：2020/07/14  ALT カテゴリ:

I used to think that math was exactly the same all over the world. I recently learned that some **math symbols** that we use in Western countries aren't used in Japan!

Besshi English News

⑥ Tuesday July 14th, 2020 – *Math in Different Countries*

I learned something new about **math** in Japan.

Many Japanese math teachers and students use **$A \geq B$** to say '**A is greater than or equal to B.**' In Japanese, this is 「**AはB以上**」. However, many Western countries use **\geq** instead of **\geq** to say the same thing.

$$\underline{\underline{\geq}} = \geq$$

So, $\underline{\underline{\geq}}$ and \geq are equal.

(They are the same!)

#65 「There's Rain Everywhere...」

投稿日時：2020/07/13  ALT カテゴリ:

The province of Alberta in Canada has been experiencing many rainy days, just like in Japan. Some say there will be many rainy days until the end of summer.

Besshi English News

㊦ Monday July ^{13th} 11th, 2020 – *There's Rain Everywhere...*

As you know, it is raining a lot in Japan right now.

However, there has recently also been **more rainy days than usual** in **Alberta, Canada**. The amount of rain they got in June 2020 was **30mm more than their 30-year average**. This has led to **flooding** all over the **province**.



#64 「A Dangerous Type of Seaweed」

投稿日時：2020/07/10  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

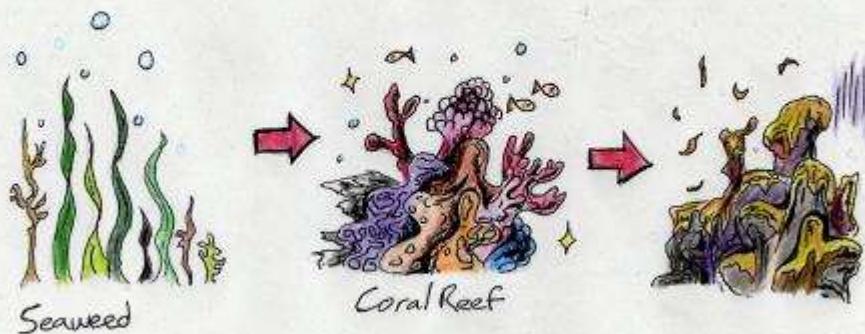
A new type of **seaweed** is destroying many of the beautiful **coral reefs** in Hawaii. How can we stop it?

'Coral reef' in Japanese is サンゴ礁. 'Seaweed' in Japanese is 海藻.

Besshi English News

⑥ Friday July 10th, 2020 – *A Dangerous Type of Seaweed*

Some researchers say that a new type of **seaweed** is destroying **coral** at a **very fast rate** in Hawaii. **This seaweed** breaks and covers the coral reefs. The seaweed blocks out the important **sunlight**. Many fish that eat seaweed are not eating this new seaweed.



#63 「A Sudden Change of Plans」

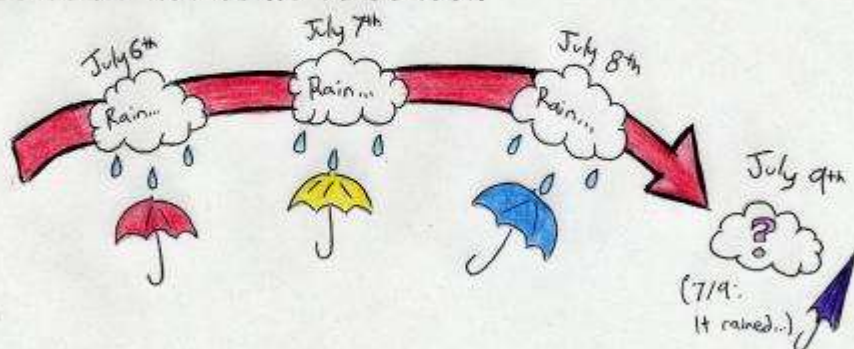
投稿日時：2020/07/09  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

Classes were suddenly canceled yesterday due to the **heavy rain warnings** issued by the government. Hopefully we will see some nicer weather later in July.

Besshi English News

㊦ Thursday July 9th, 2020 – *A Sudden Change of Plans*

The rain this week has been so heavy that the government issued an **emergency warning**. The students at Besshi Elementary and Junior High School were supposed to come to school on Wednesday. However, because of the **emergency warning**, the students could not come to school.



#62 「Heavy Rain in Kyushu」

投稿日時：2020/07/08  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

Heavy rains hit the island of Kyushu very hard earlier this week. And now **heavy rainfall warnings** are in effect in many other areas in Japan.

Besshi English News

㊦ Wednesday July 8th, 2020 – *Heavy Rain in Kyushu*

Kyushu is currently experiencing **mudslides** and **flooding** due to **heavy rain**. The **weather agency** issued the **highest-level warning** for **heavy rain** in many parts of **Fukuoka, Nagasaki, and Saga**. Many people were forced to **evacuate** but the bad weather made this more difficult.



#61 「What is 'Tanabata?」

投稿日時：2020/07/07  ALT カテゴリ: Japan

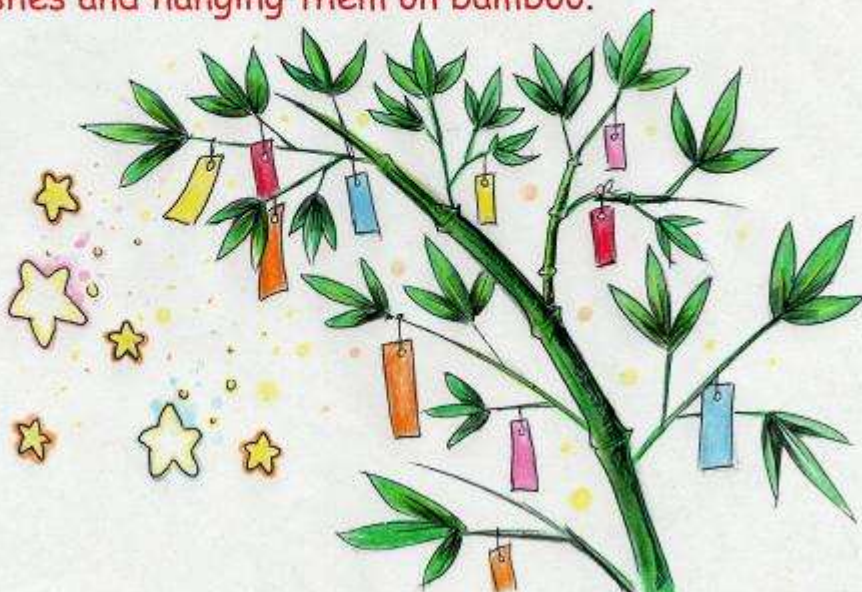
July 7th is *Tanabata*, also known as the Star Festival, in Japan. The two *kanji* in *Tanabata* (七夕) translates to 'seven' and 'evening.'

I wonder what things people wish for on *Tanabata*?

Besshi English News

⑥ Tuesday July 7th, 2020 – *What is "Tanabata"?*

Tanabata is a festival that celebrates the meeting of two lovers, *Orihime* and *Hikoboshi*. They were separated by the *Milky Way*. *Tanabata* is also known as the *Star Festival*. Today, people celebrate *Tanabata* by writing wishes and hanging them on bamboo.



#60 「It's Not Over Yet」

投稿日時：2020/07/06  ALT カテゴリ:Current event

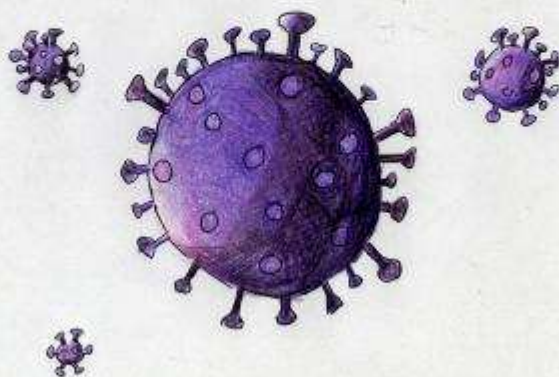
Some places around the world are starting to see their number of **COVID-19** cases go down, but many large cities are still at high risk.

If things get worse again, we may end up in another **state of emergency**.

Besshi English News

⑤⑨ Monday July 6th, 2020 – *It's Not Over Yet*

Most places in Japan seem to have **COVID-19** under control. However, the cases in Tokyo are still **increasing on a daily basis**. The **Tokyo city government** says that returning to a **state of emergency** is an option. This would only be if things get worse.



#59 「No Plastic Bags, Please!」

投稿日時：2020/07/03  ALT カテゴリ: Japan

Many countries around the world have already encouraged people to start using reusable shopping bags. From now on, let's try to use reusable shopping bags when we go shopping!

Besshi English News

㊦ Friday July 3rd, 2020 – *No Plastic Bags, Please!*

As of this week, **all stores across Japan** must **charge customers** for **plastic bags**. This is to reduce the amount of **plastic waste** in the country. However, even with this rule, **Japan still uses a lot of plastic for food packaging**. What can we do about this?

X



Plastic Bag

O



Reusable Bag

#58 「Self Care in the Summer」

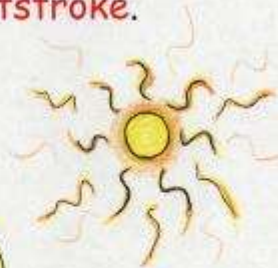
投稿日時：2020/07/02  ALT カテゴリ: Japan

Summers in Japan are very hot. So we have to take proper care of ourselves, especially while wearing masks. Please take the chance to **cool off** when you can.

Besshi English News

⑤⑧ Thursday July 2nd, 2020 – *Self Care in the Summer*

Summer is in **full force** and the days are getting **much hotter**. Now, everyone has to wear a mask due to **COVID-19**, which makes us feel very hot. **It is important to stay cool** and to take care of yourselves properly so you don't suffer from a **heatstroke**.



It's so
hot outside!

#57 「Canada Day」

投稿日時：2020/07/01  ALT カテゴリ:Canada

Happy Canada Day! Our ALT wrote about this special day in his home country. Please take a look!

Besshi English News

⑤⑦ Wednesday July 1st, 2020 – *Canada Day*

Today is **Canada's birthday!** Many people celebrate this **holiday** in many ways. Some people like to go to large parties, spend time with their families and friends, or watch the **fireworks** at night. **Canada is only 153 years old.** But, in reality, Canada has been around for **much longer.**



#56 「Slowly Reopening」

投稿日時：2020/06/30  ALT カテゴリ:Besshi

Many businesses all over the world are starting to reopen in the middle of the **COVID-19 pandemic**.

Please continue to stay careful in order to keep yourselves and others healthy.

Besshi English News

⑤⑥ Tuesday June 30th, 2020 – *Slowly Reopening*

Libraries across Japan have started to reopen during the **COVID-19 pandemic**. However, due to the **risk of infection**, many people are still not sure if they should go to the library. The libraries and their visitors **must remain careful** in order to create a **safe environment**.



#55 「Kanji is Difficult!」

投稿日時：2020/06/29  ALT カテゴリ: Japan

We will try to upload more of the Besshi English News articles again starting from today.

Today's article talks about our ALT's experiences learning Japanese. Learning a new language is so difficult!

Besshi English News

⑤ Monday June 29th, 2020 – *Kanji is Difficult!*

Yesterday I shared a story about my **Japanese studies**. I have another story to share. After I learned the kanji 緑 (green) and 縁 (connection), my teacher wanted me to write them. After writing 緑 she told me to write 縁. I **misunderstood** her, so I wrote 緑 twice, **which looks very similar to** 縁...

緑 縁

They're so alike!