



Our first day of first grade!

New first graders came to school dressed up in their favorite outfits. With big hopes and dreams packed in their big, brand new ransobases, they sang their hearts out during the entrance ceremony! Lots of friends, lots of fun, and lots of studying awaits them! You can do it first graders! (Misato Elementary School)

Okinawa City Population Statistics

TOTAL: 138,362 (-241)
Male: 66,971 (-145)
Female: 71,391 (-96)
Contact # for April: 71,487
Households: 55,775 (-55)
Contact # for April: 55,720

Foreign Residents:
Total: 1,195 (+/- 0)
(From a total of 49 countries)
Male: 685 (-1)
Female: 510 (+1)

Dear Reader,
 Avoid getting hit with the May Blues! I tend to burn out quickly during the beginning of anything new, but carrying a load of new excitement, pressures and anxieties can take a toll on anyone! Stress can build up fast in a single day, and it's important to consistently release that stress in a healthy way that fits you specifically. I recently realized that getting quality sleep is my cure for mostly anything! Whether you exercise, take a hot bath, or go for a drive, take care of that stress, and take care of yourself! -Naomi

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Address: 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa JAPAN
Email: international@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp TEL: (098) 929-0261 FAX: (098) 939-7341

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Name: _____

Address: _____

TEL: _____ **Email:** _____

Culture & Tourism Division (Okinawa City Hall)

OKINAWA CITY NEWSLETTER

Okinawa City Hall Announcements for Registered Residents of Okinawa City
 May > June 2013 Vol. 13, No. 5 <http://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/>

Southeast Botanical Gardens
東南植物楽園—Nature's Paradise Reopens This July!



With over 400 different species of palm trees and 2,000 species of tropical and subtropical plants brought from Southeast Asia and South America, covering a vast area of 400,000 m² (approximately 100 acres), Southeast Botanical Gardens 東南植物楽園

(東南植物楽園) located in Chibana, Okinawa City was a popular tourist attraction until it closed in December 2012.

It was recently publicly announced that Topic Group (a company that manages various medical facilities and hotels within Okinawa Prefecture) will take over and reopen the park on July 6, 2013.

Southeast Botanical Gardens aims to become a resort where children, their parents and grandparents can visit and feel refreshed and revived.

The development of hot springs and mid to long-term lodging facilities, facilities for the elderly, and late-night business hours are also in the works so that garden-goers may have a more therapeutic experience as they are surrounded by lush tropical plants.

*The articles in this newsletter are Okinawa City Hall announcements published in the Okinawa City KCHO, translated into English to better serve our community of foreign residents. Administrative services are provided in Japanese only (unless otherwise indicated). For inquiries in English, please email: international@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp. You can also view monthly issues of the newsletter and other important information about living in Okinawa City online by clicking on the ENGLISH/英文 link on the Okinawa City website: <http://www.city.okinawa.okinawa.jp/>. We kindly ask for your patience and understanding as our free services are always a work in progress.