

**The  
July  
2024  
Issue**

**What is in  
this issue:**

**Shannon,  
Singapore,  
& Malaysia**

**Bonus:  
高 2 School  
Trip to  
Okinawa**

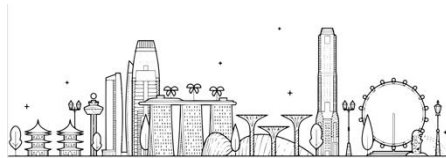


## Meet a Singaporean!

Hello! My name is Shannon.

你好！我叫 Shannon。

こんにちは！シャンノンです。



I am an English ALT at Keika Boys' School. I am so happy to share about myself and my culture in this issue of The Keika Chronicle! Let's dive right in ~

Could you **recognize** the three languages above?

Yes! They are - **English, Chinese** and **Japanese!**

These are the 3 languages that I can speak. In Singapore, our **first language** is English. We also learn a 2<sup>nd</sup> language - our **mother tongue**, in school! I am a **Chinese-Singaporean**, so I learned the Chinese language in school! I speak **Mandarin** (Standard Chinese dialect) to my family and Chinese friends. Being **bilingual** is something special about Singaporeans! I will share more about Singapore on the next page ~

I can also speak Japanese because I am interested to learn the language. I love Japan! I was **captivated** by the Japanese culture when I watched movies by **Studio Ghibli**. The movies have changed my **perspective** on life. My dream is to meet Director Mr. Miyazaki Hayao one day to thank him for producing those **amazing** animation movies!



Did you know? Mr. Miyazaki Hayao was born in Bunkyo Ward - where you go to school every day! Maybe one day, you might **bump into** him when he visits his birthplace ;)

## Thank you 3-1 and 3-2! ♡

I was so **honored** to visit the Year 3 Junior High School classes in the girls' school to give a presentation about Singapore before they went on their School Trip to Singapore and Malaysia! I hope that my stories and experiences as a **local** have enabled them to deeper **appreciate** Singapore's culture and heritage while they were there.



## About Singapore!



Singapore is **so small** - it is smaller than Tokyo!



Despite our size on the globe, we are extremely strong in our **Cultural Heritage**. Our communities are made up of Chinese (76.2%), Malays (15%), Indians (7.4%) and other various ethnicities. We are all **united** by a **common language** – English! Singapore is a **multiracial** society, and we value **peace and harmony**. Regardless of **race, language, or religion**, we live and **thrive** together as neighbors, classmates, and colleagues, and that makes us uniquely Singaporeans.



(Malay Cuisine)  
Mee Rubus ¥400

Having many cultures also means we get to enjoy a **diversity** of food! One famous culture of Singapore is our Hawker Centers. It is like a food court where you can order any dish you want! There is an **international** selection of **cuisines**, and they are very **affordable**! Check out the prices below the pictures!



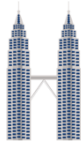
(Chinese Cuisine)  
Chicken Rice ¥500



(Indian Cuisine)  
Roti Prata ¥300

(Chinese Cuisine)  
Laksa ¥500





## About Malaysia!



A **fun fact** about me is that my mother was **born and raised** in Malaysia! We often travel to Malaysia to visit our relatives and sightsee. Singapore and Malaysia are right next to each other, and we usually travel by car.

Similar to Singapore, Malaysia is also a **multiracial** country with a **melting pot** of different cultures. There are 62.5% Malays, 20.6% Chinese, 6.2% Indians and 0.9% other various ethnicities.



The **official language** of Malaysia is Bahasa Malaysia, and they also learn their mother tongue language in school. Most schools teach them English too! Therefore, some Malaysians are **trilingual**! Just like my Mom, she can speak **3** languages and 2 Chinese dialects! She is my biggest **inspiration** to learn different languages! ♡

Like the prefectures in Japan, Malaysia has 13 **states** and 3 **federal territories**! The **capital** is Kuala Lumpur, where the famous Petronas Twin Towers is.

One of my favorite cultures in Malaysia is Mamak. This is a type of **cafeteria** where people can eat and *lepak* (relax in Malay). You can find Mamaks all over Malaysia. Japanese like going to Saizeriya, Hama-sushi, or Starbucks with their friends to *lepak* while Malaysians like going to Mamak! It is usually open *24 jam* (24 hours in Malay)! You can enjoy many local dishes like Roti Canai, Maggi Goreng, Nasi Lemak, and more! They also **livestream** sport matches so the place can become **bustling** with people in a lively and fun **atmosphere**!



**XOXO,  
Shannon**

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## 中 3 Travel Itinerary with Mr. Ishibashi



**June 3, 2024**

We took a Singapore Airlines **flight** from Haneda International Airport to Changi International Airport. Some of my students had never been on a **plane** before, so some of them were a little **nervous**, but others were **excited**. We then moved from Malaysia to Singapore. We stayed at a hotel in Johor Bahru near Singapore.

**June 4, 2024**

On this day, we had a school **exchange** in the morning. We had an **interaction** with students from SMK Seri Lalang in Malaysia. We played a famous game for Japanese students called "rock-paper-scissors train". Students from both schools had a great time. In the afternoon, we went to a Malaysian **village** to eat local food and wear **traditional** clothes.

For the first time in their lives, they ate food with their hands. It was an amazing **experience** for the students, and they were very happy to learn about Malaysian culture.

**June 5, 2024**

In the morning, the students went on a city **tour** of Johor Bahru, and then entered Singapore again. They visited the Merlion, **mosques** and **temples**, and learned about **multiculturalism**.

**June 6, 2024**

In the morning, we participated in a program called B&S. We went **sightseeing** in Singapore with local university students. We had a good time using English and Japanese. In the afternoon, we rode attractions and bought **souvenirs** at Universal Studios Singapore and had a good time. After that, we returned to Japan. Sometimes the students felt **confused** because of the differences of Japanese culture, but they felt moved, and **satisfied**.



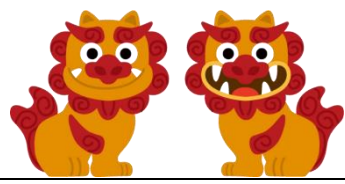
"This trip was very exciting for me. My best impression is eating food with my hands. It was very difficult because I always use my chopsticks. But it is good experience for me."

-Tamaki





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Bonus: 高2 School Trip to Okinawa with Erin

