

Winter, 2023

Information Desk Support Staff (Korean)

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## New Year in Korea

The lunar New Year is one of the typical

\*'Meisetsu' : celebrating the beginning of the year In

Korea. Even though the first of January by solar

calendar is a national holiday, people celebrate the

beginning of the year on the lunar New Year.

\*Meisetsu are the traditional holidays such as New Year's Day or Bon holiday, which people enjoy celebrating traditionally.

On New Year's Day family members get together, conduct religious services, visit family graves, visit relative's house, greet each other, share food, and enjoy chatting. (How to celebrate the New Year differs according to families and religions.)

In these days, more families enjoy traveling during the holidays rather than getting together with all relatives.



The most characteristic custom of New Year's Day is the New Year gift of money. Children all really look forward to having it. In Korea people usually give new notes to children or put the notes into white envelopes. Children are so happy to receive the New Year gift of money from grandparents and relatives. And the adults also feel so happy to see children's smiling faces.



**a good luck bag; people put money as New Year's gift**

On New Year's Day, 'the return home rush' is the highest topic. Many people visit back home during the holidays. They have to compete to book the express train tickets for returning home, or have to bear unusually heavy traffic of the highways. They don't give up going back home even though it is so hard to do so.

### The typical food on New Year's Day

Tteokguk (similar to Japanese *Ozouni* soup) on New Year's Day, most people eat Tteokguk, which is soup with rice cake. In some regions they put Gyoza dumplings in it.



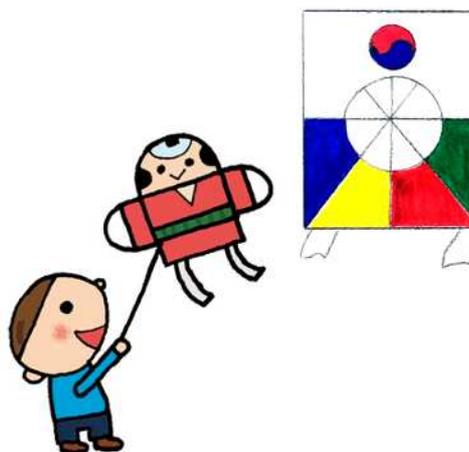
**Tteokguk**

## The typical games or plays on New Year's Day

Yutnori, (similar to Japanese backgammon, sugoroku) is the most popular game people play: Flying kites, Spinning tops.



Yutnori



kite flying

## The typical clothes on New Year's Day

People wear new clothes on New Year's Day.

Especially children wear traditional Korean clothes, Honbok (girls wear colorful Chima Jeogori), and greet each other.



Due to the Covid-19, a lot of people have given up going back home towns.

I strongly hope the situation around the Covid-19 will be better soon.

## Information from Nerima City Regional Promotion Section

### <Welcome to Information Desk at Cultural Exchange Square>

We provide all sorts of useful information in some languages for your daily life, including Japanese language classes and so on.

【Venue】 3-1-1、Hikarigaoka, Nerima City

【Telephone number】 03-3975-1252

【Open】 Weekday 10:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Saturday, Sunday, holidays 1:00-4:00p.m.

※Closed: When Culture Exchange Square is closed, and the end of year and new year holidays.

【Languages】 English : Tue. Thu. Sat. Chinese: Wed. Fri. Sun.

Korean : Mon. ※Please make inquires for other languages.

### <Please visit the Information Desk at Nerima City Office>

Counseling service in English, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog and Japanese is available at Nerima City Regional Promotion Section. Counseling on phone is also available.

【Venue】 Regional Promotion Office, 9<sup>th</sup> floor of Nerima City Main Building  
6-12-1, Toyotamakita, Nerima City

【Telephone Number】 03-5984-4333

【Open】 1:00p.m.-5:00p.m.

【Languages】 English : Mon.~Fri. Chinese : Mon.~Fri.

Korean : Fri. Tagalog : Mon.

※For other languages, please make inquiries.

### We hold events where Japanese and foreigners can interact with each other.

#### For more information

【Nerima City Official HP】

<https://www.city.nerima.tokyo.jp/gaikokunohitomuke/bunka.html>

【QR】



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