

# Our Hirosho School Life!



## What happened in November?

### School Trip

The second year students all go on a trip together to help build relationships with their classmates. This year they took a trip up to Tokyo from November 12<sup>th</sup> until the 16<sup>th</sup>. The students went many places on their adventures together. The students all went to Tokyo Disney Sea. They also saw The Lion King Broadway show, and visited Yokohama's Chinatown. On one day, each class chose their own destination. Some of the destinations were the Sky Tree, Ueno Zoo, and Harajuku.



### Culture Day

Culture day was held on November first. It celebrates the day that Hirosho first opened its doors to help children learn and prepare for their futures. During culture day, there is a lecture from a Hirosho alumnus. Afterwards, each of the clubs performs in celebration of the rich culture that has developed at the school.



### Class match

While the second year students are away on their class trip, the first and third grade students had two days of sports competitions where they competed with their classmates to be the best in their grade. The boys played basketball and softball, while the girls played volleyball and dodgeball.

### Final Exams

The final exams finished at the end of November so that students could focus on the Hirosho Department Store that is in the beginning of December. The students studied hard, and hopefully everybody received the marks they had hoped to earn.

# What's coming in December?

## Hirosho Department Store

The largest event of our school year is December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>!

## Christmas

The lights are already up on Peace Street! It's almost Christmas!

## End of the term and Winter break

In December, the second term ends and students start their winter break.

## In the ALT's corner...

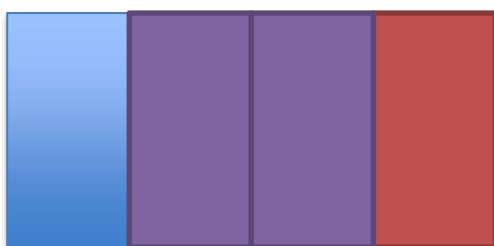
### Class Bonding

In most American high schools, there is not a strong bond between classes and you often don't know many of the people in your same grade. In our schools, you get to choose which classes you want to take and it doesn't matter what grade you are in. In high school, most of my friends were my seniors because I often took hard math classes and sciences classes while I was a freshman and sophomore. Since we don't take all of our classes together, we don't get to know the same people over the course of our four years in high school. Because of this, we cannot have a class match competition! We also can't have one entire grade take a school trip together. It makes me sad not to have experienced these events when I was in high school, but it also makes me happy that I was able to choose my own class difficulties. Japan and American schools are very different and both systems have good points, and some bad points.

### Dodgeball: America VS Japan

Another difference I noticed was the way that dodgeball is played in Japan. I did not understand the rules at all. Having two concentric squares is not the way we play dodge ball in America. You cannot surround the other team. I like it because it makes the game interesting when there is not an enclosed space in which to play dodgeball. In America, we usually play dodgeball inside a gymnasium. Each team could go to 3/4 of the gym, so both teams can go into the middle to try to grab balls. This means that you could be very brave and try to steal balls from the other team, but if you get too close, they might get you. On the other hand, you can try to hide in the back, but eventually the other team would get close enough to hit you.

American Rules



Japanese Rules

