

Our Hirosho School Life!



What happened in December?

Hirosho Department Store

The Hirosho Department Store is the largest school event at Hirosho. The event was held on December seventh and eighth; however, the students spend the whole year planning the event. The students started planning in December of the previous school year by selecting volunteers for important management positions. Around February, they presented all the information on the previous year's department store and determined what things need to be changed, and what things worked really well. In September, the students started placing orders for their products through series of interviews with the companies that make them.



The students use some of the information from previous years to determine their predicted sales volumes and the price points for their items. After these interviews until the first day of the store, the students spend a lot of time designing their posters, signs, store layout, and their product information sheets.

This year the store was a huge success. Students sold many cooked foods like soba, ramen, French fries, fried chicken and cheese balls. They also sold many food products such as pickled foods, seasonings, raw meat, raw fish, seaweed, fruits, vegetables

and various dried seafood. Throughout both days, thousands of customers visited and purchased many products students had for sale. This year there was a major change that most students didn't appreciate. In previous years, students got one hour to shop at the stores each day after all the customers left, but this year, that was cancelled. This caused a couple problems for students. First off, they didn't get to buy products from their friends. They also had to adjust their order quantities to try to



compensate for the lack of student customers. Overall, most students were not happy with this change and will probably fight to change it back next year. Great work everyone!



Christmas and winter break

As Christmas approached, many students went to visit the lights on Peace Street with their friends and families. Finally, on Christmas Eve, students were set free to enjoy their winter vacation with their friends and family. Happy holidays everybody!

What's coming in January?

Exchange Students

Two students from Australia will come to Hirosho.

Internship presentations

Second year students have to share the important points of their August internships.

3rd Year's Exams

Third year students are preparing for their final high school tests.

In the ALT's corner...

Winter Break differences

Winter break is very different between Japan and America. For Christmas, most Japanese people think of eating KFC chicken, and Christmas cake then maybe exchange gifts with their significant other. In Japan, Christmas Eve is very similar to Valentine's Day in America. Christmas cake is a tradition from the UK and the cake is quite different from the shortcake commonly eaten in Japan. In America, we generally spend Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day with our close or extended families. We do not eat KFC for Christmas though. Most families will prepare a ham or a turkey for their dinner.

When it comes to the New Year, Japan tends to spend time with their family eating special foods and maybe waking up very early for their first temple visit of the year. In my country, we usually have parties with our friends, and celebrate the New Year with a kiss at midnight.

Traveling

Each year Christmas time is a lonely time for me. I miss my family and it is very expensive and takes a long time to travel home for the short holiday. Instead, I usually spend the winter break traveling to a nearby country with some of my closest friends in Japan who I consider to be my Japan family. In the past, we have visited Thailand, and Taiwan. This year, we decided to go to Cambodia. It was very interesting. It was very warm, and the culture was very different. Many of the people there



speak very good English because tourism is popular and many tourists speak English. Some of the coolest things to see in Cambodia were the temples and museums. Angkor Wat was massive and beautiful. There are many street markets that sell products at low prices.

The food was interesting and sometimes a bit intimidating. Many street markets sell insects for you to eat. It was a great place to go, and I recommend it if you get a chance. The weather is nice, it is very beautiful, and many things are cheap! Our hostel was about 500 yen per night. If you get lonely, you should grab some friends and have an awesome holiday in Cambodia!

