

Our Hirosho School Life!



What happened in September?

Sports Day

Sports day was held on September 26th. Sports day is a day in which all the classes are split up into two different teams. Half of the students are on red team. The other half is on the blue team. Students participate in a wide array of athletic competitions such as various relay races, tug of war matches, jump rope, and ball games. Each competition awards the teams points based on the place in which they finish. Throughout the day, there are performances by many of the clubs.



There's also a dance performed by each grades' boys and girls. At the end of the day the scores are tallied up and the victor receives the sports day trophy. This year the red team triumphed with a score of 695 over the blue team's 687. It was a really close match! Congratulations red team! Blue team, you'll get them next year!

3rd year Interviews

September is a busy month for third year students. Most interview for their universities or jobs for after graduation. Some of the students knew before the end of the month whether they passed or not. Congratulations to those of you who already know you passed!

Open school

A very important event during September is Hirosho's open school. On Saturday, September 14th, Hirosho opened its doors to the middle school students that were interested in attending Hirosho the following year. All of Hirosho's students showed up and attended classes on Saturday. The middle schoolers were able to walk around and observe the different lessons. After lunch, the clubs at Hirosho set up for the middle schoolers to see what was each club was all about. It was a great day for students to meet next year's possible first graders.



What's coming in October?

Speech Contest

In the beginning of the month, our six speech contestants will finally compete for a trip to Tokyo.

Mid-term Exams

The mid-terms will help students know if they are on track for the grades they want by the end of the term!

Halloween

It's becoming scarily popular these days.

In the ALT's corner...

Halloween

Halloween is quickly becoming popular in Japan. It is joining the other borrowed holidays such as Christmas and Valentine's Day. Halloween first came to Japan around 20 years ago when it was featured at Disneyland in Japan. After that, each year it has been quickly getting more and more popular in Japan.

Halloween originally comes from many different holidays that have been added together over a long time. It starts with the Celtic holiday, Samhain. When Rome conquered Europe, it got combined with Roman and Christian holidays. When people immigrated to America, they brought some of the traditions from Europe with them.

In America the people used it the holiday to celebrate the harvest, tell fortunes, and tell stories about the dead and ghosts. Halloween changed in America to help bring the community together before the winter came. They would celebrate and play small tricks on people. They would dress up and sing and dance. It is the holiday people spend the second most money on in America.

Since coming to Japan, Halloween has quickly grown in popularity. Many people will dress up on Halloween and meet in major parts of town to show off their costumes. There are also zombie events in different locations across Japan. It is fun to see how Halloween changes each year. Don't forget to get your costume early!



Welcome to October

The weather is nice. This time of the year is one of my favorite times. The weather gets a little chilly and the leaves change color. In my hometown, this change begins much sooner and takes more time. In Hiroshima the leaves change color very quickly! In Cincinnati, leaves change color over about a month and a half, but here it is usually 2 or 3 weeks.

I love this weather because it is perfect for hiking. Japan has a shorter leave changing season, but it has a lot more hiking areas than my home town. Some of my favorite hiking places are not far from Hirosho.

Mt. Misen is a great place to hike, but if you go up to the top, I highly recommend Komagabayashi. It is only about 20 minutes from the summit of Mt. Misen. It has an equally great view and a lot fewer people, so you can relax a lot.

Mitaki Dera is another great hike. After reaching the top, you have a spectacular view of the whole city. It has a few fun portions of different landscape, such as, a creek, a bamboo forest, and a deciduous forest. You also have a decent chance of encountering some interesting wildlife.

If you have a ride, or wake up early, Sandankyou Gorge is wonderful. It is the one of the most beautiful places to hike around the prefecture. If you add in the leaves changing color, it is simply awe-inspiring.

There are other small places to hike, like Motoujina Island, and Hijiyama Park. Now is the perfect season for hiking! If you like to hike, please talk to me and tell me your favorite places to go!