

Hi there,

We don't have especially special events here in November, but I had two trips this month, so I'll write about that.

At the beginning of November, I had a day trip by bus. It was held by the international group of my area so I could talk with many other international students. About the international students, I found an interesting thing. In this semester (semester is like 学期, and our school have two semesters a year), there are many Spanish and Mexican. I thought Canada has especially a large number of internationals from those areas, but apparently not. Another high school near here has more Germans than Spanish and Mexicans, and in addition, we'll have a lot of Italians in next semester. It's only in this semester, and only at our school. I don't know why such a thing happens, and I'm curious about it.

The other trip was a day trip by ferry. We went to another island and enjoyed a Christmas market. In Canada, we have Christmas market everywhere from November because Christmas is a bigger event than in Japan. I think it is interesting to know the difference in the importance of events. Here is an interesting example. Happily, winter break is coming soon. Our winter break will start earlier than Hakuo's. It'll start on December 17th and school will start again on January 3rd. I was surprised because January 1st, 2nd and 3rd are called “三が日” and everyone take rest in Japan. It's because New Year isn't so important in Canada. I knew those things as a piece of knowledge, but I didn't know the reality of them. It was a new discover for me. Getting back to Christmas market, I enjoyed some foods such as pretzel.

I felt like I came back to the actual home when I came back from these trips although only three months have passed since I met my host family first. I really appreciate for that, and I'll try to help housework and talk about Japanese cultures more earnestly. Then, I hope they'll think it was good to accept me when I go back to Japan.

Enjoy your Christmas,

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