

October arrived and brought cool weather with it. At the beginning of the month students prepared for another round of exams as well as the Eiken test. While the students studied hard and began preparing for their chorus contest, Shiroyama's ALT was preparing fun learning for them.

The first part came in the form of this month's English board. Most students learn about Halloween in their elementary school classes. They learn about trick or treat and Jack O Lanterns. But every year the ALT tries to give students a deeper understanding. A big part of Halloween is scary stories. Many scary movies come out during October for Halloween. So this year's Halloween English board was about a special kind of scary story. This year the ALT taught the students about urban legends. There was a map of the USA with the most famous monster from every state. Then there was a very special map of her home state of Michigan, every famous ghost story was marked with red string.

The students came to see what she was doing after sixth period. "I love urban legends!" One of them said. A few third year boys asked about the Native American Wendigo story. Students and teachers alike practiced saying Japanese urban legends in English like "The Slit-Mouthed Woman". It was the most popular English board yet!

Next for first year students, the ALT made a very special review board game. It used cards for different grammar points from the chapter. It was themed with their favorite manga characters. The game was so popular many first year students came and got copies during the lunch break!

The students were preparing hard for the chorus contest every day. The boys and girls would sometimes split into smaller groups to practice. Some groups were made by whether they were alto or soprano, etc. Videos were made after school and students worked hard on their props.

The chorus contest is almost here and the students are very busy. The ALT helps the art club prepare for their chorus contest art show as well prepare for her presentation at the Shiga Prefecture JET Conference next month. With every month new and fun opportunities await!

