



That was September. It was over before we know it. We opened the new semester and we celebrated our school festival. Now, we are welcoming the autumn. Say “Hello” to October, everyone!



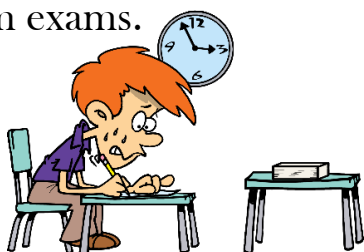
Speaking of our school festival last September, the Language Center teachers prepared a “Game Room” where everyone can participate a game and learn English as well. The games catered to all levels, whether zero beginner to the most advance level. All games were challenging, yet the participants enjoyed every bit of it.



And that was September. End of the typhoon season, hopefully. We welcome OCTOBER and we are going to see some change of colours around us. Halloween also is just around the corner...Boo!



There is so much more to the month of October than ghouls and goblins. For instance, the reason behind why October was named after the number eight, the preparation of the EIKEN tests and the students’ most favourite activity... the midterm exams.



Did you know...



## Why is October named after the number eight?

Everybody knows that October is the 10<sup>th</sup> month of the year, but *did you know* that long time ago October was the 8<sup>th</sup> month of the year. In the ancient Roman calendar, *October* was the name of the eighth month of the year. The name comes from *octo*, the Latin word for “eight.” When the Romans converted to a 12-month calendar, they tried to rename this month after various Roman emperors, but October’s name

stuck! In Old England, the month was called *Winmonath*, which means “wine month,” for this was the time of the year when wine was made. The English also called it Winterfylleth, or “Winter Full Moon.”



They consider this full moon to be the start of winter. How about here in Japan, are you feeling the winter chills already?

## HALLOWEEN



Carving pumpkins, trick-or-treating, and wearing scary costumes are some of the time-honoured, American traditions of Halloween. Did you know the origin of Halloween?

Halloween is a holiday celebrated each year on 31<sup>st</sup> of October, and Halloween 2023 will occur on Tuesday, 31 of October. The Halloween holiday has its roots in the ancient Celtic festival of *Samhain* (a Gaelic word pronounced “SAH-win”), a pagan religious celebration to welcome the harvest at the end of summer, when people light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. Sounds like Obon festival in Japan, except that here in Japan huge fires are lit at the entrance of houses to guide the spirits to enter, not to ward them off.

Did you also know that the carved pumpkin used as a Halloween symbol or décor was originally a turnip (カブ)?

Their origin comes from an Irish myth about Stingy Jack, who tricked the Devil for his own monetary gain. When Jack died, God didn’t allow him into heaven, and the Devil didn’t let him into hell, so Jack was sentenced to roam the earth for eternity. **In Ireland, people started to carve demonic faces out of turnips to frighten away Jack’s wandering soul. When Irish immigrants moved to the U.S., they began carving jack-o’-lanterns from pumpkins, as these were native to the region.**

PICK YOUR JACK-O’-LANTERN!

### PUMPKIN

- MODERN
- SPOOKY
- YOU GUT IT
- CARVING IS QUITE FUN
- TIM BURTON VIBES
- TRICK OR TREAT!

### TURNIP

- TRADITIONAL
- TERRIFYING
- IT GUTS YOU
- CARVING MAKES YOU BLEED
- JOHN CARPENTER VIBES
- TRICK OR BEAT!

