

Finally, the winter has arrived in Michigan. I was thinking about what to write on my report since Christmas is the biggest thing in December, I had no idea other than Christmas. One of my friends told me "Thanksgiving is just a midpoint for Christmas" as soon as Halloween was over. Every single one was so excited for it from the beginning of November, or earlier. I remember my sisters asking their mom how many sleeps were left until Christmas when I just arrived here, which was in the middle of August.

In the morning on Christmas, kids came into my room and reported that Santa had come. We opened the presents from Santa and the parents. Then we had Christmas breakfast. After that, we went to a Christmas party held by my host father's grandmother. We had Christmas dinner and did family gathering. I felt like there were no big differences between Thanksgiving, except for the gift exchange. Everyone put gifts for each person under the Christmas tree and waited until everyone finished eating. My host sisters delivered each gift to the addressed person, that was quite a sweet moment. I got bunch of stuff too. I didn't expect that I was going to get tons of gifts, so I was surprised. I got a comfy PJ, tee, mug, key holder, chocolate, hand cream and things on my Christmas list. At that time, I saw the reason why my host mom told me not to buy anything until Christmas. In December we had three Christmas parties and gift-exchanging in total. They were just fun, happy moments.

Christmas things lasted for that whole month. In the beginning of December, I went to a Santa parade. A lot of organizations like companies and schools in that city paraded and threw candies from their cars. In the middle of December, I joined the Christmas concert which my band class held as well. We played some Christmas songs. Our latest Christmas party was on Dec. 30th so I would say December was all dominated by Christmas. Some people enjoy their Christmas tree until new year or later.



Gift exchanging with my friends at school.



Lighted up downtown