

It's been one month since I started living in St. Mary's, Ontario, Canada. Everything is new to me, and I'm excited to learn more. I'd love to tell you about my life in Canada.

I take 75 minutes  $\times$  4 classes; Leadership, Canadian history, science, and English every day. My school has many international students. They make up about one-third of the student body, so my teachers are flexible. I have many discussions in my leadership and English classes. It was hard to join the conversation, but I tried to speak up at least once during each discussion. I made friends, and we say hello to each other when I see them. I have lunch with them.

I'm on the field hockey and tennis teams. I wanted to join the swimming team, but the pool is closed because it is being renovated. I've never played both sports, but I enjoyed them. I have field hockey practice from 7:00 to 8:15 in the morning. My coach and team members taught me to play kindly, so I'm relieved. I didn't expect to play the games because I'm a beginner. I've already played three games. Every morning at my school, we listen to the announcements after the national anthem. One day, I heard my name as a person that had contributed to the games. Then, between first and second period, my friend told me, "I heard your name in the announcement." It made me happy because I have a friend that noticed my name and told me. When it comes to tennis, I might not have much natural talent because I started both sports at the same time, but it was faster that I felt my improvement of field hockey than tennis. The tennis coach often tells me "That's okay", "Nice try", "You can play better by practice." I keep practicing to improve my skill.



I am staying with a large family in Canada, who have three babies. They are so adorable! They have accepted Japanese students before, so my host father knows how to greet them in Japanese. We have a prayer before supper and say "いただきます" every day. I'm glad they value Japanese culture, too. They gave me lots of Canadian snacks. My favorites are ketchup-flavored potato chips and maple cookies. My host sister recommended pumpkin-flavored maple cookies to me. Sweet potato flavored snacks are more popular in Japan than pumpkin flavored, so it's fun to try the pumpkin flavor.

I went to Niagara Falls with my host family on the weekend. The power of the waterfall was overwhelming. It was wetter than I expected, but beautiful. I had a good time with them.



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