

2学期は文化祭からはじまり2学年の皆さんは修学旅行と学校行事がたくさんありますね。 ぜひ、一つ一つのことに全力で、楽しみながら挑んでいきましょう。皆さんの経験は、必ず一生の宝物のような思い出 になりますよ。さて、今号は8月に実施されたオーストリア国際交流プログラム、9月の文化祭の様子、次世代リーダ 一で海外留学中の方たちの記事を載せています。ぜひご一読ください。

オーストラリア国際交流プログラム

このプログラムは、グローバル化が進展する中で国際的な視野を育て、海外の人々との交流を積極的に行う ことのできる人材を育成し、ホームスティの滞在や語学学習を通してさまざまな体験をすることを目的とし て実施されたものです。井草高校では夏休みの期間に希望者をオーストラリアへ引率し、現地の方との交流 や大自然を体感することで生徒の国際的視野を広げることに取り組んでいます。

参加した生徒の感想です。(1年女子)



I really enjoyed the memorable time in Australia.

The environment in Australia is more similar to Japan than I thought. I was especially worried about water, for example, whether the tap water was safe to drink and there was a serious shortage of water. So, I looked them up online in advance. I found out that it was better not to drink the tap water and that we should use the shower for 5 minutes only because water was precious. However, actually my host family told me I could use the shower freely and gave me a bottle of tap water every day. I was a little surprised and

was relieved that I could drink the water just like in Japan.

The scenery in Australia is completely different from Japan. The shapes of many buildings are curved and artistic as the upper photo shows. It's wonderful how people can freely create their own landscapes in a country where there are no earthquakes. And, there is a lot of greenery in the urban area. I think it's because the country is so large. The most impressive thing is the roads. In Japan, a car usually turns 90 degrees to the right or left at an intersection. But in Australia, there is a circular road in the middle of an intersection and several roads diverge from there. A driver chooses the road to go after passing through the circular road. Also, the school timetable has a time called morning tea at about 11:00. People eat 5 meals a day. All the food was very nice, but it was a little

hard to clean my plate.

We studied at Toongabbie Christian School for 4 days. The first thing that struck me was the diversity of the students. I was able to make a lot of new friends on the first day. They were very friendly and I really enjoyed chatting with them during morning tea and lunchtime. I still keep in touch with them. I took not only English class but also Chinese, physics, and mathematics classes



in English. It was very hard to learn Chinese in English, however the Chinese message game all of us played was fun. Although the content of the textbook was very difficult because of the technical terms in English, I was able to understand physics with diagrams and graphs. Lastly, my host family was very kind and lively. We could enjoy shopping together after school and on the weekend. The Sri Lankan food my host mother cooked was so good. A cute cat, Lily, nuzzled my feet and relaxed in my room when I came home.

I was a little nervous because this was the first trip abroad. But I came across many good experiences. I'm so lucky to have a great host family, friends and teachers. I'll never forget this trip. Thanks everyone for making this trip special!







文化祭

9月上旬の二日間にかけて本校で文化祭が実施されました。今年は数年ぶりに一般来場も可能となり、井草 高校本来の活気ある文化祭となりました。各クラスや部活動が準備した展示や出し物は、どれも個性豊かで 訪れた生徒や保護者、一般の来場者を楽しませました。特に演劇部の公演、ダンス部や書道部のパフォーマ ンスは迫力満点で、観客から大きな拍手が送られました。また、模擬店も大人気で、行列ができるほどの賑 わいでした。来場者が笑顔であふれる中、友達同士で写真を撮ったり、思い出を共有する姿が印象的でした。 皆で作り上げた一日が、心に残る素晴らしい文化祭となりました。











留学中の IGUSA 生からの現地報告メール

今回も2年生の川田さん、アブドラジゾヴァさんのメールを3通、写真と共に紹介します。

アフドラジゾヴァ ロビヤボヌ さん (オーストラリア)

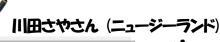
Hello, long time no see! I hope every one had a wonderful summer vacation. In Australia, it is extremely cold and the weather is gloomy. However, spring is about to come so I am very excited about it.

Recently at school, I was very busy due to my plethora of assignments and tests. What was really difficult is that every subject is getting harder and harder every week. Although, thanks for my improvement of English and my kind friends, I am managing to overcome the difficult times.

This week, something very special happened. I had to make a speech in front of 1900 people in the school assembly as an international student from Japan! I made a very

silly joke that every one laughed at it. Also, another international student from Japan had to sing the national anthem of Japan and a famous song, Country Road! Her voice was absolutely beautiful that whole school is talking about how fantastic she was! This became one of the very big experiences!

It has been almost 8 months since I have been here. Only 95 days are left until I go back to Japan. I am very excited to meet my friends again!





≪August≫

Hi. I'm going to write about my $7^{\rm th}$ month of studying abroad.

^{3rd} August, I visited my friend who lives on a farm to experience farm work. There were about 200 baby goats and 400 goats. The farmer feeds each goat manually three times in a day because the babies cannot find where the milk is by themselves. I was healed by the baby goats, but I cannot say that it was easy work. I felt that the farms were so amazing, caring for hundreds of goats, doing the same work several times a day, and doing it every day.

I think there are more vegetariansism in New Zealand than in Japan. I have

thought about vegetarian a lot since I met these kinds of people. The value of life is the same for people and animals, but animals are easily killed and eaten by humans, and I thought it was cruel. I didn't have the courage or the guts to be one, but I often wondered if I should become a vegetarian. However, I changed my mind after visiting the farm and seeing the farm work. There are people taking care of the animals so we can consume them. In other words, there are people taking care of animals for us to eat, and that is work. If we are firmly thankful for the life of the animal and for the farm, it is not wrong to take life to eat, I thought. It is very difficult even in Japanese to describe why and how my thinking about vegetarianism changed, but this is just my opinion, and I do not think I am right or wrong, I think there are no answers on these kinds of topics, like animal life and vegetarianism. My opinion might change again, and I might be a vegetarian someday. It was a good opportunity to experience farm work and to think about animal life and vegetarianism.

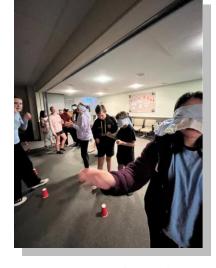


Lately, I feel that the time has gone very fast. There are only about 100 days left of my study abroad. I had been looking forward to studying abroad for a long time. When it came time to leave Japan, and my classmate from H held a farewell party for me, I was anxious and scared about studying abroad, and I really didn't want to leave everyone, and now, I miss my family and friends, of course. But I don't want to go back to Japan, I want to stay here forever. I am so lucky to be able to have the feeling that wherever I am, I don't want to leave this place.

With 100 days left, there is no more time. I want to spend it with them with no regrets and with gratitude to the people who have created this happy environment for me.

≪**September**≫

Hi. I am going to write about my 8th month experiences as an international student. I went to an op shop (opportunity shop) to volunteer. It is like a charity shop in Japan. They sell donated clothes, shoes, toys, and other items, and the proceeds are donated to charities. I worked there for 3 to 4 hours. There were about 3 other volunteers. No one comes here expecting to receive income from it. If a salary were involved, we would have earned 3000 yen in Japan and \$60 in New Zealand, but we did not receive any income. I think people who choose to spend their time volunteering to donate and help others are very kind and admirable.



Also, while working at the cash register, I noticed that the customers are very friendly. Many customers asked me how I'm doing, where I'm from, and if I'm enjoying New Zealand, and when they leave the store, they always said, 'thank you'

and 'have a good day'. It feels very nice both when I hear such words and when I say them myself. I really like this kind of the culture I haven't experienced in Japan.

A few days ago, I got into trouble with my host family. Since then, I am not able to say that this house is a comfortable place for me. But it gave me the opportunity to reassess about how important the presence of my real family is, the most comfortable place is definitely my home in Japan with my own family, and how challenging it is for a host family to welcome an exchange student as if they were one of their own children. Some families who accept exchange students have reasons such as wanting to support the student or wanting to know about different cultures through the student. On the other hand, some may only be interested in the financial benefits. My host family was never like that. They were very kind and helped me make my study abroad experience great these 8 months. No matter what troubles arose, the fact remains that they took on the significant responsibility of being a host family for me. I can only be grateful to such a host family. I want to continue to be thankful and not forget my gratitude.