香港中文大学日本研究学科

日本大分県犬飼町Homestay計画2015







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犬飼	町わ	かあゆ国際交流会 2015ホ	ームステイプログラム			
7月	曜日	午前	午後	備考	車	
22日	水	オリエンテーション	大分空港を迎え	大分空港	市バス	21名乗り
		バス内にて	八刀工店 姓ん	21:30頃着予定		
			犬飼支所19:00出発	犬飼23:30頃着予定		
23日	木	13:00~市長表敬訪問	19:00~歓迎会	三重町・犬飼町		商工会館
		12:30三重本庁集合	18:00 集合	料理持込み		
24日	金	着付け教室	15:00~華道・16:00~茶道	犬飼公民館		
		13:00	和服・花器・ハサミ持参	17:00まで		
25日	土	サロン(酒万頭)	座禅教室 · BBS交流	学生交流・犬飼町		
		9:~柴北上公民館	15:00 ~ · 17:00 ~	食材 おにぎり60個・野菜持参他		
26日	В		各家庭にて			
27日	月	神楽教室	昼食後・方言教室	三重総合高校学生交流		
		10:00 ~ 12:00	犬飼公民館にて ・~15:00			
28日	火	10:00大分銀行	大分県庁・ 別府地獄・大吊橋・久住他観光 観光バス		30名	
		9:00~犬飼公民館出発	11:00 ・ 地獄蒸(昼食)	18:00まで		
29日	水	農業体験				
		9:00~柴北下公民館	*とうきび収穫・川遊び他・石ペイント	17:00まで		ミモザ会他
30日	木	ジオパーク見学	企業見学等	17:00まで	市バスにて	21人
		犬飼公民館10:00~沈堕の滝・出会橋・太陽光発電12:00原尻の滝(昼食)鷹来屋他・俚楽の郷・神楽会				
31日	金	各 家 庭 に て				
8月						
1日	±		18:00~お別れ会	料理持込み		
			17:30集合			商工会館
2日	B	犬飼駅 お見送り				

吳麗瑩

這次已是我第4次到訪日本,旅行、留學、工作也試過,唯獨這次 homestay 使我非常期待。

第一天出發時香港下著大雨,我們在機場也擔心航班會有所延遲,可幸的是我們都順利到達成田機場,趕上前往羽田機場的巴士。可是,到達羽田機場後竟然寫著我們乘撘的航班或會因大分機場的能見度過低而折返羽田機場,當時大家都非常擔心,分別通知我們 host 的爸爸媽媽和 Chris,我們最終也順利地到達大分機場。到步的時候已經看見我們的爸爸媽媽在外舉起名牌,而足立家的爸爸也在場等我們,大家一起乘坐小巴回到犬飼,再由爸爸駕駛私家車帶我們回家。雖然回到家的時候已經十一時多,媽媽也準備了壽喜燒作我們的晚餐,使我們切實地感受到日本的家庭溫暖。

第二天七時多起床後和爸爸媽媽一起吃過早飯後,9歲的さくら和5歲的すみれ來了跟我們一起跟著爸爸體驗了陶藝,吃過午餐後便出發到市役所拜訪副市長先生,並聽了一個關於大分縣 Geo Park 的講座。回到家的時候すみれ要我們抱她,早上的時候姐妹二人還是不太敢跟我們談話,回來的時候卻非常的熱情呢!大家一起準備了歡迎會的食物後一起出發前往會場。大家一起吃了很多美食,也和不同家庭的成員互相交流,獲益良多。我們十人一起表演了妖怪體操第一和和聲beat,而犬飼的大家好像都很喜歡看 dem beat。歡迎會過後大家各自回到自己的家庭休息,並觀賞了香港無法看見到美麗星空。

第三天在早餐的時候,さくら和すみれ來到起居室時的第一句話是「お姉さんたちは?」,すみれ必在我們之間吃飯,使我們非常開心。早餐過後我們幫忙做些家務和準備午後的茶道及花道

會。姐姐把浴衣和带借給我們,我們一 玉米作午餐後便一起出發。到達後我們 習穿浴衣,然後便先參加花道班。生け 要的是空間、正面、imbalance,每朵花的 會影響整個感覺呢!我們一起完全插花 和室參加茶道班,由於早前也曾於京都 道班,整個流程並不陌生,只是正坐依 維持太久,時間亦不夠長,不足以讓我 茶泡。其後爸爸帶了我們去了見他的朋 一名釀酒的專家,我們談了一會香港的



起一花擺後參然們友文吃起最位便加不打,化過學重也到茶能起是後

便回到家中,一家人一起飲酒吃飯,非常高興。夜裡走出屋外,看到滿天的星光,更看到一顆流星閃過,非常感動。

第四天吃過早飯後便到爸爸的田裡採摘青瓜,爸爸還告訴我們因為他的青瓜很新鮮才會長有刺呢!我們先去造酒饅頭,過程和造湯丸差不多,只是饅頭是用蒸成的,顏色有點像馬拉糕。在等待的過程中我們一起嘗試了用手鈴演奏日本的歌謠,也學習了如何做三角形的飯團,非常開心。

吃過親手做的饅頭及飯團後我們表演了手鈴,收捨好餐碟後我們一起談天,到3時前往寺廟體驗20分鐘的坐禪。住持拿著木尺在我們之間行著,在我們有雜念的時候拍打我們的肩提神,而廟內的觀音卻因在江戶時代修葺過已不能成為國寶。之後我們和當地的 SSB 學生在草地進行了飲み会,大家一起喝酒談天氣氛非常高漲!到8時天色變得陰暗,我們也隨之完結了宴會,各自回家。

第五天是各家庭的自由活動日,爸爸在早餐時為我們造了紫蘇汁,因為我們都很喜歡這果汁,爸

爸便很自豪地告訴我們製作的過後爸爸帶了我們到佐伯市看水車,台風的影響下著大雨,但也無損興致,爸爸表演了他拿手的片石, 與致,爸爸表演了他拿手的片石, さくら一起在河邊玩,Phoebe 卻地上弄濕了身,爸爸怕她著涼買 毛巾給她。之後我們到了水族館 在附近吃了第一次外食,由於是 錢大家都不敢選太貴的,但也很 今天有3個由荷蘭來的童軍留宿 我們成為了雙方的翻譯員,也一



程雖我我跌了參爸好一起。然們們入一觀爸吃晚在飯因的和在條和付。,附

近散步,便回去準備晚飯用的流水素面和燒烤用品。晚飯時,哥哥的雙胞胎弟弟一家四口也來了一起吃飯,14 人一起坐在竹邊真的非常快樂。飯後我們一起玩了捉迷藏,鄉村的小孩遠離電子產品,都生活得更健康,可惜的是晚上太多雲,不能見到美麗的星空。

第六天的早餐有日本的也有荷蘭的食品,大家都非常喜歡這種融洽的感覺。大家一起出發欣賞神樂的表演,雖然他們都是高中生,但大家都很專業,3部分的舞蹈先是女生,之後是男生,最後是戴著面具的來搶我們手裡的榊草,大家都玩得非常開心。之後我們一家去了歡送荷蘭的3人,大家都非常不捨,亦有其他家庭的荷蘭人哭了起來。回到會場我們一起吃便當和玩紅綠燈,之後便上了一節大分方言課,大家都很喜歡なしか這方言。3時多我們回到家中,一起為晚飯作準備,弄了薯仔沙津及漢堡,大家一起作飯一起吃喝非常的高興。

第七天我們先到了大分銀行參觀,新建的大樓高五層,內有咖啡店、會議室等一應俱全。銀行的 職員向我們介紹銀行業務,當中竟包括了觀光計劃、網頁翻譯等,十分有趣。其後我們到了大分 縣廳跟廳長會面,他們都很希望我們能把大分的美傳達給香港的朋友,吸引更多遊客到大分。訪 問過後我們到了別府吃午飯,飯後出發前往九重夢大吊橋。吊橋離地 179 米非常的壯觀,兩岸還 有瀑布小溪,令我們非常感動,巴士離開時途經久住高原,也是非常的美麗!回家彼我們替日前 做的陶器上色,大家都係期待成品的誕生! 第八天我們到了公民館學習烹調大分縣傳統料理的團子汁,大家分工切菜、搽團子,學習得非常快樂。其後我們到河川玩片石和拾一些石子回去繪畫,在河玩有很多蝌蚪及鯉魚,大家都很可惜

香港已經失去這些自然景觀。繪畫 起吃飯,還欣賞了爸爸們唱的演歌, 很好聽!收拾好場地我們便去了騎 是第一次坐在馬背上散步,而為我 是一個中學女生,卻非常的能幹 中吃過晚飯,我們和哥哥還有さく 一起玩花火,在香港不能隨意的放 只要出門就可以了,這離忘的經驗 高興。

過大馬們呢ら煙使後都我馬回す,們唱們的到み在非們的到み在非

第九天是豊後大野市 Geo-park 的考

察,我們到

了不同的滝(瀑布)參觀,看了不同的水車和古老的吊橋,感受到香港沒有的壯麗景色,都使我們非常高興。瀑布旁的小溪中有個鳥居,就像嚴島神社的那個一樣。我們的午餐是以豊後大野市盛產的蔬果做成的,每種食材都非常新鮮美味。午飯過後我們去到看全日本最長的拱形橋,亦到了神樂會館參觀,最後到了酒廠學習做酒的過程,並品嚐了各種酒,杯杯也感受到店主對釀酒的執著,店主亦會到香港參與美食博覽會呢!

第十天是自由活動的日子,爸爸帶了我們到久住高原。我們先到了久住高原中全日本最大的全景 觀望台,也登上了山頂的展望台和さくら和すみれ一起玩了鞦韆和吃雪糕。之後我們去了大分飲

用水的上流湧水泉源,那裡是入選 清涼水源,附近的樹木亦生長得很 條浸腳的小溪,溪水只有 13 度, 過後我們到了露營區吃過飯後並回 飯的餃子,大家一起造飯的感覺真 期間爸爸拿了一個生日蛋糕出來說 祝生日,足立一家為我唱了生日 歲生日特別難忘!

第十一天是お別れ会的日子,在 5 各家庭的自由時間。由於爸爸媽媽 我們便和さくら和すみれ一起玩, 緣的不捨,我們在家一起打鬧著, 撲克牌。爸爸在午飯前駕著電單車 名的炸雞回來當午飯,也送了些他 紫蘇汁給我們帶回香港,而姐姐則 們。我們一起準備派對的食品後便



了名水一百選的 健壯。那還有一 非常冰涼!休息 家,一起製作晚 的很溫馨。晚飯 是要提早跟我慶 歌,使我的 20

時半集合前都是 都要下田工作 大家都流露著 玩起了捉送藏 外出買了大梅酒 親手做的物物 買了些飾物給我 出發到會場,大 家都幫忙佈置會場。飯後爸爸們為我帶來了一個驚喜,給了我一個生日蛋糕,大家也一起表演了 手鈴、dem beat 和背誦平家物語,非常的高興。最後大家一起唱了翼をください,團友們都哭了 起來,在非常不捨的氣氛下各自回家。

第十二天我們都很早起床,和さくら一起吃了最後的早餐,而すみれ則一如既往的不肯吃早餐,我們都非常不捨得離開,さくら亦畫了一幅畫給我們。在我們要走之前,嫲嫲送了她造的飾物給我們,而姐姐則不送我們到車站了,在家門前我們擁在一起哭了。我們在爸爸的田拍照後就到犬飼站,火車來的時候大家都很不捨,在車門關上的一刻大家都忍不住哭了,大家也決定在不久的將來要回來探爸爸媽媽。十二天的時間不是很長但也不短,在犬飼的時光使我們深深愛上這個地方,是我們的第二個家。

Short Summary:

This is already my forth time to Japan, but staying in a local family means a lot to me. During this trip, I have to use Japanese to communicate with my family because they do not know any English. I experienced the way of living as Japanese and also the traditional culture of Japan. All these are the irreplaceable memories in my mind and can never be felt in the other way round.

Staying in the Adachi family, we had a lot of time to play and get along with each other. It was the summer vacation for Sakura and Sumire so we almost play together every day. Although Mr. Adachi has already retired, he still needs to take care of his grand-daughters, do farming and also be a host family for homestay. I think the best way to understand a culture is to experience it yourself. During this homestay, I really learnt a lot about the traditional thoughts of Japanese and their way of living, which is quite different with the portrayed in soap operas or animations. All the food there were so fresh because they did not frequently use bought ingredients, but use the vegetables they planted. As they do organic farming, the vegetables are way tastier.

Apart from the daily experience with the family, the culture classes were also very precious. We wore yukata and participated in kado and sado classes. These two event are the traditional ones in Japan. During the class, we need to be very concentrated in order to place the flowers well and also make the tea with foam. Making manjyu and onigiri, the two basic family food, was also very interesting. It was very hard to make the rice into a triangular shape. It was also my first time to participate in zazen, we were very afraid to be hit by the bamboo ruler, but the whole time was very peaceful and relaxing. Nagashi-somen is a very famous food in hot summer time because it is really refreshing. The bamboo slider is made by Mr. Adachi and we helped with the barbecue. Kagura is often seen in a matsuri, and the shibahiki with the kougin was very frightening because they were so powerful. Although horse-riding is not from Japan, but it was also a very important experience because the staffs there were all little girls who love horses. This reflects that if you want to enjoy something, you need to pay effort in

preparation. Playing hanabi is prohibited in Hong Kong, but people in Japan can do it freely when it is safe. It was very beautiful. The laughter and screams are all very unforgettable. Not only the classes, the natural environment there were also stunning. The waterfalls and the rivers were so beautiful that can only be felt.

For the whole homestay programme, the relation and bonds between people were very strong. The word "Kizuna" is well used here because no matter where we are from, we still get along with each other well. Not only with the host family, we, the participants, also developed a friendship which is irreplaceable. This is why I did not regret joining this programme.

黎鳳棋

「私はこのホームステイの前に、大分が全然知らなかった。」當我在送別會的感言發表環節說出這句話時,引來了各位的笑聲。的確,雖然我由中學時代開始看日劇、聽 J-Pop,但對日本最熟悉的,也不過是一般人知道的熱門觀光地點:東京、大阪、北海道等等。即使我一直想要更深入地去認識日本這個地方,但這麼多年來,我也只是透過各種大眾媒體去接收片面的訊息。而當時即將要完成交流離開大分,說出上面的話的我,懷著的是「能夠參加這個交流計劃,實在是太好了」的感激之心。因為,這個 Homestay 計劃,讓我知道了我以前從不知道的日本,也讓我親身體驗我多年來只可以在屏幕上看到的日本的風土人情。

第一天 22/7 大分到著

我們一行十人在 22/7 早上香港時間 10:40 登上飛機離開香港,大概四小時後,我們抵達成田機場。當我透過機外攝影機看到飛機在日本機場上著陸的一刻,十分感動:我終於踏足日本了!不過,我不能只沉浸於感動之情中,因為我們接下來還要趕往羽田機場轉乘飛往大分的班機。經過了十多個小時的周車勞動,我們終於在日本時間十時半多抵達大分機場。我們拖著疲憊不堪的身體下機,卻已經見到各家庭在閘外隔著玻璃熱情地跟我們揮手。那一瞬間我又整個興奮起來!但是,我跟 Ruby(寄住在同一個家庭的同學)隨即擔心起來:我怎麼知道誰是我的お父さん和お母さん呢?幸好,羽田野さん熱切的眼神讓我辯認到他們(後來我才知道原來他們手上早有我們的相片(笑))。之後,大家在乘車途中又很詳細地跟我們解釋整個活動的詳情和跟我們談天。原來,由機場回到家中的路程是很長的!回到家後,お母さん又弄了夜宵(那是冷麵和我吃過最棒的的飯團!)給我們吃!想到他們是這麼勞累地等待我們,只能表示真的很十分感謝大家!



左:我家的花園,是日劇總會看到場景啊。(笑) 右:第二天早上,我們跟お父さん在家附近散步。

第二天 23/7 市長表敬訪問·歡迎會



第二天,我們就迎來了一個大挑戰,就是自我介紹!雖然在第一天到的晚上跟お父さん和お母さん介紹我們帶來的手信時,已經覺得十分困難,但沒有甚麼比得上要在大家,而且還有市長面前說出自己那一口根本不順蜴的日語。用著顫抖的聲線,說出了自己的身分和對這個計劃的期待後,我頓時舒了一口氣,也為自己努力克服難關而感到滿足。

歡迎會之前,每個家庭都要準備一些料理帶到會場。我們家其中一項料理是壽司三文治(名字是由我改的(笑))。當お母さん準備好食材後,就由我和 Ruby 幫忙將其疊成三文治的形狀。這可不是件簡單的功夫啊!不過我跟 Ruby 卻弄得很開心。在お母さん看來,我們是在搗蛋或者幫倒忙吧?(笑)現在回想起,お母さん和我們分工準備不同的料理……這個畫面真的很日常家庭感,很幸福呢!

在歡迎會看到各個家庭所準備好的料理時,我再次驚訝日本人的料理功力,因為全部看起來都色香味俱全!跟香港人開派對大多只會買外賣相比,真的相差很遠。果不其然,每一款都令人一吃再吃。原來日本女性真的如電視上所說,很擅長料理。而在歡迎會中,我們又再次自我介紹,這次比上次更有自信了!相信之後會表現得更好的!歡迎會中又讓我體會到日本人開派對的文化:喝酒和很熱情。雖然我不太喝酒,但也跟大家玩得很熱鬧,不斷跟大家聊天。由其看到另外一個家庭的活力充沛的孩子,我又感受到被大自然環抱著的大分的活力呢!(笑)





左:歡迎我們的橫額。

右:有著我們心血的壽司三文治,很好吃的啊!

第三日 24/7 浴衣教室・花道・茶道

以前在電視上看到穿浴衣的女孩,總是很羡慕她們可以變得這麼漂亮。當天,我終於可以一 嘗在日本穿上浴衣的滋味了。因為我的お母さん很博學多才,對傳統文化和自然環境都十分熟識, 而且又是在公民館工作的,所以當天的浴衣教室就是由我的お母さん主持。之前,お母さん已經 準備了兩套浴衣給我跟 Ruby 選擇,一黑一白,兩套都十分漂亮。而且,お母さん的家裡還有各 式各樣的頭飾!前一天的晚飯後,我們一同討論應該用哪一款髮型和頭飾;而お母さん很快就向 我們展示第二天要設定的髮型,真的很厲害!當天我們都由お母さん替我們穿浴衣和打扮,原來 一點也不容易,我覺得自己就像一個人偶呢!不過,打扮完的一刻真的很興奮,因為大家都很可 愛。我們都爭相跟對方合照。可是,接下來才是真正的挑戰——穿著浴衣去進行花道和茶道的體 驗。別說我對這兩項文化可謂一竅不通,要穿著浴衣往來各個場所,已經很吃力了。我們都要小 步地走,而且,因為要束腰的關係,我覺得快要透不過氣來了。相信,這跟中國古代女性穿旗袍 後走路變得婀娜多姿有著異曲同工之妙吧!

花道和茶道都是日本的傳統文化,都講求嚴格的步驟和規格。作為一個比較粗心大意,像個 男孩子的女生,我想到《粉紅系男孩》裡的男性化女主角都塚涼,在大和撫子的比試中將花道和 茶道搞得一團糟(笑)。幸好,在導師的教導下,我們都順利完成作品。當中最困難的,是插花 時的「空間感」,即是各種花不能夠擁擠在一起。在兼顧各種條件卻要保有整件作品的完整感是 需要很多心思的。而在茶道中,由沖茶至招待客人的正式步驟讓我感受到日本人在做各種事情時 集中精神和認真地完成的態度,還有對日本傳統文化的尊重。兩項的體驗都讓我感到心神安寧, 思考了傳統文化的傳承,還有日本人細膩的心思。





左:大家覺得我的花道作品如何呢?

右:茶道時,喝茶也有步驟,我們要多番確認才能弄得清楚。(笑)

第四日 25/7 酒饅頭·座禪教室·BBS交流

這天,我們要嘗試製作酒饅頭。其實製作的方法跟我們在香港吃到的饅頭沒有太大分別,都是先搓好麵團,再在裡面釀入紅豆餡料。不過,顧名思義,跟酒有關,其實是因為麵團內的小麥發酵了,就跟酒發酵了一樣,所以會有酒香。我們又幫忙弄了紫蘇飯團。幸好得到各位お母さん的指導,我們才知道原來要完美地將飯團弄成三角形是有秘訣的,而不是只用手捏一捏就成的。即使是日常生活中的小事,只要細心發現和對待,都是一項技術,有其奧義。

接下來是座禪教室。之前聽お父さん提到一旦被住持發現你在睡覺或不集中時,就會「揮棒」,總覺得很嚇人。當天的天氣很熱,而且前一晚睡眠又不足夠,所以我都很擔心會不會被「揮棒」。到了真正座禪時,因為只需微閉雙眼,但又要坐直腰板,所以我一直都要跟睡魔惡鬥。每當住持站起來走到我的附近時,我都會打醒十二分精神!可喜的是,最後我們全部都通過了考驗,沒有人的背脊要被打(笑)。雖然有大部分時間,我都想著「不能睡!」,但是當中在寧靜的環境和住持的步伐的督促下,我的內心多少變得平靜了。想起自己活在香港這一個忙碌的都市,每一天都為學業和人際關係而煩惱,座禪雖是艱辛,卻是一個令人嚮往的放鬆妙法。

座禪後,我們跟一群日本的大學生交流和一起燒烤。剛開始我們都挺不知所措的,但漸漸就跟其他人熟絡了。原來,日本的燒烤文化跟香港是不同的!日本的是有專人燒好食物的,所以我們可以盡情的吃東西和跟別人談天玩耍(笑)。日本的大學生都很可愛,而且也是開派對時超投入的,例如跟我同桌的一群男生就不斷扮演各種動物,引得我們不斷發笑。到了要分別的時候,大家都感到不捨呢……順便說一下,入黑後的犬飼町是漆黑一片的!我們都要用手機附帶的電筒,才可以確認前路。不過,相對的是,因為少光污染,只要抬頭,就可以看到滿天星星,就像突然被整個星夜所包圍,真的又感動又羨慕。





左:正在專心造酒饅頭的我。

右:座禪中的大家。

第六日 27/7 神樂觀賞•方言教室

據聞「神樂」是古代敬祭太陽神的舞蹈,我初時在想會不會是一些很嘈吵不太討人喜歡的音樂。不過,當天觀賞神樂時,我卻覺得很好聽很好看。而且表演者全部只是高校生,十分厲害!其中大家最投入的部分,莫過於我們手拿樹枝,要避免被「鬼」搶去!那些「鬼」全都力大無窮,眨眼我手上的樹枝就不知去向了(笑)。看著其他人跟「鬼」搏鬥,我又是很落力地為他們打氣。日本的高校生會去投入練習傳統藝術,對文化傳承是一大貢獻;反觀香港很多傳統文化,例如粵曲,正在式微。這讓我想起以前修讀日本當代媒體時,教授提到,日本有很多渠道讓大眾在日常生活中接觸傳統文化,例如日常電視節目;而香港只會在特別的時候,如節日和籌款節目才會看到傳統文化。看來,比較兩地的文化傳承是一個很好的研習題目呢。

神樂觀賞後,那些高校生讓我們體驗一下演奏神樂。當中最困難的,是持續拿準拍子揮棒打鼓。這又令我再一次佩服鼓手,由其其中一位女生鼓手。之後,大分電視台來訪問我們的感受。用不太順暢的日語說出感受時,我的心一直再砰砰地跳!這可是我第一次接受電視台探訪啊!之後回想,那時我一直扶著麥克風。那根本不需要嘛!可想而知那些我是有多緊張的(笑)。後來,我們跟表演神樂的高校生一同吃便當和交流。我們都很好奇,所以都詢問了他們練習神樂的原因和時間。原來,有些同學只是兩年前開始玩神樂!竟然可以表現得那麼專業,實在令我驚訝!之後,我們又一起玩「紅綠燈」,果然大家都很年輕有活力(笑)。最後要道別時,我們都感到依依不捨。幸好我們交換了聯絡方法。到現在,我仍在跟其中一位同為日本偶像組合「嵐」的粉絲(笑)的女生用 LINE 聯絡,跟她分享我在東京和大阪的旅程。用全日語文字在手機上溝通,比平時跟朋友Whatsapp 要用更多時間,但又是一個練習日語的好機會!

接下來是方言教室。方言跟我們平時學習的日語可以說是完全不一樣,要弄清楚和記下來 真的是十分困難。讓我留下最深刻印象的,是「しょしょろしい(うるさい)」和「なしか(な ぜ)」。後者是因為很短所以很容易就記下來了;而前者是因為お父さん和お母さん在前幾天已 經說我跟 Ruby 是「しょしょろしい」(笑),那時我們不明白是甚麼意思,今天就恍然大悟了。 不過,這不是一個負面的日語嗎?我們問お父さん和お母さん,他們卻笑著說不是啦。雖然我們 半信半疑,但之後回想起,大概お父さん和お母さん是抱著寵溺的心情說出那句話吧!回港的那 一天,我在日本機場遇到不少香港女生,看著她們一群人在吱吱喳喳的,(已經有點習慣日本 的)我都真的覺得有點しょしょろしい(苦笑)。大概お父さん和お母さん是覺得我們香港女生 總是很元気吧?(笑)





左:神樂中面目猙獰的鬼。(笑) 右:跟表演神樂的高校生在分別前留影。

第七日 28/7 参觀大分銀行・大吊橋觀光

第七日我們一大早就到了大分銀行的宗麟館參觀。原來宗麟館一共有五層,我好像是第一次參觀這麼大的銀行呢!當中有展覽的地方和咖啡室供顧客甚至是一般人去享用,真的是很貼心的服務,而且又有宣傳的作用。跟我們介紹宗麟館的職員當中,有一位叫陳さん,是來自廣州的。一個外國人來到日本大分工作,一定是精通日語吧!雖然我很佩服她,又有到日本發展的念頭,但現在的我只能繼續研習日語吧!

下午我們到了九重"夢"大吊橋觀光。九重"夢"大吊橋是日本最高(173 米)、最長的行 人橋。在橋上向下看,周遭都是一片綠油油,還有百水之一的「震動の滝」,有大地在我腳下之 感;向上望,看到橋索一路往上延伸,頓時又覺得自己很渺小,真的是很矛盾卻又新奇的體驗。



左:在大分銀行宗麟館聽職員講解他們的業務。

右:在大吊橋前我變得很渺小。

第八日 29/7 製作團子汁・乘馬教室

這天早上本來預定是農業體驗的,但是後來改為製作團子汁(だんご汁)。團子汁是熊本縣和大分縣的特色地方料理。之前,我一直以為團子汁是跟果汁一類的食物,但原來跟果汁是完全沒有關係的!作法是先用用小麥粉捏出麵團,就像弄饅頭一樣(所以剛開始我以為當天又吃酒饅頭(笑)),然後將麵團逐少拉出成手指的長度,再跟牛蒡、蔬菜和肉一起煮成湯。吃下去感覺就像在吃烏冬,而且很飽肚(笑)。最近我在網上看到香港也有賣團子汁,看來我要快點去買幾包回家好好回味和跟家人分享了(笑)。

在吃完團子汁和等待乘馬教室的空檔,我們聽了お父さん和お母さん們唱演歌。其中我的お 父さん也有獻聲,十分厲害。我發現日本人的嗓音都很美麗,每個人都很會唱歌。想到自己的男 生嗓音,實在是不堪入耳呢(苦笑)。

期待已久的乘馬教室終於到了!我看到兩匹駿馬被帶出來時很興奮,但騎在馬上時,又很害怕,只懂得緊緊抓著韁繩和坐得直直的,總覺得自己平衡不了。不覺過坐在馬上,又有著皇者出巡的感覺,很新奇(笑)。



在等待團子汁完成間,我們去了河邊撿石頭畫畫。



風一直在吹,其實我在馬上一直都是十分緊張的。

第九日 30/7 地質公園考察

作為一個主修地理的學生,這一天可謂我最期待的日子了。我們到訪了豐後大野地質公園的「沈堕の滝」、「原尻の滝」和「出會橋・轟橋」。這裡的自然地貌是在九萬年前阿蘇山火山爆發後,叫作「阿蘇溶結凝灰岩」的「火砕流」冷卻後形成的。當中「沈堕の滝」保有水路交通和發電的遺跡;在「原尻の滝」,我們看到有神社、水路和橋……這些都反映了自然和人文之間的關係和其歷史。以前在書本上聽得多,但親身體會的機會並不多,記得當我看到那壯觀的瀑布時,頓時覺得自己是井底之蛙大開眼界!我又再一次深深體會到「讀萬卷書不如行萬里路」的奧義。這次的參觀,應該會比任何在書本上讀到的文字更會銘記於心吧!另外,第一次在日本用日語學習地理,十分有趣!雖然那些學名的發音大多都聽不懂,但因為大部分都是漢字,所以之後都可以翻查意思。





左:壯觀的「原尻の滝」。

右:跟お父さん在「出會橋・轟橋」前。

第十一天 1/8 送別會

雖然很老土,但「快樂的時光過得特別快」。當我看到送別會的會場內貼著我們這十天的愉快時光,才驚覺整個 Homestay 計劃已接近尾聲了。看著我們的笑顏,覺得很幸福卻又很不真實,想來每一天回到お父さん和お母さん的家我都覺得自己是第一天到訪般很新鮮的感覺,但照片上確實切地紀錄了我們這十天的美好時光和很多我們的第一次。送別會剛開始不久,就有同學在哭了,我在旁邊看著,都很努力地將眼淚藏在眼眶內。這一晚,大家依舊很熱情地一起談天、一起吃喝、一起玩,也把握時間跟對方留影,希望留住美好的回憶。





左:大家都爭取時間拍照留念。 右:跟お父さん和お母さん留影。

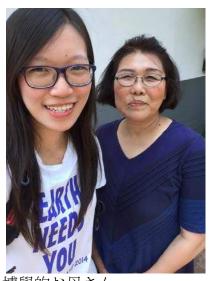
第十二天 2/8 離開大分

因為我跟 Ruby 都是搭乘下午的班機到大阪,所以我們早上不是跟其他人一起搭乘電車離開,而是到車站跟他們道別。終於要到了分別的時刻,大家感到的,除了不捨,只有不捨。看著他們眼紅紅地步入電車,跟我們還有お父さん和お母さん們揮手說再見,我不捨跟這一群由第一天完全不相熟,到今天因為這十二天一起吵鬧而變得無所不談的好友;又同時因為自己還未「離開」,多少感受到お父さん和お母さん們跟仔仔女女說再見的寂寞感。一群しょしょろしい的仔女離開後,頓時變得安靜的空虛感實在不好受。

到了下午,終於是我跟 Ruby 離開大分的時候了。其實,我一直都好好地控制我的情緒。可是,當聽到平時只會在吃飯時才會見面的お祖母さん握著我的手,很慈祥地跟我說一定要再回大分時,我差點要整個哭出來。我那時就想,我一定要回來,要跟お父さん、お母さん和お祖母さん再聊更多更多!在機場,我們臨進入禁區前,お父さん和お母さん抱了抱我們,之後,我們又不斷地跟他們揮手。在安檢後,當我回頭一看,看到お父さん和お母さん的眼紅了,我又立即想要掉眼淚了。為了忍下去,我別過頭去不去看他們,卻感到更多的不捨和難過。







博學的お母さん。



慈祥的お祖母さん。

最後的感想

記得我在參加這個 Homestay 計劃前,期望是學習日本各種的文化和跟日本人交流。總的而 言,我的收獲是比預期大的。這個活動給了我很多第一次:第一次到訪一直夢寐以求的日本,甚 至去了一個以前從不知道的地方;第一次穿浴衣、體驗花道和茶道;第一次用日語學地理;第一 次座禪、騎馬……這些都會成為了寶貴的回憶,但當中最令我珍而重之的,是和お父さん和お母 さん相處的時光。送別會中提到「同じ釜の飯を食う」、意思就是這十天我們跟お父さん和お母 さん就像親人一樣每天一起過生活、一起吃飯、一起經歷苦與樂(雖然我覺得沒有苦啦!)。回 想起他們對待我們就像親女兒一樣:第一晚他們即使很晚,但怕我們在飛機上沒有吃太多而弄了 超好吃的夜宵給我們吃;因為我們不諳熟日語,他們放慢語速,又或耐心地解釋或寫文字,好讓 我們明白;他們又經常問我們想吃甚麼和想去甚麼地方玩;在假日(第五和十日)時,他們又帶 我們去了不同的景點(例如中津城、宇佐神宮、くじゅう花公園……)大開眼界。我們一起去超 市買食材……早飯時一起觀看韓劇(他們是忠實韓劇粉絲呢!)……在車前方的お父さん和お母 さん總會笑我們在後方睡得一塌糊塗……お父さん總是慈祥地對著我們笑,又幫我們拍照……お 母さん在準備料理,而我們就幫忙收拾已曬乾的衣服……晚飯後一同聊天……互相教對方自己的 母語……這一切的日常感令我覺得自己真的變成了他們的女兒,住在大分了。在這裡,我要再一 次跟お父さん和お母さん說:この十二日お世話になって、本当にありがとうございました!我 又好感激緣分選擇了這個暑假讓我跟大家相遇,所謂「一期一会」,感謝大家一同締造了這獨一 無二的回憶。





左:同遊中津城。

右:同遊くじゅう花公園。

最後,因為我覺得挺配合我們的情景,所以在此送上嵐的《Still》的幾句歌詞:

「これは別れではない 出逢いたちとのまた新たな始まりただ 僕はなおあなたに逢いたいまた… いつか笑ってまた再会 そう絶対」

我愛大分!我一定會再回來的!:D

Short Summary:

I can still remember how excited when I knew that I was chosen to be one of the participants of this homestay programme. I have been watching Japanese dramas and listening to J-Pop since secondary school. One of my dreams is to travel Japan to experience more than what media have mentioned. Before traveling to Oita, what I would like to achieve in this programme are: first, to learn different Japanese cultures and, second, to interact with the Japanese.

Every day, we tried different things. This programme offered many "first experiences" to me, including wearing yukata, ikebana (living flowers) and Japanese tea ceremony. I was not familiar with traditional Japanese culture before, so I found that they were actually difficult but very interesting. I needed to be

helped by my mother so that I could wear the yukata probably. Besides, ikebana and tea ceremony have their own straight and formal steps to follow. What I could learn from these were the delicate heart of the Japanese and their respect for the traditional culture. It is really worth us studying.

Other activities we joined included meditation, riding horse, Ajikagura and visiting geo site. During meditation, I had to keep my mind conscious and focused to avoid being "punished" by the abbot. Fortunately, no one needed to be "punished". However, what I gained is making my mind peaceful under the quiet environment. It is a good way to release pressure, especially we the Hong Kong people always fight for different things in the society stressfully. Ajikahura was performed by a group of high school students, which was amazing. I love the music and dance very much. One part of Ajikagura was that the ghosts came and robbed our branches. Although it was scary because they were strong and full of energy, we played happily together. Regarding the geo site, since I am majoring in Geography, I was looking forward to it for long. We visited Harajiri Waterfall, Chinda Flalls and Deai Bridge & Todoro Bride. When I saw the glorious waterfall, I was shocked and recalled an old Chinese say: it is better to travel far than to read voluminously. Moreover, it was interesting to use Japanese to learn Geography though it spent more time to understand it.

All in all, I gained more than I expected after joining this programme. I could experience different Japanese cultures I saw on the media. All of them became my precious memory. Yet, the most unforgettable one is the time I spent with my host family. My father and mother were so kind. They understood that we were not fluent in Japanese so they always spoke slowly to guarantee that we could understand. They always asked the food we would like to eat and the places we would like to visit, and brought us to different tourist spots during holidays. Besides, we watched Korean dramas in the morning (they are Korean fans (laugh)); my father always smiled to us and took photos for us; we always had a chat after dinner... Our family was so warm that I made an illusion that I was their real daughter and have been living in Oita once I was born.

Finally, thanks for giving me a chance to learn what I didn't know before: the beauty of Oita, the traditional Japanese culture, my warm host family. And thank everyone in this programme who made a unique memory together. And a big big thanks to my host family who looked after us in these twelve days. I love Oita! I will come back again! :D

陳溢進

一直很想到日本交流,與日文人相處溝通,鍛鍊日文,並深入認識日本文化。唯成績一般,未能參加書院的交流計劃。填寫這個體驗計劃的報名表時,亦很擔心未能入選。當得悉自己幸運入選時,那份興奮之情實在是難以用文字形容!同時又很擔心自己的日文水平不足,難以溝通,甚至發生誤會。

7月22日,大伙兒正式出發。出發前,我有透過 Facebook 和お父さん的女兒一美さん聊天,已經深深感受到自己的日文不足。輾轉波折,花了一整天的時間,我們終於到達大分機場。隔著玻璃,可以看到另一邊的大堂,大飼町的 Homestay 家庭們已經很雀躍地等待著我們。因為一美さん曾把家庭照寄給我和ユリ(Housemate),因此我們很快便找到お父さん,和他相認。第一次的對話,我只聽懂他的名字,其餘的說話完全聽不明白,心想:這十二天怎麼辦?!

幸好,我們會經常帶著一疊 Memo 紙和筆,一聽不明白,便馬上發問和請他們寫漢字,如果最後仍不明,便請他們把完整句子寫出來,然後我們查字典,有些時候,則會用身體語言輔助,這就是我們那十二天的溝通模式。有些人可能會覺得我們不太會日文是一個遺憾,然而,對我來說,這卻令我們的溝通增加了無數的樂趣,不是一直的說,而是會寫會畫會動,很多元化呢!大家亦漸漸習慣這個溝通模式,並樂在其中,哈哈!

我的 Homestay 是田嶋さん一家,除了お父さん,還有お母さん、女兒一美さん、一美さん的丈夫文秀さん,他們的孩子,長女こころ、次女あおい、長男羽輝和次男大空,總共八人,非常熱鬧。由於自己很喜歡和小孩玩,而田嶋さん一家有四個小孩,所以一直很期待。お父さん是プログラム会長,表情不多,容易令人誤會他很兇很惡,幸好出發前收到一美さん寄來お父さん喝醉了的照片,感覺他是個很慈祥親切的人,而事實上,他也是個很風趣很會說笑的人,常常讓我們捧腹大笑。他說過九州的男兒不會輕易把情感放在臉上,令我留下深刻印象,九州男兒很酷呢!他們一家絕對是運動狂熱者,お父さん很會打高爾夫球,而且每朝都會堅持早起身散步一小時,一美さん會打羽毛球,而文秀さん的強項則是足球和五人足球,孩子們也有自己的專長,こころ練習網球,あおい練習羽毛球,而羽輝在明年則會開始學習足球,是個很健康的家庭呢!

我們到達お父さん家時已經晚上十一時,令我感到很窩心的是,雖然已經很晚,他們怕我們會餓,仍準備了豐富的食物給我們,亦我感到非常不好意思,給了他們麻煩。第一晚便嚐了大分縣有名的甜點やせうま,おいしいね!在路途上,我說了自己很喜歡喝啤酒,於是,お母さん還為我準備了啤酒,是のどごし的啤酒,帶點甜味,超級棒呢!如是者,我每天晚飯也會喝一罐啤酒,哈哈!我們還看了日本的深宵節目,非常有趣。

房間方面,お父さん和お母さん分別準備了他們的主人房給我們,雖然十分不好意思,打擾了他們,但卻完完全全感受到他們的細心和照顧。お父さん的房間讓我在那十二天中能夠享有舒適的休息,每天也精神奕奕,在此,很想書面再說一次:ども ありがとうございます!

第二天,我們先跟お母さん去乾衣店乾衣,お母さん深明我們日文不行,所以大多在 Memo 紙上寫字溝通,並教了我們很多日文生字,既擔當我們媽媽的角色,同時亦成為了我們的老師。乾衣後,我們到超級市場買材料準備歡迎會的料理。午飯時,我們到了一間食店,點了個鳥冬,吃了一口,便馬上咸受到香港的日本料理和正宗日本料理的差別,說實話,那是我第一次吃到如此彈

牙爽口的烏冬,心裡只想著:很幸福呢!整碗烏冬彷彿都滿載了料理師傅對料理的執著和熱情,確 實值得尊敬。

午飯後,我們前往探訪市長,聽了一遍大分的簡介,例如自然景色、特色食物等。 下午,我們便一起準備料理,ユリ和我負責把蕎麦麺放進腐皮裡,不算很複雜,但要小心腐皮會 裂開,因此我們都很小心翼翼,好不容易,我們終於完成了!大約五時正,我們便出發前往歡迎 會。歡迎會上,我們表演了妖怪手錶的舞步,非常有趣,還享用了各家庭準備的料理,とても おいしいね!當然,我和部分同樣熱愛酒的團友亦享用了不少酒,例如梅酒,很特別呢!

第三天,可說是整個團中最精彩的一天,因為我們會穿和服。對於第一次穿和服的我來說,那絕對是趙難忘的經歷。穿著和服是一件很講究的事,衣襟的方向、腰帶等,都必須一絲不苟,感覺穿著了和服,自己也變得比平常正經,哈哈!我們穿著和服學習花道和茶道。花道,可以說是插花的一種,講求禮道,同時,應以一個主題為目標,並注意空間,容器的款式亦會影響花卉的外觀。很高興老師稱讚我的作品,不斷說上手上手,還齊集了以上三點,令我十分害羞和高興得不知所措。而茶道,顧名思義,就是品嚐茶的美感之道,享受茶的生活藝術。茶道有很多小節要注重,例如,喝茶前先要把茶碗轉動兩下,喝完亦要以相反方向轉動一遍。然而,這些小節卻令我很感興趣,很佩服。



茶道結束後,我們跟お父さん到了其中一個 Homestay 家庭的農地,偷吃他的藍梅,原來お父さん經常這樣做的,令我哭笑不得,年紀不小的お父さん也有頑皮小孩的一面,哈哈!晚上,我還跟了文秀さん和四個小孩上山尋找甲蟲,很典型的日本家庭生活,很開心能夠融入他們的日常生活,體驗他們的生活和樂趣,我永遠不會忘記這個簡單的晚上。



第四天,我們去了學習製作酒饅頭和紫蘇飯團,我還造了一個特大飯團,這個飯團最後由お父さん吃了,他還說了句:「我是拼了命來吃的。」讓我捧腹大笑。我們還學習了搖鈴,合奏了兩曲,唯仍需練習才可以於閉幕禮表演。下午,我們在寺廟體驗了短暫的坐禪,雖說短暫,但坐禪時感覺時間流逝得很慢。お父さん之前向我們介紹坐禪好幾次,說坐得不好會被打,令我有點期待。終於,坐禪結束後,我們也主動請住持打我們,讓我們體驗一下,說實話,気持ちいいね!

後來,我們到了不遠的草地和日本大學生交流,住持亦已經換了衣服和我們一起燒烤,感覺有點滑稽。BBS的大學生和我們一眾中大同學初時都表現得很害羞,唯破冰後,卻非常熟絡,無所不坐,坐我隔鄰的友達即場畫了一幅幽靈公主的畫送給我,令我大為感動。最後,我們交換了聯絡方法,便不捨地離開了。



第五天,這天是各家庭的自由活動日。因為我曾在信中說想去水族館,於是,一美さん便帶了我們去大分マリーンパレス水族館,這絕對是一趟很棒的經歷,讓我大開眼界!這個水族館有各式各樣的動物,遊客也能和動物有少許交流及接觸,一進館內,就完全享受在其中,流連忘返。參觀完水族館後,我們去了浸免費的露天足浴,很舒服呢!聽說足浴對健康也很好,有機會一定要再浸!話說,整天都是一美さん駕車載我們,在車上,孩子們會一起看動畫,很熱鬧呢!

第六天有神樂教室和方言教室。神樂丈室由日本的高中生表演神樂,有些學生會扮鬼來搶我們拿著的樹枝,搶奪的過程十分激烈、刺激,很感謝高中生們落力的演出,並教了我們少許的太鼓。中午,我們一起吃午飯、聊天、玩遊戲和跳舞,不知不覺就過了一個中午。後來,由お父さん負責教我們大分的方言,那些方言很有趣呢,在日本上日文課的感覺有點獨特,哈哈!

第七天,我們一早便出發參觀大分銀行和拜訪大分縣縣長,實在是感到萬分榮幸。下午,我們去了九重夢大吊橋,那是一條很宏偉的橋,站在中間處可以飽覽三條瀑布。那天,我還看到彩虹,很壯觀呢!有趣的是,當你走到橋的另一端時,你可以得到一個精美的蓋印,然後回到起點時又可以再得一個,以作紀念。遺憾的是,由於天雨關係,我們不能下車欣賞久住高原,只能在車上看。

第八天,我們早上便前往學習製作団子汁,おいしいね!還有到河流遊玩、片石和捉蝌蚪等,接著便替石頭上色,我把石頭畫成了茄子的模樣,十分有趣。我們也有和小朋友玩玩遊戲,教他們

廣東話,還有重頭戲お父さん唱 Karaoke,唱功無庸置疑!下午,我們便前往乘馬教室體驗騎馬的樂趣,那是我第一次騎馬,頗難忘的。

話說,在某一天,我和お父さん一起去散步,差不多由第八第九天開始,自己漸漸也養成了早上出去散步的習慣,還有在寺社門口行禮的習慣,每次也會感到很平靜,煩惱盡消,心懭神怡。

第九天,這天很適合我這個熱愛自然的人,因為我們會觀賞原尻之滝、沈墜之滝和出會橋,完全令我大開眼界,也滿足了我熱愛自然的心。原尻之滝是個絕對值得去的地方,とても 綺麗ね!我們走到瀑布前,仰望著它,很巨型的很廣闊的瀑布,配以藍天白雲,令我留下深刻印象。而沈墜之滝的岩石很特別,奇形怪狀的,讓人不得不蹲下來仔細欣賞。出會橋是條外觀有趣的橋,彷彿擁有兩隻眼睛,而且橋下的流水藍藍綠綠,十分清澈,令人很想炎炎夏日浸在水裡,透心涼一番。

第十天,我們跟お父さん和お母さん一同前往欣賞別府地獄,第一次吃溫泉蛋,美味極了呢!然後,我們去了浸溫泉,也是第一次浸溫泉,男女分開的,需要全裸地浸,開始時有點害羞,但很快就享受其中,差點兒浸到睡著了,很棒的溫泉呢!浸過溫泉後,我們前往買壽司準備晚飯,ユリ和我則悄悄買了禮物,因為那天是お母さん的生日,我們早就和お父さん、一美さん密謀為她舉辦生日會,給她驚喜。晚上,我們享用了一頓很豐富的壽司晚餐和蛋糕,本当に 楽しかった!





第十一天,一美さん帶我們參觀鐘乳洞,很美,但已經無心情欣賞,因為下午就是送別會,我們離開的日子將至,依依不捨。在送別會上,我們表演了搖鈴,幸好大家都很喜歡很滿意。記得那晚喝了很多酒,滿臉通紅。大合唱時,止不住眼淚,哭了出來,因為不捨得大家。影大合照前,我和お父さん擁抱了一下,他說了幾句我聽不明白的說話,只聽得懂「九州男兒」四字,卻讓我哭得更厲害。我永遠不會忘記送別會時那份真摯的情感,那份依依不捨之情,亦決定會再回去找お父さん一家,我相信會再會的。





最後一天,お父さん和一美さん送我們到大分火車站,一美さん亦哭了,很感動他們亦不捨得我們。的確,那十二天我們一同擁有了很多歡樂,真的很開心。

離開幾天後,一美さん給訊息我說,大空君經常說「ブルースいない。どこに行ったの?」令我 很高興,因為大空君沒有忘記我,哈哈!而我也已經計劃聖誕節回大分,享受冬天的大分.....

Short summary:

It is very lucky and surprising that I can have an opportunity to join this programme. In fact, I have never thought of this as I have learned Japanese for a little time only and have a bad academic result. Therefore, thank you JASP Department so much for giving me this chance!

My host family is Tashima (田崎) which is a lively family. There are four lovely children. They are Kokoro, Aoi, Hiru and Zora. Tashima is a very humorous and sporty father. He goes jogging every day. What a healthy man! Tashima parents love drinking beer and osake, and so do I! Hence, they let me drink beer every dinner. It was amzing!

Tashima parents always took care of us like washing clothes and cooking, etc.

Fumi is the husband of Hitomi. He who is a fireman is very strong. He can hold me on his shoulder. It was a interesting experience. He is also very funny and is a good father. He always played jokes on others and played with his children. All children loves him so much.

Hitomi is the daughter of Tashima parents. She is very nice! She always took care of us too, worrying our homestay. She also went to the aquarium with us since I had mentioned in my letter that I would like to go to it.

It is awesome.

We went to oita on 22/7, arriving tashima's house at night. Then, our 12 days homestay started. During the homestay, we had visited the mayor. The locals held a welcome party for us. We also wore wafuku while we were having flower arrangement and chadou. We had learned making bun and onigiri.

An interesting thing was we had BBQ with Japanese university students after having osuru. As mentioned before, we went to aquarium too. No doubt, trying foot hot spring and complete hot spring in Japan were comfortable! Taiko and dialect lesson were interesting. We were so glad that we could visit the Oita Bank and the magistrate. In my point of view, walking on Kokonoe "Yume" Grand Suspension Bridge was totally awesome! Dangojiru was really delicious and we had a lot of fun with Japanese children in river. After that, we went to have a horse-riding lesson which was a first time experience for me. As I love nature very much, visiting the Geo Park was excellent for me. They were wonderful! Besides, I gradually developed a habit of having jogging in the morning. It was so healthy. I would say spa-boiled egg was a delicious and unforgettable food. The happiest thing was that we had prepared a birthday party for the Japanese mother. All of us was very happy with that. On the last day, we had visited the cave and had a farewell party. I was truly sad that we had to leave. Honestly, I cried during the party. And I just wanted to say 'Thank you so much!'.

Now, I always miss them so much. And I am planning to visit Oita again in coming Christmas. It must be a completely different view.....

陳詠蕊

七月二十二日

初次見面

黃色暴雨的清晨,我五時多便起床了,吃過早餐後,懷著沈重的心情出發到機場。我們 在預辦登機手續的櫃枱前集合,團友們都顯得十分生疏,畢竟我們只見過一次,連大家的名字都不記得,我更不肯定自己的屋友是誰,心情十分忐忑不安。

我們很順利到達成田機場,再轉車到羽田機場。到達羽田機場後,我們發現航班資訊牌上顯示我們到大分的航班可能因天氣不穩而中途折返,當時我們十分擔心,如果航班真的折返,我們便要在羽田機場渡過一夜了。

幸好,我們安全到達大分機場,離開飛機的一刻,我開始十分擔心自己的日語能力能否跟日本家庭溝通。而我的屋友更說依靠我翻譯,我心想我們真的糟糕了,很後悔來之前不好好溫習日文。我們取行李的時候,已看見各家庭在外面等候,向我們揮手。終於我們要跟我們的家庭正式見面了,我跟我的屋友戰戰兢兢地走到お父さん面前,作簡單的自我介紹後便不知道應該說什麼了,お父さん跟我們說了一番說話,我們都不理解,卻又裝著理解。回到家,在門外已經看見お母さん跟一美さん在門前等待我們。進門後,她們為我們打點一切,向我們介紹屋內設施,吩咐我們先洗澡,然後吃晚飯。當時已經是晚上十一時多了,お母さん擔心我們餓壞,為我們預留了晚餐,我當時十分感動。進餐期間,お父さん,お母さん和一美さん不斷跟我們交談,可惜我們幾乎完全聽不懂,要靠手機的翻譯軟件跟書寫工具才能大致溝通,很費力,當時我決定睡前要好好惡補日文,可是因為太累了,躺在床上後便立刻睡著了。

七月二十三日

歡迎會

今天是歡迎會,各家庭需準備食物。一早,我們跟お母さん先到洗衣店洗衣服,再到超級市場購買材料。午飯,我們在一家烏冬店進食,日本餐廳基本上全部只供應冰水,有點不習慣呢。然後,我們在政府合署出席市政府歡迎會,連市長也在場。完場後,お母さん跟お父さん知我們嚴重睡眠不足,便讓我們回家小睡一會,再幫忙準備食物。

歡迎會上,食物真的非常豐富,全都是各家庭親自下廚的,而且十分美味。正式開始前,我家四個小孩: こころ,あおい,羽輝和大空不斷跟我們玩捉迷藏。他們十分熱情,一看見我便衝過來擁著我,跟我說一大堆我聽不懂的話。

七月二十四日

和服着付教室,茶道,花道

我的團友Ruby和Rose的お母さん是和服着付教室的老師,她遂個步驟教我們如何穿着和服,但我們都穿得不太好,最後變成其他お母さん幫我們穿。然後,我們穿着和服進行茶道。原來茶道的禮儀十分講究,例如送茶前要把茶杯逆時針轉三下,喝茶前則要把茶杯順時針轉三下等。這令我感到日本確實是一個禮儀大國,很有修養。而花道比我想像中簡單,只需發揮自己的藝術天份,把莖插上針板上便可以了。

離開會館,我們送Jonathan回家,お父さん跟我們一起偷吃Jonathan家田園種的藍莓,お父さん跟Jonathan的お父さん是好朋友,經常偷吃他們家種的水果,農村地方的鄰里關係親切,跟城市人的冷漠截然不同。

七月二十五日

廚藝教室, 座禪教室, BBS交流會

吃過早餐後,我們到一間門牌寫著"避難所"的小屋裏製作日本料理。我們只負責一些簡單的工序,如把面團搓圓等。我們還負責弄飯團,我本來以為飯團的三角形形狀是單純用手搓成的。而正確做法應該是先把一團飯放在碗中,然後不斷搖晃該碗,飯團便會慢慢變成球體,再用保鮮紙包着飯團,最後才用手把它弄成三角形,整個過程大約需時三分鐘。

下午,我們到一間寺廟進行座禪。我一直都覺得座禪是一件很簡單的事,因為我經常靜靜地坐着,我的坐姿一向也很標準。僧人給我們一張坐禪指引,原來雙腳的擺法很有難度。 正式開始時,我雙腳一直發麻,於是我趁僧人不留意時,悄悄把雙腳放鬆。

坐禪結束後,我們到一塊草坪上,跟一堆年輕人交流和燒烤。日本的燒烤跟香港的有很大分別,香港的是人們圍着炭火,自己烘烤自己的食物,而日本的主要是一人負責烘烤食物,其他人自行取想吃的。日本的青年非常熱情,主動來我們的桌一起聊天,更裝動物惹我們發笑。

七月二十六日

水族館

星期天,各團員會跟各自的家庭出外遊玩。而我們去了水族館,這次是我第一次去香港以外的水族館,當時心想應該跟香港的差不多吧!後來發現那個水族館有不少品種特別的海洋生物。逛了不久,到了午飯時間,我們要離開水族館吃飯,當時我們還未逛完,那兒有一個很聰明的系統,如果你想暫時離開,工作人員會在你的手上盖上一個隱形墨水的印章,回來時用藍光照一照手上是否有印章便可以再次回到水族館了。

七月二十八日

大分銀行,別府地獄,大吊橋,久住他觀光

一早,我們乘旅遊巴到大分縣市中心,參觀大分銀行其中一間分行,大分銀行的架構和設施感覺上各香港的差不多,不過大分銀行裡則多了一家咖啡店和小型兒童遊樂場。

離開大分銀行後,我們以遊車河的方式欣賞大分美景,可惜當日天氣不佳,煙霧瀰漫, 濃霧遮蓋了優美的風景,從車窗遠眺,只有白濛濛一片,十分惋惜。

晚上,我們家的晚餐是燒烤,文秀さん負責幫我們烤食物,看見他燒烤時大汗淋漓,我感到十分不好意思。晚飯後,我們跟小孩們一起玩煙火,記得我上一次玩煙火,已經是十多年前回鄉的時候了。

七月三十一日

別府地獄,溫泉

今天是與自己家庭自由活動的日子。我們大約乘了一小時的車程到達別府地獄,別府地 獄是大分縣最有名的溫泉,但它不適宜供人們泡浸,因為它的溫度高達九十八度,在外面圍 觀時也感受到它的熱度非同小可,而最特別的是它的顏色是粉藍色。

午飯過後,我們出發去浸溫泉。在日本浸溫泉必須把全部衣服脫光,我沒有覺得尷尬,因為前年我在東京也浸過溫泉。而這次的溫泉比我想像中熱,我更不心在溫泉上跌到,一時成為全場焦點。

お母さん的生日是八月一日,在晚上,我們給お母さん預祝生日。我們準備了生日禮物給お母さん,是在參觀大吊橋當天買的。一美さん把蛋糕拿出來,大空看見蛋糕後迫不及待嚷着要吃,不斷說:食べたい、食べたい。不過,由於我們要拍攝大合照,遲遲未能開始吃

蛋糕,大空便大哭起來,十分可愛。日本的蛋糕的確比香港的好吃,比較鮮味,又不會太 甜。

八月一日

鐘乳洞,送別會

根據維基百科,鐘乳洞是指由雨水溶解而侵蝕岩石而成的室洞。我們乘了很遠的路程到達稲積水中鐘乳洞,一踏進洞裏,便感到洞內的溫度比外面的溫度起碼低十度,難怪來之前一美さん提醒我們要帶外套。鐘乳洞給我的感覺就像一個夢境,好像以前發過一個夢,來過這裡。洞內岩石的表面溫度也挺冰冷的。一美さん說,夏天時來鐘乳洞會感到涼快,冬天時來則會感到溫暖,是個消暑避寒的好地方。參觀完鐘乳洞後,附近還有很多不同的展館供遊客參觀,我們去了一個五六十年代日本時期的展館,展示了當時的玩具,漫畫,書藉,電影海報和電子用品等,而這些「古董」全部沒有用箱子封着,遊客可親身觸摸和翻閱,但展館裡是沒有任何保安人員和保安設施,如果有不誠實的旅客,便可能將這些珍貴的「古董」偷走。

下午,我們來到第二天歡迎會舉辦的地方進行送別會,這十一天過得真的很快。這次也 跟歡迎會一樣,各家庭各自準備食物,帶來送別會一同享用。有一位三年前來過大分交流的 中文大學師姐,今天也回來探望她的家庭,更一同出席送別會,幸好她吃飯時坐在我旁邊, 因為我向她請教了不時日文字句以作一會兒分享感想之用。

八月二日

離別

這天,我清晨五時多便睡醒了,大概是因為知道快要離開了,心裡十分難受。我跟我的 屋友甚至連早餐也吃不下,很快,我們便帶齊所有行李,離開這個家。お母さん未能到車站 跟我們送別,她在玄關前緊握我們雙手,說期待我們再次回來,轉身離開時,我好像看見她 眼泛淚光……

お父さん,一美さん和四個小孩一起送我們到火車站。在買火車票的時候,一美さん哭了,沒想到這十二天我們給了這個家庭那麼多的麻煩,他們還如此不捨我們,這令我感動萬分。

終於,火車來了,團友們站在車門前,家庭們站在月台,我們彼此不斷向對方揮手道別,當時我站在最前排,火車開動後,回頭一看,發現全部團友都哭了......

Short summary:

This summer is the most unforgettable one. I joined a homestay programme in oita through organised by CUHK JASP department.

22nd July

When we arrived at oita airport, I saw our family was waiting for us outside the closed area. I was scared because my japanese was bad. I was afraid of chatting with my family. Fortunately, my family members are friendly and nice. They knew we could not understand what they are talking about totally. They speaked slowly and tried to use different methods such as writing, body language and even English, explaining things to us.

23rd July

A welcome party was held. We can ate a lot of food that were made by families. It was very delicious. We played with my family's children. They are extremely active and cute. We also perform dancing as a gift to our families.

We learned how to wear kimono on that day. It was the first time wearing kimono. We were all excitied. Then, we had a Japanese tea ceremonysado. It was complicated. A lot of steps were needed to remember. We also learned Japanese ikebana. It was simple.

We had a cooking class in the morning. The cooking method of Japanese food was not simple as I thought before, but it is funny. After that, we sat in meditation to meditate. My leg was painful. We then had a barbecue party with Japanese teenagers. They are caring and talkative.

We went to an aquarium on that day. This aquarium was big. There had a clever system. If you want to leave the aquarium temporarily, a staff will stamp a chop on your hand. You can come back later by showing the chop.

We went to oita bank, which is in the town of oita. Banks in Oita are similar to that in Hong Kong, but there was a café and a small children park. Then, we travel the town by bus. Unfortunately, the weather was foggy. We could not see anything outside the window.

31th July

We visited a well-known hot spring in otia. Its color was pink-blue. It was extremely hot, about 98 degree celsius. Then, we went to immerse the hot springs. I accidentally fell into the springs. At night, we celerated mother's birthday. The cake was delicious.

We went to stalactite cavity which is caused by raining onto stones. It was wonderful and like a dreamland.

A farewell party was held at night. We performed handbell for finally gift.

I could not sleep well so I woke up at 5am. I felt sad because we were going to leave this warm place. I even could not eat my breakfast. At the train station, hitomi san cried. I was very upset. Finally, we had to say goodbye to our family. When the train departed, I saw my groupmates were all crying.

I feel grateful to my family. I gave a lot of troubles to them, but they still treat me as a real daughter. I decided to go back to oita in the coming year.

回想起自己開始喜歡日本的契機,是小時候在電視播放,由日本外務省制作的《日本風情畫》。 節目雖然僅長十分鐘左右,但是每一次介紹的日本主題卻令人深深感受到日本之美。每次一聽到 節目的開頭音樂,都會安靜地坐在電視前觀賞。由那時開始,命運的紅線開始將自己跟日本連起 來了。

我很喜歡日本的田野,阡陌交通,井然有序,簡樸而華麗。然而,自己始終沒有機會親眼見識日本自然之美。另外,小時候開始已經希望將來能在日本生活,但始終不能單靠「喜歡」的情感便 貿然越洋,這樣只會失敗而回。因此我必須找機會親身體驗日本的生活,以了解日本人的生活方 式是否適合自己。

所以,我便報名參加這次大分犬飼町暑期交流計劃。那時我認為這次將會是一個絕佳的機會,去 了解日本人的生活習慣,以供自己參考;亦能一圓自己親眼感受日本自然之美的願望。

回顧旅程,這次大分之旅給我的感覺就如櫻花落下一樣,很美好,也很短暫,就如夢境一樣,當中壯麗的風景,以及開懷的笑容,也只能在心中陪伴著我同行。

第一日:驚險、不安、熱情

七月二十二日早上八點半,我們一團十人從香港國際機場出發到東京成田機場,再乘搭巴士前往羽田機場轉機前往目的地一大分機場。

當天相信是我出發到外地以來最匆忙、最疲累及最驚險的一次。飛機由香港時間上午十時四十分出發,到日本時間下午四時十五分到達成田機場。往大分的航班起飛時間落機之後,大家都用非



歡送會時的大合照

常急速的步伐前往入境閘口,提取行李,然後到機場巴士「リムジンバス」的車站。由於往大分的航班是晚上七時五十五分,而且需要預早時間到達機場,因此我們都顯得非常焦急。幸好我們都趕及五時二十分的班次,車程約一個半小時。到達羽田機場後,幸好航空公司櫃檯沒人排隊,所以我們很快便能取得機票,準備進入候機大堂。

正當大家在辦登機手續時,旁邊的顯示屏說明了我們的另一個難題:因為大分天氣惡劣,視野不佳,航班有機會延誤或者取消。當時在候機大堂大家都顯得憂慮起來:萬一航班取消的話,就要在東京逗留一晚。那麼,在哪裡落腳?在大分機場苦候我們多時的寄宿家庭又會有甚麼安排呢?幸好最後航班都能夠如期起飛,大家才稍鬆口氣。

在機上,正當大家都鬆了半口氣之時,另一個壞消息又來了:由於大分的視野仍然惡劣,飛機會嘗試降落,但幾次的嘗試都失敗的話,就會折返羽田。大家又再變得擔心起來,究竟能否順利到達大分。謝天謝地,飛機於下午九時三十分順利到達大分機場,我們才完全地鬆一口氣。

當我們在等候行李從行李帶出來之時,已經看見寄宿家庭在大堂很熱情地朝我們揮手。然而,當時我卻有一種強烈的不安感。一來,雖然一直都有接觸跟日語有關的事身,亦有自學日語,但自己的日語能力並未到可以跟日本人流暢地溝通的層次,所以一直很擔心自己能否應付日本人的平常對答,以及會否用錯詞語或語境,失禮人前。二來,自己來到這個陌生之地,跟別人一起活動,跟寄宿家庭一起生活,客隨主便,我很害怕自己會帶給別人麻煩,或給人一個壞印象。三來,我是這次旅程的攝影師,然而自己根本沒有活動攝影的經驗。一連串的質疑不斷在我腦海中衝擊。自己行嗎?自己行嗎?自己行嗎?然而,既然他們都在這麼熱情地歡迎我們,我不是應該熱情地回應他們嗎?於是,便鼓起勇氣走出大堂。

我的寄住家庭是岡本先生(お父さん)以及岡本太太(お母さん)。他們一眼便認得到我,走過來微笑道:「我是爸爸,而她是姐姐!」「我是姐姐哦!」お父さん和お母さん這個親切的自我介紹,使我的身體都放鬆了,之前的不安感亦大大減低。

在大合照之後,大家便乘坐小型旅遊巴前往位於豐後大野市的犬飼町,約一個半小時車程。途中舉辦這次交流活動的「犬飼町わかあゆ国際交流会」會長,亦是寄宿家庭之一的田嶋先生,就邀請大家作自我介紹。

「我叫作ビーくん,請多多指教!」因為之前お母さん說我的中文的日語音讀和英文名字比較難記,想我給一個容易記住的名字。我想起小時候父母都稱呼我為「阿B」,於是決定以「ビーくん」為名。聽見眾人都覺得這個名字很有趣,自己害羞得來又有多少歡喜:原來他們都是那麼平易近人。

去到犬飼町市集後,眾人便乘坐各家的私家車回家。在車內,お母さん就很親切地問侯:「這一整日辛苦你了!」而且お父さん知道我應該很餓,帶我到附近的便利店買飯糰給我。之前自己還擔心,お父さん和お母さん是不是容易親近的人,看來這個煩惱是多餘的。

一波三折,終於回到了位於山腰的家中。原來他們為我準備了冷麵和啤酒。「乾杯!」一邊喝酒一邊享受涼透的冷麵,之前沉重的感覺都一掃而空。對話之中得知,原來お父さん跟我一樣喜歡電影,特別是北野武的電影,實在太好了,很難得找到知音人。

之後就是洗澡的時間。當我看見浴室的時候,只能目瞪口呆,因為我從來未看過這麼大的浴室和浴缸,而且自己終於可以一試浸浴的滋味,實在太幸福了。不過お父さん說,其實應該浸浴後才嘗酒,因為可以避免酩酊的狀態下使浸浴的時間過長。

就這樣,奔波忙碌的第一日過去了。

第二日:市長表敬訪問、田野之景、歡迎會

前一晩,お母さん說他們通常七時半左右便會食早飯,著我要早一點起床。可能因為前一日過於疲憊,結果九時才起床。雖然お母さん說「太累的關係,遲起床也沒辦法呢」,自己都是覺得很羞愧。不過這種羞愧感也是對自己的一種警惕:不要給別人麻煩和困惑。お父さん已經很早的時候便下田工作。

お父さん是一位農夫,也會經常外出釣魚;お母さん則是家庭主婦,不時會跟他的朋友一起打網球。他們有兩個兒子,現於東京工作。

日式的早餐有炒滑蛋、青瓜、煙肉、味噌湯、納豆和白飯,還有可以用來伴飯的酸梅。在日本,這麼豐富的早飯是很常見的,在香港則以西式或中式為主。お母さん說早餐一定會有蛋、飯和味噌湯。一日之計在於晨,由此可見早餐對日本人的重要性。對於食無定時,通常都是咬著麵包急步上課的我來說,看見如此景象經已十分滿足。

是日的行程是到豐後大野市市廳與市長見面,以及傍晚在商工會館舉行的歡迎會。

要跟政府的人員見面,我的心情立即緊張起來,要準備待會要用的自我介紹。到達會議室後我發現,原來市長也是一個親民、毫無架子的人。在見面會期間,市長及市廳職員都很認真介紹豐後大野市的背景及自然景觀,然而自己日語能力有限,未能完全理解市長和職員,感到非常抱歉。

與市長見面之後,由於時間尚早,お母 さん帶了我去看岡本家周邊的田野景色。 首先是岡本家對上的一個小平原。那裡 全是種植煙草、芋頭和茄子的田,幅員 廣闊,美不勝收。お母さん說,負責田 野的種植計劃的就是お父さん。お父さ ん真是很厲害!

望著田野之景,綠、藍、白,相機的快 門鍵按得越來越多,心中不知為何越來 越平靜;鳥兒吱吱、蟬鳴,配合自然聲 效,整個景象雖然簡單,但對心靈來說, 這已經是最震撼、最壯麗的畫面。



田野

傍晚七時,就是歡迎會的時間。會堂除了我們和寄宿家庭外,還有大分銀行的職員、市廳的職員 以及市議員玉田先生。每一個寄宿家庭都精心製作了很多美味的食物,弄滿一整張桌子。

依照慣例,我們要表演舞蹈,而我們最後選擇的是現在在日本和香港人氣旺盛的動畫《妖怪手錶》(妖怪ウォッチ)的「妖怪體操第一」。雖然之前有多次演練仍較粗糙,但看見大家都拍手稱好,而小朋友也一起在旁邊手舞足蹈起來,嘛,只要大家開心就足夠了。當跳畢「妖怪體操第一」之後,大家很希望我們跳「和聲BEAT」,真的想不到那個節拍會這麼受歡迎!

當我在品嘗食物時,背後有人拍我的肩膀。「吶吶,一起玩捉迷藏吧!你現在就是鬼!」原來是 田嶋先生的可愛的兩位孫女こころ和あおい。小朋友的精力就是異於常人,一共玩了五次才肯放 我走。小朋友果然很可怕呢!

另外,歡迎會亦是嘗酒的好地方。當時お父さん看見我對梅酒喜愛萬分,還將一瓶梅酒「梅萬」帶回家,著我每一天都要跟他一起飲。我雖然酒量低,但喜愛梅酒,最彼也恭敬不如從命。自此之後,同是寄住家庭的足立さん一看見我就會問「昨晚有沒有飲酒?飲了多少?」令我哭笑不得。

值得一提的是,大分銀行 當中的一位女職員陳さん 主動走過來跟我們說廣東 話,令我呆了一呆。原來 陳さん來自廣州,現居大 分未望到日本居住和工作 我來說,陳さん就是一個 成功的例子,雖然是次族 程不能體驗日本的工作個 境,但多多少少對這個願 望增加了信心。而大分銀 行犬飼分行職員

佐藤さん也主動走來,逐 位逐位地閒談和給名片, 非常熱情。



第三日:和服、花道、茶道、お母さん的朋友

始終作為十日家庭成員的我,總不能甚麼家務也不做,飯來張手而已,於是お母さん便著我以後早上七時前要到魚池餵魚,以及早晚為幼苗澆水。幸好到了第三日,生理時鐘都開始習慣日本的 生活,自己六時就起床工作了。

旭日初升,我亦終於了解岡本家之大。原來岡本家除了居室之外,還有六間和式房屋,旁邊的一家變成了教室,有時會帶領大學生參與農業體驗。

由於活動下午才舉行,所以早上都是在居室看電視記錄片。お父さん就選了一套介紹香港的記錄片,還跟我討論香港的事。お父さん和お母さん對香港的印象就是有很多很高的建築物,以及山頂。另外他們都有問及去年的學生運動和「雨傘革命」,並稱讚香港學生勇敢。雖然距離遙遠,但他們都有關心香港的事務呢。

是日的行程就是著物、花道和茶道體驗。お母さん一早預備了一件浴衣(ゆかた)給我,而穿著 過程都頗考工夫,尤其是浴衣是「左置右」還是「右置左」最容易混淆(正確是穿著本人而言的 「左置右」)。

然後就是花道體驗。身為男孩的我,從來沒想過能夠一試插花的滋味。在導師的講解後,大家便 開始構思插花。最初自己也是一頭霧水,但最後都叫不過不失吧!

不過原來插花的過程,能夠令自己心靜,放鬆自己,而且插花的位置和角度都要講究美學,果然是不簡單呢!

插花之後,緊接的就是茶道體驗。茶 道並不是單單飲茶,而是在沖茶、嘗 茶的時候還要講究儀態。因為我從未 嘗試過茶道,當到我嘗試的時候較為 手忙腳亂,究竟碗在飲之前要如何 轉,飲之後又要如何轉,都令我一時 混亂。不過能體驗日本傳統之美,已 經令我獲益良多。

完結之後,お母さん便帶我到大分市 中心,跟她的朋友一起共晉晚餐。在 乘搭火車的時候,自己的心情都緊張 起來。自己的日語行不行的?他們是

怎樣的人呢?想著想著,就已 經到達餐廳的門口。お母さん 的朋友一早已經到達。大家 起把酒談歡,風花雪月,的 是一次難忘的體驗。他們都對 我和香港感興趣,而他們對不 港最熟悉的事物就是成龍和供 金寶,因為七、八十年代他們 的功夫片拳拳到肉,引人入 勝。而他們亦好奇日本和香港 生活習慣的異同之處。



花道體驗



我與お母さん的朋友的合照。

正當之前我還擔心自己 及,可能飲了幾口酒之 了,竟然能夠流暢地將 後回想起來也覺得神 ん和お母さん都說「ビ 之後就能用日語一五一 來自己一直以來最欠缺 是自信。

是晚天色明朗,漫天星 沒有光害、空氣清新的 但在光害嚴重、空氣混 常少見的畫面。看見這 道是拍攝星空的好時



的日語能力不 後,人變得大膽 日語說出來,事 奇。之後お父 ーくん一飲了酒 十說出來!」看 的不是能力,而

塵,如此景象在 犬飼町很常見, 濁的香港卻是非 個滿天星斗,知 機。

第四日:酒饅頭、座禪、BBS交流

第四日一清早,大家就到了位於田嶋先生的家附近的公民館集合。大家要同心合力製作饅頭和紫蘇飯糰作午餐之用。我們都認真製作,絕不馬虎。

在等候飯糰蒸畢的過程中,我們遭委託一個任務:大家要用手鈴表演兩首日本傳統曲目:《肥皂泡》(しゃぼん玉)和《故鄉》(ふるさと)。對於除了小學的時候有表演牧童笛的經驗之外,對其他樂器一竅不通的我,顯然是一個大挑戰;尤其是《故鄉》,因為整曲有和音,容易混亂。經過一輪艱辛的排練,在眾人面前表演,我們都頗戰戰兢兢,但最後總算不過不失。

享受完充滿汗水的饅頭和飯糰之後,由於時間尚早,大家都在公民館稍息聊天。田嶋先生說:「你的英文名是ロイドン,不如就稱呼你為『おいどん』!」我第一個反應是有點疑惑,為甚麼將我的英文名的「R」拿走?原來在九州方言,特別是鹿兒島,「おいどん」是男兒的自稱,即「我」。換句話說,「おいどん」即是「九州男兒」的自稱。突然被當作「九州男兒」的一份子,心中有點受寵若驚。而之後田嶋先生都稱我為「おいどん」。雖然自己還未及真正男兒的層次,但我會加油的,田嶋先生!

在下午三時,大家都徒步走到離公民館不遠的「大聖禪寺」,因為稍後就會有座禪體驗。住持先跟我們講解坐禪的姿勢,以及坐禪的方法。坐禪的時候一定要心無雜念,專心地感受自己身體的脈搏和心跳。如果雜念一起,或者紛紛欲睡,住持就會用約一米長的長木條拍打雙肩各兩下(冬天之時各三下),打聲之響立即令我心感不妙:這種痛一定非同小可!在坐禪期間,雖然腳有點麻痺,但發現自己的肌肉都鬆弛起來,身體變得輕飄飄,心中一煩惱一剎那都變成絲絲飄渺浮雲。過了二十分鐘,坐禪完畢,大家都沒有被長木條拍打。而大家都很想體驗一下被拍打的滋味。「啪啪」「啪啪」四聲之後,大家都異口同聲說頗痛,但又很爽。之後住持向我們講解寺院的歷史,原來已經有數百年歷史,仍然保存得很好,而現在亦有開設坐禪班。

體驗了坐禪之後,大家就徙步到附近的一個空地,因為傍晚有一個大學生交流燒烤會。來到之時,當地的大學生已經一起在猛火中弄製燒肉和野菜。他們都是「BBS(大哥哥大姐姐)計畫」的成員,致力幫助邊緣青年重返社會。天色漸暗,但無阻大家的在飯桌間的熱情。雖然最初我們和當地的大學生比較陌生,沒有多少接觸,但隨著時間,大家都變得熱情起來,互相了解,輕談淺唱,把酒當歌,一樂也。

第五日:熊本、亞蘇、幻景

第五日是自由活動時間,大家都跟著寄宿家庭到處遊覽,而お父さん和お母さん則帶我遊覽大分 縣隔壁的熊本縣。

相信一聽到熊本縣,腦海立即浮現的畫面一定是笨手笨腳的「熊本熊(クマモン)」了。然而,熊本縣除了「熊本熊」之外,還有不少衝擊視覺的自然景觀和名勝。

我們一清早便出發到位於大分縣及熊本縣之間的久住高原,車程約一小時。乘車的過程中,お父さん不斷播放昔日的英語金曲,如「Singing In the Rain」、「Somewhere Over the Rainbow」等。原來お父さん很喜歡英語金曲,大家又多了一個共同話題。



久住高原

轉眼間就到了海拔約950米的久住高原,由高原俯瞰整個阿蘇平原,遠處的重巒疊嶂,疾風嘯嘯地迎面而來,雲蒸霞蔚,心潮澎湃,真正大自然之美可真的不能只用短短數字來形容。

之後我們便到達熊本市,而目的地就是非常有名的城廓-熊本城。熊本城坐落在市中心的高地,氣勢宏偉,加上熊本天色良好,更顯出熊本城天守閣的氣派之輝煌。古城本於1601年建成,1877年因火災焚毀,至2008年整個熊本城才成功復原。內裡通道縱橫交錯,而天守閣內裡則有模型和展板介紹熊本城的歷史,閣樓更可三百六十度俯視熊本全景,蔚為奇觀。特別的是,裡面有不少穿忍者及武士戲服的工作人員,甚為有趣。這日有一件有趣的事。我們到了旁邊的加藤神社參拜,我竟然抽中「大吉」,而結果之後真的遇到非常幸運的事情,文後再述。

遊覽熊本城以及午膳之後,我們就到了日本著名的火山-阿蘇山。阿蘇山跟犬飼,或至整個九州中部都有深厚淵源。九州中部之所以有幅員遼闊的肥沃土地和複雜的地質,乃因阿蘇山多次火山爆發而成。

通常阿蘇山的道路較為曲折,但隨著地勢緩緩升高,景象也變得越來越壯觀。特別值得一提的是,有一個叫「米塚(こめつか)的小山丘,在公路旁邊漲起來,而頂部是凹狀的,非常可愛。正心想到了山頂景色一定歎為觀止之時,我們竟然忘記了一個很重要的事:因為阿蘇山的火山活動愈

趨活躍,有爆發的可能性,故山頂地區經已遭封鎖。雖然有點失望,但起碼能夠一瞥火山的猛姿,都已經滿足了。

落山的道路上,天色呈波譎雲詭之勢,時雲時晴,雲中隙縫透出絲絲陽光,加上整個阿蘇平原及遠方的久住群山之景,驚為天人。而前文所述的幸運事出現了一彩虹。在這壯絕的美景中加上彩虹,實在教我們歎為觀止,口中只能說出「好厲害」來形容這個非筆墨所能勾畫出來的絢麗之姿。

第六日:神樂、方言、鄰居

轉眼間,行程已經過了一半。是日有兩項活動:神樂表演及方言教室。



阿蘇山之彩虹

上獻舞。同場的あおい也懼怕鬼猙獰的面孔, 躲在眾人背後。然後大家都拿到一束枝葉,原 來接著鬼就會到台下,用大力搶走我們的枝 葉,大家要做的就是要跟他們鬥力,保住枝 葉。但是鬼的力實在太大,大家經過一輪掙 扎,最後枝葉都被搶去了;而我跟 Johnathon 和 Bruce 一起扯著枝葉跟鬼力拼,最後也不敵 鬼的神力。雖然如此,大家都很樂在其中,非 常享受神樂所帶來的歡樂。神樂表演之後,高 中生很熱心地講解剛才使用的樂器,還給我們 嘗試。

午飯過後,大家就一起交流。大家談及時下歌 手及組合,氣氛高漲;而我則跟他們談談自己

所謂「神樂(かぐら)」,是 一種日本神道的傳統舞蹈,作 祈福或鎮魂之用。舞者會穿上 昔日日本宮廷色彩的衣服,手 執神樂鈴,聞曲起舞。是日由 三重町總合高校的高中生表 演,從演奏樂器到舞蹈都由他 們一手包辦,十分厲害。舞蹈 神聖又有多少神秘感,賞心悅 目。

原來神樂還有後半。後半就有舞者戴上兇猛的鬼面具,在台



神樂之後半

喜歡的漫畫。之後,大家都打成一片,一起玩「紅綠燈」。雖然自己並沒有參與其中,但看見他們純真的笑顏,自己也笑了起來。原來笑容是這麼有感染力,亦無分國族。

下午三時,就是方言教室的環節,主講的是田嶋先生。大家都靜心地聽課,而且記下在白板上寫 著的方言。雖然出發前,駐香港的大分銀行職員菅さん有講解一些大分方言,但自己仍然未能掌 握大分方言。經田嶋先生解說,自己都大分方言有多一重的了解,現在最記得「しょしょろしい (吵吵鬧鬧的)」和「なしか(為什麼)」。說起慚愧,到了大分竟然不多說方言,自己實在不 夠熱情。

回到家後、お母さん的鄰居後藤先生也來了、原來後藤先生想邀請我一起到周邊散步。這是一次 很難得的機會,一來可以了解日本平民的想法,二來可以欣賞家附近的景色。

後藤先生身體強壯,健步如飛,反觀自己因欠缺運動,走了一段路已經累透。言談之間,原來後 藤先生跟我一樣喜歡攝影,他還教了我不少攝影心得,沿途大家都談東談西,言談甚歡,由政 治、戰爭到生活、職業,再到傳統的死亡觀,我們都坦誠交流,毫無代溝。這種深入交流,是普 通旅行不會有的體驗。

第七日:大分一日遊

第七日,如副標題所述,就是「大分一日遊」。我們一起乘坐旅遊巴,在大分到處遊歷。

第一個景點就是位於 大分銀行「宗麟 館」於今年4月6日 五層高的綜合大廈, 行分行之外,還有咖 兒童遊樂場及多用途 雀雖小,五臟俱全。 就是來自廣州的陳さ 東話令我們更了解大 和架構。

第二個景點就是大分 廳職員見面。由於在 政府官員見面的經



大分市中心的 館」。「宗麟 開幕,是一所 内裡除了有銀 啡廳、平台、 禮堂,可謂麻 為我們講解的 ん、親切的廣 分銀行的運作

縣縣廳,跟縣 第二日有過跟 驗,今次自己

沒有那麼害怕,但仍然不敢怠慢。會面亦在和恰的氣氛下完成。之後,職員帶我們到縣廳的14 樓,原來該處有瞭望台,可以飽覽近至整個大分市,遠至別府市或至大分機場的風景,令我大飽

眼福。

第三個景點就就是位於九重町的著 名吊橋:九重「夢」大吊橋。吊橋 海拔777米,全長390米,高 173米,為日本最長的吊橋。在 吊橋之中,就如置身半空之中,一 邊是群山倚巒的氣派,另一邊則是 萬綠蕞中的兩道破筆:震動之瀑 (震動の滝),有威猛的雄瀑布,



另一方就是相對輕柔的雌瀑布,如此之景,實在教人沈醉。

第八日: 笑顏、川游、乘馬

到了第八日,活動安排沒有之前般緊湊。

是日我們要幫忙製作飯糰,以及大分的地道美食「團子汁(だんごじる)」。製作期間,同場的小朋友也越來越多,除了あおい和こころ之外,還有羽田野家的さくら和すみれ,以及她們的朋友。人數越來越多之外,小朋友也開始活躍起來了。他們除了玩捉迷藏之外,還跟我們一起玩「猴子搶球」,大家打成一片,就如鄰居一樣。

一幕幕此起彼落的歡笑聲,一張張純真的笑臉,整個場景觸及到我內心心處。自己已經是二十一歲,為何不如一個小學生,能夠有一個發自內心的笑容?自己的問題在哪裡?如何可以令自己有一個發自內心的笑容?所以那時決定用相機拍下大家的笑顏。

雖然前兩個問題在當時找不到答案,但最後的一個問題卻能在相片中得到答案。大家都是天真無 邪地笑著,無邪氣,無機心,而相機捕捉到這種笑容,自己就會不由控制的會心微笑。

果然最原始的笑容的心靈衝擊是最大, 感染力也是最大。也許是要捉住這種笑容, 我才投身攝影世界吧。

之後,大伙就到了離公民館不遠處的小河遊玩。當時天氣炎熱,大家都戴上帽子和毛巾。水清沙幼,流水潺潺,實在不願離開。在香港,能夠在淺河中遊玩是一個很罕見的機會。小朋友都很努力的彎下腰來,金睛火眼地看著蝌蚪的足跡,然後一手拿上來。「看!成功了!」大家都非常雀躍,對小朋友來說,整條河就如天堂一樣。



其後,大家都拾了一顆石頭,回到公民館便開始繪石環節。大家可以用顏料,以畫筆筆及手指盡情發揮創意。大家的創意都好厲害,有小雞,有龍貓,也有士多啤梨。至於我便創作了一個「大家未來的地球」,可能意念較為平庸,小朋友都不太受落,說「這個地球只有ビーくん一個在住」,令我啼笑皆非。

吃完美味的「團子汁」,和畫完石頭之後,由於離下一個活動尚早,於是大家決定唱卡啦OK解悶。而卡啦OK的歌曲全部都是富有日本特色的「演歌」。當中田嶋先生更即席獻唱,唱得非常有板有眼,帶起氣氛。

之後,大家便到了附近的一間高中體驗騎馬。該高中設有馬廄,亦有一個小馬場,讓大家嘗試騎 馬的滋味。可能因為我身型較大,騎上馬的時候比較笨拙。但騎上之後,雖然有點搖晃,但騎馬 絕對是一個全新的體驗。

第九日:豐後大野地質公園

到了第九日,大家乘搭旅遊巴,一同參觀豐後大野市裡面的地質名勝。

我們到了兩條瀑布,一條是沉墮之瀑(沈 堕の滝)、另一條則是原尻之瀑(原尻の 滝)。雖然兩者都非常宏偉,但論氣勢來 說,還是能夠更接近距離欣賞的原尻之瀑 更勝一籌。那種不能用音響媲美的流水衝 擊的轟降降,就如大自然的交響樂一樣, 衝擊心靈。

我們亦到了兩條石橋:「出會橋」和「轟 橋」。兩條橋本來是鐵道橋,但其後鐵軌 遭拆除,而成為現在的模樣。而橋下則有 一大片長年累月受到風化和侵蝕的斷崖。 而這正是九萬年前阿蘇山爆發後帶給當地



原尻之瀑

人的「遺產」,再一次顯示出大自然威猛之姿。

我們也到了當地一間酒廠參觀,由那裡的職員講解酒的製作過程。由發酵到成酒需要極度複雜的 步驟,以及大量時間,可謂得來不易。其後酒廠職員也提供各種酒給大家試飲,非常好客。

第十日:與鄰居同行、燒烤

第十日又是自由活動日、但因為お父さん和お母さん有事在身、故是日是由鄰居後藤先生帶我到 附折遊覽。

最令我印象深刻的是白水之瀑(白水の滝)。那瀑布深入林中,有一種「柳暗花明又一村」的意 景。然而,由於於林中,沿途都有不少昆蟲,令整條路都充滿尖叫,直是羞慚。

另外我們也到了周邊的神社,例如三宮八幡社和柴山八幡社。,位於群樹之中,青蔥而幽靜,然 而卻杳無人煙。後藤先生說,通常人們都是在新年才參拜,以及打掃神社。

後藤先生亦帶我 浴。雖然不是第 赤身露體面對旁 少害羞。然而浸 有煩惱都煙消雲 飄飄的,即使到 掛念著當時的感

到了傍晚,我跟 母さん、後藤先 扶老攜幼地一起 大家一邊品嚐燒 由お父さん釣來 及刨冰,一邊拿 樂, 甚為暢快。 著煙花,然後望



傍晚的燒烤

到溫泉享受浸 一次,但是要 人,始終有多 浴的時候,所 散,全身都輕 了現在,也很 覺呢!

お父さん、お 生和其他鄰居, 到家中燒烤。 好的肉和野菜、 的墨魚刺身以 著啤酒聊天作 而小朋友則拿 著煙花所產生

的絢麗火花,我也是第一次玩本的煙花,感覺很奇妙。以前看過一個電視節目,解釋煙花燃燒之 變化乃人生四季之體現,真想不到日本的煙花也能帶有這種「物哀」(物の哀れ)之美。

第十一、十二日:鍾乳洞、歡送會、離別

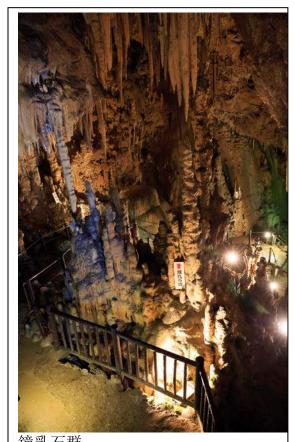
第十一日是最後一日,而活動就是傍晚的歡會。

而お父さん和お母さん早上則帶了我去附近的鐘乳 洞。鐘乳洞冬暖夏涼,長年都是維持在攝氏十六 度。內裡之鐘乳石形狀可謂鬼斧神工,而鐘乳石均 以佛、寺院或是地形命名,為鐘乳石增添了東方宗 教色彩。

因為お父さん和お母さん知道我喜歡壽司,所以之 後他們帶了我去大分縣的沿海城市-佐伯。當地盛 產海產,因此當地壽司都非常新鮮,味道鮮美。而 日我亦沒有見過壽司的長度跟我的手的長度(約1 9厘米) 差不多!

到了傍晚,就是歡送會的時候。跟歡迎會一樣,各 家庭都會自製很多美味的食物,帶來會場。

我們跟歡迎會一樣,都要面向眾人表演,而表演的 就是在第四日演奏過的《肥皂泡》和《故鄉》。演 奏期間,小朋友和大人都一起在旁邊吹起肥皂泡, 整個場地都充滿著色彩繽紛的肥皂泡,場面溫馨。 然而,我們都知道翌日就要離開這裡,與十日來遇



鐘乳石群

到的各位離別,自己心中也有一點傷感。

「希望你們都能夠將犬飼町變成你們的故鄉。」田嶋先生在演奏之後如是道。面對即將離別的時間,有同行團友眼淚滿眶,我也只能在心中發出絲絲的嘆息。這次美好的旅程轉眼間便畫上句號,發生過的美好事物也只能化為虛空,永遠不能再重現一幕幕歡樂的畫面,只能以記憶的碎片的形式在腦海中保存起來。

「不要忘記我啊!」我跟こころ叮囑。「不會啊!因為你的名字這麼有趣!」希望無論是お父さん、お母さん還是在犬飼町遇見的各位,也不要忘記ビーくん啊!

翌日早上八時五十分,大家都在犬飼車站目送我們乘坐的火車。他們很開心向車窗揮手,而我們除了揮手之外,部分同行團友也用了眼淚來回應。

離別是不好受的,然而這樣才能令是次旅程在我們心中變得更重要、更深刻。

總結

回顧旅程,有喜,有悲,也有盡興的時候。除了這三個時刻令我印象深刻之外,尷尬的時候也令我成長。

在第四日的BBS交流中,因為自己不諳酒量,滿面通紅。幸好自己沒做出甚麼奇怪的事,但要 旁人幫忙攙扶已經十分丟臉。

在第八日中,因為自己看錯時間,結果稍遲才能到達場地。日本人視守時為基本禮儀,這種失誤實在十分丟臉;另外,在河邊遊玩時忘記了拿網,結果要田嶋先生幫忙找回,也是十分丟臉。

雖然丟臉的事是發生了,但是丟臉的感覺卻令我更符合一個二十一歲的人應有的態度:每年事要知分寸、要守時、不要大意。在此亦為是次旅程中我帶來的麻煩同困惑致歉。

無論是お父さん、お母さん,還是犬飼町的各位,都非常親切和平易近人。你們辛勞地預備這個令我們刻骨銘心的旅程,帶給我們這麼美好的回憶,非常感謝。

是次旅程教了我,無論是甚麼煩惱也好,最重要的都是笑容。這是こころ、あおい和各位好動的 「小魔怪」教導我的。

出發前總總的憂慮,隨著旅程,已經覺得憂慮是多餘的。挺起胸膛,懷著笑容就已經可以了。

櫻花落下的時候,很美好,也很短暫,如夢似幻。

也許不久的將來,這個夢也可以變回現實。





<完>

Short summary:

I am glad that I could have an opportunity to participate in this Inukai Machi (犬飼町) Summer Exchange Program. Although it held for only eleven days, it has become a precious memory for me, which is not to be forgotten in the future.

Day 1 was a tiring and adventurous experience. From Hong Kong International Airport at HKT 1040 to Narita Airport at JST 1615, and from Haneda Airport at JST 1955 to Oita Airport at JST 2130, we were tired of rushing to the customs' counters and to the airport bus stop in order to get on the plane to Oita on time. Another bad news was the chance of returning back to Tokyo due to poor visibility, heard from the pilot in the plane. Fortunately, we arrived Oita Airport safely, and I encountered my host family, Okamoto, for the first time.

Day 2 (23/7)

In the afternoon of day 2, we went to Bungooono City (豊後大野市) Government Complex to have a meeting with the leader and officers. Actually I was a little bit nervous since we were going to interact with government officials, but finally we had a great time in it with a thorough introduction of GeoPark by the officers.

In the evening, we had a pleasant welcoming party. With dance, songs, beer, apricot wine and children, I had euphoric conversations with everyone in the party.

Day 3 (24/7)

In this day, we were going to have Ikebana (花道) and Japanese tea ceremony lessons with yukata(浴衣). It was my first time to wear such Japanese traditional clothes, and feel the spirit of Japanese ancient art.

In the evening, Mum and I went to Oita City to have a dinner with her friends. They were friendly, talkative, and curious about the things in Hong Kong. Of course, in the Japanese's mind, Jackie's name was the symbol of Hong Kong

Day 4 (25/7)

In this day morning, we were going to make some buns and Onigiri ($\sharp \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \)$) for the lunch. During lunch, we had a musical performance of two Japanese traditional songs: "Soap Bubbles" and "Hometown", with hand rings. After failing for a few times, we could finally get a right beat.

After that, we experienced a twenty-minute zazen (坐禅) in the temple. Zazen was like meditation, which helped relax the whole body and the stressed mind. In the evening, we had a barbecue dinner with local undergraduates.

Day 5 (26/7)

This day was a free day, so Mum and Dad brought me to the nearby prefecture Kumamoto, which is famous for the mascot Kumamon. We had a fun time in visiting Kumamoto Castle and Mount Aso (Peak closed due to escalating volcanic activity). We could also see a huge rainbow on the Mount Aso.

Day 6 (27/7)

In this day we enjoyed a traditional Japanese dance called Kagura (神楽), which is held for praying in the past, by local high school students. The most impressive feature was the fierce Oni (鬼) mask, and the act of looting bush branches from our hands. We also had a lesson for dialects in Oita.

Day 7 (28/7)

In this day we were going to visit Oita City. We had a meeting with Oita Prefecture Government's officers, and a visit in Oita Bank's new building "Sorinkan". Finally we went to the most famous bridge in Kyushu, The Kokonoe "Dream" Suspension Bridge (九重"夢"大吊橋).

Day 8 (29/7)

In this day we had a great time with children in the river and stone-drawing session. I was surprised by children's smiley faces. These were the most powerful medicine for frustration and melancholia. In the evening, I experienced my first horse riding.

Day 9 (30/7)

In this day we had a visit to the Geopark of Bungooono City, which consisted of a number of must-sees. We visited the two famous and marvelous waterfalls, Chinda no Taki (沈堕 \mathfrak{O} 滝) and Harajiri no Taki (原尻 \mathfrak{O} 滝). We also had a look on the procedures of production of beer in a beer factory.

Day 10 (31/7)

This day was a free day again, but this time neighbor Mr. Gotou brought me to the spots around Bungooono City, including dams, waterfalls and shrines.

In the evening, me, Mum, Dad and neighbors had an enjoyable barbecue in a pleasant atmosphere.

Day 11 (1/8)

This is the last day of the trip.

In the morning Mum and Dad took me to the stalactite cave nearby. The stalactite stones inside were extraordinary and had amazing shapes. The naming of such stalactite was also related to Buddhism, and thus their names had an Eastern religion style.

In the evening there was a farewell party. Although it was quite similar with the welcoming party, I felt a weight of sorrow about the leave. The past ten days were so remarkable, but after tomorrow such beautiful scenes would be gone. However, perhaps because of the impact of grief, I would see this trip as one of my most precious memories in my life.

梁鎧頤

原來離開日本已經二十天了,一直久久未能提筆記錄這十二天的難忘之旅,其實心底裡生怕會把 這段難以忘懷的感動忘卻,幸然有著校方在後的鞭策,在使終於願意好好的回味起這段旅程—這 段刻骨銘心的旅程。

從來沒有想過,寄宿家庭是這樣的一回事。

本來對寄宿家庭的期望,就只有體驗文化,體驗生活,大概就是過著小丸子般的生活,在沒有摩天大廈的鄉郊,閒時到市集去買豆腐(還得要用和稈草包裹著的),把在磚牆上昏昏欲睡的花貓嚇得如臨大敵……

然而,我沒有想過,跟這家人建立的感情是如此深厚,大概就是捨不得。我的家,有爸爸、媽媽、哥哥、姐姐和兩個妹妹(其實關係有點複雜,「哥哥」的愛女是我的「妹妹」,哈哈)。

爸爸是慈祥的、體貼的、好客的。跟爸爸最難忘的回憶是與他在客廳討論這計劃完結後的行 程要怎麼走。說實在的,我的日文程度根本沒能與他們有太深入的溝通(儘管已經是已完成日文 四、儘管同行的友人還覺得我說得不錯、哈哈)。記得有一次爸爸駕車把我們載到集合地點、他 指著那片向日葵田侃侃而談,把我聽得一頭無緒,幸得同行的同學當個翻譯,才明白他說那是去 年他家作農作體驗時跟一班中學生一起種的,有一個圖案,他想叫我們猜猜看那是怎樣的一個圖 形。我聽不懂,也無可口非吧。然而,我感覺得我跟他的距離其實很遠,遠得彷彿沒能接觸到彼 此的世界。不過,那一個晚上短短的二十分鐘,卻使我知道,我們是溝通得到的。那天晚上,是 三個荷蘭人到來寄宿的那一晚,他們嚷著要用電腦,要上網,要掃瞄器,要看銀行賬戶……我竟 然成功的做翻譯了。同一天,我還成功的替荷蘭人問了哪裡是他們家的田,田中種的是什麼植物 (當時我心想,我是可以用日文問爸爸的,但他答的那個答案反正我便應該聽不懂,但他竟回答 我說那是煙草,嚇得我回不過話來。),還有問到他們住的那個房間中的照片是何人。對,其實 我想說的是那個用紙和筆構成的對話。其實同學們在家中各自分別也有用紙筆跟家人溝通,但同 行的友人日文很好,總能當個即時翻譯,不用動及這兩個活寶。但那對話中,因友人在浴室中享 受她的美好時光,使爸爸忍不住要用紙筆寫一些漢字,教我怎樣唸由布院、別府等,當然最重要 的是我怎樣乘車,哈哈,他還勸我不要去由布院,沒有好看的,但媽媽則反對,認為值不值得 去,是應該在我親自到訪以後才決定的(以上這兩句我大概反覆聽了三四次)。反正自從那個晚 上,我跟爸爸的感情大增!還有的是,爸爸總是三番四次的疼愛著我。我很喜歡喝他那獨有的紫 蘇汁,他在我們臨走前特意採摘及榨取,好讓我們能帶回家裡。我只是隨意的說要吃紫蘇冰,他 又給我弄。我說同學們家有煙花玩很幸福,他又請哥哥去買。他還不斷請我們喝他自家釀製的梅 酒(三十多度,很烈的)。還有,他教我們弄陶瓷,又請朋友給我們燒好及上色(案台上的那隻 小白免,正看著我)。他的笑容,總是可掬的。不過,他常常把我們帶到不同的朋友家裡去串門 子,其實有點腼腆,聽不明白就是了,但後來他知道我聽不明,經常在友人前笑話我,我反而比 較自在。

媽媽是賢良淑德的、勤勞的。媽媽每個早上,也會特早起床(我們大多是七時起床的)給我們弄得滿桌佳餚,最常見的是青瓜蕃茄配沙拉油、香腸煎蛋、味噌湯(媽媽知道我喜歡吃南瓜,後來給我配上南瓜,好吃得很)、玄米,這些是每人一份的。而跟大家分享的會是昨晚吃不完的菜,不過也是很好吃的,最喜歡吃苦瓜雞腎(哥哥的伴酒菜),還有南瓜雞,蔬菜酸魚,還有各式各樣的開胃小菜。記得在第一個晚上,跟他們說我有想淺嚐納豆,隔天早上我的早餐便出現了

一盒納豆,他們特意為我準備的。我吃過後,沒有很喜歡,也沒有不喜歡的,但看他們是為我刻意安排的,便賞面的說好吃。後來,他們就真的以為我喜歡,每天早上也給我來一盒,我只好在早餐後,默默的把那納豆送回冷藏箱裡去(也是因為吃得太飽了)。對,他們早上(其實是所有時候)也很喜歡喝冰紅茶,害我也愛上了。他們那邊的蔬菜都很新鮮,簡單的烹調便很好吃了。和媽媽在一起最難忘的是她給我們準備浴衣的那個早上,她先把浴衣的各個配件給弄直,當時天氣已經很熱了,加上那熨斗的熱氣,使她滿頭大汗,她再稍為教我們穿著浴衣的方法,那一刻,我覺得自己真的是日本人家的女兒,媽媽在給我的成人禮做好準備,窩心得很。另外,她還會給我們洗衣服。本來是想要自己洗的,連洗衣液也帶上了,但媽媽說不打緊,便煩請她了。看她在那向著菜田的空地上把自己的衣服給晾起,感覺很美妙,也感謝她的不辭勞苦。

兩個妹妹也是可愛的、佻皮的。說實在的,我很慶幸自己家中有兩個妹妹,給我們帶來很多 樂趣和話題,閒時沒事做,也是跟她們一起玩的,玩紙牌遊戲,找國家,找日本城市(遊戲玩法 是一人唸關於那國家/地方的介紹,參加者趕緊從卡海中找出相應的答案,但問題是我根本聽不 懂那介紹,怎樣找也找不到!後來我當那唸的,我還唸不到三個字,她們就知道我說的是什麼 了……),找烏龜(那真是個全球化的玩意,大家都會玩,然而我最愛逗她們了,裝作很認真的 在猜拳,裝作偷看她們的卡牌,我們經常聯盟地欺負妹妹,在背後看她的牌再給別人提示,壞得 很),當然還有不會出玩語言障礙的遊戲-躲貓貓了(她們常常躲到我們不能去的地方,如二樓 啊,爸爸媽媽的房,壞孩子。自從玩了第一次後,她們便愛上了,常逗我們玩,但友人怕累嘛, 我使只能硬著頭皮陪玩了。在家中跑來跑去的感覺很好,在香港,哪能讓你跑呢?知道她們躲在 我們的房間,又把門給堵起來,便靜悄悄地從另一個門口給進去,哈。雖說這是個不用說話的遊 戲,妹妹還有因這遊戲發起脾氣來,因為她興致勃勃的跟我說知道姐姐躲在哪,要我跟她去找姐 姐,但在聽不明白的情況下仍說了是的,卻沒有行動,她便心急得用小腳大力踏地了。)我也喜 歡喝姐姐弄的香蕉奶昔,超好喝,她在第一個早上便給我們弄了一杯,喝過了後過幾天害我心癢 癢想再喝,便嚷著她要她再給我們嚷一個,她還給我們弄了一個加強版,好像有桃子和蜜瓜。對 了,那天媽媽和姐姐也讚她會弄那香蕉奶很厲害,雖然她灑了點在地上,也沒有罵她。那就是日 本的家庭教育吧,給小朋友裝得信心滿滿。她們的飲食習慣也是怪怪的,早上可以吃冰棒,一天 到晚也在吃冰棒,也經常吃零吃,哈哈,但媽媽啊,姐姐啊,都不會罵她們就是了。對於身體, 她們也比香港的小孩來得開放,不穿衣服在家裡亂竄,又愛揭起裙子拍照,傻瓜。在這個旅程 中,還有一件意料之外的事,是小朋友也很喜歡我,除了我家的兩個小女孩,還有另外兩個短髮 女生,我們在旅遊巴士時,她們總嚷著要跟我一起坐,大概是因為在第二天的歡迎會中,我早就 跟她們在會場外的石地玩瘋了,而同行的其他朋友也不大喜歡小朋友。旅程中,其中一環是跟小 朋友到河邊裡去拾石子,石子我沒有拾到,但就跟他們在那邊丟石子、捉蝌蚪,反正那條河、那 些陽光、那些清水沁涼的感覺,我會記著的(幸好還有同行的攝影師們,把那些美好的片段都一 一記錄下來)。

除了自己家的家人,其他寄宿家庭的爸爸媽媽也很好。請我吃桃子雪糕,跟我談大媽團體,教我說韓文,說我是個很嘈吵的女孩。我日文不好,他們也耐心的慢慢說,慢慢解釋。當然也有教茶道、花道、團子汁、清酒饅頭、坐禪的老師了。

爸爸說,他讓外地人來到家裡住,是因為他認為他的孫女在鄉鎮裡長大,沒什麼能給她們。然而,每每看著剛熟絡的人要離自己而去,她們心裡又有好過嗎?我想念著那戴著髮箍的短髮女孩,面圓圓的,會給我綁馬尾的,會在早上叫我們起床的。

我希望自己不會是個一去不返的陌生人。

Short summary:

Time flies. I left Japan for twelfth days already. These twelfth days will be an unforgettable experience for me in my whole life. Apart from my initial objective to join this programme – to understand Japanese culture and experience the daily life of them, I developed a relationship with people there. My host family treated me really well in this trip.

You may say my father is a traditional Japanese, but somehow he is not. You can feel that he loves his family so much that he takes care of them, for example, he works in the field under bright sunlight every day. When I saw he gets sunburn, I know he is hard-working, because of his family. In addition of his diligent, he likes to take us visiting his friends. We visited three to four families during this trip, I think he is quite proud to have foreigners living in his home for a short period of time. However, unlike the traditional Japanese male, he does not force you to do something you don't like to do. For instance, Florence doesn't like eating beans so she was not required to eat the beans in front of her. Also, he is so patient to chat with me, who cannot speak good Japanese. In fact, I usually cannot understand what he is talking about. Yet, he never minds and he even always take it as a joke, ha-ha. He spent a longer time to explain what he wants to say and try to understand what I was talking about. He is so sweet to do this. Being hospitable, my father invited us to try his Perilla juice and palm wine, he even filled us two bottles when we were going to leave.

Children there are so adorable too. Unlike usual, children like me so much that they usually asked me to play with them and sit with them when we are travelling in bus. Playing in river and catching tadpole are new experience for me. When we left, my sister, Sakura, wrote us a letter and gave us her photo. It is so touching for her to do so. Like her grandfather, she was so patient to communicate with me also. I remember we spent twenty minutes to discuss why she got a short hair style, ha-ha. That's because they need to have swimming class in school, but somehow there are some girls being in long hair still as they are not willing to have hair cut.

My father said he joined home stay programme as he is afraid that he cannot give her granddaughters, who are living in rural area, much, so he hope that foreigners living here help them to explore this world. Yet, when they become familiar with those friends, they are going to be separated. I really hope that I will not be one of them. Although I live in Hong Kong and they live in Japan, we can still keep in touch. I believe that I will come back to Oita and my host family home one day.



潘朗軒

From this homestay programme, I have learnt a lot and earnt a lot. I am more than grateful to be provided with such marvelous opportunity to participate in this homestay programme. Not only does my Japanese improved, my horizon has been widely expanded too. I cannot thank more for all those who prepared and contributed in this programme.

On the first day, I am so excited to meet my new teammates! They are all so nice and friendly. To prepare for the performance we had even practiced dancing at the terminal. It was such an unforgettable experience! We chatted and had fun together through the travel from Hong Kong to Oita. We enjoyed the time although it was really tiring for us to take 2 flights in a day.

When we arrived, though we were tired, we were anxious about what our host families would be like as well as how we could interact with them given that most of us were not really that capable in using Japanese to communicate with locals. Fortunately, all our host families are really kind and understanding, e.g. they spoke at slow pace to let us understand more. Although I am not good at speaking Japanese and had to interact with locals by myself only (some of the host families had 2 students living in together), I was so glad that my host father and host mother were so nice and patience that they tried different methods to communicate with me during my stay.



When I first arrived at my host home, my first impression was like, "Gosh it is remote!" The house is indeed quite far from city, what is more, I noticed that public transport is not common in Oita. That was why I was quite worried about it. Nevertheless, I was very happy that my host home was not that modern ---- it was surrounded by farms and trees, which gives me senses of nature, which has been longed for by me. What is more, my room was large as well as traditional --- I was given a "pudong" to sleep in. These align with my expectation of this



programme, to experience and adapt in traditional Japanese lives with lower standard of living than in Hong Kong. Yet, it was too soon to say so, when I was going to shower, I spotted a spider as big as palm watching over the entrance, which was actually quite scary as I hadn't expected it.

The second day seemed to be an especially long day to me, probably because I woke up early (5:30pm) while sleeping late (12:00). Yet, it is a fruitful and exciting day. That day after breakfast, as my host

parents went to work, I stayed at the host home and spent some time reading their comic collections, which was wonderful! As a fan of many anime and manga, finding the room full of comics feels like finding water in desert! Fortunately, the morning is not occupied by merely comics. At around 10:00am, host father was back from work and took me to visit the incineration and recycling centre, from which I got hands on experience on how Japanese will group and recycle their garbage. In Hong Kong I have always heard people praising how effective Japanese's garbage management system is, now I finally start to know how effective the system exactly is. After that, together with my friends, we visited the Mayor. The officials and Mayor were very gentle and welcoming, yet we were all very nervous about giving our self-introduction in front of others (excluding host families) for the first time. Thankfully, everything went smoothly. After that, we went back to our homes and prepare for the welcoming party that night. As my host father was responsible for audio, I arrived at the hall early to help them prepare for setting up. It was more tiring than I thought! We had to rearrange the tables and chairs, connect the audio devices, swept the floor, hang up banners, etc. We were all exhausted! Yet it's worth it as all enjoyed the party that night. From the party I became closer with my new friends here as well as knowing new friends. We had even met a Cantonese speaking Chinese (Miss Chan) here! Miss Chan was so nice that she shared a lot of her working experience in Japan and how we could move to Japan. We had learnt a lot from her!

The next day, we wore Kimono and Yukata for the first time. Unexpectedly, my host parents bought me a Jinbe, which made me feel different (only 3 boys were there already and what I wore made me even more different from the two boys). I felt even more embarrassed when I misunderstood I had to wear my Kimono there and I was the only one who arrived wearing Kimono. Luckily, I felt more comfortable when Tasima San told me that he wore Jinbe usually. Yet it did not last long as we all found all my Jinbe allow certain amount of light passing through, which made me even more embarrassed in front of the girls. Fortunately, that did not last long as others wore their Kimono and Yukata, which turned their attention away from my look. Upon this, I found out that I would feel uncomfortable when I found myself look different from others.

After that, we learnt about Kadou and Chadou. In Kadou, we learnt how to arrange flowers in Japanese manners, which turned out to be quite difficult as the combinations between flowers, leaves and the flower bowl were quite difficult. While in Chadou, we learnt how Japanese greet others through Tea. Unexpectedly the most challenging thing to us was not the Japanese Terminology, neither the manners nor way to make tea, the most challenging thing was to tolerate the scream of our leg muscles as all of us were not accustomed to the Japanese sitting style yet. One of us couldn't even walk properly after sitting for 30 minutes!

On the 25 of July, we learnt to prepare Japanese meal as well as Zazen. We learnt how to make and bake Manziu and Onigiri. After that we had also learnt to perform hand bells and played Japanese traditional music. At that moment, we did not know the meaning of learning hand bells at the moment yet (we had to perform it at the farewell party). That was the reason we wanted to get through this as soon as possible in order to have more friend chat among ourselves.



After some wait, we went to a temple to learn Zazen. There, we learnt to let go of our own thoughts and concentrate on nothing (that was what I perceived), once the teacher found we were not doing right, he would use a long ruler to "awaken" us by hitting us with it for twice. Curiously, after the Zazen was completed, none of us had to be "awaken", so I volunteered to try it, which was a little bit disappointing to me as I expected it to be more painful yet the hit was far lighter than those hits from my mother when I was small and disobedient. Nevertheless, it was a great experience and I learnt how the idea of "Ceni mode" of Naruto comes from, it comes from Zazen, the theories as well as the posture are nearly the same. These was quite exciting to me as I am a crazy fan of Naruto.

After Zazen, finally we got some time to have a friend chat among ourselves, yet not all of us could participate in it. This was the only time when we could communicate about our thoughts and got closer to each other amongst this trip, and we enjoyed it a lot.

Then it came the BBS exchange dinner. We met local Japanese teenagers and had dinner with them, sadly we couldn't interact much with them as the girls were too timid while the boys were more eager to chat with girls than boys. But that's not all, instead of teenagers, I chatted happily with adults about anime especially Gundam. We all enjoyed the chat a lot as we rarely found friends having same interest to such extent. What is more, this was the first time I saw someone drunk in real life. One of us was drunk to an extent that he couldn't even walk properly and banged with the tables for quite a lot of times. I took care of him for a while together with another one of us. Interestingly, I enjoyed the process of helping him, perhaps I am really fit to be a care-provider. Nevertheless, we all enjoyed the night so much.

After so many days staying with friends, I finally got chances to travel with my long-busy host family. This was one of the happiest day to me among this trip. That day, we set out of Kuju Kouen, under the worst ever weather as it rained heavier and heavier as we were closing to our destination. Therefore after we arrived, we chose to stay in a café and have a drink at least, so as not to waste our travel to here. Yet, miracle happened when we were travelling around Kuju Kouen by car instead of foot. The

weather was getting better and better while the air we breathe was the purest air I have ever breathed in my life (not exaggerating, as the air quality in Oita has always been good, with the heavy rain just washed away the dust and some larger suspended air particles, in addition to the grass field and trees around us, the purity of the air cannot be doubted). After that, we decided to go to a "Power Spot", so called because it was said to be able to restore





travelling tiresome as well as restoring people's energy after visiting there. I questioned such advertisement in our way going there, but I was wrong. The view there was undoubtedly the best view ever in my life and all of us were amazed by the view there. When we climbed up the small mountain there, the view was more spectacular as we found ourselves surrounded by a sea of grasses and trees. On one side small mountains and hills appeared as if the sea of grass moving as

waves, the other side we saw the weirdly arranged rocks standing against the strong but not deadly wind, as if they were the guardians of the mountains watching over this land without wavering. Despite the fact that we spent long time travelling there, we were all so glad that we had been to this power spot, whose view is going be remembered in the rest of our lives. After this fantastic



experience, we went to another spot of great view. We went to another high mountain near Asou Mountain from which we had a perfect view of the basin. This was another great place to take photos with. Standing there, I felt myself closer to the sky, watching the clouds moved by the strong wind, the feeling was indescribably great too! Other than learning Japanese and Japanese culture, I wished to travel to mountains or grass fields to enjoy the wonderful views, to appraise the nature, to breathe in fresh air and get closer to the sky. I was so glad and lucky that these wishes were granted perfectly.

The next day was also a fun and interesting day. On that day, we enjoyed a Kargura performance, interacted with the performers as well as learning about Oita slangs. That morning, before the performance started, we were quite nervous because we ourselves are the only audience for the performance. What's more was we were being distributed with small tree trunks which we did not know what to do with. Yet, not long after that we were all amazed by the brilliant performance as well as the tree trunk pulling activities. We were all amazed by the strength of the performers who were able to pull tree trunks from nearly all of us for more than once. They were so professional! I could not believe they were merely secondary school students! After that, we started to interact with the performers (secondary school students). The atmosphere was quite embarrassing in the beginning as we all didn't know each other yet. Fortunately, not long after we all finished our lunch, we started to blend in and had a great time with them. Some of us even danced with them! The Oita slangs lesson came after that, from which we learnt more Japanese from an alternative perspective. We all appreciated to have this lesson since normally we would not be able to learn these during our lessons in University.

That day I had also visited some of our friends' host homes. From which I widened my horizon as I could final understand how varied Japanese homes could be, unlike Hong Kong, in which the differences have always been the cost. In Japan, or in Oita at least, we found houses in which people got more than one floor plus some area for garden, some were flats just like Hong Kong (which were rarely found in Oita), some were combined with the owners' shops, some of the whole area and built more than one buildings as them home...Even the sleeping habits were different too! E.g. some of them sleep on Tatami, some of them sleep on beds. Honestly speaking, I did not expected anyone of us would have bed to sleep on, yet one of our host families provided beds for two of us to sleep on. Moreover, I was also so lucky that I got chances to play with local children! They were all so cute and lively! Unlike children in Hong Kong who usually spent their time on electronic games and television, Japanese children in Oita spent more time on interacting and play with their family members (such as parents, siblings) and friends, playing sports, catching bugs etc. Children here were really lucky that they had such great growing environment for them! Environments like this are becoming short in number these days over the world!

The next day we visited Oita Bank, County Head as well as other spots. The bank we visited was a newly established one, it was really trendy and the design was really cutting-edge in terms of bank in Japan! There are even café and restaurants found in the bank as well as conference room and office for partners of the bank in the building. We were all impressed by how the bank was running too!

The other was another but the last day all of us as well as host families travelling and playing together. It was a great and fun day! Honestly speaking, my feeling that day was really complicated. At first, I was really excited as we were going to visit different wonderful geographic spots in the GeoPark. We were even bewildered that we found ourselves on the Oita Newspaper! Yet, I was also reminded of the fact that we were leaving soon and this would be the last chance we stayed together



for fun. What's more, seeing most of my friends got their host parents with them, taking picture with and for them while my host parents were busying working. Despite the fact that I am not a child anymore plus they are not really my parents, I still felt somewhat lonely. Yet that loneliness faded soon as I was shocked by the epic views there and enjoyed playing with all of them. I must say it was a great day for all of us.

The next day was another happy day for me. Although my host father need to work, my host mother took a leave and took me as well as two of my friends visiting the Flower Garden. We all enjoyed ourselves so much that the view there was so beautiful as if we had entered a fantasy world. There I learnt that my host mother was a flower expert that she could name the names of most flowers! I knew she loved flowers as she planted different flowers in their field and raising them well, but I have never thought



she would love flower to such extent! We ate ice-cream there, drank rose juice there, ate cookie there as well as played there. We had a fun as well as relaxing time there. We were so glad that we visited there! On our way back, one of us even performed some traditional Hong Kong songs to my host mother! We all laughed a lot and enjoyed ourselves a lot.

On 1 August, it was the day of our farewell party. In the morning my host father took me to visit the stone Buddha as well as the museum there. I learnt more about Japanese culture and religion there. In the afternoon, I helped my host mother to prepare the food for the party later. It was the first time I helped to prepare food for so many people! When the party started, Tashima San gave a touching speech, giving an overview for our trip, our times together, things we had experienced together as well as the closeness we had developed. We were all touched, and I spent so much effort so as not to let my tears come out. After the speech, we (students) all sat together in one table, as we hadn't had a time which we could had in-depth chat, which we all hope students joining this trip in the future could be given a chance to stay together and students alone so that we can know more about each other, get closer to each other as well as playing together. In the time being, we were being invited to give our

reflection as well as thanks about this trip and our host family one by one, we were all so nervous, as we all had to try our best not to cry out as well as giving the reflection without proper preparation. We all enjoyed that night while some of us couldn't help but cried already. We were all not ready part from each other as well as from our host families.

2 August was the saddest day to me among the trip as we really had to say goodbye to each other, but it was as well the day for me to wrap



up things and grow up. It was exactly as dramatic as I described. I am a sentimental person and I values bonding with everyone seriously. We had all established and developed bonding to each other throughout the trip, the said-to-be unbreakable bond, and we all enjoyed being together. Yet, as well all knows, at least I now understood, we would not be able to have another time like this in the future. On one hand some of us students got to graduate soon, some of us need to work, all of us got heavy load of academics to work on; on the other hand, our host families may withdraw from this programme in the future, some of them may not be capable to accommodate us in the future, and apart from this programme it would be nearly impossible for all of them to assemble together only for enjoying their time together with us. This was a goodbye not only to people alone, but also to the precious time we had together. All we can do is to hold dear these memories to our heart. At the train station, it was the last time we stick together, yet, it was also the time we got to grow up. We all know it would not be able for us to have the time again, but we also know it is unwise to force this to happen again as well as putting all our attention to our memories here. Hence, we all learnt to grow up, to let go of the time and move on to the future awaits us. We may not be able to have such happy time together in the future, yet it does not mean our bonding is forever lost, we can hold reunions, though the feelings may be different but it is not necessarily a bad thing. More importantly, we should not limit ourselves to memories and bonding within this trip only, we were still too young, we have got limitless potential and possibility to establish new bonds and have great or even greater times together with anyone. These are why we must let go and move on, as well as holding dear these sweet memories, which can re-energize ourselves when we are having a hard time in the future. These are what I learnt on that day, on which I grew up a little bit.



Short summary:

The homestay programme started from 22/7/2015 to 2/8/2015. It was a wonderful and meaningful experience to all of us. We have learnt a lot from it, things we learnt are not limited to Japanese and Japanese culture, we, at least I myself, have also learnt to let go and move on.

Overall, we have participated in Japanese traditional activities such as Kagura, Kadou, Chadou as well as wearing Kimono and Yukata. From these interesting activities, we learnt more about Japanese culture as well as appreciating it. Taking Chadou as example, we learnt not only the practices of it, but also how much Japanese value their guests through their attitude in preparing the food and tea as well as presenting them to the guests. That was not all, we have also learnt that we should pay attention to even a tiny gesture, in other words, we learnt to take everything seriously. In Chadou, there are rules for guests to pick up or put down the bowl of green tea (which is to turn the bowl for three times). We all appreciate to get the chance to learn about as well as appreciating these cultures..

Other than Japanese traditional activities, we have also participated in social activites, in other words, the welcoming and farewell parties. Other than enjoying the party, we have also experienced how welcoming Japanese can be and how they usually celebrate things they wish to celebrate for, which is quite different from what we usually do in Hong Kong, let alone in China. We learnt and experienced Japanese culture not only through Japanese traditional activities, jbut also participating in their parties. What's more, we all enjoyed them a lot.

Participating in this homestay programme, without a doubt we learnt a lot from our daily loves with our homestay family. Owing to the fact that we were assigned with different host families, things we learnt might not be the same, yet, we have all polished our Japanese speaking as well as listening. At first, we, at least me myself nearly cannot understand a single word. Yet after the programme, I can listen and understand Japanese at a greater ease. I am so glad about it. If I hadn't participated, if I stayed and learnt Japanese from Hong Kong only, I would take years to achieve so. All thanks to my

host family members who were patient enough to speak slowly as well as repeating a thousand times in order for me to understand. Thanks to them, my Japanese improved a lot. I learnt more than merely Japanese from them. I have also learnt about Japanese culture in daily lives. For example men really took a comparatively more dominant role in family than in Hong Kong and Japanese always tried to recycle and categorizing the rubbish, which the latter one should be learnt in other countries. Moreover they really have great manners, for example even when they want to talk to me they would not enter my room without asking. Even if they have something to say they will say without looking into my room. These manners ought to be learnt by Hong Kong citizens.

Overall, we all enjoyed the trip a lot and learnt a lot from it. After the trip we were not only practicing Japanese, but also learning to grow up, which is why we are all thankful about being able to join the programme.

吳楚欣

參加的原因

當初修讀日本語課程時,純粹是想善用中大的資源,免費學習一種新語言,並沒想過能在現實生活中運用日語,畢竟身邊沒有懂日語的朋友,自己的主修科目又與日本無關。還記得修讀日本語(一)後,在看動畫時能聽懂幾個簡單的日本單詞就已經很滿足。在今年五月得知日本研究學系每年都會舉辦短期日本交流時,我又興奮又擔心。和日本人一起生活,每天用日語溝通,這樣的機會十分難得啊!我不打算在日本留學或就業,而且,即使我日後到日本自由行,頂多也只能用「いくらですか」、「こんにちは」、「ありがとうございます」這些簡單的旅行用語,根本不會有和日本人深入聊天的機會。這次的交流,是我運用所學過日文的大好機會!眼前有如此難得的機會,我在看到活動宣傳海報的第一秒就已經決定一定要參加,即使機票費用頗貴,我也沒有一絲猶疑。我擔心的是,活動名額不多,我知道報名參加這麼吸引的活動的同學一定有很多。可是,來年我就是 final year 的學生了,而非 final year 的同學優先人選,換言之,下年我能入選的機會近乎是零。若我今年不入選,就再也沒有機會了。起初因為中大的電郵系統出了故障,我並沒收到通知入選計劃的電郵。那時,有朋友說自己收到通知電郵,而我卻沒有收到,那時我失望極了。一星期後,我收到提醒我繳交報名費的電郵,才發現原來我入選了我最希望入的計劃一犬飼町 homestay!我實在十分高興,心中充滿了期待和幻想。

出發前

由於我的日語知識只有日本語(二)的程度,又沒有追看日劇和喜歡的日本偶像,所以出發前一直帶著隱隱的不安,擔心自己只有那遜色的日語水平會無法和寄住的家庭溝通。在出發前的一個月,我寄了一封信給お父さん、お母さん介紹自己,那時我已發現有很多我想表達的句子事都要借助 google translate 的幫忙,這樣的狀況實在不好。我真的能好好和お父さん、お母さん溝通嗎?在出發前一星期,我得知與我同住的ローズ已完成日本語(四)的課程,而且她熱愛日本組合嵐,她的日語水平肯定比我高很多。我一方面因為她能在需要時為我翻釋而感到安心,另一方面卻有點擔心,怕她的日語太好,與お父さん、お母さん談得興高采烈,完全沒有我搭嘴的空間。我懷著這份矛盾的心情出發。

22/7: 到達日本大分縣

お父さん、お母さん和其他家庭在大分機場迎接我們。當時的我還在為日語水平低而煩惱,說完了「こんばんは、初めまして。私はルビーです。」,我已經辭窮了,腦袋空白一片,不知道說什麼好。在我還在猶疑說些甚麼時,橋本先生邀請我們先拍一張大合照,化解了冷場的危機。拍過大合照後,我們一起乘坐旅遊巴到犬飼町。那時田嶋先生在車上說了一番語重深長的話,可惜我只憑懂最後那句「頑張ってください」,我猜他是在鼓勵我們好好珍惜這十二天,用心體驗日本的文化和練習日語吧!接著,我們被邀請輪流自我介紹、說說自己對此計劃的期望、想吃甚麼、想做甚麼,甚至是分享自己將來的夢想。由於我所懂的日語真的有限,只好急忙請教坐在身邊的ローズ。那一程就在緊張的情緒中渡過。到達大分縣後,各家庭自行駕車回家。那程車我只和お父さん、お母さん簡單談了幾句當日的交通安排,然後就因為想不到話題而沉默起來,當時我心感不妙,害怕お父さん、お母さん會誤會我們是冷漠的孩子而討厭我們,卻又無能為力。回到家後已經是十一時多了,お父さん、お母さん知道我和ローズ沒有吃晚餐,便馬上為我們做了飯團、素麵,又為我們泡了綠茶。那時,我就知道お父さん、お母さん是對親切溫柔的夫婦一我們一行人因航班延誤而比預定時間晚了半小時到達大分機場,お父さん、お母さん一定已經在

機場乾等了我們很久,他們已經六十多歲了,當晚他們一定已經很累吧!但仍然主動為我們做料理,在那一刻我已經很喜歡他們了。



23/7: 到訪市長廳、歡迎會

吃過早餐後,お父さん帶我和ローズ在家附近散步。四周都是綠油油的樹林,真有隱居 深山的感覺呢!

中午,我們與其他家庭一起拜訪市長。在各人的自我介紹後,工作人員為我們介紹了大分縣的景點。大分縣的自然景觀十分漂亮,確實是一個觀光的好地方呢!

接著,各家庭回家準備晚上的歡迎會所需的食物。我們家負責牛磅天婦羅、肉碎飯團、馬鈴薯洋蔥湯,我負責為牛磅和馬鈴薯去皮、切成小塊,以及炒肉碎。お父さん、お母さん看到我生疏的廚藝,都不禁笑了。お母さん教我用攪拌機把馬鈴薯和洋蔥磨成粉末,使湯喝起來香滑一點。各家庭做的食物也非常好吃,是個愉快的晚上。





24/7: 和服、華道、茶道體驗

お父さん記得我在會面前的信提及過喜歡吃拉麵,於是為我們煮了拉麵作午餐。

午餐後,我們到公民館體驗穿浴衣、華道與茶道。お母さん已預先為我和ローズ準備了一白一黑的浴衣,我挑了白色的那套。お母さん說這兩套和服是全新的,送給我們帶回香港作留念。當天,我們穿著浴衣學習插花與奉茶,是個有趣的體驗。可惜時間所限,茶道老師未能一一糾正我們的泡茶姿勢,幸好お母さん也懂茶道,晚上看相片時,她發現我泡茶時拿勺的手勢錯了,便耐心地為我示範一次,現在我已經學會了正確的手勢了。

お父さん説當日是日本這個夏天最熱的一日,因此各超市都進行了饅魚減價活動,好讓大家能好好補充因流汗而流失的養份。當晚,我們吃了很美味的饅魚作晚餐,十分滿足。



25/7: 做饅頭、座禪、BBS 交流

當天我們體驗了親手做饅頭和飯團。另外,我們學會了用 hand bell 演奏日本歌謠。午飯後,我們體驗了十五分鐘的座禪,我們全都成功通過了考驗,沒有因打瞌睡而被導師仗打。不過,我們部份人還是自願體驗了被仗打,其實沒想像中那麼恐怖,不算是太痛。傍晚,我們與大分縣的大學生邊吃燒肉邊聊天。因為坐在我身旁的ブルス的日語也不是太好,所以我們也要借助漢字表達所想。我們教了日本學生簡單的廣東話,過了一個愉快的晚上。

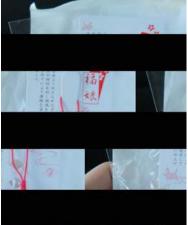


26/7: 家庭日-觀光

當日早上,お父さん、お母さん帶我和ローズ到中津城、福澤諭吉故居觀光。中午,我們到了一所日本料理店,和式房間裡掛著「一期一會」的掛軸,お母さん說那是茶道的用語,鼓勵人們要珍惜每一次的茶會、身邊的人。午餐後,我們到了宇佐神宮,お母さん說這是奈良時期就有的神社。那裡沒有其他觀光客,我們獨佔了整座神社,在神社中漫步的感覺十分舒適,拍出來的照片也十分好看。お父さん教會了我日本祈福的方式一投幣、兩鞠躬、拍手四下、一鞠躬。お母さん送了一個掛飾給我和ローズ,很可愛的,掛上背包後走路會噹噹響。我們在附近買了綠茶カップ冰,又大杯又美味。傍晚,我們一起到超市買火鍋材料,很日常的感覺呢!







27/7: 觀賞神樂、方言教室

當天我們觀賞了神樂,那些中學生真的很厲害呢!要穿著厚重的服飾跳舞,一定很熱很累吧!有些成員更身兼數職,第一場擔當舞者,第二場擔任樂師,真的很棒。觀賞演出後,我們試著學習打鼓,節奏感不太好的我只能把節奏放慢才能打對拍子呢。接著我和ローズ有幸被記者採訪,我運用了僅有的日語知識回答了記者的問題。

中午我們吃了燒雞便當,日本的便當果然名不虛傳,皮脆肉嫩,很好吃。飯後我們和中學生交談,了解他們的日常。原來她們每星期最少有四天會練習神樂,每次練習至少三小時。能投入於自己喜歡的社團真是快樂呢。然後,我們一起跳舞,又玩了集體遊戲,渡過了愉快的下午。

接著是方言教室。方言實在很難呢,單是意會到其意思就很難了,就別提要背誦它們。現在我只記得「しょしょがしい」的意思是有活力、嘈吵,「えいらしい」是可愛的意思,因為お母さん送了印有這兩句大分方言的掛飾給我和ローズ。

晚餐我們吃了野菜、南瓜、雞天婦羅。天婦羅似乎是日本家庭的家常菜呢,不用去貴價餐廳就能吃到鬆脆的天婦羅,真好。





28/7: 參觀大分銀行、九重夢大吊橋

當日我們參觀了大分銀行的新分行,聽在日本工作的中國人チンさん介紹大分銀行的國際業務。能在自己喜歡的城市工作真好呢,真羨慕她。拜訪縣長後,我吃了一頓美味的刺身午餐。日本的刺身比香港的新鮮得多,而且價格低一大截。接著,我們到九重夢大吊橋觀光,お母さん送了一個有大吊橋的玻璃擺設給我和ローズ。因為突然下雨了,往久住高原的行程被逼取消,真可惜呢。





29/7: 畫石頭、騎馬

因颱風的關係,農作物提早被收割,因為原定的農業體驗要取消了。早上的行程改為到溪邊拾石頭,然後在石頭上畫畫,這個活動十分「日式」,感覺自己真的是日本家庭的小孩。我畫了一隻小雞和一個穿和服的女孩,可惜在帶回家時因顏料未完全乾透,弄花了小雞的臉。

中午我們吃了團子汁、紫菜飯團、蕃薯,還喝了甘香的麥茶。飯後,お父さん和其他 叔叔一起唱卡啦 OK,因為歌詞沒有平假名,我們只能觀賞,不能一起唱,真可惜呢。

晚上我們為お父さん、お母さん煮了香港料理一可樂雞翼、金菇牛肉卷、洋蔥火腿炒蛋,以報答他們連日來的照顧。不過,香港的菜式似乎不太合他們的口味,他們雖然禮貌式說好吃,可是卻沒有吃太多。希望日後回大分縣探訪望他們時,有機會煮一些他們喜歡菜色給他們品嚐吧!



30/7: 地質公園

當天的主題是大自然風光,我們到了沈堕の滝、原尻の滝、出会橋。那兒的景色美得像幅畫,我和ローズ把握機會和お父さん合照,可惜當天お母さん要上班,沒有一起去,不然就能拍許多全家幅了。觀光後我們還去了參觀酒廠,店主預備了酒和酒漬物給我們試食,不過我不喜歡酒的苦味,未有嘗試。



31/7: 家庭日-觀光

早上お父さん、お母さん帶我們到くじゅう花公園,那兒有很多不同品種的花,七彩的花海很壯觀,我們在那兒樂而忘返。途中遇到大阪電視台的攝影師在拍夏日特輯,我和ローズ被邀請完成一個鏡頭。

下午吃過美味的迴轉壽司後,我們去了風連鐘乳洞。お母さん是公民館的地理公園導 賞員,她熱心地為我們講解鐘乳石是怎樣形成的,並為我們介紹各鐘乳石的特色,可惜我的日語 水平不夠好,只聽懂很少。



1/8: 看展覽、送別會

早上,お母さん知道ローズ很喜歡進擊的巨人,於是駕了一小時的車帶我們去看展覽。 我沒看過這套漫畫,因此選擇了看另一個漫畫展覽(四葉妹妹)。お母さん送了一個四葉妹妹的杯 子給我,現在我每次喝水都會想起お母さん。

中午吃了九州拉麵,お父さん笑著說我和ローズ已經吃到了全部想吃的東西,問我們 是否滿足。お父さん、お母さん把我們的喜好放在心上,怎可能不滿足呢? 送別會上,田嶋先生說我們能一起吃飯,一起生活是一種緣份,說要珍惜這段關係, 聽到這裡,坐在我身旁的お父さん默默用手帕拭乾眼淚,我也哀傷起來,實在很捨不得大家呢! 飯後,我們用 hand bell 演奏了日本歌謠,各家庭準備了肥皂泡,營造了美麗的畫面。



2/8: 離開

由於我和ローズ選擇乘搭下午四時的航班離開,因此在早上送其他朋友上火車後,我們還能和お父さん、お母さん吃午飯。お父さん、お母さん對我們離開前的最後一頓飯隆重其事,說要帶我們吃自助餐。那間餐廳應該是有名的餐廳,因為當天並不接受預約,我們花了一個多小時等候才能入座。那時,お父さん、お母さん因為久久未能入座,擔心我們趕不上飛機,那皺著眉、擔心、煩躁的樣子,我現在還記得。我知道他們真的很疼愛我們,很想給最好的我們。

在大分機場,我向お父さん、お母さん要了一個大擁抱,お母さん說我們還會再見, 因此不用哀傷,她皺著眉仍微笑的樣子,真的很溫柔。我和ローズ進入候機範圍時,お父さん、 お母さん還在外頭揮手,真不想離開大分啊!



整體感受

當初擔心自己的日語不夠好,和お父さん、お母さん會溝通不了。不過お父さん、お母さん很有耐心,在我和ローズ聽不懂某些日語生詞時,他們會努力說些同義詞讓我們明白,又或者寫下漢字給我們看。每晚洗澡後,我都會留在飯廳與お父さん、お母さん聊天。現在那本充滿了お父さん、お母さん字跡的筆記簿,正被我好好收藏著。

お父さん每天都陪著我們,お母さん雖然要在公民館上班,但總會盡量抽時間與我們一起經歷。お父さん很喜歡為我和ローズ拍照,他常常會叫著我們的名字,說要為我們拍照。每次看到お父さん為我們拍的照片,都覺得心頭一暖。

自從我在超市購物時說過我喜歡吃布甸後,お父さん、お母さん每晚都會問我要不要 吃布甸。他們並不喜歡吃甜食,但總會坐在我身旁看著我吃,我吃得高興,他們也會很高興。 在行程的一半,我就知道我會很捨不得這個家庭,他們是那麼的親切,那麼的疼愛我們。

以前對日本有憧憬,覺得日本是個很美麗的國家,很嚮往到日本旅遊;現在我在日本建立 了一份聯繫,我對日本不再是單單一份嚮往,而是一份愛、一份深深的思念。お父さん、お母さ ん說「いつでもルビーを待っている」,實在是教我感動。來年畢業後,一定要回去大分,回去 我第二個家,去探望總是笑瞇瞇的お父さん、お母さん。

回港後我為お父さん、お母さん製作了一本紀念相冊,裡面載滿了那十二日間的珍貴回憶。我想,參加這個 program 是我大學三年多中做得最正確的決定呢!

Short summary:

Day 1:

We arrived at Oita Airport at around 10:30pm. Our host parents picked us up there. We arrived home at 11:00. Dad cooked us Japanese noodles and rice ball.

Day 2:

Dad, Rose and I had a walk after breakfast. Our house is surrounded by trees and flowers. It was a nice place to live. There were few cars on the roads. The air was fresh.

We visited the Bungoono city office in the afternoon. The staffs introduced the natural wonders of Oita. After that, we went home to prepare the food needed for the welcome party at the evening. We prepared tempura, rice ball and onion tomato soup. All host families were good cook. The food they made were very delicious.

Day 3:

Mum bought Rose and I beautiful Japanese traditional clothes. We wore that during the lessons of Japanese Ka-dou and Japanese Cha-dou. The Cha-dou teacher did not have enough time to correct our posture. Luckily, Mum also knows Cha-dou. She noticed that I held the spoon in an incorrect way when I shared the photos of that day with her. She taught me patiently and now I know the correct way to hold the spoon and the meanings behind turning the bowl.

Day 4:

In the morning, we made streamed buns and rice ball. We also learned to play the hand bells. After lunch, we went to a Buddhist temple and experienced Zazen. We all passed the test of Zazen- none of us fell asleep. Still, some of us, including me, took the initiative to experience the punishment- being hit by a wooden stick. In the evening, we had BBQ with some Japanese university students. As Bruce who was sitting next to me was also not good in Japanese, we need to write to express ourselves. We taught the Japanese students some simple Cantonese.

Day 5:

It was a family day. Dad and Mum took Rose and I to Nakatsu City, old home of Yukichi Fukuzawa and Usa Shrime. There were few tourists and we took many beautiful photos. Dad taught us how to make a wish in the Japanese way. We had hotspot as dinner.

Day 6:

We enjoyed Kagura performed by Japanese high school students. They were excellent performers. Some of the members had more than one role. We experience playing Japanese drums. Rose and I were invited to have a short interview with the reporter. We had lunch with the Japanese students. We danced and played mass games after lunch. After that was the dialect lesson. Oita dialect was difficult to memorize. Now I only remember two that Dad taught me.

Day 7:

We visited one of the offices of Oita Bank. Ms. Chan, who is a Chinese working in Oita, introduced the overseas business of the Bank. We also visited Oita province office. In the afternoon, we visited Kokonoe "Yume" Grand Suspension Bridge.

Day 8:

Farm work was cancelled because of the bad weather in Japan in late July. We went to a river to took a stone for drawing. Dad and other host parents sang karaoke after lunch. After that, we rode horses. At night, Rose and I cooked Hong Kong dishes for Mum and Dad.

Day 9:

We went to Chinda Falls, Harajiri Falls and Todoro Bridge. Rose and I took this chance to take many photos with Dad. We also went to a wine manufacturing factory.

Day 10:

This was another family day. Dad and Mum took me to Kujuhana Garden. There were many different flower species. We met a photographer of Oita TV there. We also visited Gurutabi, a limestone cave.

Day 11:

Mum and Dad brought Rose and I to OPAM Art Museum. There are a few exhibitions about comics and animations. At night, we have a farewell party. We performed hand bell and the host parents prepared some bubble soup to create a romantic atmosphere.

Day 12:

In the morning, we said goodbye to other participants at the railway station. Mum and Dad took Rose and I to have a buffet lunch in a hotel. They really treated us like their daughters. I hugged Mum and Dad at Oita Airport and promised I would visit them next year.

阮嘉慧

「同じ釜の飯を食う」一意思是指大家共同生活、一起進餐;每天分享苦與樂,有親密的關係。這句諺語是從寄宿家庭學到的,正好用來形容今次的 Homestay 計劃。雖然只有短短的十二天,但我已和寄宿家庭建立了深厚的感情。橋本家熱情的歡待,讓我度過了歡樂難忘的兩星期,回想起在大分的日子,恍如昨天。

我們第一次跟寄宿家庭見面時,是在大分空港。那天大分的天氣不穩定,內陸機會有停飛的可能性,我們懷着不安的心情靜待着。幸好天公造美,我們最後如期抵達。迎面而來的是熱情的爸爸媽媽,我們很快便跟他們談天說笑,開展了為期十二天的寄宿生活。

歡迎會

來到犬飼町的第二天,我們參加了寄宿家庭為我們精心準備的歡迎會。在歡迎會上,犬飼町わかあゆ國際交流會負責人田嶋先生致辭,向我們表達深切的歡迎之情。我作為團長,努力地說着奇怪的日語,向所有在場的人「あいさつ」。我們品嚐精心炮製的晚餐後,就是我們準備已久的表演 — 跳「妖怪體操」。本以為表演已完結,怎料到原來寄宿家庭很喜歡我們中大最有名的「Dem beat」! 他們認為「Dem beat」朝氣勃勃、很有趣呢!在群眾的壓力下,我們只好表演威盡八大院校的「和聲 Dem beat」。我不是沒有「Dem beat」的經驗,只是感覺有點搞笑而已!





是次的 Homestay 計劃,除了讓我們體驗寄宿生活外,還安排一連串精彩的活動,使我們學習傳統文化及見識大自然之美。

(一) 傳統文化活動

着付け教室

學習華道及花道的時候,需要穿上浴衣,因此お母さん悉心為我準備了漂亮的浴衣。在華 道的課堂前,羽田野太太先開始教導我們浴衣的正確穿法。看着她熟練地左摺右摺,不費吹灰之 力就把浴衣穿好,真的很厲害。雖然觀察了她的簡單示範,但我還是不明白。幸好お母さん發現 我一面狼狽,她幫我穿好了整套浴衣。

華道

「華道」不單要表達花的美態,更是形神俱備,富有品味的日式插花。華道講求空間感,就如中國畫中的「留白」一樣,每棵花草之間都要有適當的距離。而且它很重視構圖的平衡,是一絲不苟的技術要求。華道是嚴謹的傳統藝術,進行中是嚴禁對話,所以大家都靜靜地創作自己的作品。我是清楚老師的要求,但始終力有不逮,望着老師的參考作品,自己卻整得一團糟。大概我是沒有華道的天份吧!不過在插花的過程中,我們一邊把樹枝不停剪,一邊偷偷地說笑,玩得不亦樂乎!

茶道

這是我第二次接觸茶道,所以對此略知一二。茶道老師先讓我們品嘗甜甜的和菓子,然後為我們沏茶。老師熟練地從茶盒內取出所需的茶粉,隨後在水壺裏拿熱水,將茶及水混合後,再不停地攪弄,最後成為美味甘香的綠茶。我們試過老師的茶後,便是我們親手沏茶了。大家都戰戰兢兢,小心翼翼地依照老師的指示。當然我們弄得有點不好喝,帶有苦味的,但是個快樂的體驗。我很喜歡喝茶,所以對茶道抱有興趣。但唯一難以接受的,就是長期跪坐。對於膝蓋有受傷的我,跪坐是有點吃力,所以雙腳咸到痛楚就是了。





神樂

起初還以為是與中樂差不多,原來不是這一回事。神樂是日本傳統祭祀奉神時所演奏的歌舞。它是配合樂器演奏的舞蹈,優美的動作深深吸引了我們的眼球。表演者是來自三重綜合高校的學生,他們穿着平安時代的服飾,跳着獲過獎項的神樂。當到「鬼」的表演時,說真的被他的面具嚇倒了。面目猙獰的鬼,兇神惡煞地跑下台搶我們手上的草,那時候以為自己死定了!不過和鬼拉拉扯扯,造出了不少笑話,我們都玩得很歡樂呢!其後,我們與那些高校生共享午餐及交流,一起談天,一起玩日式的紅綠燈遊戲,這個下午我們在笑聲中度過。





方言教室

跟高校生吃飯過後,我們便跟田嶋先生學習大分的方言,感覺非常新鮮。大分弁與標準語有很多不同的地方,例如我們說「なぜ」的時候,大分人會說「なしか」;而一生懸命就是讀作「しらしんけん」、うるさい便是「しょしょろしい~」。雖然學習方言很困難,但是非常有趣!有時候跟家人說起大分弁時,他們都很驚訝,非常高興地教我們如何運用方言。

座禪

座禪是佛教的修行,以靜坐屏除雜念、精神統一的訓練方法。看似很簡單,卻是人的意志力的挑戰。適逢七月天,天氣炎熱,我們汗流浹背地到了一所寺廟。簡單的介紹後,我們便緊張地開始了座禪。平時在家呆坐二十分鐘不是問題,但不知怎麼座禪的時候真有點難受。可能沒有涼風的關係,我一直流着汗,汗水流到頸部竟有痕癢的感覺。不是吧?我不能亂動的啊!我才不要住持狠很的棒打啊!我強忍痕癢感,雙眼微微打開着,一直望着前方……竟然萌生了睡意!天人交戰了很久時間,不停叫自己要堅持,時間好像螞蟻般慢行……應該是過了十分鐘?住持忽然對我們說結束,原來已經過了二十分鐘。座禪的時候,除了心無雜念外,連時間觀也會受到影響的呢!隨後住持問我們是否想嘗試被棒打的感覺,我本着甚麼都應試的心態下,舉了手。住持用力地打着我的背,一開始是感到十分痛,後來竟覺得有種舒暢的感覺~

サロン(酒饅頭)

起初我以為酒饅頭只用酒來製成,原來它與紅豆包很相似,用雪白的麵粉搓好,加入紅豆餡料,再放進蒸籠。我對於烹飪一點也不懂,只好跟着指示,搓好饅頭團子。看到那些奇怪形狀的團子,應該是出自我的手吧!蒸饅頭的同時,上尾太太教導我們玩手鈴。上尾太太首先給了我們各人每一個手鈴,然後讓我們跟着琴譜,按拍子搖手中的手鈴。經過幾番的練習,我們慢慢掌握了要訣,搖奏出動人的音樂,在旁的媽媽也高興地聆聽着。

(二)令人緊張的訪問經歷

市長訪問

在寄宿的第二天,我們向豐後大野市市長作訪問。作為一個小小的團長,我是有幸與不幸的要向所有人「あいさつ」。有幸的是我能夠作為代表,表達對大分縣及寄宿家庭最真誠的感謝;不幸的正是我的日文水平,只屬初學者。要大家聽着我蹩腳的奇怪日語,有種說不出的尷尬心情。隨後我們每一位都以簡單日文自我介紹後,胖子哥哥(因為我不知道那位職員的姓名)就為我們介紹豐後大野市內有名的自然景觀。我們那天聽過後,都不禁為參觀ジオパーク的那天期待着。

BBS 交流

座禪後的晚上,我們到了空曠的草地,與 BBS 交流之餘,也為燒烤晚餐作準備。BBS 是一群以關懷邊緣少年為目標的團體,也可以說是專門學校。BBS 的成員會上課學習不同的知識,例如心理學。我跟某位同學談過天,他們會在復康中心工作,性質與我的本科有相似的地方。因此我們彼此交流心理學的知識,也會說些輕鬆的動漫畫題材。那晚我度過了既充實又愉快的一晚。

大分銀行

我對於銀行的印象,就是為客戶存錢、支出及入帳。我們那天參觀了大分銀行新建的「宗麟館」,它不僅有基本的銀行服務櫃檯,二樓以上設有會議室,更設有展覽廳作定期展覽,一反銀行的固有形象。參觀的時候,幸好有陳さん同行,一直為我們翻譯。在摸不透的日文世界下,偶然聽到她的廣東話,竟讓我們有種窩心的感覺。透過陳さん的講解,我們認識到日本的銀行是有各式各樣的工作。他們會為客戶作翻譯,做顧問,營銷產品等等。我們真的眼界大開,讓我萌生將來到日本工作的念頭。

大分縣廳

参觀完大分銀行後,我們便到了大分縣廳作訪問。這個時候,又是我要用日語「あいさつ」了。因為會面是重要的人員,大家都表現出很緊張。幸好他們有位外國的翻譯小姐,她笑容滿面,親切地為我們翻譯每一句日語,讓我們能夠完全明白。訪問過後,我們乘搭升降機至頂樓,一覽整個大分市的景色。犬飼町是濃厚的鄉村風情;相反大分市是繁忙的都會景色。

(三)大自然參觀見學

別府地獄、大吊橋、久住高原

大分縣廳的訪問過後,我們便開始在車上遠眺別府市內景色。別府不愧為温泉之鄉,到處都噴着温泉的熱氣,讓人想一浸紓解疲勞感。別府地獄揚名海外,每個都各具特色,可惜今次在車上遊覽,難以逐一細看,下次一定要再來!隨後我們便來到大分縣有名的「九重"夢"大吊橋」。它是「日本一」的大吊橋,無論長度及高度,都是日本最厲害的步行吊橋。那天風和日麗,雖然有點曬,但無阻我們愉快的心情。我並沒有畏高症的問題,所以站在吊橋上完全沒有問題,還有難以言喻的興奮感。從吊橋上遠眺環山美景,如此絕景讓大家都讚歎不已。在大吊橋附近,購買了新鮮的藍莓雪糕,為炎熱的天氣帶來一點清涼感覺。之後,我們返回車上,前往久住高原。久住高原位於高山,煙霧瀰漫,朦朧的景色下散發着神秘的氣息。





ジオパーク

首先我們先到*沈墮の*滝,那個瀑布真的好狀觀,我是第一次看到那麼大的瀑布。然後我們到原尻の滝,那兒的瀑布令人讚歎之餘,風車亦是很大。午飯後,我們先在車上遠望太陽能發電

板,日本的規模比香港的來得大,反映出日本很重視環保,致力推行太陽能電力。隨後我們到出 会橋,這個橋非常特別,比長崎出名的眼鏡橋還要大,是可以行車的天橋;相反眼鏡橋是步行的 橋。之後我們到了神樂會館,一見到很大的「鬼」時,真的被嚇倒了!





企業見學

在神樂會館休息了一會後,我們便到了一間製酒廠參觀。我清楚知道自己是酒量差的,所以很少喝酒,更加對日本酒一竅不通。參觀的時候,有賴日文好的 Florence 為我們翻譯,使到大家都明白日本製酒的過程。參觀過後,大家都能夠一嚐酒的味道,基於我不勝喝酒,當然是喝冰涼的麥茶。

歡送會

光陰似箭,轉眼間已過了兩星期,我們要離開寄宿家庭了。 於寄宿的第十一天,傍晚時舉行了歡送會。我們在歡送會上用手鈴表演日本的歌曲,大家都表現出努力後的成果,寄宿家庭的各位都感到很高興。臨別依依,我們各自用日文向寄宿家庭們、大分銀行的人員、大分縣的官員,一一表達自己的心聲及道謝。我們享用了豐富美味的晚餐後,大分縣的官員更即興表演拍手,大家都感到很歡樂。我們隨後更一起合唱「翼をください」,在那刻,我們都非常不捨得離開。最後我們一起舉手大叫三聲「萬歲」後,歡送會正式結束。在歡樂的氣氛和笑聲中,為我們兩星期的 homestay 劃上完美的句號。





第十二天,寄宿家庭帶我們到犬飼町 JR 站。大家強忍着淚水,緩緩抱着行李踏進車廂,依依不捨地向他們揮手。這兩星期過得很快樂,是難以忘記的愉快回憶。當車門關上的時後,我心裡不禁想着:来年またね!

(四)很疼愛我的橋本家庭

一直以來,我很感謝橋本家庭對我的照顧。我是個麻煩的孩子,令他們為我那麼擔心,真的感到很抱歉。一開始知道自己的寄宿家庭是橋本家時,我便感到非常緊張。究竟犬飼町是在哪

兒的呢?橋本書店是不是很大呢?附近是甚麼景色呢?心裡有很多疑問,如是者,我便嘗試用google map 尋找自己的家。當找到的時候,感到無比的興奮,還立刻告訴媽媽:「你看!我就是住這個家庭了!」正正表現出「未出發,先興奮」呢!因為我的日語不好,寫信的時候也擔心橋本家會看不明白。所以在出發前,預習了日文,希望派得上用場。懷着興奮及緊張的心情,終於和橋本家見面了!

橋本先生是個健談的人,第一次見面時,他不停帶起問題,好讓我們慢慢跟家人建立感情。我們會叫橋本先生為お兄さん。お兄さん每天都駕車帶我們到不同的地方,乘車期間,他會問我們活動後的感受。他很有耐性,會用心聆聽我蹩腳的日語,也教導我很多新的詞語。我們遇到難以用日文解釋時,お兄さん就會拿出紙和筆,讓我們利用繪畫或漢字來表達自己的意思。當家裡不幸發現昆蟲時,お兄さん就會英勇出現,為我們殺它死!他真的是個很可靠的大哥哥。お母さん是個很和善的媽媽,料理一流,我每天都吃得飽飽的,可以說是「滿漢全席」!我真的是個很麻煩的人,偏食問題非常嚴重。我討厭吃魚,也不能吃辣的食物,不愛吃苦而只愛甜的食物。我相信お母さん應該對煮甚麼料理而感到很頭痛。她會記着我們的喜好,當有甜味的食物時,お母さん都全部給我吃。她是一個體貼的好媽媽。お父さん是個比較沉默的人,少說話但常常微笑着。我最喜歡就是和お父さん一起看電視。當看到節目有關江戶時代、武士及棒球時,我們都很愉快地討論着。他是個很親切的爸爸。



平時我們在中午的時候,多數都會在書店休息。書店除了有圖書和文儀用品外,更有化妝品賣,是一間類似生活百貨店。與其說是在店幫忙,應該是說我在涼冷氣看雜誌~到了晚上,我們便會回家幫忙準備晚餐,看到美味的日本料理,當然不會放過,每一道都要細味品嚐!就算回港後增重了幾公斤也在所不辭!

Homestay 期間,我們共有兩天的家庭日。第一天,我、Elaine、お兄さん及お母さん一起到久住高原上的農場觀光。首先我們吃了頓豐富的自助餐,然後就去看馬和兔子。動物們都很可愛,小小的身子走到我們的面前。隨後吃了很香濃的牛奶雪糕。第二天,因為橋本書店有很多事要做,所以家人難以抽空帶我們去玩。因此上野太太帶着我們和 Jonathan 到了久住花公園。那裡是花的天堂,我自小就很喜歡花,所以一見到感到很興奮!那裡真的很漂亮,每天待在此也不是問題!之後我們去了浸足湯,一解我們的疲勞感。晚上,橋本家帶我們到一間日本居酒屋,吃了美味的料理,感到非常滿足!





要說整個旅程最無奈的事,就是我不幸生病了。初到大分的幾天,可能天氣太炎熱,或是我休息不夠,竟有感冒的症狀。大家都為此感到非常擔心,羽田野先生更從家裡拿了藥給我吃,那天晚上我很早就睡覺,次天當然沒有問題,精神爽利!誰不知好戲在後頭……28/7 那天我如常地戴隱形眼鏡,怎料到眼睛很不舒服,所以放棄了。在晚上的時候,頓感到眼睛有異樣感,我忽然很害怕起來,是不是隱形眼鏡沒有拿出來?如是者,我不停地弄着右眼,可是愈來愈痛,真的受不了。我跟家人說了,然後他們認為去醫院看看會比較好。因為お兄さん喝了酒而不能駕車,只好乘搭的士。看着的士跳着表,我的心也跟着跳!不是吧!日本乘搭的士真的很貴!醫生為我作詳細的檢查,沒有發現有隱形眼鏡,總算鬆了一口氣!這真的是一次難忘的醫院經驗。因為我的不小心,使到橋本家那麼擔心,我非常很抱歉!

總結

這兩星期感受很深,是美好難忘的經歷。我自小很鍾愛日本,也去過日本無數次,但這是第一次的寄宿體驗。我在大分學習到日本的傳統文化,更受到橋本家的熱情款待,一切一切都讓我感恩。最後,我想感謝的是日本研究學科的教職員。如果沒有他們的幫忙,身為後補的我,是無法參與如此有意義的 homestay 計劃。我真的很感動能夠獲到這個寶貴的機會,言語難以表達我的感謝之情。這個旅程不只是日本文化的學習,更讓我住在那麼好的寄宿家庭,獲得疼愛我的家人,真的很難忘。將來一定會回去探望橋本家!

Short summary:

We all have a wonderful and memorable days during the Oita homestay program. Although we only have twelve to stay in our host families, we have already built up a strong and connected relationship between us.

For the first day, we met at Oita airport. There was bad weather on this day, we all felt worry about the place schedule. Fortunately, we could take the original plane and finally met our dearest host families. The twelve days of homestay program began to start.

Second day, we had an enjoyable welcome party. As a group leader, I need to give a warm greeting to all of us. However, my Japanese is just elementary level, it was difficult for me to say formal Japanese. I made an effort to do the best and hopefully they understood what had I say. After our self-introduction, we have prepared a dance performance. The dance was come from a famous amine. Then we tried to have "Dem Beat" (Famous cheer culture in CUHK). All our host families enjoyed our performance. It was a wonderful night.

During this homestay program, we tried to learn Japanese traditional culture and observe the natural beauty of Oita. First of all, we learnt to wear Yukata. I think it wear quite complicated to learn how to wear. So my mother helped me to wear it. Then we learn about the Flower Arrangement (b). Flower arrangement had strict instruction, so we all follow the rules and made our own flower. Later we had an experience of Tea Ceremony (δ). We tried our best to make own green tea. However, it tasted bitter, comparing with the one that made by teacher.

Another day, we went to a hall and saw a great Kagura (h) (b) performance. Kagura was Japanese traditional dance, which was performed during any ritual ceremony. The performers were from a high school, they were the member of Kagura club. High school students wore clothes of Heian Period, and danced perfectly. We all enjoyed watching their performance. Besides, we learnt about Oita's dialect. Oita's dialect was quite different from standard Japanese. We felt difficult to distinguish and utilize them. e have Zen meditation $(5 \ \ \ \ \ \ \)$ to experience meditation. It was extremely difficult to concentrate during the hot weather. However, it was an interesting experience for us.

Apart from learning traditional culture, we had a lot of meeting with different parties. We all felt nervous to meet Mayor of Bungo-Ono City and visit the Oita Prefectural Office. It was wonderful to visit the Oita Bank. We all learnt a lot about the banking services of Japan. Furthermore, we had visited the hot spring of Beppu and Kokonoe "Yume" (dream) Great Suspension Bridge. There were very beautiful, we had taken a lot of pretty pictures. Then we went to the Geo Park of Bungo-Ono City. The waterfalls were really great, we all felt surprised when we see them. After that, we went to a winery and learnt the manufacture of Japanese wine. Finally, we had a memorable farewell party. We all sang Japanese songs together and said Thank you to our host families. We were not willing to leave because we really love our families.

For me, I would like to say Thank you to my family that is Hashimoto's family. My brother always took care of me and taught me a lot of Japanese. My mother is good at cooking and always made many delicious food for me to eat. And my father usually watched TV with me and chatted about the TV program. During homestay program, I had sick and let them felt very worry about me. I felt very sorry about that and thank for their care and love. I felt grateful to stay in this family, they showed their love and warmness to me. I will never forget the days in Oita. Also, I would like to thank the staff of Department of Japanese Studies. They gave me a chance to join this program. I bless all the host families to live happily and I am sure I will visit them again! Host families, friends of this program, and staffs of JASP Department, Thank you very much!

楊潔翎

是次交流團在大分逗留了十二天。十二天聽起來不短,但 歡樂的時光總是過得特別快,一眨眼便要告別這個美麗的地 方。我們阻止不了日月的更替,只能在旅程中記錄下發生過的 點滴,待日後靠圖片、影片和文字回味那使人難以忘懷的十二 天。

發出

由於從香港出發時因航班擁擠,往成田機場的班機延誤; 到成田機場後需乘坐巴士到羽田機場,路上卻又有點塞車。因此,大家都有點擔心趕不上由羽田機場飛往大分機場的飛機。 準時趕到了羽田機場,卻又看到宣佈指前往大分的航班因能見 度問題可能中途折返,不禁更擔心了起來。幸好,飛機最後成



功著陸,大分也只有微雨。犬飼町的各個寄宿家庭熱情地歡迎我們,帶我們坐上旅遊巴回到各寄宿家庭安頓好。我的寄宿家庭是橋本家,家裡還開了一家書店。橋本一家的笑靨驅散了我緊張不安的情緒,心頭卻又泛起一陣激動,期待起未來十一天與他們共度的日子。

歡迎會

到埗第二天晚上便是歡迎會,因此我們需在下午協助お母さん準備好歡迎會的菜式。我們家做的是薯仔沙律和大分縣的特色甜品——やせうま。お母さん先讓我們試吃,試吃過後我不禁伸出拇指讚歎お母さん的手藝,真的非常好吃!

所有寄宿家庭的家庭成員均參加了歡迎會。到了歡迎會會場,我才第一次與其他寄宿家庭的 小孩會面。日本的小孩就和動漫裡的一樣,全都很有精神、很活 潑、完全不怕生,一看到我們便嚷著要跟我們玩遊戲。

歡迎會的晚膳是自助餐。當晚的美食由各家寄宿家庭的太太 烹調,每一道菜都非常美味,實在使人佩服。

晚膳完結時,便是表演時間。我們先表演了一段妖怪體操, 再詢眾要求 dem 了兩次和聲 beat。寄宿家庭的大家看到我們 dem beat 便紛紛鼓起掌來,看來他們真的很喜歡此項中大的特色......



文化學習

華道、茶道教室

第三天安排的活動是華道和茶道教室。大家要拿著浴衣和花盆去犬飼公民館,先在和服教室 穿好浴衣,才開始上華道和茶道課。

華道教室以實踐為主,老師先簡單介紹插花的要點,便讓我們開始動手嘗試。動手嘗試過,才明白掌握「空間」這項華道的重要元素著實不容易。一枝花插入花盆的角度稍有不同,便會影響整盆花的空間咸,需要一邊觀察,一邊調整。

茶道教室則先讓我們試喝老師泡的茶,才逐個人在老師指導下嘗試自己泡茶。用茶粉泡茶、喝茶前先要雙手轉茶杯等都是新鮮有趣的體驗,但正座著做卻相當辛苦。我只坐了十分鐘左右, 雙腿便開始麻痺;老師卻可以整節課一直保持正座姿勢,實在令人佩服。

坐禪教室

第四天下午的活動是坐禪教室。這是我們第一次坐禪,長度是二十分鐘。坐禪時需要留意自己的呼吸,心無雜念,集中精神。要是被發現沒有集中精神,便會被杖打。最後,我們十個人都成功通過這次挑戰,沒有一個人需要被罰。但是,還是有幾位同學為了得到更多體驗而嘗試被杖打。我腰脊不好,也怕痛,便沒有嘗試了。不過,雖然有同學被打後說很痛,也有同學被打後說不但不痛,還使他精神為之一振,實在奇妙。

神樂

第六天早上,我們觀看了高中生的神樂表演。第一段神樂是女生表演的,舞蹈有神聖莊嚴的 感覺。第二段和第三段舞蹈則由男生表演,他們更戴上面具裝成怪獸,跑到台下與我們這群觀眾 搶樹枝。樹枝代表了我們的健康、運氣,因此我們要與他們角力,力保樹枝不失,但最後幾乎所 有人的樹枝都被搶走了,令人惋惜。

神樂部的部員從一年級生到三年級生都有,共幾十人,可見對神樂這項傳統文化有興趣的高中生為數不少。日本的高中保留著這些傳統文化的課外活動,正可以培養學生對傳統文化的興趣,藉此推廣各種傳統文化,保留文化傳承。看著高中生們參與神樂時投入的神情,不知為何感到有些欣慰。

飲食文化交流

料理教室:饅頭、飯糰

第四天早上,我們到了料理教室學做日式饅頭。饅頭分成有餡料和沒餡料的,而包餡料的那種在捏饅頭外皮時不能捏得太厚,否則包不住餡料;也不能捏得太薄,否則餡料會很容易流出來。除了饅頭,我們還捏了紫蘇飯糰。先把混合了紫蘇的飯放入杯子搖成扁圓柱狀,然後用保鮮紙包起,捏成三角形,紫蘇飯糰便大功告成了。

BBS 交流會

第四天傍晚安排的節目是與專門學校的學生一起燒烤的交 流會。日本烤肉與香港的略有不同。香港人燒烤時一般先用碳

起火,再用燒烤叉穿起肉類,放在火上烤;日本人卻是用夾子夾起肉片,放在鐵板上烤。



第八天早上,大家又參加了料理教室,一起煮大分縣的特色食物——団子汁。最初我想像的団子汁是內有米造圓球的湯,像湯丸一樣;但原來団子並不是圓球狀的,而是長條狀的。湯裡除了有団子,還有紅蘿蔔、冬菇等配料,非常豐富。



香港家常菜

有兩天晚上,橋本家的晚餐由我和同住於橋本家的 Tiffany 負責。我們第一次煮的是鮑魚麵,第二次則煮了一整桌的家常菜,包括可樂雞翼、煎雞翼、XO 醬西蘭花炒帶子、金菇牛肉卷、白飯魚炒蛋和蕃茄薯仔湯。お父さん、お母さん和お兄さん都說這是他們第一次吃中大學生煮的香港料理,覺得非常新鮮,更稱讚我們煮得非常美味,大家都非常高興。

語言交流

BBS 交流會

雖然剛才提過我們參加 BBS 交流會時吃的是燒烤,當晚的重點不在烤肉,而在交流。一開始我們想不到話題,沒有人說話,氣氛有點尷尬。但一聊起動漫話題,大家便很快打成一片,後來就連老師也一起加入討論。這是我第一次用日語與他人聊動漫,想不到竟然如此暢快。

另外,我還感受到「かわいい」的用法之廣泛。其中一位專門學校的同學得知我只有十八歲後大呼「かわいい」,其他日本同學得知後也是如此。「かわいい」一般形容事物可愛,但原來連年齡也可以用「かわいい」來形容!日語還真是有趣呢。



方言教室

神樂表演後的 便是方言教室,教師 鳴さん擔任。田嶋さ 脈我們日本除了一般 通用的標準語外, 通用的標準語外方言 方都有自己的方言。 章教室所教的便是大 一一大分的方言。雖

鳴さん一共教了十幾句方言,但大家最後似乎都只記得 きい、しょしょろしい等負面的形容詞呢。



活由ん全個而分然よ動田告國地方弁田だ

粤語教室

参與団子汁料理教室當天,在等待団子汁煮熟時,田嶋さん讓我暫時「開辦」一班「兒童 粵語教室」,教參與了料理教室的日本小孩子一些廣東話的日常用語。我先用日語在黑板寫上 「おはよう」、「こんにちは」等日常用語,然後在旁寫上「早晨」、「午安」等中文翻譯,再 標上讀音相近的片仮名,讓小孩子跟我一起讀。聽著他們口中吐出的一個個音節,我這個「老 師」雖然當得不算稱職,卻也頗有一種難以言喻的自豪感。

觀光

大吊橋、地質公園

是次交流團安排了我們參觀九重大吊橋與豊後大野市的地質公園。走在大吊橋上,便可盡 覽四周風景。看著綠意盎然的風景,自然覺得心曠神怡。豊後大野市的地質公園非常大,我們參 觀了沈堕の滝、原尻の滝等景點,還聽導遊小姐說了不少關於景點的傳說,在參觀的過程中學會 了不少新知識。而且這些景點周圍車少、樹卻多,吸入的空氣好像還帶著青草的氣味,非常清 新。我們平日在香港這個石屎森林裡居住,難以避免受空氣污染所困擾,很少能呼吸到如此清新 的空氣。 另外,在參觀地質公園那天,我還感受到大分的小孩對自然的熱愛。香港的小孩一般在遠離大自然的市區內長大,甚至會因為少接近大自然而略有潔癖,覺得土壤、昆蟲、野生動物骯髒而不敢接觸。然而,幾位與我們一起參觀地質公園的小孩都不怕親身接觸大自然,甚至還用手抓住在地上跳的小青蛙。這也算是一種文化差異吧。

自由活動

第五天和第十天都沒有安排任何活動,讓我們與寄宿家庭自行決定是日行程。結果,我們 第五天和第十天都去了久住,另外還參觀了不同景點。第五天去的是ガンジー牧場,看到山羊、 兔子、馬等各種可愛的動物。第十天則去了久住的花公園,在一片片花田間暢遊。逛完花公園 後,更去了附近的溫泉浸足湯,舒緩走了一天、早已疲累不堪的雙腿。雖然參觀牧場和花公園都 消耗了不少體力,但這兩天都過得又充實又開心。

小插曲

與我同寄住於橋本家的 Tiffany 在參觀大吊橋那天晚上因眼睛不適,需要到醫院看診。由於我們全家都喝了酒,Tiffany、お兄さん和幫忙口譯的我只好乘的士去醫院。這是我第一次在日本乘的士,也是我第一次在日本去醫院。幸好,醫生說 Tiffany 並無大礙,感到眼睛裡有異物只是因為眼球上有取出隱形眼鏡時刮傷的傷口。但是,雖然 Tiffany 並無大礙,診症的費用卻頗為昂貴。所幸的是我們每個人都事先買好了旅遊保險,保存好單據便可報銷醫藥費。這段小插曲正正提醒了我們出門前買保險的重要性。

結語

大分雖然比不上香港繁華,卻有著別樣的魅力,恬靜又溫暖。我永遠忘不了那片鬱鬱青青的草原、萬紫千紅的花田,更忘不了大分有一個歡迎我隨時回去的家。十二天流逝得飛快,但我在那十二天中所收穫的回憶卻不會隨著時間沖洗而褪色。希望終有一天,我能再一次踏足犬飼町,像那時候一樣自然地說出:「ただいま!」

Short summary:

I am utterly grateful for being offered the opportunity to participate in this 12-day exchange programme to Inukai-cho, Oita.

The ten of us took part in various culture learning activities, such as kadou (traditional Japanese art of flower arrangement), sadou (traditional Japanese etiquette of having tea) and zazen (seated



meditational Japanese etiquette of having tea) and zazen (seated meditation). We were required to put on yukata when we attended kadou and sadou lessons. It felt wonderful when I took part in these traditional Japanese cultural activities dressed in traditional Japanese costume, seeming to immerse my whole self in traditional Japanese culture.

We also had the honour to watch kagura (traditional Japanese dance dedicated to gods) performed by high school students. We were all fascinated by the performance. Developing

young students' interest in traditional art may be the best way to keep the legacy of the art alive. I was very pleased to see the high school students' keen dedication to kagura, as their keen dedication symbolised their willingness to pass the legacy on.

Apart from culture learning activities, we also attended cookery classes featuring traditional Japanese staple foods — onigiri and manju. Learning how to cook dango-jiru, a kind of unique cuisine in Oita, was also an important part of the lesson. Although dango is commonly known as dumplings made into spherical shapes, it is not the case in dango-jiru. The dango in dango-jiru are kneaded long and flat instead. All of us found the cooking process interesting and enjoyed the food very much.

Sight-seeing was inevitably a part of our schedule, as Oita is always famous for its extravagant natural scenery. We visited the Kokonoe "Yume" Otsurihashi, the largest suspension bridge for pedestrians in Japan, and the Geopark in Bungonoshi. We were surrounded by beautiful greenery as we toured around the spots. The air we breathed in there was unpolluted, carrying a scent of grass, let alone saying that it was much fresher than the air in Hong Kong.

During our trip in the Geopark, I was rather surprised by the fondness for Mother Nature inside of the children in Oita. The children who went to the Geopark with us were not afraid of being stained by soil, nor did they fear approaching insects. They even had fun catching tiny frogs in the park. In contrast, children in Hong Kong, being raised up in such a metropolitan city, usually lack opportunities to get close to nature. It may be the reason why nature phobia seems to be common among children in Hong Kong. This may be considered quite an interesting kind of cultural difference between Oita and Hong Kong.

Last but not least, thanks must be given to the Hashimoto family for taking care of me during my 12-day stay in Oita. When I first arrived at Oita, their welcoming smiles eased my anxiousness. During my stay, their compliments boosted my confidence in speaking in Japanese. When I was about to leave, I felt that we were already connected like a real family. It was really hard to bid each other farewell when we had become this close.

The 12 days in Oita passed by quickly and harshly, but the memories we made in Oita shall never fade but last eternally.

活動照片

































































