

Last Word

By Moe Nakatsuji from Japan

I spend the last 11 months at here Alfriston College. The time that I spent here in New Zealand was absolutely amazing and I gained so many experiences in here.

On the first day of school, I remember I was really nervous and excited. Alfriston College is completely different to the school that I go to in Japan. Everything was new and different for me. However, I overcame these challenges by having people who helped and supported me through this tough obstacle.



My highlight of school was the international students trip to Whangapoua for a week. We went to our International Students Leader Jody's family beach house and stayed there for a week. I've been there before, but it was winter and this time it was summer. There were no plans so instead we got to decide what we wanted to do for the day. It was my first time spending a whole week like that, because in Japan, everywhere is crowded and its hard for me to become independent and think for myself for once and it's hard to get long holiday. Therefore, I really enjoyed experiencing the Kiwi holiday.



I got such a nice host family and I had so much fun with them. They have two little kids, four years girl and one year boy. When I arrived here my host brother was just 6 weeks old and now he has just turned one. My host family took me many places that I wanted to go and wanted to see. There is one thing that I appreciate more than anything is that they treated me like I was their own daughter even their families did the same which I really loved because to go overseas and live with a family that you don't know is really hard. I'm glad that I got opportunity to be part of their family. My appreciation for them can't be expressed in words.



I definitely recommend Alfriston College. I love being part of Alfriston College. This school is multicultural so you can learn many cultures like Māori, Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, etc. I got some opportunity to learn them and do some traditional stuff. Not many school provide that to international students. In general, people in this school are so friendly, helpful and interested in international students. I have made some long life friends. One more thing why I recommend Alfriston College is our International Student Leader Jody Lawrence. She looks after us very well. When I had difficulties or problem, I always went to her and she solve them for me and always gave me good advices. She helped me so many times and I have learned something important as a person from her.

I can't believe it is time to say goodbye to New Zealand. I became more positive and confident than I was. A huge thank you to Alfriston College, my awesome host family and my awesome friends.



Once AC whanau, always AC whanau.