

So Long, Farewell, Sayonara, Goodbye.

Good morning everyone!

I've been hearing beautiful voices echo through the corridors of Seiryō for the past few weeks, so I know you've all been practising a lot. I'm looking forward to watching everyone's performances at the chorus contest tomorrow!

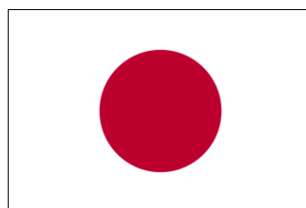
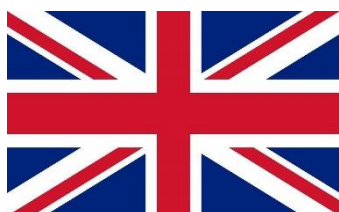
As the hydrangeas begin to wilt and the rainy season comes to an end, so will my time here at Seiryō. This week will be my final week. So today, I want to talk about some of my favourite memories in Japan.

During my two years in Japan, I've probably travelled to more places here than in the UK. I've visited traditional temples and shrines in Kyoto, and the snowy winter wonderland of Sapporo. I've picked fresh tea leaves in Saitama and watched SHISHAMO's live concert in Tokyo. I've even climbed Mt. Fuji. But, my most memorable experiences are right here, in Tochigi.

I will never forget the beautiful autumn colours of Nikko, the illuminated igloos at Yunishigawa Onsen, and the shibazakura in Ichikai. I'll never forget cycling through luscious rice fields on my way to school, the smell of gyoza as I get off at Utsunomiya Station... and, I will never forget teaching all of you.

The third years might remember when I first moved to Japan from London. I couldn't speak any Japanese, only 'konnichiwa' and 'arigatou', and it was difficult adapting to life in a new country... but all of you welcomed me with warm smiles and kindness. To all Seiryō students, thank you for trying your best to speak to me in English. To all the staff at Seiryō, it has been a pleasure working with you. I will treasure my time spent in Seiryō and all the memories I have made here.

Thank you all so much, and hopefully see you again.



goodbye..?
oh no, please. Can't
we go back to page one
and do it all over
again?

-Winnie The Pooh

