

The Way We Came, Step by Step

Hello everyone. Today, is the graduation ceremony. First, I want to say congratulations to everyone including myself. We have encountered a lot of things and learned a lot in these three years. Today I'm going to give you a speech about our memories and what I learned from these three years in junior high school.

Our junior high school life began with everyone's name being called in the entrance ceremony. In Junior 1 a lot of things were fresh for us. We were immature, so everything we did was new to us. Do you remember our first excursion? Our first excursion was to the mother farm. We explored the farm as a group. Then we got so tired, but we encouraged ourselves to reach the goal. We also went to the Adventure Camp. We played games together and worked together there. What did you learn at the camp? I was able to learn that helping people and teamwork are important through those games.

In Junior 2, we started to become adults and think about others. We went to many places. We went to a theater to watch 「Les Misérables」 This was our first time watching a performance together. We enjoyed that precious time. We also went to Kamakura. We went to the temples that we researched for the summer report. We started to investigate places in Hokkaido. My Japanese is not good, so it's hard for me to write a report, but I got a little better at writing through this.

In Junior 3 we entered the last stage of junior high school. I remember I spent a third of my time at home this year. We took classes on-line for the first time. In junior 3 many of us found our own dreams in the course of adversity. I was able to listen to other graduates' words and found my dream.

We had many difficulties and challenges, but there's only one thing that remains in my mind. It's a worship. There were no days without worship for three years. There was a worship every day, even during the hard times of the pandemic. It reminds me of a verse from the Bible, Corinthians 1:4 says, "who comforts us in all our affliction, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, through the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God." Thank you very much for the morning worship to help me learn a lot about the Bible.

It took a lot of effort and patience to find my goal these three years. Sometimes what we tried to do didn't go well, but we learned from our mistakes. When my friends were studying for their goals I was very frustrated. However, a verse flashed through my mind. "Rejoice always.

The Way We Came, Step by Step

Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus toward you". These words are from Thessalonians and they cheered me up. My advice to you is find your own goal and achieve that goal. It's important that you do your best in everything.

Before I entered Joshi Seigakuin, I had not studied English. Now I am able to stand in front of you and give you this speech. So, at last, I would like to thank the school which gave us a good environment for learning. And thanks to teachers that taught us a large stock of knowledge in classes. And to our friends that helped us and made us happy every day. Also thank you to our parents who supported us and cheered us up for these three years. I want to thank everyone around us. Thank you.

March 19th 2021

3rd Year Graduation Representative

Hayashi Yuka