

This month, I decided to make a combined English board for both June and July since there's only one holiday in each month. For June, there was a small description of Father's Day saying how we use the day to celebrate all that our father's have done for us. In July, I wrote quite a bit more. I not only had a small explanation of Independence Day, but the history behind it and why it's so important to America.

Soon after my friends' departure back to America, the second years started their work experience week, each choosing a unique place to help out at for the week. I was especially lucky to get to witness their choices of work as I got to go around one day to check on

the students and see places I had never been before. The other teacher and I would enjoy waving to the kids and asking how their work experience was going so far. I was impressed with how seriously they took their work experience and the professionalism they undertook with each task. It was also humorous that the shops would recognize me either because I regularly visit that establishment or because they see me walk to work every day. It kind of made me feel like I was apart of the community, having people recognize me as someone they see around often.

Then just as the second years returned from their work experience week, it was time for testing which this time involved a stress relieving event for the teachers. The chosen sport this time was badminton. I was hesitant on playing since I had never played a real game of badminton before but table tennis was so much fun last time that I wanted to give it a try. Unfortunately, my team did not do so well and I never go the birdy over the net but we had fun doing it. My team tried very hard and they were very nice about my lack of ability so I'm still glad I tried.

To wrap up the month, my friend and I went to a barbecue with our community class. It was so much fun to see everyone outside of the class setting and being able to talk to new people. There was a miniature pony. I was so excited. Then the food was great too! I don't think I had ever eaten so much meat in one sitting before but I couldn't stop. Some other classmates brought delicious cultural dishes too. The tiny cakes were one of my favorites. Then, even though we had to say good-bye to two of our classmates, got the experience of a life-time with them. The whole class got to help them practice for their wedding. We watched them exchange their vows and practice cutting a cake together. It was so cool and they will be well missed. I hope they come back to visit Japan soon.

