

School Memories: Friends became Family

What is the pride of your school? Is it the many students who study hard? Or is it the many students who actively join activities? And oh, I forgot something important. Is it that you have nice English teachers? I go to Shiroyama Gakuen in Sakado. The thing I can confidently say about my school is "friendship", friendship that lasts for nine years.

My school, Shiroyama Gakuen is quite small. It's just for kids aged 7 to 12 in Elementary and 13 to 15 in Junior High. We only have one class per grade level. We all live close by, so we often study together after school. I've been with the same group of classmates since I started here. Every day, every year, I see the same familiar faces, but I think it's just normal. We often ask, "How many times have we sat next to each other?" I really enjoy those days and feel a strong connection to my school.

One day, my feelings just changed. It became clear to me that this will be my last year in school. I started imagining life after graduation and realized it was my final chance to be with my classmates. I wanted to make every moment count. Looking back, In May, during Sports Day, we practiced hard for a one big rope-jumping game where two teams compete each other and team with the most jumps win. I really wanted us to get the first prize but I couldn't because of my foot injury. Seeing them jump happily together, and eventually winning the first prize, made me emotional that I even cried. It was strange for me. I hadn't cried that much before. So after Sports Day, I realized they are not just friends but also like a family to me.

As I move forward, I will carry all these memories and lessons with me. Grateful for the warmth and support of my school community at Shiroyama Gakuen. For me, friendships are forever and can turn into love like family. Our friends support us with everything, share happiness and memories we can never forget. Thank you Shiroyama for giving me such a nice journey to remember.

I'll never forget my precious 9 years. After graduation, I'll try to live a full life every day with memories in my heart.