Name: Kihane Ohashi (Tomida High School)

Title: My experiences in Australia

Through this program, I saw many beautiful views and met many kind and wonderful people in Australia. Everything was new to me. I was surprised at everything.

We arrived in Sydney on July 28. We went to Bondi Beach and Sydney Opera House. I was surprised to know that the opera house is made up of three buildings. I had thought the opera house is made up of one building. Next, I went to St Aloysius' College. There I ate fairy bread with the students. Fairy bread is sliced white bread spread with butter and covered with a lot of sprinkles. Fairy bread is now popular in Australia. And in music class I played the didgeridoo, which is an Australian traditional musical instrument. I couldn't play it so well, but the music teacher taught me how to play it so kindly.

On July 30, we went to Blue Mountains. I saw three rocks that are called the Three Sisters. Its view was very beautiful. After that I met my host family and I stayed their house for five days. The next day, I met my school buddy in Blue Mountains Grammar School. I spent three days with her at school. I was surprised that every student had a laptop. And everyone was asking questions to his or her teachers actively. I thought I want to ask questions to my teachers actively in Japanese school. At night I watched many stars in the sky. That was the most beautiful sky I had ever seen. I talked about Nagoya and Blue Mountains with my host family and my buddy. At first I couldn't make myself understood in English but everyone tried to understand what I was saying. Gradually I was able to talk more in English.

On August 3, we returned to Sydney and we went to Taronga Zoo. I had some pictures of me with a koala so close taken. The next day, we went to Sydney City Hall to pay a courtesy and performed "Soran Bushi" for the mayor and other people. They liked it very much.

I would like to thank the City of Nagoya and everyone who assisted me. I was able to learn about Australia and make some friends. I want to keep in touch with them. I will tell my Japanese friends these experiences that I will never forget.



