

I am Yui , a student of Nishio High school.

I was born and raised in China, and it was in my first year of junior high school when I moved to Japan. It has been four years since then. I could not speak any Japanese when I first moved to Japan. I went to Sōkitekikō Kyōshitsu for three months where I learned everyday Japanese conversation. The teachers in the junior high school I went, Tōbu junior high school, were very kind and considerate, along with my schoolmates, who were kind enough to talk to me in English that I understood.

Although I had a very understanding social environment, my studies were a different experience. I placed close to the lowest rank during the first semester exam in my junior high school. I was devastated with the results, but the teachers were very understanding of my situation. They gave me insightful advice, and helped me when I did not understand a certain topic, and I am extremely grateful for their support and guidance.

It was in the summer of my second year of junior high school when I decided to focus on improving my studies.

My school advisor had told me, "You cannot enter high school with your current grades," so I used that as motivation to join cram school, and started working extremely hard in my studies. I studied ahead of class and did plenty of lesson exercises in cram school. More importantly, I focused on studying in advance and lesson exercises.

In the summer of my third year in junior high school, I self-studied for about 5 hours on weekdays and 10 hours on weekends.

I got 34 points in my *naishinten* (report card), and passed my high school entrance exam in Nishio high school with 85 points.

Currently, I am a member of the Japanese archery club. I am giving it my best in both club activities and school academics.

In my first semester exam in high school, I got 926/1100, and placed 17th in the school ranking. High school days are very exciting, and every day I make sure to experience the day to the fullest. Nishio high school is a great school, the teachers are very kind and considerate, and this school supports and encourages students to put both their time and energy in their club activities and studies.

I want to become a programmer and I will work my hardest to fulfill that dream.

Rather than thinking, "I can't do it because I'm a foreigner," I want everyone to think that, "Because I am a foreigner I have to do it." We should not use being a foreigner as an excuse to give up. It was our decision to stay here in Japan, so we should use our disadvantages, turn them into advantages to be able to cope as well as Japanese students. The result of your effort will speak for itself as long as you think positively and work hard. Everyone, I encourage you to do your best in your club activities and studies.