

Dear Nishiko Students,

I miss you all so much! I hope you all had a lovely summer vacation and enjoyed your sports day!

It has been a month and a half since I have returned home and I am enjoying my time back in Vancouver! However, I do miss Himeji very much. It's much colder here - mornings are around 8 degrees, and in the daytime it's 15 degrees.

When I returned, I met up with many friends and family members and ate the foods that I missed the most, like poke (Hawaiian food) and dimsum (Chinese food, like shu mai). Below you can see some popular kinds of food in Vancouver and our style of sushi 😊. I also met with one of our Nishiko students and I spent the day showing him around Vancouver! I was happy and grateful to see many other things that reminded me of Japan, like Daiso, Uniqlo, Japanese maple trees, and mochi donuts!

Soon after I returned, I had to start school 😞. I am taking 7 (!!!) classes this semester at the University of British Columbia and I am learning a lot about how to become a better teacher, specifically for students who are learning English as a second language! Every two weeks we have a very large project due and we must make a presentation to our classmates. I also visited my school where I will be teaching throughout the year - I am teaching at an elementary school in a Grade 4 and Grade 5 class! Wish me luck!!

Now, the leaves are starting to turn red and yellow. Autumn is my favourite season and I am happy I can still see some momiji here in Vancouver (it will never be as good as Japan, of course)! I hope you are enjoying the comfortable autumn weather and red spider lilies (彼岸花)!

Remember to be confident ✨ Stay healthy and happy ♥️!

Love, Danita :)

