

6<sup>2018</sup>

# wish times

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Why don't we review beautiful days?

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Editors of WISH TIMES focused daily life of WISHer.

**This is what 「WISHer」 is!!**

\*WISHer = Residents of WISH



## WISH HOT EVENTS

### 1. WISH April BBQ



While entering the new dorm for new students in April may seem like a hassle and can be quite frightening, WISH RA's and some resident supporters decided to host a BBQ event on April 15th. At first, it seemed like the rain was going to ruin one of the first big events at WISH, but the weather pulled through and a whopping 366 students of the WISH dorm gathered at Maruko-Bashi River Bed BBQ Park and enjoyed getting to know each other under the shining sun! Not only did the new residents (NR) have a good time, but the resident supporters (RS) also got to experience helping with organizing events and learn more about contributing to life at WISH!

Q1: Why did the RA's decide to organize this BBQ event?

RA: The April BBQ event is held to help the new residents (also the old ones) to get to know each other better. We try to make the event as fun as possible to ensure that the new residents have a good time and hope that they look forward to their life at WISH. Having a BBQ event is a good way to do so because there's food involved, and everybody bonds over food!

Q2: How did it feel to help organize these types of events?

RS: I've helped with a few events as a resident supporter, but this one was a real challenge!

This was the first time there were so many residents, and most of them were new.

I've learned a lot of event organizing skills from the RA's, such as contacting the venue, deciding the event in detail, and a lot more. There was also the question of preparing the food, since there was just too many people. I'm glad I joined as a resident supporter, because I feel like this is a good way to contribute and give back to WISH, and let the new residents feel the same excitement I had when I started my WISH life.

Q3: What did you think about the event and your future life at WISH?

NR: I'm a new student at WISH this April, and while it was exciting to start university life, I have to say that it was also scary as well. I wasn't sure if I would be able to make many friends, since I'm not the outgoing type. However, I decided to join the BBQ event because I want to meet new people, and well, because it's a BBQ! I'm really glad I made this decision, because I had so much fun at the event, the food was great, and most importantly I was able to know so many people better! I hope my future life at WISH continues to be this exciting as I start my journey as a university student.



## 2.Floor Joint Event(6F&8F)



On May 15th, the 6th floor and 8th floor had a joint event. This event was cheese and chocolate fondue event! Two months after the first day of school, the RAs decided that it would be nice to have a small cooking event, where residents could make new friends, especially for new April residents. As I stood at the kitchen's door, I could already smell the delicious aroma of chocolate and cheese. Once I stepped in there, I saw residents talking and laughing with each other. With around 30 residents attending the event, I could hear a lot of conversation about school work and daily life. As I walked around the tables, there were a variety of food on the table next to the cheese and chocolate fondue, such as sausages, broccoli, crackers, potatoes, chicken, bread, marshmallows, and banana. I interviewed some residents on their opinions on the event. One of the residents said the marshmallow with the chocolate fondue was the best part, and this event was fun and enjoyable because she loves eating chocolate fondue, while chatting with friends. Another resident said it would be nice if there were more small kitchen events like this, where everyone is comfortably hanging out and eating with friends. As the event ended, every resident left the kitchen with smiles and laughter. Hopefully, there would be more joint events such as this in the future!

## SPECIAL CONTENTS

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What's your favorite "Nakano"?

Teguh Santoso (SILS, Freshman)



Just south of Nakano station there lies a well-hidden secret. The unassuming yet quaint exterior exudes an aura that affects the passerby in both physical and figurative terms. The traditional Japanese wooden exterior appears a relic from centuries ago. The structure, haggard and out of place, stands seemingly contented with existing in the wrong era. Those fortunate enough to stroll past the storefront feel momentarily missing, enchanted by the air of a forlorn land. The establishment also elicits a physical sensation through unmistakably potent aromas of rice - the namesake of the establishment - 玄 (gen). Commonly used as the first character for brown rice (玄米) this character also means mysterious, occult, deep, and profound - befitting the nature of the character's employer. Entering requires the intrigued passerby to slide open a creaky wooden door - it, too, a remnant of antiquity. Upon intruding into the forgotten epoch within, one is immediately struck by several sensations. First is the warm air, heated not by conventional modern heating technology but by smoldering pans and the blazing flames of a fiery host - a lovely elderly woman who clearly takes pleasure in her customers' enjoyment of delightful cooking. During my visit, an elderly, slightly overweight gentlemen enjoyed his portion of purple rice and fish so much that, upon completing his meal, he ushered over the host, as if to ask a favor, and ordered a second meal altogether. The host - her name still shrouded in mystery - beamed, and grinned as she cleared his place and accepted his request. The older man looked down at the table and contemplated the small, venerable, wooden box containing soy sauce. He smiled, seemingly full yet longing more delicious food - and perhaps also a chance for continued conversation with such an enthusiastic character. Should you make the decision to visit 玄 you will be treated to a delightful meal for between 700 and 1200 yen from a vast menu containing everything from seafaring mackerel (あじ) to land-lubbing meat varieties and lightly fried Japanese classics. Beyond your meal, however, you will be granted a ticket to an ambiance usually reserved not for today's bling-bling rich and famous, but for the wealthy and respected of archaic nihon.



## Memoirs of WISHer -Days of an Editor-

As an international student in the WISH



8 months has passed since I first stepped into this black and white building. I could not forget that day when I arrived with three large suitcases, after five hours of journey, tired and nervous of the unknown. By the time I was staring at the inferior of this building, a nice voice came from somewhere: "Welcome to WISH. May I help you with your luggage?" To my surprise, he was speaking English, the resident assistant. He took my luggage to the second floor where people with bright smiles helped me do the registration process. Then some others guided me to my room on the fifth floor. There he came. I never expected I could hear Chinese in this dormitory but he did introduce the room and floor to me in Chinese. It was not long that I found he actually can speak five languages. Thanks to the resident assistant system of the WISH, even as a student from China, with poor Japanese skill, I still managed to get used to the life in Japan very soon. Now I am living with three other Japanese in my unit. They are from Osaka, Yokohama and Shikoku. They can speak some, a little and not at all English respectively. In daily life, I talk to them in a combination of English and Japanese. I went to lunch with them all and through the discussion, I came to see some interesting difference around Japan. For example, Shikoku's dialects sound quite different from standard Japanese. We help each other in need and together lead a peaceful life. The passage itself reminds me some people who have already moved out WISH. My former roommate was a half Japanese, half American. He liked to stay in the living room to play games. I was invited to go to shower with him. A little embarrassed, wasn't it? There was another Japanese guy I met in the laundry. He was worried about his future at that time but I believe his future will be bright in IT industry. A Chinese, older than me, always used the same stove at the kitchen, ate at the same table, sat on the same chair. Once I found his chair was taken by someone else, the first thing I thought was whether I entered a wrong floor or not and exactly I did... Time passed in WISH has already become a memory and the memory is expanding larger and larger. The unforgettable feeling remains and I cherish.