

Last week I wrote about moving day, and the day has come—today! I'll be leaving the Center earlier than normal to get my new key today, and then next week I will be away for my school's spring vacation. This means that unfortunately I won't be back until the second of April, and I won't have a chance to say goodbye to those of you who will be transferred to a new job next year.

This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year that I have worked in this Center and seen the kind faces that I meet here each Wednesday come and go. It doesn't seem so long ago that I first arrived, but when I think about the people that worked here then, most of them haven't been around for a long time! I have many fond memories of the last few years working in this office, especially the nice conversations I have had with many of you regarding the different topics from my journal, current events and other things that come up in daily life. When I had trouble at my school or other frustrations with life in Japan, I could always count on the people in this office to have smiling faces or kind words for me each Wednesday afternoon.

While I will still be here in April, there are only a few months that I have left in this office before I leave in August. So this will be the last time for me to say goodbye to people in this office until I, myself, will leave. Of course next year I will still be working in Tsu, and I will probably see many of the people that work here from time to time. But it will be strange not having the personal connection that I have had through writing this journal each week (ok, most weeks). It has been fun to think of topics and experiences of mine to share with all of you and I hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as I have enjoyed writing it.

I'm sorry that I don't know the details of the people who will be leaving this year, and that I can't say a more personal goodbye. But if you are leaving and moving on to greener pastures, I hope that you will have happiness and success in your new post. And if you see me around town (or around Mie) next year, please stop me to say hello! Best of luck to everyone and for those who are staying, see you in April!