

Joylife Yusuhara : 12. *Sayonara* and good bye Yusuhara!

Ivan Shimats

July is here and so it marks my last few weeks here in Yusuhara. I came to Yusuhara as someone who had a very strong interest in Japanese culture and the people. Japan, just like every other country or town has its own fascinating culture and a way of life. It has been two years since I arrived and many things have changed. What hasn't changed is that Yusuhara's natural environment continues to amaze me every morning I walk out of the house and I look upon the mountains and the river. I only wish that this environment will remain this beautiful for many centuries to come.

My time in Yusuhara has taught me a lot and I hope that I was able to help some of the children learn and enjoy English. I truly wish the future generations of Yusuhara will continue to learn English which will be very useful for them and for the wellbeing of Japan in the future.

The future of our planet is not certain at this point of time and so the same goes for the future of Japan. I believe that it is now more important than ever for the people of the world to communicate and work together. Cooperation with the international community will become even more necessary as the world faces upcoming socio economic and environmental challenges. This makes learning English, a universally accepted language of the world, that much more important.

Yusuhara is a very unique place and I will always remember my time here. Thank you Yusuhara and I wish you good luck. Goodbye and *sayonara*!



A special view from a very special part of the world!