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2014-15 Postcards

Postcards from Abroad

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9-29-2014

## Go Go Go

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## 2014-09-29 Go Go Go



*Gabe, Gabi, myself, and Aya (it was her first time too) excited to finally be at Mt. Fuji!*

After classes began — which consist of Japanese three times a week, and Japanese Studies and Economics each once a week — on top of simply exploring Yokohama and any nearby areas reachable by train, life has been a whirlwind lately.

We met with our host families on the thirteenth. Mine consists of a couple with three children: a girl (10) and two boys (6 & 4). Just from the hour or so I had with the family, I can already tell I am going to be exhausted. But I am also looking forward for the home stay to start on the fifth! It turns out that the Otou-san — or Papa, as he wants to be called — plays tennis and one of the boys is learning to play the piano.

The next day, we international students and one of my buddies went on a little adventure to Fuji-san. One of the other exchange students from Arkansas is very much into hiking, and had previously expressed her desire to go before the mountain was closed for the winter. Being a rather large tourist attraction, there were a number of shopping opportunities, a small shrine, and a handful of fantastic viewpoints. For those from Oregon, think Mt. Hood on steroids. Even Tim thought the buildings there looked slightly reminiscent of Timberline Lodge.

The weather is now starting to transition into fall, so hopefully biting season is done. But for the first few weeks here, any uncovered skin was free game, even just during the middle of the day.

Stacey Strovink