January 2018 remains as my sweet memories (Norul Hajar Nordin, MJIIT)

My early January in Tsukuba begin with celebrating new year’s eve with members of Kaida-sensei laboratory. Most of them are students coming from China, Vietnam, Myanmar, Malawi, Ghana and Japan.

We really enjoyed the party with delicious food together. The food served are Seafood Domino’s Pizza, lettuce salad with Thousand Island dressing, grilled chicken wings and seafood with sesame oil and mixed fruit juices. At the party, we get to know each members by sharing stories, give thought to various issues and things from formally to informally talks. Moreover, most interesting part is when I received new year’s greeting cards called Nengajo (年賀状) from some of my labmates. This is known as traditional Japanese way in celebrating the new year.

In the morning of 22nd January 2018, unexpectedly, Tokyo and Tsukuba was hit by heaviest snow since 2014 as reported by The Japan Times. This was my first falling snow experienced, thus I was very excited yet surprised because I am a lucky person. I only came for a 3 months research attachment here but was chosen to enjoy this unforgettable moments.