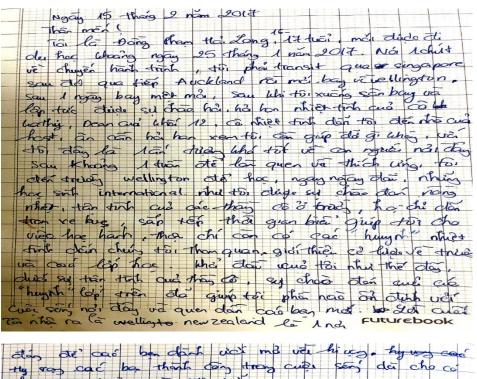
A quick note from Dong Pham Hai Long a Level 2 (Year 12) student who started at Wellington College at the start of Term 1 2017. He has made a great start at Wellington College currently studying Level 2 Business Studies, Digital Technology Science, Physics, Chemistry, and Level 3 Calculus. He is originally from the busy city of Ho Chi Minh City and will study at Wellington College for the next two years.

Dong Pham Hai Long wrote his coming to New Zealand note in both Vietnamese and in English.







At Adrenalin Forest as part of Orientation Week 2017

My name is Dong Pham Hai Long, 17 years old from Vietnam and recently started studying abroad at Wellington College New Zealand.

During my travel I had to transit through Singapore on my way to Auckland then transfer terminals for the trip down to Wellington. After a boring flight I felt tired and sleepy, but confusion took over when I saw the different traffic and roads.

On arriving in Wellington I was surprised to be welcomed by Ms Kathy the Homestay Manager. Kathy was so happy to see me and enthusiastically took me to my new host family. Kathy asked me if I needed anything at all and let me know that I can talk to her and ask for support whenever I needed it. I thought to myself that this welcome from an indigenous New Zealander was excellent and I felt welcomed.

After spending a week getting use to life in Wellington I arrived at Wellington College. On the first day along with all the other new international students I was tested and then had a timetable built for me based on my test score and advice from other senior students and teachers at school. The international students who were already at Wellington College took us on a tour of the school and were very helpful and dynamic, they answered all of our questions about school and living in the city. These were my first steps at Wellington College and with the support of the old international students and the teachers I felt I could manage my new life easily including making friends quickly.

I realised that New Zealand is a place that you can make your life good and meet your hopes. I hope more people like me get the success they want in life.



Mike Ellett International Director, Dong Pham Hai Long and Robert Anderson Deputy Principal