reflection It has been two months since I started my internship in Yuanlin branch. I have encountered a lot during this time.

For me, the most amazing thing was that I could work with foreign teachers.

For example, I watched foreign teachers teach. From them, I learned a lot of fun class activities, and the skills of teaching. Also, in order to understand the topic and the materials for the theme classes, I needed to talk with the foreign teachers. Sometimes, because of the cultural difference, the things the teacher needed were different from what a Taiwanese teacher might want. From this experience, I learned the importance of communication. I assisted the foreign teachers when they were teaching. Sometimes, the children didn’t understand what they were talking about. Therefore, I’d say “May I speak Chinese?” and help translate. To sum up, it’s really been an amazing experience to work closely with foreign teachers.

The most rewarding thing was to help as TA in the theme class.

My sense of achievement comes from children, parents and the things I learn.

Before class begins, there were many things that I needed to do. Take cupcakes for example. I needed to discuss the topic with the foreign teacher firstly. Then I had to go on YouTube to search for method, and take screenshots to make handouts. Then, I had to talk about the handout with foreign teacher again and make sure it was ok.

There are handouts that I made.

Although it takes a lot of effort to prepare for the class, I am really interested in doing these things. When I saw the children have fun making their snakes, I felt rewarded.

After class, I used pictures I took during class to make posters. When I watched the children and parents come close to see poster, curious about the content of classes, I felt proud of the effort I had made.

Form discussing the class with foreign teacher so many times, my English communication ability increased. From making handouts and posters, my art and typesetting ability increased, too. Also, not only children but also I learned the Western culture, such as cupcakes and planters. In short, I felt rewarded by seeing children enjoying the class, and at the same time I learned a lot.

The most difficult thing was to be TA in the Jump class. I encountered two types of difficulties.

First was the children. Some children continually spoke Chinese, some misbehaved, some cried and didn’t want to take part in class. Second was the parents.

After class, parents would ask me about their children’s performance. However, during the class, I was so busy maintaining class order that I paid little attention to the children’s performance. Therefore, I didn’t know what to say when we talked face to face. Needless to say I had to make a phone call. I usually tended to feel very nervous. I felt frustrated at not being able to maintain class order. And I was sorry for not paying much attention to their children.

Here are my solutions.

For children, I will say “English Only” in Chinese before the children enter into the classroom. If they misbehave, I will say” Bye Bye ice cream” and erase one or give one ice cream to others who behave well. Also, I will talk with children’s mom to think up solutions to any problems.

For parents, I will pay close attention to the children's performance during class. After class, I will initiate to chat with parents and talk to them about I observed. Before making a phone call, I will make a rough draft in case I may feel nervous.

During these 2 months, the thing I really improved a lot was my ability to communicate. I still remember the first day I worked in HESS. I felt too nervous to speak English with the foreign teachers. Now, I feel comfortable to chat with them. Also, I felt scared to talk with children’s parents at the beginning. Now, when I see parents, I have the courage to approach them and talk with them. Also, I don’t feel so nervous when I make phone calls.

I really appreciate that I could have the opportunity to do my internship at HESS.

It’s really been a joy to meet so many young children. I am also glad that I had thoughtful colleagues to help me when I was in need.

Now, at the end of my internship, all that I want to say is ”Thank you.”