



### *Exams...*

The long awaited exams finally arrived on the 30th and 31st. So while my mum and brother slept off their jet lag I, and all the others at the university, sat our first of 4 final exams. I felt that comprehension and speaking went well and both listening and character studies went okay but were tough. We all got our results in early January and my results mirrored exactly how I felt about the exams as I did really well in comprehension and speaking and still fairly well but not perfect in writing and listening. Overall I am, however, super pleased and hope that my next exam results are even better.

### *New Year!*

On New Year's Day it was of course focused in the morning on our final exams but after they were finished we started to properly think about our New Year's celebrations- our first ever in China. Everyone dressed up for the occasion to make sure it had the home feel but for the bells ringing through the majority of us stayed at home and enjoyed some singing dancing and chatting instead of going out. Waiting for the 31st of Dec to turn to the 1st of the new decade in China was so weird as we were around our friends from China but friends from home were not there of course and that made a big difference. We headed up to the 8th floor and counted down the bells with Polish, Russian and Ukrainian friends and it felt so surreal that, as we were saying Happy New Year, back home in Scotland there was still 8 hours of 2019 left.

### *Travels in 2020*

So far I have booked up three weeks in Australia staying with a friend who has just moved there. I can't wait as I love having a good tan and I will be able to swim at Bondi Beach which I've wanted to do for years plus getting to see my friend and her family for such a long time will be great fun. After then I'm not 100% sure where I'm going but I know I will be travelling around China for around another three weeks then Colin, Scottie and I are planning on going to South Korea for 5 days at the very end of the winter break. I love travelling and so I am doing the majority of my trip myself to have a great independent time taking long but super cheap trains and enjoying the great places I go to visit!

