Welcome,
Thank you, for reading the third and last newsletter from our journey. It is time for a new newsletter that will be about our last experiences in Japan, and saying goodbye to a country that is really special and interesting not only for our research but also in general.

In our plan of action that is made for the research, we stated that a total of four elderly housing locations in Japan would be visited and used as case studies. As we accomplished this targeted number with some time to spare, we both thought it was a good idea to find some more case study locations and try to visit these new locations.

Extra case study locations,
For the extra locations we had found three new housing complexes to visit, we rented two bikes form our roommates and went our way. The day however played out very differently from what we had planed. Biking through Tokyo is very different from riding in the Netherlands; there are not many rules as to where you ride your bike, although mostly seen is riding the bike on the sidewalk where everyone walks. The people should be used to the bikes but that's not the case...

So we decided to ride our bike on the roadside where it was possible and save to do so and we found out that cars are more used to bikes on the road than people on the sidewalk. Using the bike was not what changed our schedule but a fun experience to have.

When we came to our first case study, it turned out it wasn’t that easy to plan a visit. It was hard to explain why we came to visit in the first place, as there was again no employee who could speak English. Even with the translated text it was hard to explain. It wasn’t looking like we would be able to get a tour but than an unknown man came in who could speak English, and could explain why we where at their location.
Case study tour,
While our story was translated and explained by the friendly Japanese man, the manager went back to the office to contact the office to ask for permission. This took just a moment, and we heard the good news that we were allowed to see the complex and get a tour. However, there was still no employee who spoke English. So the friendly Japanese man who translated the first part of our story asked, before we could, if we wanted him to stay so he could translate the tour and our questions. Of course we wanted that, but the man only had the time to do the tour with us around 2 o’clock p.m. so we needed to wait/come back in two hours. So we had some time to explore the neighbourhood, make the analyses about the direct environment and checkout some stores close by.

Back at the case study’s location at 2 o’clock in the afternoon to start the tour. The manager and the friendly man were both there on time and we could start with the tour. It was a long tour, while it wasn’t the biggest case study we had in Tokyo it was a very nice one. Very stylish, modern and clean. The hallways were very wide and the private rooms of the elderly were a good size. The shared spaces were quite big, but still with a good ambiance. The tour took a long time, and after the tour we still had a few questions left, so the afternoon came to an end and we were just done with the first case.

So there was no time left to visit one of the other two we had planned. So not three more cases but one, not planned but still a good result for a research day.
The last activities and places on our list,

- Tokyo City Dome baseball game
- Buddhist Temple in the middle of "Yoyogipark"
- Viewing point; Tokyo the never-ending city

Tokyo City Dome baseball game