



Happy holidays and greetings from the Smiths! *Highlights of 2014:*

Dan:

- Plenty of snow during the winter and many chances to build igloos, snow forts and took Nicholas sled ding at a real hill.
- Took Nicholas to his first OSU football game, made it 3 quarters.
- Family trip to Vienna, VA to visit longtime friends. Hatched a plan to bike from Pittsburg to DC in the summer of 2015.
- Survived Janet's trips to Japan solo with Nicholas.
- Hours spent playing in the waves with Nicholas in Florida.



Janet:

- Two trips to Japan (March and July) for a grant she received. One more trip planned next year. It was good to be back for the first time in many years, see old friends, and eat lots of food. She was able to do a project with Nicholas' class and even Skype with the whole class while she was there.
- Outreach Award from the College of Arts and Sciences (OSU) for work with schools and Japanese language teachers in Ohio.
- Attended Genoa High School reunion to see many familiar faces.



Nicholas:

- Basketball in winter and yellow belt in karate in fall.
- Big week: started 1st grade, lost a front tooth and soloed on his bike free of training wheels.
- Organized a neighborhood bike race, complete with trophies, prizes and medals.
- Wants to return to Florida after our September visit. When asked why, "the pool and the smell". Drove water ski boat through a slalom course at lake course of Dan's long time college friend. Told he will learn to water ski next year.
- Recorded "post game" football interview as a college player and explained about winning and how the losing team chooses to "win at the wrong time"



We hope that everyone can take a moment during this very busy, holiday season to stop and take a breath to just enjoy what is around us.

*Hope to see you soon,
Dan, Janet & Nicholas*

