FLIGHT TO CANBERRA

At 6:30am we had to meet Mr Ingersole, Miss Francke and Miss Trinca at the International Airport. When we got there, we had to go get our boarding passes at the front desk of the airport. At 8:35am we went onboard the plane to Adelaide. Which was a three hour-long flight. When we arrived in Adelaide airport we had hungry Jacks. After eating we played Uno until we had to get on our next plane to Canberra. It was a 1 hour and 45 minute flight from Adelaide to Canberra. When we arrived in Canberra, we collected our suitcases and headed out of the airport. We met a bus driver named Luke who drove us to our resort. We were put into separate groups and got put into different dorms. All of the boys, except for Mr Ingersole were together in dorm 54. Mr Ingersole was in dorm 55 by himself, Ms Trinca and Ms Francke were both in dorm number 54. Katarina, Isla and Ava were in dorm 53 and Evony, Kailee, Naomi, Ella and Maddison were in dorm 52.

THE ELECTORAL EDUCATION CENTRE

The Electoral Education Centre was a very large and modern place. We learnt about voting, how to vote and when to vote. We watched a small video in a dark room which explained all the facts and timelines of voting. For example, when women could vote. When aboriginals first began to vote and the age you had to be to vote. After that, we went into a small room with small cardboard voting boxes. We all voted for a fruit; a banana, an apple, a peach and an orange. The banana won the election. After voting, we went into a small room and had to answer questions on sheets of paper we received in different coloured stations with a purple pencil. It was really fun and interesting. We answered the questions using headphones, buttons and a big touch screen. After visiting the Electoral Education Centre we took pictures of the outside of the centre as well as the war memorial that is in line with the old Parliament House. It was an amazing view!

MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRACY

The Museum of Democracy, also known as the Old Parliament House, is a place where both children and adults can experience the timeline of federation and how federation was first presented to Australia. When our class arrived there it looked like it was an old and busy building where staff would work and people of the public would come for tours inside and around the building. Upon entering, a lady showed us a room full of big interactive screens. She first explained that we had to get into groups of two and work together to work our way around the whole room to learn more about federation and answering questions. She gave each pair a key to go around and swipe the tag attached to the key on the interactive screens. She then took us to visit the old house of representatives chambers. It was so much smaller than the new chambers in the new Parliament House and included a replica mace which we learnt was a gift from the Queen to Australia. Overall it was a fun and educational experience and we learnt a lot of new facts about federation like the Speaker in the olden days normally wore long black dressing gown.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Parliament House was fantastic. We had a very funny and informative guide who made many jokes during his explanations which made them very interesting. When we arrived in Parliament House, we were told that we would be sitting in on question time in both the house of representatives and the senate. We were so excited as this meant we would be able to see some politicians we have been learning about and regularly see on TV. We were first guided into the senate chamber before entering. The teachers had to cloak their bags and cameras as you are not allowed to take any photos inside any of the chambers. We sat in a public viewing gallery which was inside some glass windows. Our guide was able to turn the speaker on and off for us to be able to listen to him as well as the individuals in the chambers. We saw many interesting things and were quite fascinated about how many of the ministers go on their phone during question time. The next chamber. The house of representatives was even more exciting. In this chamber we were able to see our Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull. Although he didn’t say too much whilst we were there. It was very cool to see him in real life. After seeing and learning lots about the ministers and their roles and duties, we were directed into a room where we were able to pass our own bill as the house of representatives. This was a very cool experience which was
MADE EVEN BETTER WHEN THE BELLS FOR VOTING ON A BILL RANG FOR FOUR MINUTES. WE LEARNT THAT THESE BELLS RING TO ALLOW FOR PEOPLE TO ENTER THE CHAMBER TO BE ABLE TO VOTE, THERE ARE A LOT OF CLOCKS IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND WHEN THE VOTE IS OCCURRING IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES A GREEN LIGHT FLASHES ON EACH CLOCK AND WHEN IN THE SENATE A RED LIGHT FLASHES. OVERALL, PARLIAMENT HOUSE WAS A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE TOPPED BY US FINISHING THE TOUR ON THE ROOF OF THE BUILDING LOOKING AT THE VIEW TOWARDS THE WAR MEMORIAL.

AMF BOWLING

ON OUR FIRST FULL DAY IN CANBERRA WE WENT TO AMF BOWLING. WE WERE SEPARATED INTO THREE GROUPS, ONE GROUP INCLUDED: EVONY, KAILEE, BEN, HENRY, LUKA, AADJ, JASON AND EVAN, THE SECOND GROUP WAS ISHA, AYA, NAOMI, KATARINA, MONTANA, ELLA AND MADDY, IN THE LAST GROUP WERE THE TEACHERS; MR INGERSOLE, MISS FRANCKE AND MISS TRINCA, IT WAS REALLY FUN TALKING AND BOWLING, THE TEACHERS PLAYED A COMPETITIVE GAME WITH MISS FRANCKE OBVIOUSLY WINNING (THOUGH MR INGERSOLE WOULDN’T ADMIT IT), EVERY GROUP HAD THE BUMPERS UP WHICH MADE THE GAME EASIER, OVERALL AMONGST THE KIDS THE TOP SCORING GIRL WAS MADDY AND THE TOP SCORING BOY WAS HENRY, IT WAS SUCH A FUN NIGHT AND BY THE TIME WE GOT BACK TO THE HOTEL WE WERE WORN OUT, I WISH WE COULD HAVE PLAYED ANOTHER GAME.

NATIONAL CAPITAL EXHIBITION


NATIONAL MUSEUM

ONE OF THE FASTEST HORSES TO RACE AND HAD A HEART THAT WAS UNUSUALLY LARGE, OVERALL, THE NATIONAL MUSEUM WAS EDUCATIONAL AND WE SAW MANY INTERESTING DISPLAYS. WE EVEN BOUGHT SOME EXCITING THINGS FROM THE GIFT SHOP.

GEOSCIENCE

ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING AND INTERESTING PLACES WE WENT TO WAS GEOSCIENCE. WE SAW MANY COOL AND INTERESTING THINGS. WE SAW ALL DIFFERENT TYPES OF CRYSTALS AND ROCKS, HOW RECORDS OF EARTHQUAKES ARE RECORDED AND FOUND OUT LOTS OF INFORMATION AS WE WERE DOING AN INDEPENDENT ACTIVITY. WHILE WE WERE AT GEOSCIENCE, WE LEARNED INTERESTING STUFF LIKE; NOT ALL LARGE ROCKS ARE HEAVY, SOME ARE VERY LIGHT AND THAT NOT ALL ROCKS SINK, SOME ACTUALLY FLOAT ON WATER. ALSO, OUR GUIDE TAUGHT US THAT ALL KINDS OF ROCKS ARE MADE OUT OF TINY GRAINS OF ALL SORTS OF MINERALS. TOWARDS THE END OF THE SESSION, OUR GUIDE DIRECTED OUR ATTENTION TO EARTHQUAKES. WE DISCOVERED THAT EARTHQUAKE MACHINES CAN DETECT MOST EARTHQUAKES AROUND THE WORLD. ALSO, WE WERE TOLD THAT AUSTRALIA HASN'T HAD AN EARTHQUAKE FOR MORE THAN 5 YEARS! TO CONCLUDE OUR SESSION, WE GENERATED OUR OWN EARTHQUAKE! WE JUMPED AS HARD AS WE COULD SO THE SEISMOGRAPH COULD DETECT OUR MOVEMENT. FOR JUST €5 OF US, WE MADE A PRETTY BIG EARTHQUAKE. OVERALL, WE ENJOYED OUR TIME AT GEOSCIENCE AND LEARNT LOTS.

LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN


DINOSAUR MUSEUM

THE DINOSAUR MUSEUM IS A BUILDING FULL OF DINOSAUR BONES, FOSSILS AND SCULPTURES OF PRE-HISTORIC DINOSAURS. ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO VISIT AND TAKE TOURS ANY TIME OF THE DAY. WHEN WE GOT THERE, IT WAS ALREADY A LITTLE DARK SO WE HAD WARM AND COMFORTABLE CLOTHES ON. THERE WERE ALREADY ABOUT TWO BIG SCHOOL GROUPS THERE SO IT WAS TOO CROWDED TO START OUR TOUR AT THE SAME TIME. SO WE FIRST WENT TO THE GIFT SHOP TO BUY SOUVENIRS FOR OUR FAMILY AND OURSELVES, BY THE TIME WE FINISHED FROM THE GIFT SHOP THE OTHER BIG GROUPS WERE AROUND HALF WAY DONE IN THEIR TOUR. THE TOUR WAS LOTs OF FUN BECAUSE WE WERE ABLE TO SEE LOTS OF PRE-HISTORIC DINOSAURS AND BONES WHICH WAS LOTS OF FUN. WE LEARNT THAT TO TELL IF SOMETHING IS A DINOSAUR YOU LOOK FOR THREE THINGS: IT HAS TO HAVE SCALES, STRAIGHT LEGS AND IT HAS TO BE ABLE TO LAY EGGS.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Said hello back, as we approached the end of the tour, we said goodbye and thank you to the house keeper and returned to our bus.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT

On our third day in Canberra we went to the Royal Australian Mint. This is where they make all the coins that Australia uses, the people who work there are called minties and there are also huge robots that carry all the blanks and coins around, but before we saw that we went inside a room and saw a BTN video about how the minties and robots make all types of coins. A staff member took us around the building where there was a section on the history of Australian coins, a coin we found interesting was the Dutch coin which had a hole in it which was used as another coin, we learnt that the founders of the Dutch coins found them on a shipwreck on the WA coast. We were also shown British coins which were called pence and shillings, the lady told us that the British were struggling with the low amount of gold until the gold rush happened, after viewing these coins, the guide took us to the robots who process the coins, we couldn’t go inside the area because there was a huge window stopping us, through the window we could see three robots, Titan, Penny and Robert. Titan was the biggest and most dangerous robot because he could lift 200,000 blank coins in a barrel which would weigh about two tonnes. Following this, we were directed to the gift shop, almost everyone in our class bought a unique one dollar coin which we were able to make ourselves, after everyone was finished shopping we returned to the bus and made our way to the national portrait gallery. Overall, the Royal Australian Mint was fun and interesting and we are all glad we made a souvenir coin to remind us of the information we learnt about.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

When we arrived to the national portrait gallery we met a young lady who introduced us to the gallery. She also gave us a little tour of the place, when we got inside, we received a black transportable seat, the first piece of art she showed us was a portrait of Deborah Mailman who is quite famous because of her many movies, one being Paper Planes, we were able to sit on our portable stools whilst our guide told us many facts about the piece of art and why it was the most popular piece of art in the gallery. After seeing the first portrait, we moved to a different spot and placed down our seats in front of a portrait of Captain James Cook, it was a very expensive painting and it was quite dark, the portrait was a picture for his wife when Captain Cook was killed by the Hawaiians. After looking at that portrait we moved to a different area where we designed our own hats of which we were able to take home. The last piece of art we were shown was of a man named Dr. John Yu made out of hard clay with little colourful, chubby, clay babies climbing on top of him. The National Portrait Gallery was an amazing place to visit, it was especially special that we received a card game containing different portraits to play on the bus to Sydney.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

Before entering the Australian War Memorial we were able to walk along Anzac Parade and see the memorials of all the wars Australia was involved in. We were able to see the Vietnam War, Korean War, World War 1, World War 2, Nurse Memorial, and a few others. Our favourite was the Vietnam War because of its significant details. We were also intrigued by the idea of the scroll built in the circle shape at the top of the memorial. After walking along Anzac Parade, we made our way to the War Memorial, we got out of the bus with our cameras and entered the building. When in the building, we were greeted by a man who asked us to sit down in front of a projector screen, we watched a video about the war memorial, it was very interesting, following the video, we were directed into the memorial, we thought it was really amazing how they got all of the information about each war and how they could build miniature people in the wars and present them in scenes to look exactly like the relative war. After seeing many things inside of the war memorial we went outside and saw the pool of reflection, we also saw all of the names on honour roll with poppies in each plaque. The names were the Australians who fought in the war but also the soldiers that never returned, after our tour we went to the gift shop and bought souvenirs for us and our
FAMILY, TO END OUR VISIT WE STAYED FOR A CEREMONY THAT WENT FOR ABOUT 15 MINUTES. OUR GROUP THOUGHT IT WAS GREAT THAT WE WENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL AND SAW THE HISTORY OF WAR THAT AUSTRALIA WAS INVOLVED IN.

BOTANICAL GARDENS

DURING OUR YEAR 6 CAMP TO CANBERRA, WE WENT TO THE BOTANICAL GARDENS WHICH WAS SPECTACULAR. IT WAS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING WHAT WE SAW AND LEARNT. WE SAW AMAZING PLANTS, ONE OF THE PLANTS WE SAW WAS A PLANT THAT HAS BEEN HERE SINCE THE DINOSAUR PERIOD, WE ALSO HEARD CANBERRA’S FAUNA EMBLEM THE GANG GANG COCKATOO BUT UNFORTUNATELY WE DIDN'T GET TO SEE THE GANG GANG COCKATOO ITSELF.

WE COULD NOT BELIEVE HOW MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF ANIMALS WE SAW, WE SAW THESE BIG LIZARDS THAT WERE ABSOLUTELY EVERYWHERE AND THEY WERE SO CLOSE BUT WERE HARMLESS, WE ALSO SAW KANGAROOS WHICH WAS EXCITING AND SOME OF THEM WERE HUMONGOUS, SOME KANGAROOS WERE VERY SMALL COMPARED TO THE OTHERS. ONCE WE FINISHED THE WALK AROUND THE BOTANICAL GARDENS, WE WENT INTO A ROOM WHERE WE WERE GIVEN MIO AND BISCUITS. OVERALL, IT WAS A GOOD EXPERIENCE AND WE ENJOYED SEEING THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS DURING THE NIGHT.

COCKINGTON GREEN

THIS WAS PROBABLY ONE OF OUR MOST FAVOURITE PLACES THAT WE VISITED IN CANBERRA. WHEN WE ARRIVED, WE HAD ABOUT TEN MINUTES TO LOOK AND TAKE PICTURES OF THE FRONT YARD WITH ALL OF THE FLOWERS. THEN WE WENT INSIDE AND OUT TO THE BACKYARD WHERE THERE WAS A VILLAGE FULL OF MINI HOUSE STRUCTURES AND BUILDINGS THAT WERE QUITE SMALL, ALL OF THESE MINI STRUCTURES WERE REPRESENTING SIGNIFICANT LANDMARKS ALL AROUND THE WORLD. WE ALSO GOT A SHEET TO COMPLETE BY GOING AROUND AND IDENTIFYING THE FLAG OF THE COUNTRY WHERE THE MODEL BUILDING WAS FROM. AT COCKINGTON GREEN THERE WASN'T MUCH TO LEARN EXCEPT FOR THE FACT THAT YOU CAN MAKE ANYTHING YOU WANT BY JUST USING YOUR IMAGINATION.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT

ON THE LAST DAY OF OUR CANBERRA TRIP WE WENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT. IT WAS REALLY COOL AND WE LEARNT A LOT. WE FIRST WENT TO THE GIFT SHOP WHICH WAS REALLY COOL, THERE WERE LOTS OF KEYCHAINS AND BADGES AND SPORTS EQUIPMENT LIKE SOCCER BALLS AND FOOTBALLS. ONCE EVERYONE WAS FINISHED WE WERE DIRECTED TO THE SPORTEX WHERE THERE WERE LOTS OF SIMULATIONS. THERE WAS A SOCCER ONE WHERE YOU KICKED A SOCCER BALL AT A SCREEN WHICH HAD A SOCCER GOAL, A BICYCLE WHERE THERE WERE THREE BICYCLES WHERE IT TRACKS YOUR MOVEMENTS AND PUTS IT ON A SCREEN WHERE IT IS A RACE TO SEE WHO WINS AND MANY MORE. IT WAS REALLY FUN AND WE LEARNT THAT EXERCISE CAN BE FUN AND THAT SIMULATIONS CAN BE VERY REALISTIC. WE THEN GOT DIRECTED TO THE GYMNASTICS AREA WHERE IT WAS SPLIT IN HALF, ONE SIDE FOR GIRLS AND THE OTHER SIDE FOR BOYS, WE LEARNT THAT THE MEN START GYMNASTICS LATER THAN THE GIRLS. SO THERE UPPER BODIES CAN BE STRONGER. THE MEN ALSO USE THEIR UPPER BODIES IN GYMNASTICS WHILE THE GIRLS USE VERY LITTLE. WE THEN WENT TO THE VOLLEYBALL STADIUM WHERE THE PITCH IS VERY BIG, YOU HAVE TO BE AT LEAST 195CM TO PLAY SO MR INGERSOLE COULDN'T BECAUSE HE IS 194 CM. WE THEN WENT TO THE GYM WHERE ALL THE ATHLETES AND COACHES CAN TRAIN. WE THEN LEFT WITH A SMILE ON OUR FACES AND HOPPED ON THE BUS TO GO TO THE HIGH COURT.

HIGH COURT

THE HIGH COURT WAS AN AMAZING PLACE WHICH LOOKED QUITE ODD BECAUSE OF ITS LARGE APPEARANCE. WE HAD TO BE VERY QUIET INSIDE AND NOT MAKE A LOT OF NOISE AS THE PLACE WAS VERY QUIET INSIDE. WE WERE GUIDED BY AN OLD MAN NAMED CECIL WHO LEAD US TO COURT ROOM 1 AND TOLD US MANY FACTS ABOUT THE PLACE AND WHAT THE JUDICIARY'S JOB IS TO DO, CECIL USED A PEN TO DESCRIBE THE JUDICIARY, EXECUTIVE AND PARLIAMENT AND HOW THEY RELATE TO EACH OTHER. WE ALL THOUGHT THIS WAS VERY ENGAGING AND IT GAVE US A CLEAR REPRESENTATION OF HOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WORKS. AFTER VISITING COURT ROOM 1 WE ALL WALKED OVER TO COURT ROOM 2 AND WERE INTRODUCED TO ANOTHER GUIDE, COURT ROOM 2 IS THE MOST
Important room in the high court, the court rooms are large and very tall, most of the rooms were made out of jarrah wood which was carved into a beautiful design, especially the carved emu and kangaroo which made up the Australian coat of arms. After visiting the court rooms we took a class picture in front of the high court which was quite cool, overall, the high court was an interesting place where we learnt many new things and were able to see the information we have been researching in class.

**QUESTacon**

QUESTacon is a lot like scitech but bigger, it has lots of different rooms that have lots of different science related exhibits. We were all looking forward to going there, when we went into the first room there were lots of interactive exhibits. Everyone's favourite one was when you had to make a square out of different shapes, then we went into the second room, in the second room there was a station where a button would cause a flash against the wall and if you were near the wall it would keep your silhouette against the wall, it was very cool, then we went into the third room which was a room all about the elements, it had rain, earth, lightning and other things, there was an earthquake simulator and a lightning machine that struck lightning every 45 minutes, the last room we entered was the exit room, in the exit room there was a robot playing air hockey, four way air hockey and a four metre free fall, we all enjoyed all of the stations in this room and couldn’t pick one favourite. Overall, at QUESTacon, we learnt a lot about science and physics and had an enjoyable time, I think next year it will be one of the favourite places for the next group to enjoy.

**Sydney Sight Seeing**

On the last day of our trip, we made our way by bus to Sydney, it was a four hour bus drive, most of us slept for the full journey and others played card games, half way through the trip we had a bathroom break and morning tea at a small park. We then arrived at Bondi Beach, we took pictures of the beach and then sat on the grass and ate a callipo icy pole, it was very yum. After we visited Bondi, we journeyed to see the incredible Sydney Harbour Bridge, we stopped near the bridge and walked around where we also spotted the amazing Opera House, the opera house is bigger than you think! If you look through some of the windows in the opera house you can see a restaurant inside, we all took pictures of the opera house and Mr Ingersole took a group photo, it was lovely to be able to see the harbour bridge in the distance, and a massive cruise ship with big slides on top of it, after visiting Sydney we flew back to Perth, it was a five hour flight but we had screens on the plane which we were able to watch movies and play games on, when we arrived, our parents were so excited to see us and hear about our trip.

**Taronga Zoo**

On the last day of our year 6 camp in canberra we went to Sydney, we drove from Canberra to Sydney, it took us about three hours, when we arrived in Sydney, we noticed that there was a lot of traffic, once we got through all of the traffic, we arrived at the famous taronga zoo, there was a heat wave in Sydney whilst we were there so a lot of the animals were inside caves to keep cool, despite this, we were able to see many animals such as giraffes, lizards, spiders and elephants, one of the more interesting animals we saw was a chimpanzee who was going a bit crazy and was hitting a glass window, after we saw most of the animals we headed to the gift shop, the gift shop was filled with awesome gifts for everyone like snow globes and plush toys, overall it was awesome to visit Taronga Zoo and everybody had a fun time.

**Flight To Perth**

On Friday, after a full day we arrived at Sydney airport, we said goodbye to our bus driver, Luke and thanked him for his hard work during our trip, once inside the airport, we waited for our flight number to be called, on the flight we were occupied by the tv's on the plane and before we knew it we were off to Perth, some people were sleeping while others were playing games and watching movies, we were on the plane for five and a half hours, as a meal on
We had a fantastic time!

The place, we were offered steak and rice or pasta with creamy sauce with chopped pumpkins on top. The trip went quite quickly. The plane landed and then we were able to see our parents, caregivers, and friends at the airport. We got our suitcases and before we left we had to get our name ticked off so that the teachers knew that we had left to go home. Our parents were so happy to see us and asked us many questions about the trip.