

# Sovereign Hill Camp Recount

In week 1 term 2 all the grade 5/6's went to Sovereign Hill camp, this camp was all about the 1850's, and what it was like back then. We were told that we would be doing a costume experience where we would be roleplaying kids from the 1850's. There were 67 other kids going on school camp.

I arrived at school in the morning extremely excited to get on the bus and go on camp. While my mum lined up to hand in my medication, I took my luggage to the gym. After my mum handed my medication to Ms. Woolard, I went with her to give my wallet to Mr. Scicluna. After we did all that, I said goodbye to my mum and lined up in the gym. Then Ms. Humphreys told us that the grade 5's would be on one bus and grade 6's on the other (which everyone was happy about), then we boarded the bus, I sat next to Sarah and we talked the whole time! At 11:00 we stopped at Melton Park for morning tea.

When we got back on the bus I sat next to Amelia; at around 12:00 we stopped at the Eureka Centre for lunch. Then Ms. Humphreys told us our activity groups and we headed inside for a tour. Mr. Scicluna was our teacher, And I was in an activity group with Sarah! All four activity went inside, and we put our bags down, we were told to get in partners. I partnered with Sarah. Then we got an iPad and we were told that a name would appear on the screen and that was who we were researching, (Sarah and I were Timothy Hayes).

Then we walked around and found out information about the Eureka Stockade. Our tour guide then called us over to look at a painting of the Eureka Stockade and told us all about it. Then we went to look at the Eureka flag and it was 2.5x the size of a normal flag! After the tour was over, we went back on the bus. This bus had a TV and we watched 'Over the Hedge'.

When we arrived at Sovereign Hill, we put our luggage away. After that we went on a cart down a mine in our activity groups (we went on the Labyrinth). Some people did not go down because they were scared. When it finished we met the people that stayed up, then we did a little bit of shopping, I got a jar of salted caramel lollies. I looked around a bit but then got called for gold panning.

We made our way over to the New York Bakery at around 5:00 where we had a curry for dinner and a brownie for dessert. After dinner we found out our cabins and set up, I was in a cabin with; Lily, Lucy H, Sarah, Anna, Amelia, Jade, Lola, and Stella. Then we went to the AURA sound and light show. This was a 3 part show, the first part was a movie about the creation of gold, then we took a bus to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> part. The 2<sup>nd</sup> part was a projection of a dream story, then we went inside to watch a movie about gold licences and when people first came to Ballarat. Then the screen opened up to reveal the village that was built when people first came to Ballarat.

Then we went to the quartermasters and talked about what we were going to do the next day (and we had a cookie). After that we walked to our cabins to get ready for bed. At night everyone stayed up late and I shared my lollies around. Everyone in my cabin woke up at 6:00 and got ready for the day. Then we walked down to the Modern Café for breakfast, where we had toast. After breakfast we got into our school groups, and into costume, then we walked to our school, and met our teacher, and went for a walking tour of Sovereign Hill, and we taught a bit about it. At 10:00 am we had morning tea and went out to recess. The rubbish bin was across the road so we had to take a boy with us because they were addressed as men of danger back then. It was necessary to take a boy to protect you when you crossed the road. When we went back inside the boys had to find a fact in a book while the girls walked around with books on



their heads to practice posture and balance. Then we practiced arithmetic, reading, writing and we prayed. After that everyone met up at a playground and we had lunch, I had a vegetarian pastie. After a while, we went back to school and the girls sewed book marks while the boys learned how to turn string into rope. At 3:00 pm we got out of costume and went to meet up with everyone else. We had free time, while we were waiting for Weaslean day school to come back. There was a short show on the street, when the short show was finishing my activity group had to go on a walking mine tour (Red Hill). It was 52 steps down and 53 steps up. When that was done we did some shopping and I bought some presents for my family: I got a liquorice stick, a bag of lollies and a candle. Then we went to dinner at the Napier Hotel, where we had pasta and a jelly slices.

When we left the Napier Hotel I realised that I had lost my liquorice stick. We had a little bit of time in our cabins before we left for the pantomime about pirates and princesses. Then we had some more time in our cabins before bed. We stayed up late again eating lollies. In the morning, Ms Humphreys came in and woke everyone up by turning the light on while we were asleep. Then we packed our bags before breakfast, and went to breakfast where we had toast again. We walked to costume schools and we met the other schools to watch gold pouring. We watched someone melt, pour and harden \$300000 worth of gold. When they were pouring the gold, it looked like it was glowing! When it was finished we went gold panning and I saw gold in my pan, but I lost it! After 20 minutes we went back to the school.

Then an inspector came and tested us on our arithmetic, hand writing and spelling. Because he was Welsh, we also learned a little Welsh to please him. When he left we went outside and had scrolls for morning tea, and played 1850's games. When we came back inside we got prizes and I received a prize

for sewing! Then we got out of costume and did our final spending with any money we had left. We boarded the bus at 3.37 pm and I sat next to Amelia. We arrived home at 6.50 pm and our parents picked us up in the pouring rain.

By Emily ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~