

5/6 Excursion To Canberra

By Evie Watt

Early Monday morning on the 10th of October all of the Sacred Heart and St Francis Xavier's Year 5 and 6 students departed for our Five day Excursion at Canberra. All nine Sacred Heart students were on bus 2 with eighteen students from St Francis Xaviers and in bus 1 was all the rest of St Francis Xaviers.

15 long hours later we finally arrived in Canberra at 10:30 at night after going to Dunedoo twice with two hours in between. My room didn't get to sleep until 12:30pm!

On Tuesday we woke up early for breakfast at the Canberra Student Lodge (which was where we stayed for the four nights in Canberra). Our first activity was The Mint where we went on a tour around the factory and public viewing areas. After that we went to the National Film and Sound Archives where we watched a slideshow on media. We then had lunch at the Old Parliament House and did the Sound out of the Box facilitated program. Later that day we went to The National Museum of Australia on a guided tour and to the Limelight cinemas after dinner.

Wednesday we went up Mount Ainslie lookout and wandered the reconciliation place. We then went to Questacon and had so much fun in all the sciency rooms and even got free time to buy some fun toys and science gadgets from the Questacon Gift Shop. After lunch we went to the Parliament House and even got to roleplay as people in the house of representatives (The green room). That night we got to play at Iplay Belconnen. It was so much fun trying all the different games.

Thursday we got to go to AIS (Australian Institution of Sport) and participated in the Sportex program where we had two very nice guides showing us how the sport simulators worked. The National Art gallery was open for us to explore the Australian and international artworks. At the War Memorial we had a very nice tour guide who knew Mrs Darley very well. We went to the Botanical Gardens and the Pod Playground. We even got to swim at the Aquatic Centre.

We woke up early, ready for another long trip home on Friday (but not as long as the trip to Canberra, luckily) after having some yummy McDonalds for lunch and some more driving we arrived back in Boggabri. It was great to see my family and sleep in my own bed. I had so much fun and learnt so much in Canberra and made some great new friends!