

Year 6 Canberra Excursion 2022

Day 1

Early Monday morning on Monday 12th September, Year 6 gathered at the bus bay, loaded the bus and with a click of a camera we were on our way to Canberra! During the bus trip, we kept ourselves entertained by playing cards, quizzing each other with homemade trivia cards and blasting music through the UE Boom. After 12 long hours and a total of 4 stops at Narrabri, Coonabarabran, Wellington and Cowra, we FINALLY arrived at 5:45pm at our destination-



the Canberra Student Lodge! After allocating our rooms, we gathered in the dining hall for our first meal- beef stroganoff, flavoured rice, chicken chippies and veggies. For dessert we had hummingbird cake. Next, we went to bed... JOKES! We kept our teachers up till midnight!



Day 2

After waking up at sparrows, we had breakfast and jumped on the bus to head to our first destination- the Australian War Memorial! Here we participated in a moving, special ceremony at the tomb of the unknown soldier. We then looked at many artifacts and heard extraordinary stories of Australian soldiers during a tour of the War Memorial. We loved this place so much we could have stayed for hours! However, we boarded the bus to head to the Mount Ainslie lookout. We ate our morning tea and took fabulous photos overlooking the city of Canberra. Next, we headed to Old Parliament House where we played interactive games to consolidate our knowledge of Local, State and Federal governments and participated in a role play to learn how to vote. After gathering at a nearby park for lunch, we were bubbling with excitement as we approached the Parliament House. We had to go through security to enter the phenomenal building! In the foyer, they had a beautiful tribute to the Queen and we wrote a message of condolence to the Royal family. We were

taken to a room and given a delicious frozen yogurt while observing a grand lego model of the Parliament House. We were ushered by our tour guide into the gallery of The House of Representatives and The Senate- luckily for us we had been learning all about these chambers in our History lessons so we were able to answer all the questions correctly! We were then

moved into the halls of the Parliamentary offices to a replica room of the House of Representatives, where we split into Labour and Liberal to role play passing a bill. The bill we decided to debate was 'should every home in Australia have a water tank'. Hugh Makim acted as the Prime Minister, Clare Montgomery was the speaker and Eddie Ball was the Serjeant-at-Arms, carrying the mace. All year 6 students had the opportunity to provide arguments for the bill, or provide a rebuttal against the argument. We loved our time at the Parliament House and even though we didn't get to see Parliament in action, we still learned so much. We were so lucky to have a special delivery of Dominos pizza for dinner before heading to Questacon! Here we finally got to visit our first gift shop. We walked up the huge spiral ramp to the first exhibit which was all about space! We loved the lightning earthquake, the funny mirrors, the ooze tube, air hockey, the dry ice, the spinny globe, buzzing bees and speedball where Marley Swan threw a handball at a speed of 100km/h! After a huge day, we relaxed under the Questacon moon before making our way back to our accommodation where we fell straight to sleep!



Day 3

After a slight sleep in, we were ready for another fun-filled day of adventure. At 10am, we arrived at the Mint. We saw the coolest robots- Penny, Rob and Titan. Titan lifted \$12000 worth of 10 cent coins! Penny was an automated forklift who was able to hold two times the weight of Titan and she never stopped working! We saw where they created the medals for the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, 2018 Commonwealth Games and the Invictus Games. Again, we visited the gift store, purchasing some relic coins for our families and making our own \$1 coin! Next, we visited the Pod Playground to eat our lunch before heading off to the Canberra Zoo and Aquarium. We split into two groups and a tour guide led us to see hyenas, leopards, tassie devils and we even got to feed Moo the emu! We were due to leave the Zoo to go to the Botanical Gardens but our teachers were so nice they let us stay at the zoo for a couple more hours! We ventured down the back of the zoo to see the giraffes, zebras and rhinos, before playing at THE COOLEST adventure playground! We again visited another gift shop and walked through the aquarium. On our way home we did a bus tour of the embassies and the GIO Canberra Raiders Stadium. That night, we went to a bowling alley where we took up 8 whole lanes. The winners were Hugh Makim, Mrs Corderoy, Jackson McDowall, Steve Scholl, Indie-May Mackay, Miss Arthur, Mr McDowall and Harriet Poole. We ended the day with a soft serve ice cream from McDonalds. When we got back to our accommodation, Mr McDowall, Mrs Drogemuller and Miss Arthur did a room inspection and after 20 minutes, the lights were out!



Day 4

Bright and early, we got ready, had breakfast and journeyed to the CSIRO Discovery Centre. Here we competed in a challenge using QR codes to explore innovative science and technology concepts. At the National Art Gallery of Australia, we saw a wonderful Aboriginal Memorial 30th

anniversary exhibition and an amazing installation of 200 hollow log coffins from central Arnhem Land. Next, we went up to the Telstra Tower lookout but it was raining. Mr McDowall, Miss Arthur, Macy and Rohan left the group for a quick trip to the ED for some x-rays. The remainder of the group went to the pod playground again for lunch before heading to the National Museum of Australia. We split into two groups and were guided through the First Australians tour. Here we saw the heaviest sheep's fleece that weighed 41.1kg from a wether named 'Chris' and even saw Phar Lap's heart! We jumped back on the bus and traveled to the National Dinosaur Museum where we saw fossils and artifacts from the prehistoric ages. Any last bit of money was spent here, although no one had enough money to purchase the purple amethyst crystal worth ugh Annie the laser tag lady took points off us for running in the maze. It was such a great night to top off our wonderful excursion!



Day 5

Mrs Drogemuller and Miss Arthur woke up at 4:30am to help us get organised to get on the road. We spent the first hours napping solemnly and then ate McDonald's for breakfast at Cowra. The bus ride home was long, but lots of fun... until we hit flood water and had to make a small detour via Dubbo. At 5:30pm, we finally arrived back home in Moree to our families. A huge thank you to Mr Makim, Mr Maunder, Mr Scholl, Mr McDowall, Mrs Drogemuller, Miss Arthur, Miss Nash, Mrs Corderoy and Shirley for looking after us so well on this trip. We are so thankful for all the memories we made with our friends and teachers on our excursion to Canberra.