

Camp

By Raunak, Jake, Zach and Lorenzo

Where can I start? Camp this year was splendid. Where can we start, there was so many opportunities and camp also made us realise how we are so lucky to have the things we have.

Preparing:

Leading up to camp we started learning about the Eureka Stockade and the Gold Rush. During this time we were given a character that had something to do with the stockade. Jake was given John Basson Humffray, Lorenzo was given Raffaello Carboni and Raunak was given Major General Sir Robert Nickel. We were all given these characters to get all the information for a debate during camp. We also read a book called Esty's Gold, Esty's Gold was a book about a girl who moved to the gold fields to find fortune with her family.

Camp:

Camp was a very interesting experience and, for a last year camp, nothing could be better. On the first day we left at 7:30am and we had to get to school by 7:15. We got on the bus it was meant to be a 2 hour drive but with all the traffic for a Wednesday morning it took us 2 hours and 30 minutes. We got off at the m.a.d.e centre, M.A.D.E. stands for Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka. We got off the bus and we went into a big room that was a theatre. The M.A.D.E centre was all about the history of eureka and it was very easy to understand with all the preparation at school. Our favourite part of the M.A.D.E centre was see the Eureka flag, it was huge! I never imagined that in my wildest dreams. You could see where bits of it had been ripped and nothing like what it would of used to be, then we said how good would it be to see this flag flying in the stockade. One of the workers told us that they kept it in the dark because if they had put it in the light it would have lost it's colour and the blue would have faded and the flag out lose all its colour. From there it was

off to the art gallery. The art gallery was satisfactory we had a great time walking around seeing all the exhibitions we also got to paint a picture.

They were the main highlights of day one, but how can I forget the pantomime. The pantomime was a play at the Victoria Theatre at Sovereign Hill. The first play was about how to be a Gentleman and a Lady. That for us was the best and funniest play. That was about it for the first day, it was very tiring but it was filled with excitement and learning.

On Second day we went around in our groups to see all the shops and to just explore Sovereign Hill. We also had a lot of activities but before that we had breakfast. For breakfast we had scrambled eggs, hash browns and baked beans on toast. Then we got in our groups and went exploring. Exploring was really amusing we saw a lot of people and their families doing what we were doing exploring and we also saw horses. There was 6 so we named them all Winson, Travis, Greg, Charal, Bob but we just can't remember the last one's name.

Our favourite activity was gold panning. Together we had 23 specks, even though it's worth like 2 dollars it is really cool to have some.

At the end of Day 2 after dinner everybody went out to see Blood on the Southern Cross which was an indoor/outdoor light and sound show about the Eureka Stockade. It went pretty late but we still think it was the main highlight of the second day. Let me tell you it was a great sound and light show and I don't think the year 5/6s will be forgetting it anytime soon. A few words to describe it are amazing, frightening and exciting.

Day 3 was our last day at camp it was really depressing because we were leaving but at the same time it was very fun. Sovereign Hill was a great learning experience for all of us and we will remember this camp forever.

Curriculum

By Teacher Judith Warner

Our camp at Sovereign Hill was the culmination of 5 weeks work, which followed our Social Justice inquiry unit.

We titled the unit 'Gold' and inquired into several aspects of life on the gold fields. We started with the discovery of gold and the subsequent gold rush. We examined aspects of what life was like on the journey to Ballarat and the difficulties people encountered when they arrived.

A major feature of the Gold unit was being able to link back to the previous Social Justice Unit when talking about what life was like on the goldfields.

We included a major section about democracy and the influence of the Eureka Stockade on Australian culture.

Children were able relate classroom learning to real life as they explored Sovereign Hill. The education sessions helped children to embed this knowledge further.