3/4R CLASS NEWS

FLANDERS FIELDS
In Flanders fields where poppies grow
They lie there under poppy bows
For when they heard the war born cries
They went to war and risked their lives
We thank them now for what they've done
They saved a land, a new land began
By Arwyn Todd 3/4R

STAGE 3 CANBERRA/BALLARAT REPORT

One hundred excited students and six teachers boarded two buses at 6:30am on Sunday morning and headed off to Canberra. After an uneventful trip, we arrived at Canberra YHA in time for dinner. Telstra Tower was spectacular at night with the wonderful lightning display. It was disappointing we couldn’t get out onto the viewing platform though.

Monday morning we began our day at the Electoral Office. It was a fabulous experience where the students got to participate in a mock vote and learn how the Federal voting system works. Then it was off to Old Parliament House where we visited the Senate and other parts of the building. Back on the bus, we set off for Ballarat stopping for a Chinese meal at Seymour. Tuesday was an amazing day at Sovereign Hill. The children panned for gold (and found some!), watched lollies and candles being made, saw a gold bar being poured, toured an underground mine and learned how students used slate boards back in the gold rush times. Tuesday evening we attended the Blood on the Southern Cross show and learned all about the battle at Eureka Stockade. It was awesome!!

Wednesday morning it was off to the Museum of Democracy – Eureka where we saw the original Eureka flag. Back on the bus to Canberra with a stop in the park at Holbrook to see the submarine and have pizza and ice-cream for dinner (thanks Mrs Jones!).

Thursday was very busy. First stop New Parliament House. Here we visited both the House of Representatives and the Senate. We were treated to morning tea but unfortunately we didn’t get to meet the Hon. Barnaby Joyce M.P. our Federal member.

Next, the Mint, where we saw the robots that help move the barrels of coins and then onto the Australian War Memorial. The students would have liked more time to explore the fantastic, thought provoking displays. The National Museum was next on our itinerary. Everyone was amazed to see the size of Phar Lap’s heart.

Last stop was Questacon. This was definitely a highlight of the excursion. Earthquake houses, lightning strikes and the BIG DROP were all attention grabbers. Even Mrs Mac had a go on the big drop.

A weary but very satisfied group of students and teachers arrived back in Armidale at 7:45pm on Friday night.

I would like to sincerely thank all the teachers and Mr Woods who gave up their time to accompany the students on this very valuable excursion.

I would also like to acknowledge the assistance received from our PACER (Parliament and Civics Education Rebate). This is an initiative by the Australian Government which provides financial assistance for students in Years 4-12 across Australia to travel to Canberra. Our school will receive a $30 rebate for each student who attended the excursion. We are very grateful for this assistance.

Mrs Leonie MacGregor
Stage 3 Excursion Coordinator
Parents are reminded that our school car park is for staff parking only and should not be used as a drop off or collection point in the morning, afternoon or throughout the school day. We also ask that parents do not park in driveways of private residences around the school when dropping off or collecting children. These driveways are access points for residents of the area and they should not be used as a drop off or collection point. This is to ensure the safety of students and staff in the area. We would appreciate all parents supporting us with this matter.

I will be taking leave from Monday, 23 November until Friday, 11 December and Mrs Ridley (23/11/15 - 1/12/15) and Mrs Macgregor (2/12/15 - 11/12/15) will be relieving as Principal for the time I am away. Thank you to staff and students for their efforts this term and throughout 2015 and thank you to parents and community members for their outstanding levels of support during the year. Working with students and their families in a positive and productive manner is essential in the success of all students and we appreciate your support. Enjoy the next few weeks and look forward to seeing everyone at our Presentation Day to be held on Monday, 14 December at the Armidale High School hall.

Mr Matt Hobbs
Principal

KR CLASS NEWS

On Tuesday November 3, KR and KG went on an excursion to Thalgarrah, where we got to enjoy a Teddy Bears Picnic and also discover the secret of P.A.W.S. We had loads of fun and were exhausted by the end of the day, so we had to write about our exciting adventures the next day. Here is just a snippet of what Kindy Red wrote (sorry we couldn’t include all of our fabulous writing, but if we did, it would fill the entire Blue and White!)

Josie - My favourite is the teddy bears picnic.
Sarah - I had so much fun.
Edward - I love Thalgarrah and we went on a bus.
Phoebe - I missed Kindy Red because they were at Thalgarrah.

Violet - My favourite part was the teddy bears picnic.
Ariana - On Tuesday KR and KG went to Thalgarrah and I brought my blue teddy bear for the Teddy bears picnic.
Cooper - I like Thalgarrah.
Arlene - When I was at Thalgarrah I was exhausted.
Keira - Thalgarrah is fun because we learned about P.A.W.S.
Dezi - My favourite part was the lizzard eating moving food and I also liked the hunt too.
Zoe - I went to Thalgarrah and it was fun because I got to play.
Calum - I like Thalgarrah.
Jai - My leaf is bumpy.
Lila - My favourite thing that we did at Thalgarrah was when we got to feed the baby birds.

Enjoy the rest of the term!

Mrs Kim Kelsall and KR Students

6/6J CLASS NEWS

SCIENCE IN THE BUSH

On Friday November selected students travelled out to the University to participate in the Science in the Bush with Mr McGrath. We did all experiment with cabbages, poured vinegar, lemonade, sea water and fresh water through them, they all changed colour. We made fake wounds out of play dough, food colouring, coffee, rocks and nails. They really looked very real and disgusting. We watched a scientist use an ice rocket, it was an amazing experience.

Thank you Mr McGrath for taking us.

By Tyrone and Okuma.

BULLARAT/CANBERRA EXCURSION

The “Free Fall” was amazing at Questacon! Jake

Walking around Sovereign Hill was really good. I liked seeing all the olden days things. Alex

Spending time with friends was really enjoyable and exploring new places. Indy

I liked walking down underground into the gold mine. It was very realistic and I learnt lots of fun facts. Rose

I liked looking at all the old machinery at Sovereign Hill. Aaron C

Parliament House was very interesting and seeing where the Senate and House of Representatives and where the Prime Minister sits. Caleb R

I loved being able to gold pan and use the cradle to find flecks of gold. Montana

I liked going to the War Memorial and seeing all the historic war pieces. Coedyn

Seeing the big submarine which was in Hobbrook was my highlight. Oliver

Learning how to dye candles in the old shop at Sovereign Hill was very interesting. Alana

I liked having a go at gold panning and watching the gold bars being made. Joey.