



## YEAR 6 CANBERRA EXCURSION

**The Year 6 students recently embarked on an exciting and educational three-day excursion to Canberra**, immersing themselves in the political, historical, and cultural aspects of Australia's capital. With a combination of engaging tours, interactive exhibits, and hands-on learning, the trip provided students with a deeper understanding of the nation's heritage.

### **1. Parliament House:**

A major highlight was the visit to Parliament House, where students learned about Australia's political system and the roles of key government bodies, including the Prime Minister, the Senate, and the House of Representatives.

### **2. The Australian War Memorial:**

Students had a meaningful experience at the Australian War Memorial, reflecting on Australia's military history. The guided tour took them through the emotional exhibits, including the Roll of Honour and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, deepening their understanding of the sacrifices made by Australian soldiers in various conflicts.

### **3. National Museum of Australia:**

At the National Museum of Australia, students explored the rich cultural and historical fabric of the nation. Through dynamic exhibits, they learned about Indigenous cultures, European settlement, and the key events that shaped modern Australia. The museum's interactive displays sparked curiosity and fostered a deeper connection to Australia's history.

### **4. Museum of Australian Democracy (Old Parliament House):**

A visit to the Museum of Australian Democracy allowed students to explore the history of Australia's democratic system. Touring the former Parliament House gave students a glimpse into the workings of government and the significance of civic responsibility, including the importance of voting and participation in democracy.

#### **5. Questacon - The National Science and Technology Centre:**

Questacon offered a fun and engaging experience, where students explored hands-on science exhibits that sparked their curiosity about technology and innovation. Interactive displays and exciting demonstrations made science and technology come to life in an enjoyable way.

#### **6. Australian Institute of Sport (AIS):**

At the Australian Institute of Sport, students toured the elite training facilities that support Australia's top athletes. They learned about the dedication required to excel in sports, gaining insight into how the AIS helps young athletes reach their full potential across various disciplines.

#### **7. National Electoral Education Centre:**

The National Electoral Education Centre gave students a fascinating look at the electoral process in Australia. They learned about the history and significance of voting, how elections are conducted, and the role of the Australian Electoral Commission in ensuring fair and democratic elections. Interactive displays helped students understand the importance of their participation in the democratic process.

#### **8. Mount Ainsley Lookout:**

The trip also included a visit to Mount Ainsley Lookout, offering stunning panoramic views of Canberra. From this vantage point, students could see key landmarks like Parliament House, the War Memorial, and the city's central business district. It was a perfect opportunity to appreciate the city's thoughtful design and layout.

#### **9. Driving Tour of the Embassy and Lodge District:**

The excursion included a driving tour through Canberra's Embassy and Lodge district. Students passed by the official residences of the Prime Minister and the Governor-General, learning about the significance of these sites and the embassies of various countries, highlighting Canberra's role as the political and diplomatic hub of Australia.

#### **10. National Gallery of Australia:**

At the National Gallery, students explored Australia's vibrant art scene. They viewed significant works of art, including those from Indigenous and contemporary Australian artists, gaining an appreciation for the country's artistic heritage. The gallery's diverse collections sparked creative thinking and opened students' eyes to the world of visual arts.

This Year 6 Canberra excursion was a rich educational experience, providing students with valuable insights into Australia's history, governance, sports, culture, and art. The mix of educational activities and sightseeing left students with lasting memories and a deeper understanding of their country's heritage and democratic system.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist schools in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding to our College in the amount of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs.

We appreciate the staff who helped make this journey unforgettable for our Year 6 students.

**Ms Kylie Singles**

*Director of Operations & Wellbeing - Junior School*

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