**On Our Way**

On Friday, the 28th November, CPS was on a flight to Canberra! All the students and their families arrived at the airport and everyone took their luggage to the counter and said goodbye to their families. We followed the teachers to the departure gate and finally boarded the flight to Canberra. We finally arrived in Canberra that night and headed to our coaches. It was very cold! After 15 minutes of driving, we arrived at the Gold Creek Resort at 11pm. We were given our room keys and headed to our rooms to unpack and sleep!

Pierson, Holly & Cerys

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**National Capital Exhibition**

When we arrived at the National Capital Exhibition we were greeted by our tour guide. When we entered she took us to a theatrette where we watched a video about Canberra. In the video we learned what Canberra means in the Aboriginal language—meeting place. After the video, she took us to a little model scale of the whole of Canberra which was very interesting. We also learned how Canberra was designed as part of a competition in the early 1900’s.

Tyler, Carman, Tammy & Erin

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**Royal Australian Mint**

On the 29th November, we went to the Royal Australian Mint where we saw lots of cool coins. When we first arrived we gathered in the theatrette and learned about the mint and how coins are made. After that we enjoyed looking at the exhibits. We were lucky enough to see the machinery used to make real coins. Many people spent $3 to make an uncirculated coin to keep.

Henry & Keerthan

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**Cockington Green**

On Sunday the 30th, we went to Cockington Green which is famous for its miniature models. These models were made of fibre glass and are made to look like famous buildings and artefacts. They each had little clay figurines around them. Some of the funniest things to find were: Where’s Wally, Freddy Krueger and even some streakers. It was amazing to be there and the gift shop was great!

Serena and Paris

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**AMF Bowling**

On our second night in Canberra we went to AMF Bowling. We separated into teams of 5 or 6 and competed against each other. This activity was very fun and tested our bowling skills—although some teams tried to put up the rails! Everyone really enjoyed it and had a fabulous time.

Kiara & Maia
**Australian Institute of Sport**

On Sunday the 30th November, we went to the Australian Institute of Sport. Three words to describe it - fun, amazing and exciting! We started off with a tour by two athletes. They showed us the gym, pool, gymnastics room and volleyball centre. We were lucky enough to watch an active volleyball game. In the gym, we were told about a girl who climbed the gymnastics rope while doing the splits, touched the roof and came back down in 9 seconds!

Riley & Reece

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**Telstra Tower**

On Sunday afternoon, we arrived at the Telstra Tower which looks over Canberra. We could see all the museums, Parliament House and Anzac Parade. It was very windy on the viewing platform but it was an amazing sight. We were apparently walking up the stairs (that’s what our teachers told us) but we ended up taking the lift. We went on the top part of the tower!

Elijah & Baylee

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**National Portrait Gallery**

The Portrait Gallery was an inspiration to see. Some of the artwork was very realistic while others were very abstract. We were taken around by Miss Gibson and she used the iPad to tell us about the portraits. We saw former Prime Ministers, war heroes and many more.

Chandler & Mitchell

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**National Archives**

On the 30th November, we went to the National Archives of Australia. Here we learned a lot about Australia’s history and famous documents, such as the first constitution ever written. We were lucky enough to see the desk of the first PM Edmund Barton. After that we went to explore the ancient archives; which included objects such as Harold Holt’s briefcase and Princess Diana’s condolence book.

Shahin, Ethan & Kelvin

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**Quiz Night**

On Sunday night at 8pm, we enjoyed a Quiz night in the dining room at Gold Creek Resort. We had to get into groups of six and find a table to sit at. We participated in 10 rounds, including one music round. Some of the categories for the questions were: riddles, Canberra, movies and geography. The winners received a mini trophy, a chocolate, a glow stick and some crazy glasses. No matter whether we came first or last, we all enjoyed the night.

Olivia & Alana
National Film and Sound Archive

On Monday the 1st of December, we visited the National Film and Sound Archives. We sat in a theatre and learnt about old films. We watched the second film ever made in Australia, which was of the Melbourne Cup. It was very interesting to see as it was in black and white, it was glitchy and had no sound. The National Film and Sound Archive collects films like that to show the public. It was cool to see the different films progress over the years to colourful, bright ones. We went into an interactive area where we tried to make an old film run smoothly by spinning the tape. It’s interesting to know that one second of film requires 24 scenes of tape! Overall, the National Film and Sound Archive was very interesting and an enjoyable experience to learn about old films and how they worked many years ago.

By Lyrah and Chantelle

Government House

On Monday, we went to Government House where we learnt about the Governor General and his job. The main thing we learnt about was what the house is used for. One of the things that we learnt was that the Governor General lives in Government House. Everyone thought that the Rolls Royce Phantom VI was awesome. This is the vehicle the Governor General travels in on special occasions, sometimes with other very important people such as the Queen.

By Austen and Ryan

National Gallery

On Monday we visited the National Gallery. We split into groups and each got a tour guide. Everyone collected a fold out stool and explored the gallery. Some of the art work that we saw was Claude Monet's Water Lilies, which we had learnt about in art class. We also saw a splatter painting that looked like it had been thrown together quickly. It actually took about a year to paint. It showed depth and really made you think about layering and warm and cool colours. Everyone was participating and raising their hands when they had something to share. It brought out peoples artistic side and was a very interesting day. A highlight of the National Gallery for most of us was the sculptures because you could really feel and relate to some of them. Overall it was an educational but fun way to spend our afternoon.

By Brielle

Royal Australian Mint

On our third day in Canberra we all went to the Royal Australian Mint. The Royal Australian Mint is where people make the coins for Australia. We learnt how they press the coin to put the pictures of an animal and the Queen on them. We got to see one of the biggest Australian coins ever made in Canberra. Lastly, we went to the gift shop and we saw one of the most expensive coin collections, with some coins costing more the $1900. Lots of students paid to press their own coin in the machine at the shop.

By Ebony and Tahlia

High Court

When we visited the High Court we met Murray. He explained to us all about the High Court, like what happens there and why it happens. He also explained why the states are in a particular order on a huge embroidery. They are ordered based on population, therefore NSW was first. I think WA was fourth.

Then we moved on to the Court of Appeal. Our new guide Cecil told us about the court room. He told us that the barristers only have a certain amount of time to talk.

By Julian

Museum of Democracy

In the Museum of Democracy, we had to wear white gloves so the oil on our fingers didn’t go onto anything we touched. We went into a room where there were lots of touch screens. We formed small groups and were given a card. We scanned this card on the computers which gave us things to investigate then moved us onto another area. It was really fun and exciting.

The museum is actually the old Parliament House. We sat where many of our earlier politicians had sat before.

By Brooke

Electoral Education Centre

When we all went to the Electoral Education Centre, we learnt about how voting happened in Australia and we watched a movie. We did many different activities. One involved us searching up a family member to see what area they vote in. Many of us have family that vote for a member of Tangney. We then went into a room where we could vote for our favourite fruit. We learnt how everyone has a say, even if your first selection is not chosen. We then left for pizza in the park.

By Matthew and Sophie
The Australian War Memorial

On Wednesday we went to the National War Memorial. We looked at many different things. We looked at the uniforms soldiers wore, looked at paintings, watched videos and studied many artefacts. Our favourite part was the Roll of Honour because we could see all the names of the people that fought for our country, and some of us found the names of people in our families.

By Claudia and Tahlia

ANZAC Parade

The ANZAC Parade walk was a fun and interactive way to learn about war. Each monument symbolised all of the soldiers that gave up their lives for us. Each of the statues had an amazing story behind it, we really enjoyed learning about the war.

By Mariah and Kiarna

The National Library and National Dinosaur Museum

During our one week stay in Canberra we visited the National Library, where the people who worked there collected many forms of information to keep them preserved. There are over one million documents that are kept in the library. They even had to make more underground levels as there were too many books! A tour guide showed us around the building, and scared us at one point by telling us a ghost story. Our favourite part of the night was meeting Charlie, a machine guided by Wi-Fi that the librarians used to transport books. Another place we visited was the National Dinosaur Museum. The people who work there find and collect many parts of dinosaurs. In the building there were lots of different floors that contained different dinosaurs and information about them.

By Gary and Shane

Sydney, Taronga zoo and Heading Home!

We woke up in the morning to put our luggage in the coaches at 6am. We then had a nice breakfast before we went on our journey to Sydney. On the way, we watched “Mr Poppers Penguins”, which kept us entertained most of the way. The journey was really long so we also watched “How to Train Your Dragon 2” after our toilet break. We finally made it to Sydney where we saw the Opera House as we were driving across Sydney to Taronga Zoo. The view on the bridge was amazing because you could see the whole landscape of Sydney. It looked like many beautiful buildings clustered together. We made it to Taronga Zoo where we explored many animals throughout the zoo. The zoo was very humid since there were many trees to make the humidity high. After the zoo, we saw the H.M.S Canberra battleship waiting for orders.

Adam P. & D’Abrande N.

After the zoo, we were all very hot and sticky. Ten minutes after we got on the bus, we stopped to take a group photo in front of a lake. Behind the lake was the house that the Governor-General lived in when he was in Sydney. After that, we drove straight to the airport where we were given food for the plane. It was time to go home! While we were waiting to board the plane, we were busily reflecting on all the memorable moments from Canberra. Once we reached Perth, we were all exhausted and tired- definitely ready for bed! We all had such an amazing trip with many new memories built.

Tahlia L. & Lavinski P.