The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist parents in meeting the cost of this excursion the Australian Government contributes funding of $260 per eligible student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebutal, paid to the school upon conclusion of the excursion. Thank you.

**Departing Perth and Arriving Canberra**

We first arrived to the airport and excitement filled the room. We collected our lanyards and boarding passes and checked in. After that we waited for about half an hour before we got on the plane. When we got on the plane we were all excited. We had our own TVs and ipads to watch, play and listen to. The flight went for 3-4 hours but we stopped in Melbourne. The ride from Canberra to Melbourne went for 1 hour. The ride to Golden creek was about half an hour and when we arrived we got into our rooms and then had to go straight to the AIS.

By Felicity

**Australian Institute of Sport**

The very first place we went to in Canberra was the Australian Institute of Sport. We had a tour around the whole building and our tour guide took part in the sport Archery. We went in the Gymnastics room and saw the gymnasts train for the championships. We also saw the volleyball, swimming and a normal gym room. Lastly we went into a free play room for schools and the gift shop. It was fun.

By Zoe

**Black Mountain**

Black Mountain was a really nice lookout point. It is a tower and from it you could see the trees, Parliament House and the sky looked a baby blue colour with not many clouds. It was really cold and I felt sick going up so high. Luckily, we didn't have to take the stairs.

By Nathalie

**Dinner in the Hotel**

On the first night at Gold Creek Hotel we had Hamburger. They were really tasty. I liked dinner time the most because we got to pick what we wanted in our own burgers. Our drinks were cordial which tasted like corn syrup mixed with water. It was disgusting! Overall though dinner was Ok.

By Jonathan

**CSIRO**

On the Friday afternoon we went to the CSIRO. There was a lady that talked to us about what we were going to do on our visit. We watched a movie on what the CSIRO is all about. We got to play with turtles and one walked over Mrs K's foot! Then we got to have some free time in groups in the hands on lab. We got to wear lab coats and create a DNA sample.

By Erin R
National Capital Exhibition

On Saturday morning we all visited the National Capital Exhibition Centre. In the theatrette we watched a video about how Canberra came to be. Did you know that a competition was held to decide the design for the city? Then we went to the large model of Canberra, with lights and a verbal presentation from our guide. We completed an activity about the location of the capital city which was a puzzle. Then we had free time to look at the displays. We saw Walter Burley-Griffins journal, the Victorian Federation Log Book and found out that Canberra could have been called Sydmeladperbrisho - a combination of each State Capital. It was a great activity.

By Chris, Jack K & Jake

Embassy Drive Through

On Saturday afternoon we went on a drive through all the Embassies in Canberra. We saw Embassy's for Indonesia, New Zealand, Turkey and plenty of others. The USA had the biggest one of them all. Because it is an important one it had guards, cameras and spikes. We think everyone liked it the best. The land that each Embassy is on belongs to that country! Greece’s Embassy is not in use because they are in debt.

By Tana, Luke & Liam N

Questacon

At Questacon we got to learn about Science! There was an area on 'Natural Disasters' where we learnt about earthquakes and got to experience a 4-5 earthquake on the Richter Scale in a shaking house. We also got to experience, with our own eyes, lightning up close and see how a tornado starts.

Questacon provided lots of fun activities about geoscience, magnetic pulses, pressure and much, much more. The last thing we went to do was a room where we got to do fun activities like air hockey and experience free fall.

By Tayijana & Vanessa

AMF Bowling

Saturday night, after dinner, we went to AMF Bowling and played one match. The winners were Ben Saunders and Mr Ingeronole with a tie. They both scored 101! When we were finished we got on the coach and had a loud singing party.

By Tyler, Jayden K & Curtis

Cockington Green

Cockington Green was a beautiful miniature village and garden. All the miniature houses and buildings were extremely detailed. They also had things like golf courses, international buildings such as the Taj Mahal, boats, ships and soccer stadiums. There were also hidden surprises such as Wally, a streeker, a pet dinosaur and a man giving CPR!

By Savannah, Tamryn & Bella

Quiz Night

Sunday night we all got prepared for the Quiz night! One person from each room would go to Mrs Coslani’s room to collect the quiz papers. The quiz was held in our dorms, with the people we bunked with. There were five different rounds. They were: Campbell, Sport, TV, Miscellaneous and Logos. The overall winners were a boys room - room 57!

By Ceinwen, Tahlia & Olivia

Bike Riding

Late Sunday afternoon we went bike riding. We had to stay in a single file line, keeping our distance one metre from the person in front of us. We had to stick to the left so other riders and walkers could pass. We went up and down hills trying not to slip. A couple of people fell off but did not get hurt.

By Liam H, Justin, Nathan
National Film and Sound Archives
The National Film and Sound Archives is a museum where people go to learn about the history of films, as well as how films are made today. They give tours and presentations. We liked learning about how films used to be made, how they preserve them and how long video cameras have been around for.

By Luci and Niall

Museum of Australian Democracy
The Museum of Australian Democracy is a museum that has been set up in the old Parliament house. We did some role playing there to get the experience on what would normally happen there. It was interesting to learn about the history of democracy, we liked the tours we had around this older Parliament House.

By Andreas and Max

Electoral Education Centre
After breakfast on Tuesday, we headed off to the Electoral Education Centre. We first went into a dark room with two mannequin heads on a wall. This room taught us a bit about the history of voting. Then, we went into another room where we further explored elections—we even got to find our family names in the electoral roll! The last place was the voting room where we voted for different types of fruit. It was interesting and fun to experience what it is like to be a part of voting. By Daniel and Dylan

Dinosaur Museum
At the Dinosaur Museum, we were led upstairs to see the exhibition of dinosaurs. There were many dinosaurs and fossils. We got to see a giant frog that was about the size of a crocodile! We had the opportunity to see various types of dinosaurs such as the Brontosaurus, spinosaurus and various types of gliding dinosaurs. We were then led downstairs to see Tiny, the massive mammoth with huge tasks. It was exciting to see these giant creatures and how they used to live.
- Wei Liang, Harry, Liam C.

National Library of Australia
This is the place where they store some of the oldest books and documents. At the library, there were students quietly studying. We were lucky enough to be lead under the library for a tour. There was an air pressure tube that sends messages to designated areas within the library and we were able to see this in action. When we reached a dark room, we were surprised with a scare; we are pretty sure the screams echoed throughout the whole library! At the end of the tour, we saw lots of paintings and some pages of Captain Cook’s diary which were all kept in a special room. We also got to see some of his furniture. It was an interesting and exciting tour of the library. By Ayyia and Laura

Government House
Government house is where the Governor General lives. At Government House they showed us badges of remembrance, the highest of these being the Victoria Cross. We liked how it was laid out, most of all the huge jewellery box and the furniture. The chandeliers were amazing, the garden was really big and a huge tree was all straight and not leaning. They also had a private tennis court. This house was built from an ordinary house into a mansion.

By Courtney and Kayler

National Gallery
The National Gallery is a cultural gallery of Australia. At the National Gallery they collect sculptures and paintings from many different cultures, we liked the Buddha sculptures the most, and also one particular painting of a bright suburban house. By Kush and Jack

High Court
On Monday the 22nd of September we visited the High Court of Australia, and we learned how this court was used. There were two courts, the High Court and a second one. At the courts there was a seat for the judge who controls the court and listens to the people there. Our guide told us how the court is used and long and dramatic it can be there. The High Court was much larger than the second court, but is used much less often. I enjoyed looking at this building and learning about how the court is used. By Dulith

Royal Australian Mint
When we got to the Mint, we were amazed to see that inside the entry staircase, there was approximately $750,000 worth of $5 coins and blanks. Once we got up the stairs, we learnt all about coins and the history behind them. We were lucky enough to see one of the robots, Titan, in action, lifting barrels of blanks. We were all very excited to go to the gift shop at the end of the tour.
- Daniel and Dylan

Parliament House
This day was one of the most exciting days for all of us. At Parliament House, we got to see both houses of Parliament- House of Representatives and Senate. In the House of Representatives, we were lucky enough to see our current Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, during question time. It was interesting to hear the conversations from the viewing room, and it was certainly getting noisy!

After questioning time, we were given a small tour around the building, looking at portraits of our past Prime Ministers. We were then lead into a room which was set out like the Houses of Parliament and we got to act out a debate. One group debated that school hours should increase, whilst another group argued that students should definitely have three hours of sport time a week. Some of us had the opportunity to dress up as leaders of parliament. It was an exciting time!

During our afternoon tea time, we were lucky enough to have a member from the Senate speak to us. He had to rush off as the light was blinking on the clock for him to race back.

By Emma and Emily
ANZAC Parade
On Wednesday the 25th of September, we went to the ANZAC Parade. While walking around, we got to see lots and lots of statues that represented different countries. At each architecture, there were minuscule glossaries explaining what each of them meant and/or represented.

By Brooke and Yanet

Australian War Memorial
The Year 6 Canberra students visited the Australian War Memorial. Throughout the tour, we learned about the past wars and the people who fought in them. We got to watch two exciting films and we also found some of our relatives from the World Wars. Some groups got to walk through a real war trench where soldiers would take cover. The word of the day was "remember". R.I.P to those who died in war for us.

By Alice and Kya

GEOSCIENCE
There were many crystals and rocks in the centre. We were allowed to touch some of the rocks, which were millions of years old. They were shiny, sparkly and rough. Every time a class visited, the people who worked there would pour a cup of sand into the tubes to represent a guest book. Then we had to do a sheet where we had to answer some questions. We then jumped up and down to create a mini earthquake and Group 1 beat Group 2.

By Aaliyah and Chloe

National Museum
On Wednesday the 25th September, we went to the National Museum. We saw a lot of cool paintings and statues. The lady there told us about a collection of paintings which were about Ned Kelly. The story she told us was pretty scary, sad and heroic.

By Rishi

Australian Library
After Dinner we went to the National Library of Australia. We learnt that before the building was constructed, the books were stored in three different locations; a farm, a morgue and a train station. We learnt that they have a 7 storey library and a lot of warehouses full of books. There were robots that move without anybody, kind of like iRobot Roomba.

By Jayden and Ben

Sightseeing in Sydney
Sightseeing was very interesting. The bus drove us everywhere; such as the Sydney Swans home ground, the V8 Supercars track and we even drove across the Sydney Harbour Bridge and to the Sydney Opera House.

By Jay and Jack

Driving to Sydney
We checked out of the hotel around 8.45am (after breakfast) on Thursday the 26th September. We then got ready and headed downstairs with our stuff. Rob, our couch driver, put our bags in the coach and then we got on for the long 3 and a half hour drive. Once we got into our seats, Mrs Coslati came to give us some Mentos treats. During the drive, some people slept or watched the movies that were put on for the trip. The first movie was Honey, before we stopped at a petrol station for a toilet break and some fresh air. We then watched some Bugs Bunny before arriving in Sydney and doing some sightseeing. When we arrived at Taronga Zoo, it was pouring with rain.

By Victor and Samuel

Taronga Zoo
We arrived at Taronga Zoo and it was so cold and it was also raining. We had to run across the slippery concrete to get to the entry. For lunch we had a sandwich, chips and an apple. Once everybody finished, we split into groups to see the animals. We saw so many wonderful creatures. One of the funniest moments was when we saw mountain goats pooping! After that we went and saw the amazing seals, where the seals did amazing tricks. It was an amazing moment in Canberra.

By Aiyana and Emma

Camp comes to an end!
Today was the day when nearly everyone was excited to leave to see their family, but it was sad to leave Canberra to go back to Perth.

At the airport, when we were about to board the plane to go home, everyone was tired and hungry and the teachers were kind enough to give us heaps of food. We all enjoyed Canberra!

By Lachlan Washington