

# SOTA *Speak*

School of the Air Newsletter



July 2024 Term 2



## Message from the Head of Campus

I'm writing this newsletter before camp commences, so I hope by the time it is published, we are all in good health and spirits.

Another semester is completed. Over the past six months, we have worked through various challenges together, including technical issues with new platforms like Teams and OneNote and adjusting to a busier timetable. These challenges have strengthened our communication and partnership – showing up and supporting each other because we know we are in the SOTA ship together.

A former SOTA parent recently shared that she has never experienced a school community with such a strong sense of belonging as SOTA, and her children still speak fondly of it. I'm glad I, too, have fond memories of SOTA to cherish. One of the highlights is witnessing the growth in our students. In this issue, I'll share my joy in observing the progress of our Year 7 students.

I'll begin with Micah, whom I first met at Arbury Park camp on my first day at work. He was reserved and clung to his mum's leg. Over the past four years, he's grown into a confident and cheeky young man, well-liked by his peers and teachers. He is driven to improve and has made significant personal and academic progress, often working past 3pm to complete his schoolwork. As a Student Council leader, Micah brings enthusiasm and valuable contributions to discussion. His playful nature keeps me on my toes!

Next, President Cody. From the beginning, Cody was an easy-going and unassuming student. Never one to seek attention, Cody has shown tremendous leadership growth as President of the Student Council. He is inclusive, encouraging, and respectful of different opinions. He balances getting things done with a sense of humour, making him both respected and approachable.

Then there's Lily, known for athletic prowess, consistently winning champion girl at Sports Day. Over the years, she has developed confidence and independence, taking full responsibility for her learning. She actively engages with her teachers and participates in state-wide events such as Indigenous STEM Challenge and SAPSASA sports. Beneath her academic focus lies a cheerful and adventurous spirit, ready for the next challenge!

Last but not least, Lucy, whose willingness to serve and give without expecting anything in return is endearing. Her delightful mix of humility, curiosity, shyness and enthusiasm has matured, now more independent and driven. Lucy has developed a strong work ethic, consistently working hard on her schoolwork, often past 3pm without a whimper. Vice-President of Student Council, Lucy commits quietly to community causes, embodying the spirit of giving without seeking praise.

Thank you for giving me such fond memories of the school. I congratulate Lucy, Lily, Cody and Micah on their growth and accomplishments, and thank the SOTA village for supporting and guiding them. Your continued support and dedication to our community is uplifting.

Happy holidays.

Best wishes  
Lai Kuan Lim



## EVENTS

Camp: **1 July- 5 July**  
 Last day of term 2: **5 July**  
 First day of term 3: **22 July**  
 School Closure day: **6 September**  
 Pupil Free Day: **19 September**

Mini Schools: **23 -26 September**  
 Last day of term 3: **27 September**  
 First day of term 4: **14 October**  
 Get Together: **6-7 December**

## OPFA and SOTA CGC

**OPFA/CGC upcoming meeting dates**  
**All meetings at 3:30pm**

OPFA: Week 3 (T3) Wednesday 7 August

CGC: Week 4 (T3) Wednesday 14 August

As we come to the end of term 2, the countdown is on to one of the big highlights of the year, SOTA's camp. Hopefully the weather stays nice, and the rain stays away. There is an action packed week planned for the kids, plenty of places for the Mum's to visit, ensuites in each room again, and linen supplied so more room in the car for plants and shopping. A huge thank you to those who support fundraisers, organise grants, and get donations, this has allowed OPFA to make this a free camp for all families.

Just another reminder - both Petie and Leah are stepping down from their roles as chairperson of OPFA and CGC this year so please start thinking about taking on a position on the committees. If you want any information please ask one of us. Healthy committees make for a healthy school.

Cheers

Leah – OPFA Chairperson  
 Petie – CGC Chairperson

## REVISE

I'm writing this report a very long way from Port Augusta and SOTA, the other side of the world actually! I have just spent two weeks in Switzerland riding around on trains and looking at mountains. Now I am in Turin in northern Italy where my daughter and her family are living at present. Amazing adventures. And with me I have an amazing travel companion.

Last Christmas Lai Kuan took Ronald to Singapore, now Min is with me. Ronald and Min were both made by George at The Peake. Min belongs to Miss Megan, who has allowed her to come with me. Min is having a great time- eating Lindt chocolates, looking at the Matterhorn and eating gelato ( she likes frugola best!) We seem to spend a lot of time eating delicious food.

I see rain has finally made it to South Australia. I hope it has come to those of you who need it.

As well as providing families with support while on the station, REVISE can do the same if there is a need while you are in Adelaide. The library at Open Access College has allowed us to work there with the students. Great fun being involved in the Wednesday library session.

If you would like some support from REVISE either contact me directly, or through Lai Kuan at SOTA. I can be contacted by email ladygewing@gmail.com or by phone 0408897818 Hope to see you all at camp.

Cheers, Georgy Ewing REVISE Manager



## Term 2 Week 4

### Miss Stringer:

Roy for being persistent, resilient and willing to take on extra learning while working hard to complete every task to such a high standard. For taking on all literacy feedback and writing the most amazing detailed narratives. Well done Roy.

### Ms Mel:

Clem for his Math mastery of 2D & 3D shapes and his growing independence in Mental Maths.

### Miss Kaur:

Jayden for using his growth mindset to solve challenging Math problems and asking questions to better understand a task.

### Miss Morley:

Anakin for dedication to his IXL maths, having mastered over 20 skills in the last two weeks and seeking feedback on how to improve even further.

### Lai Kuan:

Emmett for being an active reader and the first SOTA student to complete the Premier's Reading Challenge in 2024. Well done, Emmett!

### Mr Moyne:

Timmy for showing commitment to his reading and challenging himself in accurately reading a new unseen book. Keep up the good work Timmy!

### Miss Megan:

Simba for always trying to do his best and for applying himself so well when we read through Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, during my Itinerant visit.

## Term 2 Week 6

### Miss Stringer:

Eli for willingly beginning tasks across all learning areas and showing responsibility to begin to work independently. He is always a kind and caring classmate. We love his enthusiastic and cheerful attitude! Keep up the great work, Eli.

### Ms Mel:

Lisma for her outstanding reading this term! She has been borrowing and reading a huge amount of books, keep it up Lisma!

### Miss Kaur:

Annastasia for actively practising the assigned multiplication tables every week and applying that knowledge in her Mathematics learning.

### Miss Morley:

PJ for dedication to his work, particularly his effort in completing assessments while in a busy classroom away from home.

### Lai Kuan:

Jayden for overcoming the challenges of learning fractions and achieving outstanding results, you've shown incredible strength. Keep it up. Jayden!

### Mr Moyne:

Tyrell for putting in 100% effort all week practising reading, maths, handwriting and beating Mr Moyne in hockey! Keep going, Tyrell!

### Miss Megan:

Beau for putting great effort into answering questions in his Health follow-up tasks with thoughtful consideration and independent writing.



## Term 2 Week 8

### Miss Stringer:

Cameron for being respectful and showing great listening and responsible behaviour to be on task and complete more follow up activities.

### Ms Mel:

Alex - All Rounder Award for her active participation during lessons, excellent effort in follow-up tasks and thoughtful conversations with her classmates in breakout rooms.

### Miss Kaur:

Laswon for using his growth mindset to solve challenging fraction and decimal problems and motivating others classmates to keep trying their best.

### Miss Morley:

Lucy for dedication to her maths learning even while away on holidays. Congratulations for mastering over 50 skills on IXL this term!

### Lai Kuan:

Belle - on behalf of DES for working hard at fundraising to purchase two sets of decodables that cost over \$2000 to help SOTA students. Thank you so much, DES!

### Mr Moyne:

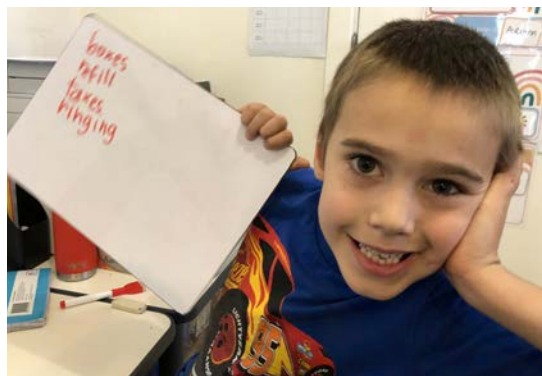
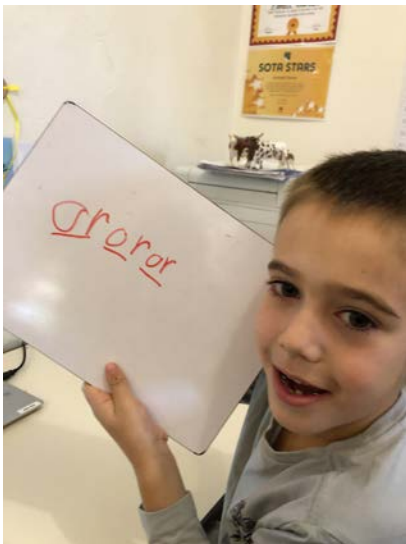
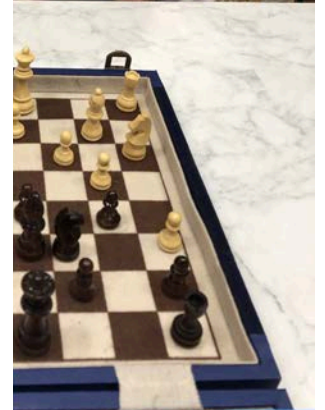
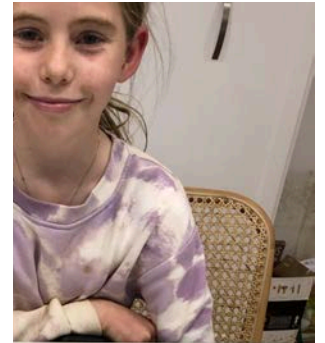
Magenta for putting in 100% effort into all Health and Physical Education tasks and for taking initiative to seek help when needed.

### Miss Megan:

This semester Charlotte has consistently finished her work to a high standard and work independently. Well Done!



## Miss Megan's Home Visits







This has been such a wonderful term.

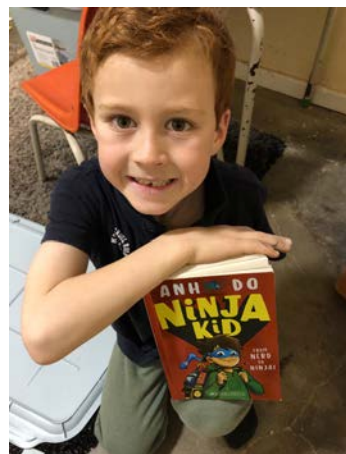
As you can see by the photographs, our students have been growing as learners and having fun along the journey. I have felt so welcomed into home after home with back to back visits.

I have done my best to help in the schoolrooms and it's been a real joy to play with the students when the work has all been done.

What a life I am leading!

Thanks everyone.

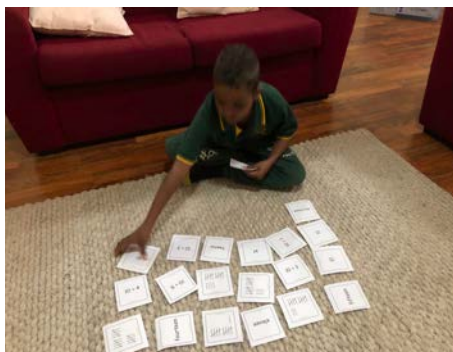
Miss Megan



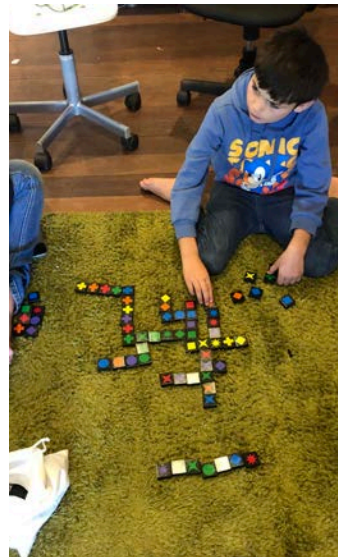


## Mr Moyne's Itinerant Visits

Term 2 has been filled with lots of great learning, both within and outside the schoolroom. Students have enjoyed the many games of cricket, volleyball, hockey, tennis and other Physical Education Games. They have also developed in their understanding of technology through experimentation with the SOTA robotics equipment. It has been a pleasure working alongside supervisors sharing in the process of achieving the best possible outcomes for all our students. See you all in a visit again soon.





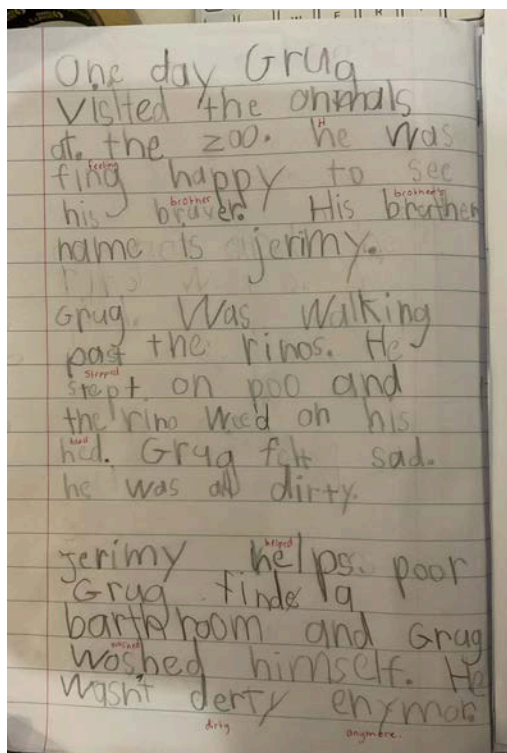




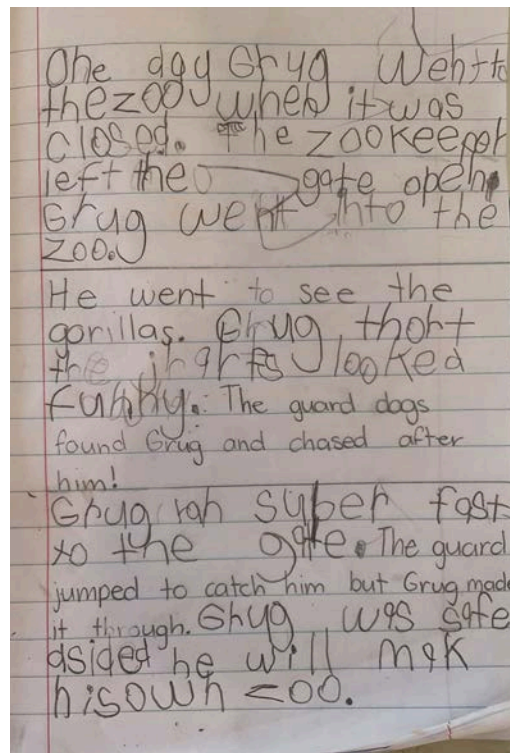
## Miss Stringer - Reception / Year 1

In **Literacy**, students have been writing narratives following the beginning, middle and end structure. Students had to make sure they included a setting and characters, a complication and a resolution. We explored narratives in stories, videos and images and made great attempts at writing our own. We even did a fun narrative swap and got to complete other students' narratives then send back to them.

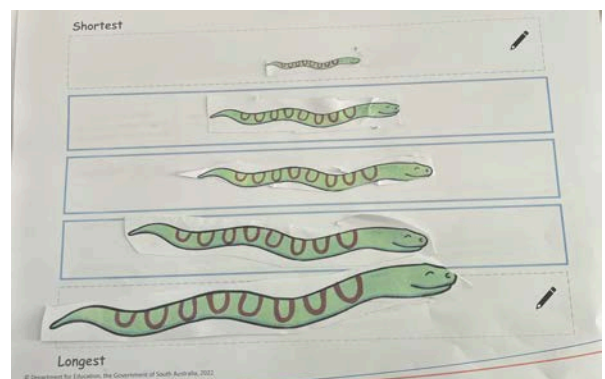
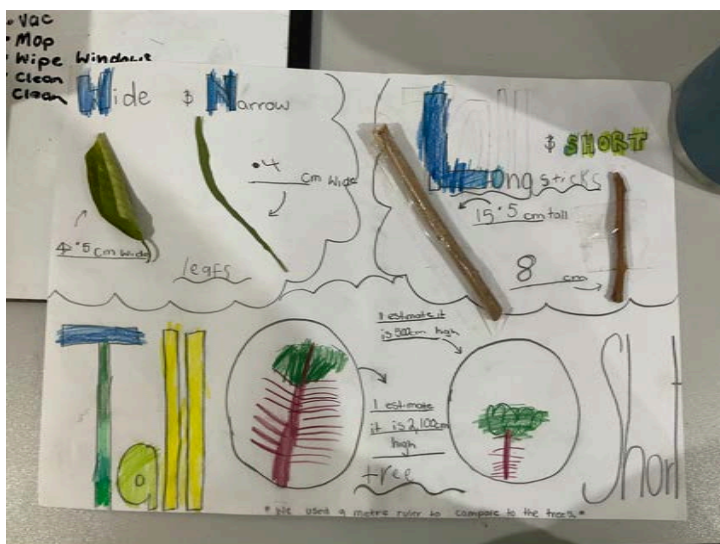
### Emmett



### Eli



In **Maths**, we learned about measurement. We learned that there are 4 areas of measurement, mass, capacity, length and duration. We learned different vocabulary terms and compared, measured and ordered for each area.

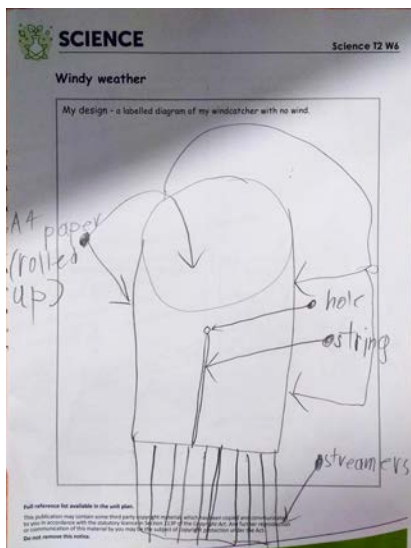


### Cameron

### Beau

In **Science** and **HASS/Design and Technology** we learned about the weather and seasons and the effect that the weather has on our every day decisions. We learned about meteorologists and how to read a forecast. We made wind catchers to observe the wind and looked at weather symbols, temperatures and weather patterns. We used our senses to experience the 4 seasons and created art pieces for each season.

## Simba



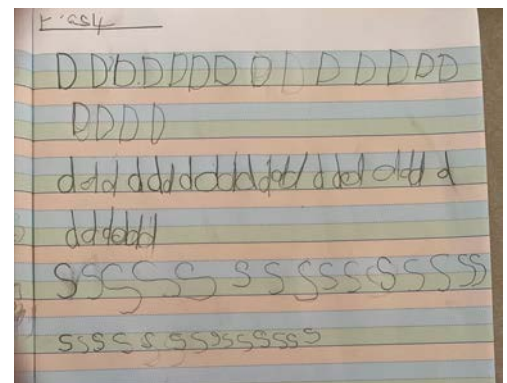
Edward



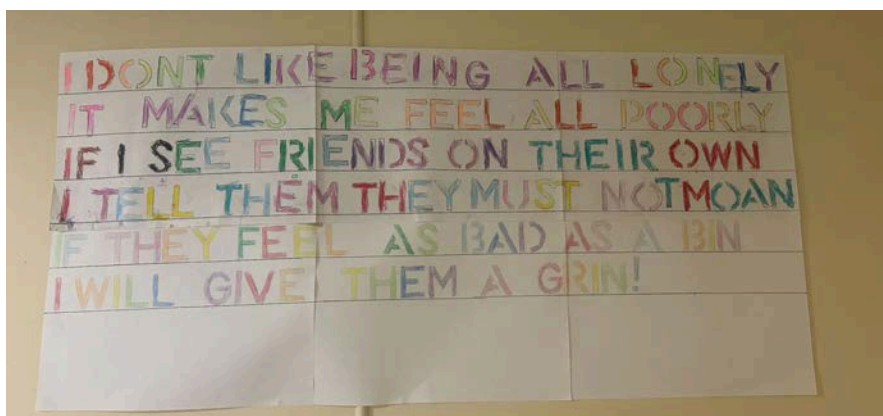
Remy



Lenny



Thomas  
- Handwriting

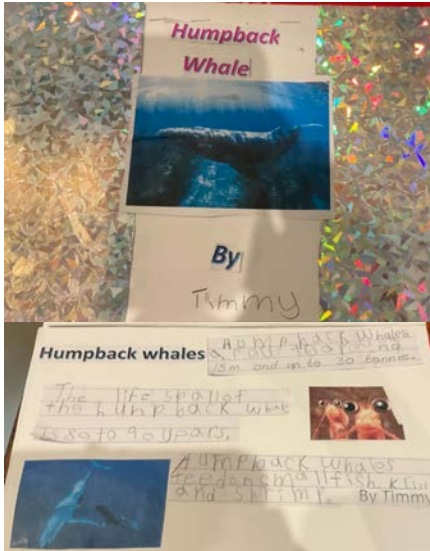


Roy - HPE

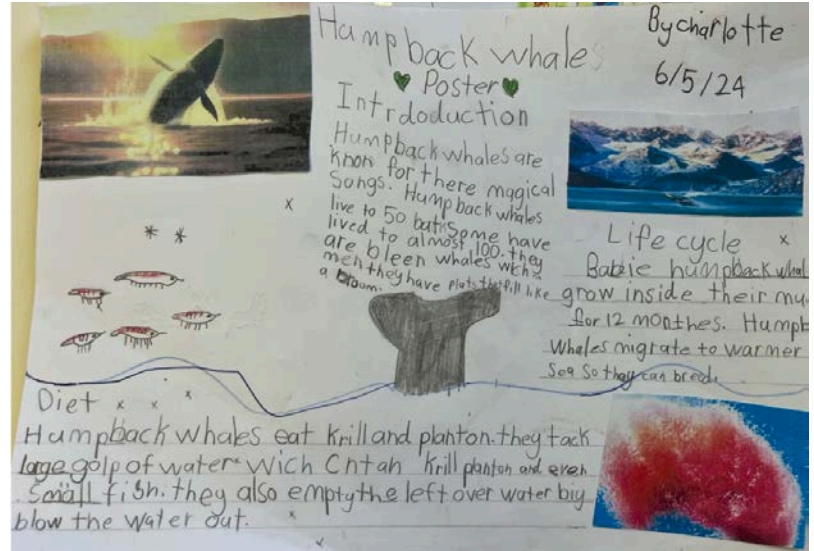


## Ms Mel's - Year 2/3

In **English**, we have been learning about the writing process. We have researched different Antarctic animals and produced informative reports.



Timmy



Charlotte



Honey-May

Dan



### Emperor Penguins

#### Introduction and Classification:

Emperor Penguins are big birds that are meant for Antarctica which is the coldest place in the world. They huddle together to keep warm.

#### Appearance:

Emperor Penguins are the largest type of penguins. They can grow up to 1.3m tall and weigh around 40 kilograms. They have flipper like wings and webbed feet to help them swim fast. Emperor Penguins have a thick layer of feathers and fat to keep warm. They have a yellow patch on their necks and they also have a black back and a white front which helps them to camouflage when they are swimming in the water.

#### Diet and Behavior:

Penguins have long beaks and spiky tongues, which helps them to catch and eat fish while they are swimming. They also eat krill and squid. Emperor Penguins can stay under water for around

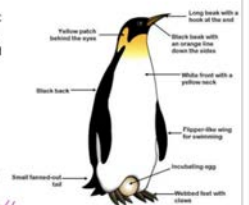
twenty minutes and can dive very deep which helps them to catch their food.

#### Breeding:

The female penguin lays an egg and carefully passes it to the male and leaves to go hunting. The male holds the egg on its feet in his brood pouch until it hatches. When the female returns, she looks after the baby and the dad can finally go and eat.

#### Threats and Conclusion:

Emperor Penguins are very cool animals, but they are threatened by Crab Eater Seals, Killer Whales and Leopard Seals. Their biggest threat is the ice melting and scientist think that their numbers will drop even more. Hopefully we can find a way to help and protect them.



Clem





Lilly

### Emperor Penguins

Because of its cold temperature they huddle in a tight group moving around to let the penguins on the outside be warm by being them in the middle.



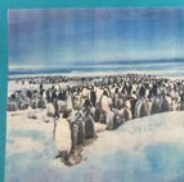
Adult Emperor penguins are black and white with parts of orange on their head and chest. As they get older, their feathers become less fluffy and turn into a more waterproof layer.

The main food they eat are fish, squid and Krill.

Emperor penguins are the largest species of all penguins and they are the least common Arctic penguin. They have 2 layers of feathers and a large amount of fat to keep them warm in their environment.

They are between 27 and 116cm making them the tallest and heaviest of penguins. They can swim up to 4kms and are the best divers in the world.

They live in Antarctica on pack ice. There are around 253,000 and 278,500 (Two hundred and sixty five thousand to two hundred seventy eight thousand and five hundred) breeding pairs.

### PENGUINS

TYRELL

**Tyrell**







### CLONBETTER SEALS

CLASHN  
they are mamb  
so that they can give birth  
to like this. they can also  
live up to 20 years old  
and are very smart  
and are not afraid  
of anything.

They have two friends  
and they are very  
good friends and they  
are very smart and they  
are not afraid of anything.



Lisma

### Humpback Whales

**Alex**

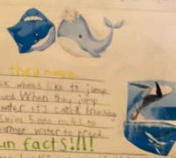
**Why they eat**  
Humpback whales eat krill, small fish, and squid. They have special parts in their mouths to filter food out. They can eat up to a tonne a day.

**Conclusion**  
Humpback whales are intelligent, social, and playful animals. They have been found to be the most intelligent of all the whales. They have been found to be the most intelligent of all the whales.

**Introduction**  
Humpback whales are the largest whales in the world. They are found in all the oceans. They are the largest whales in the world.

**Appearance**  
Humpback whales are 30m long and weigh 30 tonnes. They have a hump on their back. They are the largest whales in the world.

**Fun facts!!!**  
Baby humpback whales are called calves. They are born with a blue tint to their skin. They are the largest whales in the world.



Alex

Sanaisha

Fire fire fire fire fire fire Burn  
Tires tires tires tires tires tires Curv  
retire retire retire retire retire ners  
Wire wire wire wire wire wire Slur  
Hire Hire Hire Hire Hire Hire Fou

The old man wanted to retire  
The old man wanted to retire  
qu sound 12.01.19

Quick Quick Quick Quick  
quiet quiet quiet quiet quiet  
Quit Quit Quit Quit Quit  
quadbike quadbike quadbike  
Squat Squat Squat Squat

The queen was quick on her quest  
The queen was quick on her quest

Jack


### CLONBETTER SEALS

Seals don't eat any food. They have special long teeth that help them filter krill from the water. They take in the water when they hunt.

**Appearance**  
Clonbetter seals have grey bodies and long snouts. They can range from dark brown to light brown.

**Habitat**  
Clonbetter seals live in small groups on the ice around Antarctica. Their main predators are leopard seals and killer whales.

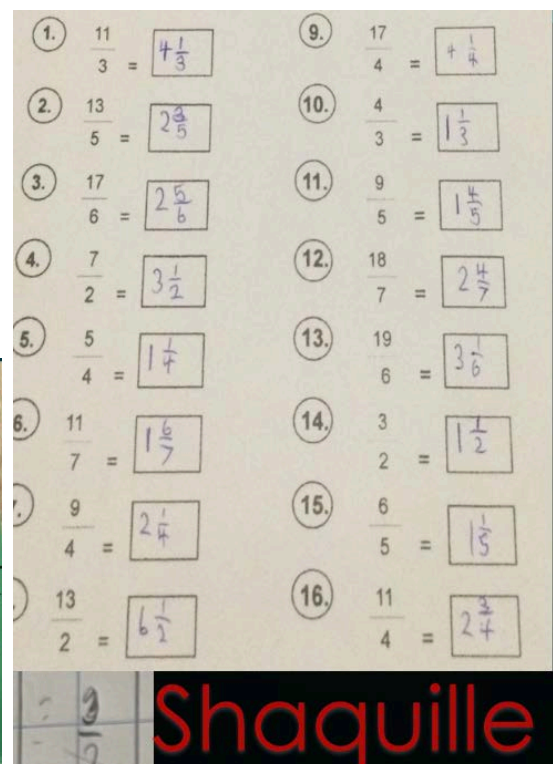
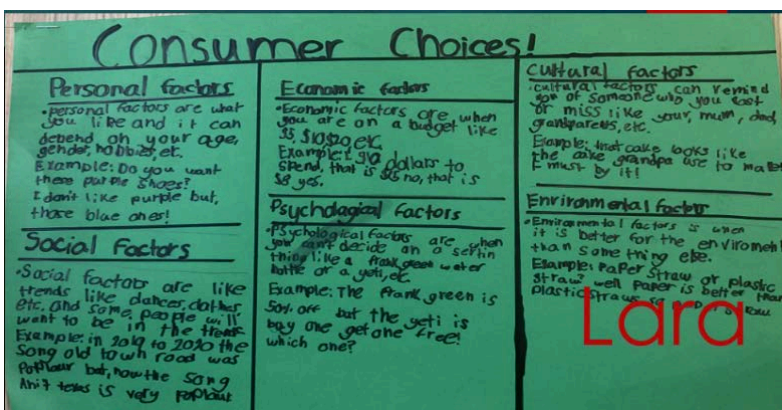
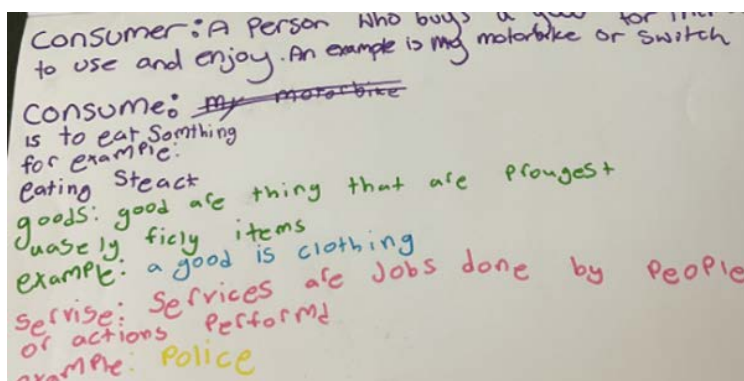
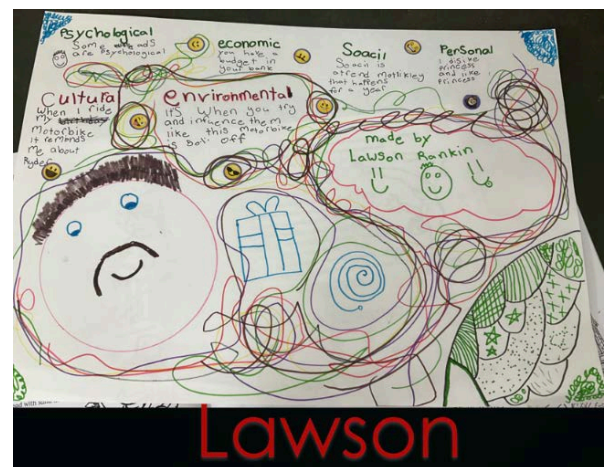
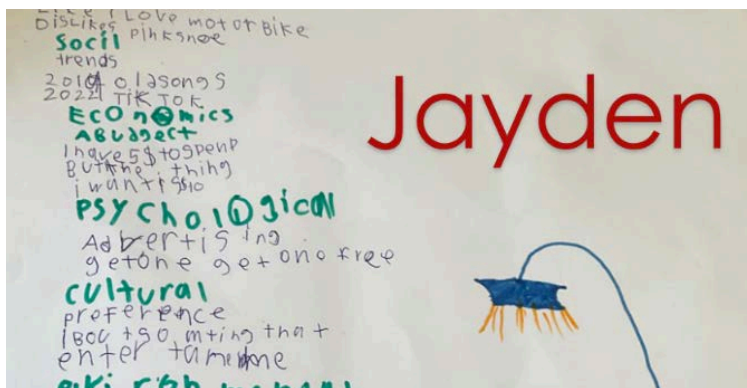
**Interdiction**  
The clonbetter seal is the second largest group of mammals in the world. Mammals are animals with fur and are warm blooded. They also have babies instead of laying eggs.





## Miss Kaur - Year 4/5

In HASS, students have had the opportunity to explore the concepts of goods and services, as well as the different factors that can impact consumer decision-making. In Maths, they have been practising converting between improper fractions and mixed numbers, as well as simplifying fractions. In addition to this, George has been able to continue his learning while away by engaging in activities such as using IXL Maths and completing a booklet on a national park he recently visited.





Handwritten math problems on grid paper:

$$\frac{12}{3} = 4$$

$$\frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$1 \frac{3}{4}$$

$$1 \frac{2}{9}$$

$$\frac{3}{3} = 1$$

$$\frac{9}{3} = 3$$

2 6 12 18 24 30

8 16 24 32 40

**Jase**

Handwritten math problems on grid paper:

$$\frac{10}{2} = 5$$

$$\frac{12}{2} = 6$$

$$\frac{6}{6} = 1$$

$$\frac{18}{6} = 3$$

$$\frac{9}{9} = 1$$

$$\frac{18}{9} = 2$$

$$\frac{12}{4} = 3$$

$$\frac{16}{4} = 4$$

**Annastasia**

## What are goods?

- Goods are things we make and then sell. For example, iPad and books are both goods.



## What are services?

- Services are jobs that someone could get so they can get money and sometimes they use that money to buy goods. For example, police and waiters are both services.



## Bonnie

### What does Consumer mean?

- Consumer is something you could call someone who is eating or consuming something into their body. For example, the consumer ate the taco messily.



## Eli

consumer: A person that buys a "good" for themselves to use.  
an example is my basketball, football, motorbike.

consume: to eat or drink something or "eat" or "drink" something, or consuming something.

goods: things that are produced usually by physical labour, clothing, food, done by people or action performed, police.

Draw a food web  
Use the information on the previous page to work out what to draw.  
Link them with lines to show who eats who.

```

graph TD
    OlivePython --> Turtles
    OlivePython --> Fish
    OlivePython --> Waterbirds
    Hawks --> Waterbirds
    Hawks --> Insects
    Waterbirds --> Fish
    Waterbirds --> Insects
    Fish --> Turtles
    Fish --> Insects
    Turtles --> Insects
    Insects --> PlantsWater[Plants (Water)]
    
```

hopping mouse, bat, snail, bird, skink

**Brilliant biodiversity!**  
Can you find the 10 animals hiding in this picture?

**George**



## Miss Morley - Year 6/7

In **Science** we have been learning about the Earth's rotation and revolution. Our class made models of the Earth and used them to create a video explaining the movement of the Earth around the sun causes the seasons and day and night cycles. While in **English**, we have been reading Blueback by Tim Winton, exploring characterisation and figurative language. Finally in **Art**, our Year 6s have also been exploring camera techniques, practising and analysing camera distance, angles, and movements.

### James



### PJ



### Cody



### Micah



### Lachie



### Nelson



### Magenta



1. Next the plane would then go round on its side and then high up

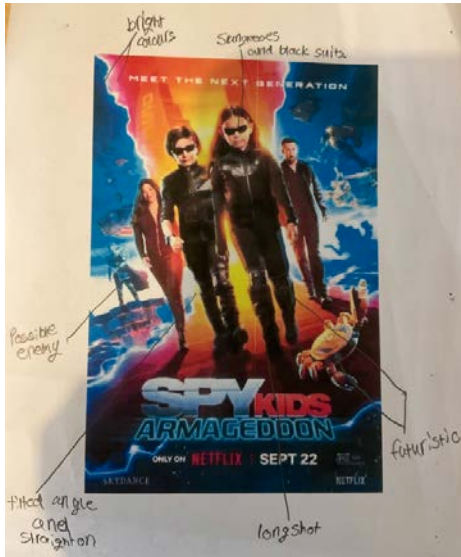
2. I would use tilt for the camera shot

3. Tilt would be a good shot to use because you could capture the plane going up and then down or the plane going down and then up

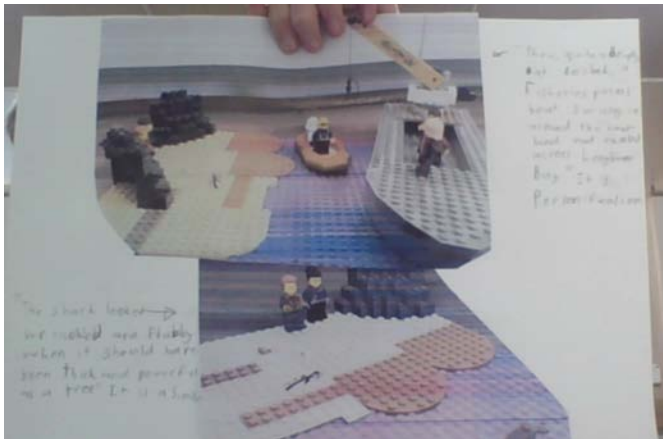


Nelson

James

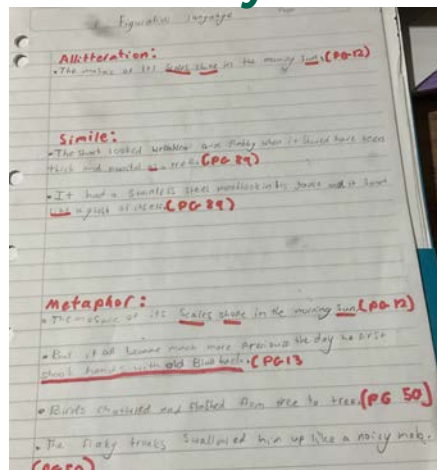
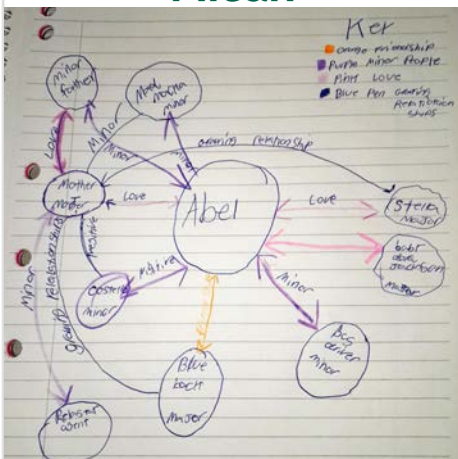


Cody

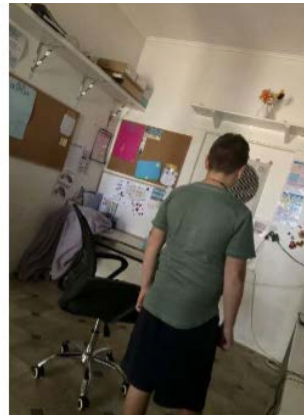


Micah

Lucy



PJ



The screen cuts to black

There are no movements

In the very end



What would happen is the camera.

World pan down and show my face.

To show that the person is happy or sad.

Lachie

Abel:

Family relationships: His Mum, Blueback, Mad Macka, Stella, Dora.

Age span: 10-11-12-13-20-30?

Where they live and important places: Longboat Bay, robbers head, boarding school.

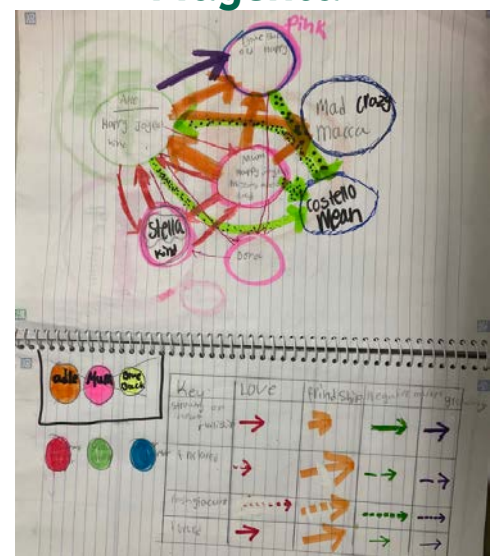
Positive character traits: Bright, friendly, eager to learn, adventurous, Caring.

Problems: Abel has to go to boarding school, seeing a dead body, stopping Costello, Looking after his mum.

Lessons learned: Death can happen at anytime and any place. You have to do things you don't want to do.

Enemies: Costello, Businessmen.

Magenta





## SOTA BOOK CLUB

Name: Thomas Team: Red  
**Book REVIEW** Eagles

Title: STICK MAN

Author: Julia Donaldson

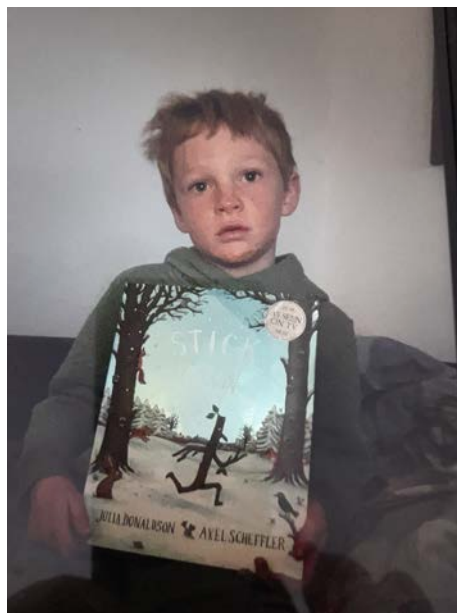
How I feel about the book

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Drawing of my favourite character

Reason for my rating

This is sad  
but I like the  
end because stick  
man goes back to the family  
tree.



Name: Edward Team: Dingoes  
**Book REVIEW**

Title: GREEN EGGS AND HAM

Author: DR. SEUSS

How I feel about the book

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☒

Drawing of my favourite character

Reason for my rating

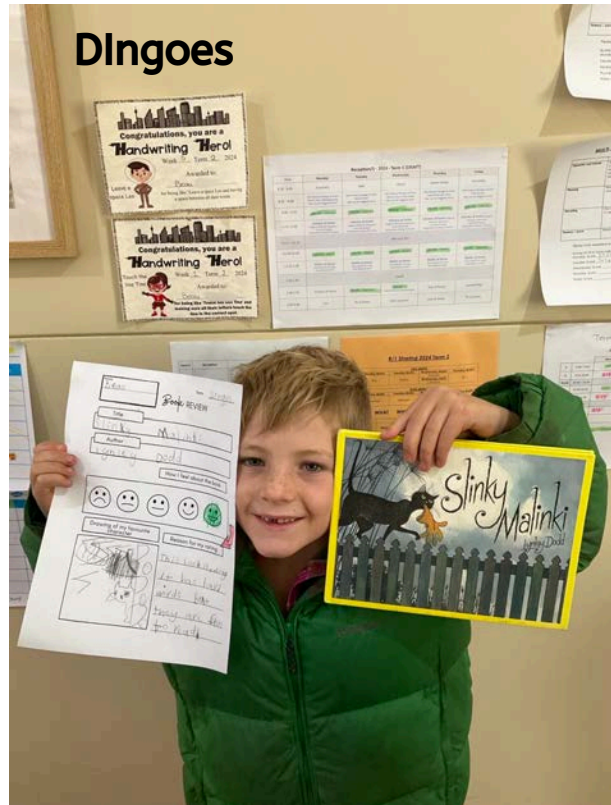
I can  
read it by  
my self and  
it is sooooo  
funny!!



## Dingos



## Dingos



Name: Roy Team: Dingos

Book REVIEW

Title: Anna the Goanna

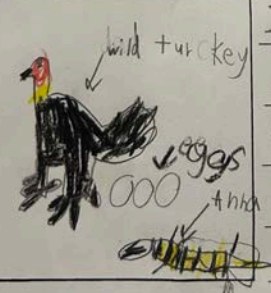
Author: Rebecca Johnson

How I feel about the book

Drawing of my favourite character

Reason for my rating

I really liked the facts at the back of the book.






**Title:** Ming and Mary – Spy for Freedom

**Author:** Jackie French

**Reviewer:** Bonnie - Brumbies

**What it's about:**

This book is about a girl named Ming and her brother. At the start of the story, they were transported back in time World War 1, and January 1916. They find themselves in Belgium and Ming's brother is seriously injured. Luckily a blonde haired girl, named Marie, helps them to a hospital.....

**What I enjoyed about it:**

I like all the excitement and way the book is written in the past. I have learned a bit more about WW1. This is quite a long book but I like that. I like to get my teeth into a good novel.

**Age recommendation:**

8-12 years old

**Rating:** 10/10





A book review by: Emmett

Book title: PIG the Tourist

What is the book about?  
This book is about  
pig going on holiday  
and making trouble.

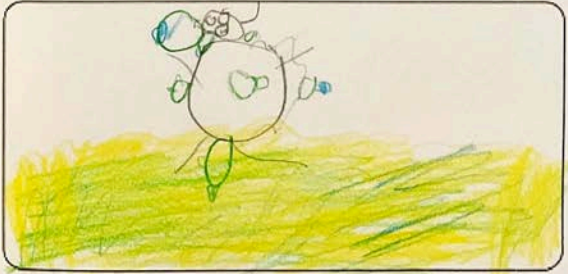
Who are the main characters?  
pig the pug  
Trevor the sausage dog

Where is the story set?  
all around the world.

What did you like about this book?  
I liked the part with  
the punnet

Rating: ★★★★★

Draw your favourite part of the story.



**Yellow Brumbies**

Thank you for your book reviews. The Dingoes are still ahead in winning the Book Club trophy. Come on, Yellow Brumbies and Red Eagles!

Happy reading this holiday!



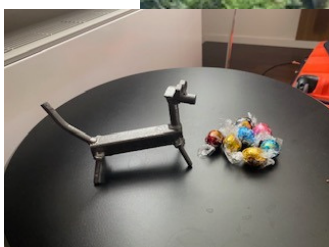
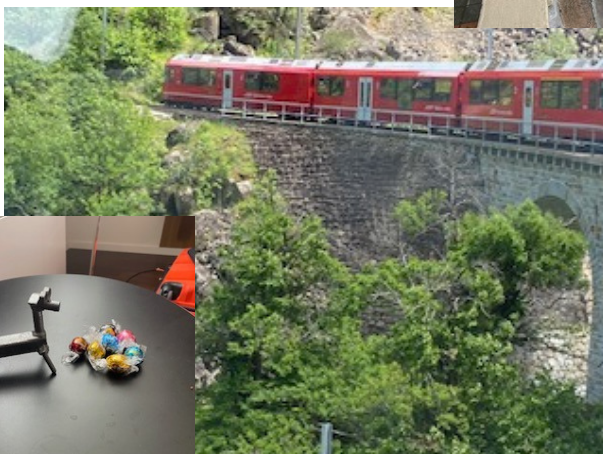
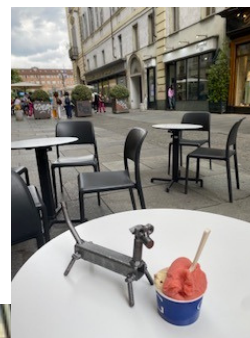
## Happy Days @ SOTA

On 11 June, Miss Kaur woke up an Indian, and went to bed an Australian.

We welcome her to our land  
abounds in nature's gifts.  
We've boundless plains to  
share. We look forward to  
seeing her advance Australia  
Fair!



Our angel Georgy, ever whimsical,  
took Miss Megan's dachshund, Min  
that is handcrafted by George to  
Europe for a holiday! Lucky, lucky  
Min. We can't wait to hear their  
adventure.





## NUNYARA CAMP





## NUNYARA CAMP - MARDEN EXCURSION



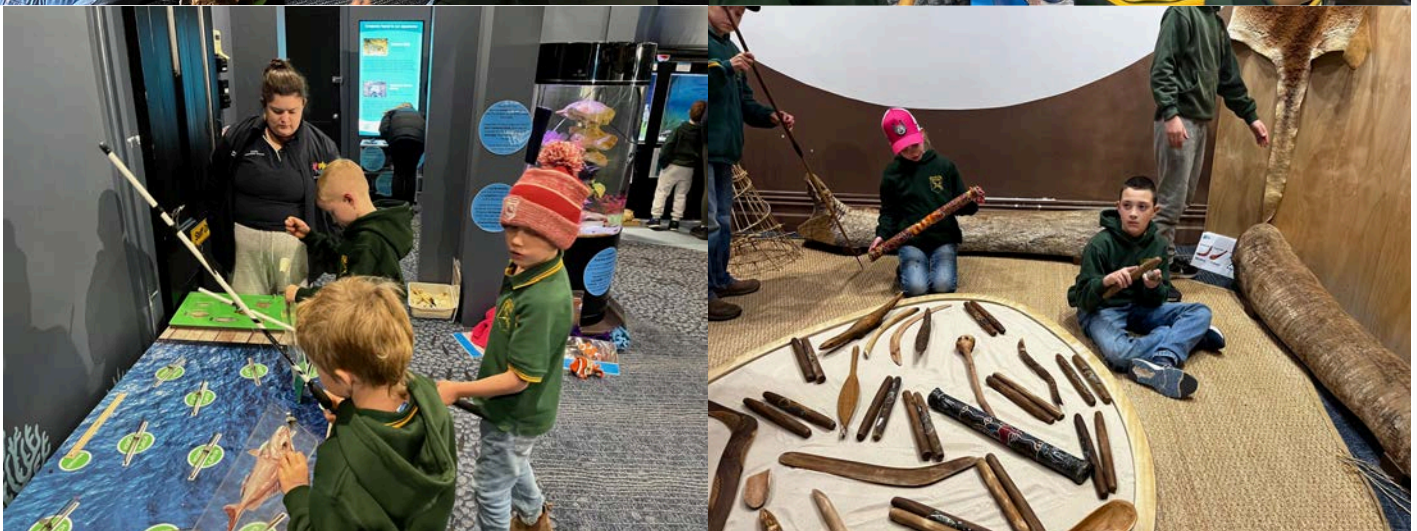


## NUNYARA CAMP – MARDEN EXCURSION





## NUNYARA CAMP - MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE





## NUNYARA CAMP - MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE

