

Newsletter – Week 4



Today we enjoyed Aboriginal culture that I have never seen before. First of all, we painted our faces – that was cool. Next we played music and did funny dancing to the music. I enjoyed throwing the boomerang. That was so interesting.

Nozomu Ito



Today we had Wantok visit Hills Language College. We had a lot of fun. Throwing the boomerang was especially good. We tried really hard to throw it far. The first time I threw it really well, but the second time it hit a tree.

Atsuki Kamijo



Wantok visit and Indigenous culture

Hello SHS families and students.

Another busy week done, one which was full of cultural experiences for our students.

First, the students had their final golf lesson with golf pro Todd. We would like to extend our thanks to the Hills Golf Academy and in particular Todd, who was praised by students for his patience, humour and kindness.

This week, our Australian cultural focus was Indigenous Australia. Students loved learning about Aboriginal art; the symbols and what they represent inspired many classes to do some rock painting. I was absolutely blown away by these designs, and I thank my teachers for going above and beyond every day to provide interesting and fun lessons for the



Rock art, SHS style

students. The classes also learnt about the history of Indigenous Australians. This led to our exciting incursion – we welcomed world-renowned artist Terry Saleh to our school. Terry and his team from Wantok Multicultural Centre shared their culture with the SHS students. The activities were boomerang painting and throwing, yidaki playing, singing and dancing. This was a very

interactive morning. Students, though shy at first, participated with huge smiles on their faces. We thank Terry for once again taking time off from his international travels to work with our students.

Next week, school buses will run as normal from Monday. Hills College has a pupil free day on Monday, but SHS students will have school as usual.

Vanessa Newbery



We threw the boomerang twice, but it was so difficult to throw, so we were taught by an Aboriginal teacher. He is a very funny man. He is good at teaching students, so we could throw it a long way. I want to do this again.

Mirai Kato

Today, I experienced Wantok. I learnt a lot about Aboriginal culture. First of all, I played a long musical instrument but it was very difficult. After that, I imitated a kangaroo and an emu. It was so funny and very hard and my legs were sluggish. It was wonderful.

Fuka Watanabe



Forty-six SHS students had an Australian cultural experience on July 6th, which is also my birthday. We painted a boomerang. My boomerang was a koala painted by Terry. He painted fast and it was cute. I painted flowers and dots. Lastly, we threw a boomerang. Boys were hitting trees, but girls were hitting the field. It was difficult but it was fun.
Hana Kosemizu

We would like to thank Mrs Isla Perrett for her expert teaching and care for the Group 4 students. Mrs Perrett has been with Group 4 since the first day, and this is her fourth year teaching the SHS program. Unfortunately for SHS (but fortunately for Language College), Mrs Perrett will return to her regular Hills High School Preparation class on Monday. We formally welcome Ms Greig as the new Group 4 teacher. Ms Greig has been observing and teaching the class for a few weeks. Welcome!

My friends and I learnt about Aboriginal culture for three hours at Hills College. Firstly, we learnt to play the Aboriginal musical instrument. It looks like a common bamboo tube. It was a lot of fun. I think Sho is a good player. It is difficult to experience this in Japan, so I'm happy.
Airi Kako



This week, Group 3 students wrote recounts of their Aboriginal cultural experience. Thank you Group 3 and Mrs Arthur for the stories and photos.

We tried to do an Aboriginal dance. It was very hard, so we were very tired. We painted boomerangs and everyone made a cool boomerang. Boomerang throwing was a lot of fun, but the boomerang hit a tree. I can play the didgeridoo really well, so I was very excited.
Sho Ikeda
 Playing the didgeridoo was very difficult for me but it was a lot of fun. Moreover, I heard cries of a kookaburra. They have very funny cries. Next time we imitated a kangaroo and an emu. I was very tired. Today's experience was very fun, especially the boomerang. It is very nice.
Lili Hasegawa

I enjoyed painting the boomerang. I painted a colourful boomerang. It was fun, but my hands became very dirty. Finally, I threw the boomerang. My friend could fly the boomerang high. I was surprised. I want to throw the boomerang again. Today I had a precious experience. I'm glad I learnt Aboriginal culture.
Hiyori Yasui



Next week:

- School buses run as normal from Monday
- Sports afternoon on Thursday