

NAIDOC Week 2017

Our Language Matters

In the last week of Term 2, SIPS celebrated NAIDOC Week. Throughout the week students participated in a variety of activities that focused on celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture.

Discovery Ranger Program

On Monday 26th June Indigenous and non-Indigenous rangers from NSW Parks and Wildlife Service visited the school. They ran a variety of activities, teaching students about traditional aspects of Indigenous culture. These presentations focused on family, kinship, language, totems, traditional tools and weapons, bush tucker and traditional medicine, and music and dance. There were specific activities for the infants and primary students. The presenters, Jacob and Ray, were excellent and provided great information and experiences for all students. Thank you to the parents for supporting this fantastic program.

Damper Competition

On Tuesday 27th June students were invited to enter the SIPS Damper Cooking Competition. We had a variety of excellent entries and our students loved the blind tasting of the dampers that were entered. Congratulations to our winners; Faith Nevin, Mykala Hamilton, Isabella Safi and Matilda Goodwin for your delicious dampers.

Read Around and Activities

On Wednesday 28th June small groups of 3-5 students visited each class to read an Indigenous based picture book and present a variety of activities that linked with their book. The books included: *Stolen Girl*, *How the Birds Got Their Colours*, *Big Rain Coming*, *Why I Love Australia*, *You and Me: Our Place*, *The Rainbow Serpent*, *Leaving*, *Malu Kangaroo* and *Look See, Look at Me*.

Our student groups demonstrated excellent leadership skills and each class enjoyed the activities. Thank you to all class teachers who assisted throughout the afternoon.

Indigenous Games

On Friday 30th June all students from SIPS were placed into 10 groups to participate in a variety of traditional Indigenous games. The games were organised in a round robin form with a teacher assigned to each game. Games were played for 10-15 minutes. Students were very engaged as they learnt about where, when and how these games were traditionally played.

Overall, NAIDOC Week celebrations at SIPS were terrific, with great engagement from all students. Thank you to all those who supported the activities and helped to make it a success.

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"I liked trying
Indigenous
foods"

"I liked the face paint"

"I really enjoyed
learning about
aboriginal Culture"

"I really enjoyed
throwing the
boomerang and
learning how to
throw it"

"I learnt
more about
my culture"

