

Term 2, 2016

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Japan Study Tour

On April 19th, students studying Japanese at Centralian Senior College, Centralian Middle School and Alice Springs School of the Air had the opportunity to participate in an overseas educational study tour to Japan. The group of 21 students, accompanied by Shin Nojima, Tara Turner and Donna O'Brien, travelled to



Tokyo, Osaka, Hiroshima and Kyoto. Students were encouraged to put their language skills to the test for everyday activities such as purchasing subway tickets, ordering meals and navigating the cities of Japan. It was great to see the students actively using their Japanese language skills.

of Asakusa, explored Harajuku and walked

The group started in Tokyo and visited the Temple

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through the famous Shibuya Crossing. A whole day was spent at Kaetsu High School where our students were given the chance to socialise with their Japanese peers whilst enjoying activities such as Shodo (calligraphy), cooking classes, origami and English classes where the students practiced their Japanese and helped Japanese students with their English.













The next stop was Osaka, students finally met their pen pals and host families at Tsukinoki Senior High School. The students were nervous at first when introducing themselves but it didn't take long before they were chatting away about common interests and their adventures in Japan so far. Students were given a once in a lifetime opportunity to live with a Japanese family and they spent the next 2 nights with their host families. For most of the students this was the highlight of the trip. Friendships were formed and Japanese families were overwhelmed that Australian students wanted to get to know them and learn their language.

A visit to Hiroshima was an eye opener for our students. The group spent time at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park & Museum, an extremely valuable experience for both students and adults.

Walking through the harrowing exhibits was a sobering experience and gave students some insight into the tragic history of WW2.









The students enjoyed a day at Miyajima island, wandering through temples and shrines before travelling to Kyoto to see the Golden Pavilion and meditate at Ryoanji Zen Garden. After 10 exciting and exhausting days, the students travelled on the Shinkansen, bullet train, one last time back to Tokyo. After some last minute souvenir shopping and a quick visit to the Imperial Palace, the students spent their last night in Tokyo having a blast at karaoke!

Thank you to the teachers and our senior students, Maxim Buckley and Farahnitta Fatupaito for making this trip a huge success and a valuable experience for our language students to practice their language skills and to immerse themselves into the culture of Japan.

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