



5/6P CLASSROOM FEATURE

Farewell Finn

This term the 5/6s have been investigating Bushfire Preparedness. I have been very pleased with the discussions and learning taking place in the classroom and I look forward to our future collaboration with the CFA. The following paragraphs are a small selection that demonstrates the depth of knowledge of our students on this important topic. This week we also say **farewell to Finn** who is returning home to the Czech Republic after 7 weeks in 5/6P. The students, Joanna and I have enjoyed having Finn in our classroom. We have learned so much about him and his homeland, we wish him a safe journey home.



Over the past six weeks in inquiry the 5/6s have been looking at fire ecology. We learnt about how being aware of bushfires can help you relax in a stressed situation and about how the Macedon Ranges is a fire prone area, it is also in the temperate zone. Did you know that lignotubers are woody bulges at the base of the tree, they connect the trunk to the roots underground just like carrots and green shoots sprout from them after a fire. Also when trees get burnt the trees grow epicormic buds that are basically small stems and make the tree look fuzzy. We are looking forward to our investigation and our exhibition.

By Madeline.

Throughout the past 6 weeks we have been learning about bushfire safety. The first thing we learnt about was our safety and how we can help around the house. We also learnt about being aware of bushfire danger and knowing the dangers of how it could affect us. We used google earth to see how far we are away from a bush and Mt Macedon's cross. After we learnt about the temperate zones and how the weather (Climate zones) normally is. We also learnt what we need to take: personal hygiene, food, water, pets, phones, passports and other important things. Then we found out about different types of bushland in Australia such as: rainforests, dry woodland, grassland, Alpine and heath. All up it is very interesting.

Audrey

In inquiry, we have been learning about bushfire safety and how we can stay calm and be aware during a bushfire. I have learnt about the different vegetation types in Victoria that grow and are bushfire prone, how animals can escape a bushfire and more. Lately, we have been learning about photosynthesis and epicormic growth. The most interesting thing I learned is that when the fire goes through, Mountain Ash trees open their gumnuts and drop their seeds into the ash bed and seedlings sprout.

I am looking forward to the rest of the unit.

SOPHIE.

Bushfires: People hear this word and fret about it, but it doesn't have to be that way. So, as a 5/6 unit we've been learning about this topic. Bush fires sound bad, but in reality having small burn offs every now and then is actually good for the forests we have in Australia! Different ecosystems like Woodlands, mallee, and more all need fire to keep re-growing and to keep living in Australia! We are one of the only countries with all the different climate zones, like subtropical and tropical.

In the end, Australia has lots of different flora and fauna to love so appreciate it and love it!

Charlotte.

Fire safety

This term our classes have been learning about fire safety in inquiry. We have been looking at fire prone areas, how adaptive traits help trees and animals survive over time and how we can prepare for fire at home by creating emergency bags with vital items. We have also learnt about different types of forests and bushlands like: Rainforest, woodland, grasslands alpine and heath.

Elijah

This term in inquiry we are learning about bushfire safety. I think being aware of bushfires is a great part of learning. I have learnt so much. One of my favourite things we learnt about this term was; how mountain ash is an obligate seeder which means the seeds are encased in hard capsules called gumnuts that open and drop their seeds after a fire. This allows the seedlings to grow and new life to be made. Another thing I enjoyed was learning about all the zones, and how the temperate zone is the most fire prone. A lot of other things we learnt so far: We live in the temperate zone, torpor in animals like echidnas enables them to survive a bushfire, germination, epicormic growth and ecosystems. I have enjoyed learning about bushfire safety and I am excited to learn more. Phoebe

In inquiry we are learning about fire safety and how to protect us and others around us. We have learned a lot since the program started, like about what plants and vegetation are fire prone: we learned about the mountain ash what I really found interesting was when a mountain ash gets burnt in a fire they drop seeds from the hard capsule called a gumnut then they open at the right time and start growing in the ash bed and start to sprout to new mountain ash trees. Also, did you know that mountain ash is the tallest flowering plant in the world? I love learning about fire safety and I can't wait to learn more.

ELSIE