

Excursion to Cockatoo Island.

It was dark when we left school at 6:00 am. I was sitting next to my friend Lainey. She was just as excited as I was. We read our books that we packed in our bags.

We drove for two hours on the bus until we reached Olympic Park Ferry Terminal. Next, we went for a quick toilet break, scanned our opal cards and then boarded the ferry. We were allowed out the front of the ferry and I stood with Lainey. The wind was whipping our hair back.

When we got off the ferry, we met our tour guide, Jane. We then started our walk around Cockatoo Island and we got little cards that told us what character we were. On the tour we visited the barracks and the goal for the Biloela girls and boys. We learned about the goal and then moved onto where the convicts made their dinner. They normally ate beef and pork and porridge made of mushed up corn.

Next, we went to a place where the convicts ate their dinner, got shot if they were naughty and spent their spare time. We saw the sandstone bricks that convicts had carved on with their own unique designs. We also saw the barracks and the slits in the windows where soldiers stood to fire at convicts who were out in the wrong areas.

Jane told us the romantic story of the one and only escapee from Cockatoo Island. His name was Fred Ward who swam from Cockatoo Island to White Horse Point to marry his sweet- heart. He later became the bushranger, Thunderbolt!

After that we walked through a tunnel called Dog Leg Tunnel and it was used to hide supplies in the Second World War.

It was a great day of learning about convicts and how our colony grew.

Samantha Lawler 4Y



Cockatoo Island Excursion

by Jayan Paris 4 Blue

The first thing we did was arrive at school at 5:45am. At 6am we got marked off and headed on the bus. We played and slept for 2 hours and thirty minutes. When we arrived at Sydney Olympic Park, we had a snack and at about 9 o'clock boarded the ferry. We then left for Cockatoo island and it took us 40 minutes to sail and arrive.

At 10:30am our tour guide met us, and we left our bags and went up the stairs to a house. We learnt about the history of a special man who grew cabbages to sell and make money.

At the view of the docks, we were told about a bushranger, his wife and his friend who tried to swim away from the Island to be free. Only one of them survived, the wife who was a very fast swimmer. The others drowned.

At the guard barracks we were told about its history, including the eating area where we learnt that the convicts were not given cutlery to eat. At the sleeping quarters we were told that there would be lots of fights and mayhem because the guards did not care what happened.

The last thing we did on our tour was go through a tunnel as a shortcut back to our bags and have lunch. Then we left on the ferry and got back to Sydney Olympic Park, boarded the bus, watched movies for two hours and then arrived at school. I played hand ball for about an hour and then got picked up at 5:00pm.



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On Friday I woke up at 4:50. I got to school at 5:30. We left school at 6:00, on the bus I sat next to Sarai. When we were on the bus Sarai and I watched the sunrise, it was very pretty. When we got off the bus we all had a little snack. Then we caught a ferry to Cockatoo Island. When we got to Cockatoo Island we had lunch. After we had lunch we got a picture of Sydney Harbour Bridge. While we were waiting for our tour guides we played a game of Simon Says.

Then our tour guides came. First we got a lanyard and I had Gother Kerr Mann on mine. I had 11 children and Willow was one of my children, her mane was Minnie. Then we went on a little walk. We got to look at some old buildings. Then we went and looked at these rooms that people were locked in if they did something bad, it was very dark in there. The last thing we did was walk through a long tunnel. Then we went and had a little snack. Then we went back on the ferry and go to go to the front. Then we got of the ferry and back on the bus. I sat next to Sarai and there was a TV on the bus so we watched the Emoji Movie. When we got to school we played tips then I went home.

May favourite part was the ferry. I had a very good time.

Jayla Parker 4W



