Year 3 Camp

On Thursday 11 August, the Year 3s ventured off on their very first School Camp. The venue was Aldinga Beach and the camp linked in with our unit of inquiry about Aboriginal culture. We had been studying the significance of Dreaming stories, their connection with other cultures, the relevance of these stories and how they have been maintained over the years.

Most of the children were very excited about this camp. They liked the idea of participating in a variety of activities and spending the night with their friends.

We arrived just before lunch and were able to place our luggage into the dorms. We were then told about the rules and responsibilities of staying at the campsite. It was then time for the fun. Some children played hunting and gathering games, while others showed interest and enthusiasm in listening to Uncle Wally, an Aboriginal man with loads of stories to share. Other activities that day included painting boomerangs (which the children got to keep) and cooking rainbow trout. To cook the fish, the children had to wrap it in clay, and then place it over hot coals while we waited for it to cook. After about half an hour of waiting, the children were able to taste their fish. It was beautifully cooked and some children were even brave enough to try eating the eyeball.

Night-time soon came around and we had a wonderfully cooked dinner, followed by some fun with a quiz night. Shortly afterwards it was bed-time and the excitement was still there among many children. Some found it very challenging to fall off to sleep.

We were up bright and early the next morning. Breakfast was delicious and the children were ready for another day packed full of fun. The playground, where the children got to unwind and have some free time, was also a hit.

By mid-morning the sun was shining brightly and the children were ready to go. Half of the group went on a bushwalk with Uncle Wally, where he demonstrated how Aboriginal people found their food and medicine to help with survival. The other half of the group built wiltjas (small huts), where sleeping took place in the Aboriginal culture. That was a great team-building exercise, with some fantastic finished products. The groups then swapped over activities.

We left the campsite just after lunch to head back to School. The children were very tired but you could see on their faces how much fun they had had. It was terrific to hear so many of them say that they wished they could have stayed for another night.

It was a wonderful camp, enjoyed by all students and Staff.

Mrs Neill and Ms Alley
Year 3 Teachers