



How quick this term has flown by! The students have been faced with a number of challenges, they have also achieved many goals and faced fears head on. We have had a number of students reintegrating into their home school, this period of time is always filled with mixed emotions. The feelings of happiness that they have completed their program at The Haven, taking with them a suitcase filled with many tools and strategies that they can use, but also that of sadness that we miss out on watching them grow and mature into wonderful adults. Although, I am sure that we will bump into some during our travels through life. Haven students challenged themselves this term with the array of sports and activities offered. Overcoming the fear of heights was achieved by some. An amazing feat in itself. Some were rattled with nervous tension (that would be me!) of reaching a height of only a few metres off the ground, to accomplishing the whole course by the end of the term. Learning how to play the Didgeridoo to cooking a wonderful meal of soft damper and succulent fish caught by Michael. Michael and Jay Brown have done a wonderful job constructing the chicken coop and hopefully we will have some eggs next term to use in Food Technology and share with visitors. It is with many thanks to our Board Members and Supporters that you have provided an opportunity for students at The Haven to experience many adventures that once they may have thought was out of reach. It is you who has helped make that difference!

Sonya Robinson

Acting Co-ordinator



Climbing High!



Interactive War Museum



Walkabout Park

Students studied 4 topics on Indigenous Australians this term in enquiry learning including, the different Aboriginal traditions there are, the stolen generation, dreaming stories and Aboriginal art. Students enjoyed these hands on practical experiences and some were rewarded with an excursion to the Walkabout Park. On the Excursions students interacted with Kangaroos, Emu's and Koalas. They had the opportunity to throw a boomerang and hold a snake. It was interesting walking through the bush listening to our guide talk about 'bush tukka' and 'bush medicine'. The students were fascinated by the idea that we were surrounded by different foods and medicines. Although it was wet on the day, the students braved the conditions and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

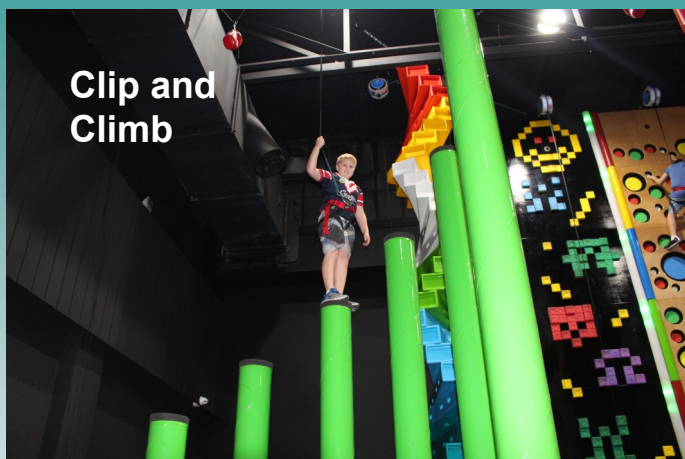


Clip and Climb



Didgeridoo Workshop

To complement the tasks students have been working on in enquiry learning, staff organised for two indigenous elders to come in to the school to explain to the student's about Aboriginal art, a little bit of the history behind the didgeridoo and more importantly how to play it. The students loved the experience with some students not only managing to get a strong drone but also managing to circular breathe. It was a great experience for all students and their good behaviour was rewarded with some damper and a warm drink prepared over the fire.



Clip and Climb

Friday Activities

Each term staff try to engage students in our program by offering a range of activities that cater for a range of student interests. This term staff offered rock climbing as one interest and students took to it like a duck to water. Students started at the indoor rock climbing centre at Gosford 'Clip and Climb'. After developing confidence inside students were taken to an outdoor rock face where they were given the opportunity to climb on real rock. It was great to take the students outside of their comfort zone and expose them to a little bit of their natural environment. I am sure a few of these students will take this up outside of school. Thanks to the instructors at Clip and Climb for taking us out!

BMX Track

In the last week of term, students who had participated in the Project Based Learning task on Bikes, were treated with a day at the Terrigal BMX track! To earn the right to come, students needed to repair a part of the bike and put it back together. They had to create a model of a track using the appropriate shapes and design a poster outlining the parts of their bike that made it better than others. After walking the track and getting a feel for it, they participated in a time trial. They were separated into two groups, based on time, where they could then race each other. During the time trials there were several younger kids, who were sharing the track, who fell and *it was great to see our students racing to the aide of these young kids and help them back up again!* The students spent a lot of energy on the track and came back to school exhausted. It was great to see the students participating in an age appropriate activity and hopefully some of these students will continue to participate in these physical activities outside of school.



Giving it a go!



Safe and secure...



Confidence building

Chicken Coop

After more than a year of planning students have finally started work on the construction of the Chicken Coop. The progress has been slow but good things take time to put together and students are learning the art of patience. We were lucky enough to have one of St Edwards TAS teachers, Jay Brown, come out for a day to help construct the frame. After digging all the holes for the posts the students were happy to hold a bit of wood, measure something, check the level and basically feel a part of the Chicken Coops construction. There have been a lot of good conversations whilst building the Chicken Coop and a lot of teachable moments where students are learning real life lessons that they might not have had the chance to learn at home. I have had parents come up to me when they pick up their kids in disbelief at what the Haven students have achieved. Some are even talking about purchasing a small A-frame Coop on the internet that is already prefabricated that their kids can screw together at home. Some have been more adventurous and said that they would reuse materials they had lying around at home to build it. It is great to start the conversation about where our food comes from and getting the students involved in their food chain and sharing this with their parents. Thanks to Mitre 10 Kincumber and all the businesses who have been involved in some way in the process. Having Businesses in our Community supporting our students really helps them rebuilding a sense of community. I look forward to next term where we will finally be able to get some laying chickens and get some fresh eggs!



CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE

The Warden talked to us about illegal items that were confiscated from the prisoners. He showed us a needle and told us that over 200 people had been using that needle.

He also showed us a variety of items that had been shaped to cause harm and injury... knives and sharp objects from tooth brushes, pens and metal off cuts from their tech sessions

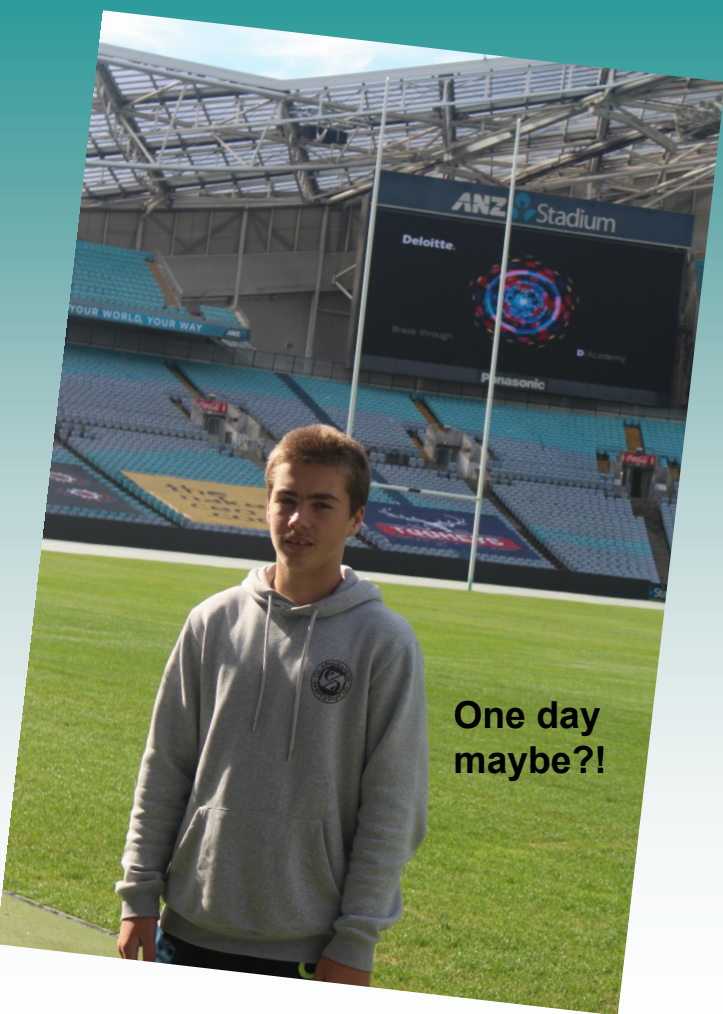
Drugs and other contraband were constantly being found on prisoners, in cells and strategically hidden in the compound. This is an ongoing problem as these are used as incentives and bargaining tools to show power, make money and get jobs done.

There are opportunities for prisoners to pray and have quiet time especially for those demonstrating a track record of good behaviour.

The Warden also told us that the prisoners can also do external and distant education courses to help them qualify in a career and have a real direction and working life when they leave prison.

The Warden advised us not to commit any crimes, if he finds us there he will give us a hard time. He said it's not going to be easy. He added that many of the inmates are so regretful and remorseful of their crimes and mistakes and now wish to get their lives better.

From students in English group



**One day
maybe?!**

Ha-



**The Haven Kids
Big Day Out...**

Seven on the Haven students had the opportunity of a lifetime touring the cauldron of ANZ stadium at Homebush. The tour started with a highlights video of the major events that have taken place at the stadium such as the Olympics, 2003 Rugby World Cup, the Socceroos World Cup qualifier, and the countless sporting encounters over the years. We then took in the views from the top tier of the stadium looking over the field. The tour then headed down under the stadium to the players' change rooms and ran out through the tunnel with the sound of 83 000 screaming fans, with the students putting themselves in the shoes of their favourite elite sportsperson. The tour went for just over an hour, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all attending students and staff.



Wow!!!

From the students...

Because the world looks so much more colourful though the eyes of a child!

Mountain Climbing

On one of our rewards days, we went to a climbing area at Point Clair to abseil and rock climb. This was not your average kind of cliff, it was dry but slippery, it was high but comforting and it would make your heart skip a beat. As soon as we got into the bus, we all got very excited but also anxious. Before we drove to the cliff, we met our instructor at clip and climb who introduced himself and gave us a safety briefing. We also discussed with our instructor how high we were going to go and how far we would push ourselves. We were all shocked from the height of the cliff. It was actually higher than we expected. The instructor walked us up the cliff that we would be climbing. We walked on a bush track over rocks and through bushes to get to the bottom of the climbing area. Everyone gave it a go although we were anxious. When it got to my turn, I honestly did not know what to do. Although I was scared and almost in tears, I gave it a go and although it was as struggle to get up I was happy I tried it. When we all walked down to the bus, we were thankful to have had this wonderful experience. I want to thank my teachers 100% for this experience and I hope to do it again sometime soon.



Flying High!!!

Laser tag

Last Friday we went to Charmhaven laser tag. We all really enjoyed our time because we had so much fun! All the students are still talking about it. When we got to the centre, Oh my goodness, it was huge inside! When it was time to play and the lights went out my heart started to race 100 miles a minute. It was so beautiful and colourful on the inside, I was amazed. The speakers started to count down 3, 2, 1 and off we all went. There I was hiding behind a wall because I didn't want to be the target. As soon as my opponent came, I didn't know what to do so I just held my gun up and kept clicking the button. Honestly, I couldn't tell if I was gaining points or not as the game was confusing. I moved with my team up and down the ramp and through the building. In our second game we were all playing against each other. There were no teams at all and it was everyone for themselves. I was really proud of the points I was gaining considering it was my first time playing. I then formed an alliance with Xavier and Levi. We were hiding in our building and attacking our opponents together. When the game finished we were all worn out so we hopped on the bus and headed back to school where our parents were waiting. I really enjoyed this day and will forever remember it!

Walkabout Park

For our inquiry-learning excursion, we went to the Australian Walkabout Park. It was a very rainy day but in the end, all I could say is that I want to go back! This was actually the best school excursion I have ever been on from Kindergarten to year 8. Since it was raining, it made the day 100% better. As soon as we arrived at the park, we walked up to the office where we would be meeting our instructor. In the office, they had a pink and white Galah called Lefty. It had a sign on the cage that said 'don't touch me, I bite'. What did I do? Of course, I had to touch the bird and although it did not bite me, it bit everyone else. It was a very quirky looking bird. Our instructor took us outside where the emus and Kangaroos were. All of us kids went up to the animals and played with them. After patting the animals, we went on a bushwalk where we learnt about all these interesting and unknown trees. We walked up and got to see the dingos. My oh my, they were gorgeous with their snowy white skin and their soft furry paws. Unfortunately, we could not touch them. We then saw three turtles in a rock pool. There was one big one and two little ones. We saw alpacas and chickens and although I asked Flo if we could take one home she said no, so I just had to be happy watching.