

Primary entry #42: Spencer Primary School

Spencer Sun



DONATION: Spencer students with the Give Me Five For Kids snake.

Giving five to support kids in hospital

By **BRIANA MYERS, JADE WEBSTER** and **CALVIN LOUCH**

RADIO station 2GO took a long drive all the way to Spencer Public School to visit the students out by the Hawkesbury River.

The students had saved up a heap of 5¢ coins to raise money for Give Me Five For Kids.

The crew of 2GO spent the morning with the 10 students, staff and families from Spencer Public School, filling the snake from the Newcastle Permanent Building Society.

Thanks to all of the hard work from the Spencer students and community, and 2GO, \$100 was raised for Give Me Five For Kids. The money raised will go to the sick children from Gosford Hospital to help provide new equipment, equipment upgrades, service support projects and initiatives to make a child's stay at hospital a little bit brighter.

The 2GO crew and Spencer Public School enjoyed the morning filling the snake with all the 5¢ pieces they had collected, followed by a delicious morning tea.

"Mum helped me collect all of the 5¢ pieces from the leftover shopping money," Jade, a year 4 student from Spencer Public School, said.

"Poppy helped me by collecting all of his 5¢ pieces and putting them into a bucket," said Briana, from year 3.

Radio presenter Paddy even got out on the soccer field to play with the students to burn off extra calories from the morning tea.

Caves hold life lessons

By **NICHOLAS MCGRAW, MAKAYLA MYERS** and **CHRYSTAL WEBSTER**

SPENCER Public School went on a walk with Eve Lemming, local environmentalist, to a nearby Aboriginal cave.

The students drove a long way from their small school to enjoy the bush walk through Popran National Park.

The students walked through the thick bushes examining different types of plants and native flora and fauna.

"Those bushes are prickly," said Makayla, a year 4 student.

The students enjoyed looking at thick plants called Horse Fungus that looked like animal droppings.

Students gathered around to look at the different plants and discuss what the plants were once used for and how they tasted.

"Mmmm," said Nicholas, a year 4 student, as he tasted the Banksia plant.

The students learnt a lot throughout the day as they explored the area.

"I never knew that a plant could possibly stop women from getting pregnant, but Eve taught us all about this plant during our bush-walk excursion," said Chrystal Webster, a year 4 student.

"Wow, those paintings on the wall are brilliant," said Ajay, a year 2



LEARNING: Eve Lemming and Spencer Public School students at the cave.

Picture: Rosslyn Raftery

student, as he saw the Aboriginal cave for the first time.

The cave had Aboriginal paintings of kangaroos and lizards on the walls and roof.

"It's an upside-down man on the roof of the cave," said student Makayla excitedly when discovering another historical drawing.

The cave was filled with hand-

prints that had been marked by the traditional Aboriginal people.

The students explored these, but were careful not to touch the cave.

"Touching the cave can damage the drawings and the cave," Tyler said.

On the way out, Eve ensured that she swept the floor of the spiritual cave with leaves to show that we

respected the Aboriginal people.

Along the walk back through the sharp bushes, the students and Eve collected some clay from the ground, which they later used to imprint their own hands on a wall back at school.

Excitement beamed on the students' faces from what they learnt from the day.



SUPPORTED: Rachel Cairns accompanies students from Spencer Public School on their trip to Darling Harbour.

Community gets pupils to Sydney

By **TYLER MCGRAW**

SPENCER Public School and its hard-working and dedicated community recently banded together to raise money for the small school.

The school comprises of only nine students from kindergarten to year 6.

The school staff wanted to give the students a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to

travel to Sydney for an overnight excursion to visit the Wildlife Park and Aquarium in Sydney's Darling Harbour.

After preparing the costs, teachers were disheartened when they realised most families in their small school community would not have been able to afford this.

"We can fund-raise the money," Spencer Public teacher Rachel Cairns suggested. After gathering

together with parents and families of the school, they decided to sell Cadbury chocolates to help raise the money.

After months of hard work, they raised over \$1500 to cover costs.

The students and staff enjoyed their excursion to Sydney in late July and experienced the beauty of Darling Harbour and its wonderful surroundings.



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