

Grade 5/6 Immigration Museum

Immigration Museum

On Thursday the 9 and Friday 10 May, the entire Grade 5/6 group went to the Immigration Museum in Melbourne. All the students from 5/6G and the Grade 5's from 5/6CO went on the excursion on Thursday. On Friday, all the students from 5/6B and the Grade 6's from 5/6CO went on the excursion.

Once we arrived, we put our bags away and walked into a large room. Everyone sat down at a table where we were welcomed to the building from a lovely woman named Pat. First, we did a little activity where we had to find out someone's immigration story from a certain country to Australia. As we were about to leave the room Pat gave us passports to fill in as we went along. We then moved upstairs to explore the four rooms that can be visited by the public. The rooms were called 'Leaving Home, Getting In, Immigrant Stories/Timelines and Customs Gallery.'

In the 'Leaving Home' room, we followed a boat on a tv. One of the trips came from Liverpool all the way past Africa past South America came just under Africa once again and went to Tasmania to finish at Melbourne. We watched a video presentation about people's immigration stories and their emotions.

In the 'Getting In' room, we found more immigration stories and we had to write the name of the person, the date they immigrated, and other information about the person. We also did a dictation text, which was absolutely terrible! How could anyone possibly pass that?

The 'Immigrant Stories/Timelines' room had immigration stories starting from 1850-2000 which progressed in 10 year intervals. We found two immigration stories and we had to describe the person's life.

In the Customs Gallery room, we had to explain why the Custom Gallery and the entire building is so grand. To do this we had to read about the purpose of Customs House. We also had to find two objects on display, which were confiscated by customs officers. Whiskey and Opium were examples of items that were illegal in early Victoria.

This was our experience of the Immigration Museum. We all enjoyed the experience and it was a great introduction to our inquiry topic, immigration. Thank you for reading!

Maddie M and Chelsea O

Photos on the back!