

Minasan konnichiwa (Hello, everyone)

Two weeks ago, we had some very exciting Japanese events in our community. Year 6B students' had an excursion to McClelland College, to participate in special Japanese activities. McClelland College's Japanese teacher, Ikeda Sensei and some of the Japanese students in Year 8 had kindly organised all the activities. I was very lucky to be able to feel the atmosphere of



the college, to observe how nicely the secondary school students assisted our Year six students, and to see our students truly enjoy the five different activities. The following are a few examples of our student's comments after the excursion.



*I loved doing origami. It was awesome. I made a love heart and there were many other things to make like birds, ninja stars and much more. Overall I learnt a lot of new things and I am happy that my class went there. (Keira 6B)*

*The students in 6B travelled to McClelland College to have a special lesson with some year 8 students. When we got there the teacher (Sensei) explained that we would be splitting up into five groups to do five activities. One of the activities was learning how to write our name in Japanese (by Hiragana or Katakana symbols) like /イチ for Hannah. Once we had mastered that writing, we learnt how to introduce ourselves politely. I thought it was extremely fun and I am glad that we had the opportunities. (Hannah 6B).*



*6B went on a special excursion and we made and ate some traditional food like Gyoza (which is dumplings). We also made rice balls. The rice balls mostly had rice, soy sauce and if you wanted, tuna. The Gyoza had pastry, beef, cabbage tomato, and sesame oil. Both of the foods were yummy. I love the Japanese excursion! (Jordana 6B)*

*On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, 6B went over to McClelland College to learn more about Japanese. There were lots to do such as games. One of the boys down there taught us about Japanese games. He talked about two Mario games. He let us play the games. One on the computer, his ipad and his Nintendo. The year 8 students told us that they made the games. This excursion was really fun and I really enjoyed. I learnt lots of new things and I am sure everyone else did! (Mikayla 6B)*



The other Japanese festival was organised by Susono Frankston Friendship Association. There were Japanese performances, activities such as Japanese Yo-Yo water balloons catching, Origami, Kimono/Yukata (Japanese traditional clothes) wearing and taking photos in the Frankston High School Japanese Garden for many families to enjoy. Arigatoo gozaimasu (Thank you very much) to the Piquet and Burch families who assisted with the Japanese activities, Mia and Rose for helping with the Japanese fan drawing and other colouring activities and other Overport Primary School families who joined in the Japanese parade. This Japanese festival is held every two years and the next one in 2020 will be with the Japanese visitors from Frankston sister city Susono near Mt. Fuji.



Arigatoo gozaimasu (thank you very much)

Tomoko Yamashita (Japanese teacher)

