

Mungo Living Culture Project

Student Tours (Years 9 – 11 Students)

Overview

The Mungo Living Culture Project is a seven-day program aimed at exploring the living Indigenous culture within the Willandra Lakes World Heritage region of Lake Mungo. Students will work closely with Indigenous mentors and elders; scientists and pastoralists to directly engage with history and culture, have fun and develop self-esteem through the gaining and sharing of knowledge in a truly unique landscape.

Working in collaboration with Mothers Ancestral Guardians Indigenous Corporate (MAGIC), this program is primarily based at the Rick Farley Conservation Reserve, near Pooncarie, NSW.

The Rick Farley Conservation Reserve was established in 2007 and honours the late Rick Farley, founder of Landcare. Since 2010, the reserve has been managed by MAGIC in accordance with Aboriginal land management practices and is used for cultural activities and teaching programs.

In 2022, we aim to run three Living Culture programs. Students can indicate a preference for a date, however, the school will determine the composition of the traveling groups to maximise the learning outcomes and connection with local communities.

- **Student Program One:** Monday 4th April – Sunday 10th April (last week of Term 1)
- **Student Program Two:** Monday 20th June – Monday 26th June (Last week of Term 2)
- **Student Program Three:** Friday September 9th – Thursday 15th September (Last day of Term 3 into first week of school holidays)

Aims of the CGGS Mungo Living Culture Project:

- Develop an appreciation for, and greater understanding of Indigenous knowledges, culture, traditions, and practices.
- Immerse students in contemporary challenges including land management, climate change and reconciliation.
- Engage with the ongoing Aboriginal connection with the landscape.
- Increase self-esteem, engagement with education and pride in culture.

Program Overview:

Mungo Living Culture Pre-Learning

In preparation for the tour, students will be involved in a sequence of pre-learning sessions aimed at preparing students as well as building curiosity and engagement in the area. This series will expose students to ideas and topics that they will be likely to encounter during the program. These preparatory sessions will be held during lunch periods at CGGS.



7-Day Camp at Rick Farley Reserve in Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Area

Students will spend seven days camping, primarily at the Rick Farley Reserve. During their time on the camp, students will participate in a range of activities including but not limited to:

- **Visit to Lake Mungo World Heritage Site** – visit the Mungo National Park and UNSECO World Heritage site of Lake Mungo, with a guided tour onto the Lake Mungo Lunettes.
- **Indigenous History and Archeology** – investigate the rich Indigenous history of the area by engaging in the land, observing artifacts, and interacting with elders.
- **Sharing of Knowledge and Cultures** – participate in cultural activities such as a smoking ceremony, rope and tool making and stargazing/astronomy.
- **Indigenous Land Management** – develop skills and learn about Indigenous land management techniques such as cultural burning and ‘caring for country’.
- **Plant and Animal Exploration** – actively search for and learn about the biodiversity (variety of plants and animals) of the land through the use of spatial technologies such as drones and mobile apps.
- **Reflection and Mindfulness** – spend time connecting with the land and people in your own way. Students will complete a mindfulness project throughout the program, with the format decided by each student e.g., written journal, photo album, etc.

Post-Camp Reflection and Debrief

Upon returning to CGGS, students will spend time reflecting on and sharing their experiences from the program. Students will also be given the opportunity to share their mindfulness projects through mediums such as CamNews, the Marcian and Senior School Assemblies.

Cost of Program

Includes:

- Transport – Return trip between Melbourne and Swan Hill
- 24-hour support vehicle
- Insurance
- MAGIC program costs including tent/swag style accommodation
- All meals except for Day 1 lunch
- Site and park entrance fees
- Additional hire equipment including waterproof pants and jacket, sleeping bag (additional to personal sleeping bag) and gaiters per student



In order for your application to be considered, you must agree to the following statements:

- I understand that a payment of approximately \$2700-\$2900 will be involved in order to participate in this program. Costs will be confirmed dependent on student participation numbers.
- I understand that the accommodation is tent style for the durations of the journey and that all school policies and procedures will be in effect for the duration of the journey.
- I commit to the pre and post learning program to maximise the experience of the immersive cultural project.
- I will complete a PCR test three days prior to attending the camp, as well as a RAT test the morning of departure (provided by CGGS)

Students will elect a preference of dates. Please rank below 1 – 3 (1 being 1st preference) the students desired travel dates. The school will determine the size and final make-up of the travel group to best suit the learning outcomes for each group.

Student Name: _____

Student Email: _____

Parental/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

Preference of Tour (Label 1st, 2nd, 3rd Preference) April June September

Any program

Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS PAGE TO STUDENT SERVICES BY Friday 25th February, 4PM. Alternatively, electronic copies of this document can be sent to either biggsg@cggs.vic.edu.au & clarkt@cggs.vic.edu.au