

clontarf
foundation

Uluru Under The Stars

Words by Schaylen Parai

Photos by Tom Clements

Last week saw our Year 7 and 8s head to Ayers Rock.

The ride was long but enjoyable; boys and staff got to socialise most of the drive to Uluru.

The fellas were excited when we finally arrived as it was the first time there for a few of the boys.

As we pulled up to our campsite it was all hands on deck and all the boys got stuck in to help set up our camp before darkness came upon us.

The boys were all given different jobs to do to make the work load easy for everyone. They all had showers and then had a nice hot dinner of spaghetti bolognese while watching a movie under the stars. We had set up a projector and hung up a white bed sheet.

After the movie finished it was lights out to have a good rest for our day tomorrow.

Rise and shine! The fellas were up full of energy, ready and excited for what lay ahead. First on our agenda was the Marla Walk, which was around the base of Uluru and where a local indigenous ranger spoke to the boys and explained the significance of the walk and Uluru.

There were a few stories told along the way and the boys thoroughly enjoyed it all and you could tell they were really involved.

The boys were hungry and couldn't wait to eat and have a rest, so we headed back to our camp for an hour or so before we were off again, this time to the town theater where we watched a show called "Mani- Mani" - the local art form of storytelling. Indigenous performance brought to life the ancient ancestral story of Walawuru, the wedge tail eagle, and his two wives Kaanka the black crow and Kakalyalya the white cockatoo.

Later that evening several of the boys topped off our last night under the stars with some classic Milky Way galaxy night photography. A classic end to an incredible adventure away.

