**Surf School Excursion - 6M reflections**

Once we put our bags down and got dressed, the Surf School Instructors gave us a short lesson on water safety, what to do if you get caught in a rip and about where the rips are and where’s the best place to surf.

The instructors told us to get into a pair and get a surfboard, Taylor was my partner. Once everyone had gotten a surfboard, they told us to put the surfboards on the sand and either you or your partner got on it, I went first. We got taught how to get up and stand on a surfboard, how to turn directions, how to paddle and what to do if you fall off. After that, everyone took their surfboards to the surf side and attempted to stand up. The instructors helped people in need to get the hang of it and get over the big waves. In total, there were 3 hours of surfing and boogie boarding but not in a row, with breaks in between. Surfing went on for about 1 ½ hours and then we had a lunch break. My friends and I sat on the rock wall facing the beach. People were playing beach volleyball and swimming. When our short lunch break finished, 5E and 6M switched over. It was our turn for boogie boarding.

**Katerina**

I strongly recommend that you try it and I encourage the school to be doing this for a while, every year for the years 5 and 6. This experience was amazing and was highly memorable. I thank you teachers for taking us on this excursion!

**Taylor**

When we arrived at Collaroy Beach the waves were steady and perfect for Year 5 and 6 to go surfing and boogie boarding. Surfing was a bit hard at first but once you have a proper try you get the hang of things. You had to choose a partner in order to share your surfing board so everybody could have an equal amount in the water. We also got told by the surfing instructors all the safety rules and how to surf but because no one really had a great idea on how to surf there were always instructors in the water guiding you. Boogie boarding was a bit more simple for our age. We were told to stay in between the red flags at ALL times, because the tides were strong near those areas (which wasn’t good to boogie board in). In boogie boarding you have to try to catch the waves or turn your back on the waves, sometimes if the wave was too high in height the wave would come tumbling down onto you which would make you stumble in the water but that is a natural thing to happen when you're a beginner.

**Kiana**

Walking towards the beach, II could see the swim school instructors and was excited. The instructors were great in educating us on what to do and what not to do in the surf. I already knew a little bit about surfing as my Dad and I have surfed many times together when on holidays. Getting out on the surfboard and riding the waves made me feel relaxed and very happy, and I didn’t have a care in the world. I enjoyed surfing with my friends and the beach was a fantastic experience but  at times could be dangerous. I understand why we needed to have instructors, instructing on how to surf and how to be safe in the water.

**Tamara**

Trying to surf was a good experience but it was really hard because the waves kept on pushing me backwards. I was not that good at it. After that we had a snack from our lunch boxes and switched around so the year sixes were doing boogie boarding this time. Boogie boarding was easier and more fun in my opinion because all you had to do was wait for a wave to come then turn backwards and the wave would push you back, there were some strong and big waves. I thought today was a really fun day and I recommend doing it for the year sixes and fives for next year too. **Ayden**

All the surf boards were lined up against the mossy brick wall on the sand. We got a fairly tall surfboard(definitely taller than me). Next we headed down the sand towards the light blue, foamy water where we placed our boards and learnt some of the basics on how to surf. We started off lying on the board with our head up and our toes on the back of the board, next we practised paddling (it was not real paddling because we were only on the sand) and controlling the board when it goes over the waves, Finally we practised standing up which was fairly easy on the sand but not so easy in the water. We even did a mexican wave where we stood up onto the surfboard. After I had finished it was Addison's turn. They repeated the exact same steps as the ones I did.

**Holly**

