This term has been a busy one and is nearly over. In the first week the students presented their previous term’s work, their Eco House and Natural Disaster assignment. Parents and students from all levels visited the display and asked the Level 4 students questions about their work. It was clear to see how proud the students were of their efforts, and we as teachers were impressed by the way they conducted and communicated aspects of sustainability.

Australian History is our Term 3 topic. The Year 5 curriculum provides a study of colonial Australia in the 1800s. Students look at the founding of British colonies and the development of a colony. They learn about what life was like for different groups of people in the colonial period. They examine significant events and people, political and economic developments, social structures, and settlement patterns.

We visited Sovereign Hill on the 27th August and the students experienced life during early settlement. Thank you to Nikki, Libby and Sopit for their assistance on the excursion.

On Thursday 12th of September we held an evening Expo, ‘Museums in Motion’, for parents and siblings. The students dressed as the pioneer they had researched and answered questions asked by the visitors. They remained in character throughout the evening. They also displayed their dioramas on a particular decade of Australian History. For example, The Circumnavigation of Australia, The Gold Rush and the Development of the Electric Telegraph. It was a great way for the students to share the knowledge they had gained.
Sovereign Hill is the only place in Ballarat that is still the same as in the 1850's. We learnt what they ate and how they dressed. At Sovereign Hill we went into olden day classroom and learnt about what children did in the 1850's. We also went to pan for gold. I found two specks. We visited an underground mine. Katherine.

On Tuesday 27th of August the year 5 students went to Sovereign Hill. Our first activity was the Red Hill Mine. We walked through the mine and at first it was a little scary but we got used to it. We saw a short clip of somebody finding gold and we also saw a replica of the Welcome Nugget! Gold panning was fun, some of our class mates and Mr Searle found gold! We also went shopping and bought lollies and trinkets for our family and friends. At the Education Centre the Sovereign Hill teacher scared us all a lot. She said stand up straight and be a lady or gentleman! We had to write on slates, wash clothes and lots more! Taylor and Daniel K had to get dressed up as people from the olden days! It was very funny! By Natasha 501

Year 5 have been organising their work samples and reflections on their Digital Portfolios. We are amazed in their skills and creativity in designing their presentations. It is great to see how they help each other with different applications and share their ideas with their peers.

On September 5th the Year 5 students will be attended their second Reach workshop. In their first session they shared thoughts and ideas with the Reach presenters and found the session valuable. At times they were challenged to express themselves in an environment that was very supportive.

We had two wonderful sessions with Hugh. The students were totally engaged and responded enthusiastically to the program. Hugh taught us about many things, these things included being grateful because we are so lucky that we live in a wonderful country and we all live in a loving family. He also talked to us about resilience, sometimes it's easy to forget how many amazing things are happening to you however you're just focussing on the negative things. Hugh's session was very fun and interesting because he told some great stories to engage us, he really understood what us children like and made sure that we would be interested. After Hugh came in and talked to us we have all had a different perception on things. I think that we all really enjoyed his talk. By Maya.