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TAREE STUDENTS DISCOVER DEMOCRACY AT PARLIAMENT OF NSW

Students from St Joseph's Primary School travelled over 300km last week to experience Australia's First Parliament: The Parliament of NSW.

Young minds from St Joseph's Primary School in Taree explored the heart of Australian democracy at NSW Parliament House on Macquarie Street.

The Year 6 students had their Stage 3 'Australia as a Nation' curriculum topic brought to life through this dynamic learning experience. They explored the chambers and participated in a role play, sitting in the very seats used by members of Parliament during debates and decision-making.

The Hon. Greg Piper MP, Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly, welcomed the students and expressed his enthusiasm for their visit.

"The curiosity demonstrated by the students was a great reminder of why we need to foster a strong understanding of democracy from a young age.

"It was inspiring to see these young students engaging directly with the workings of our parliament and seeing it first hand," Mr Piper said.

The Hon. Ben Franklin MLC, President of the NSW Legislative Council, highlighted the inclusivity of the education programs offered by the Parliament which ensure all students, regardless of their location, can get involved in civics education.

"We are dedicated to ensuring that students from every corner of NSW can engage with and understand the functions of our parliament.

"We want young people and our future leaders from across NSW to grasp how the parliament functions and to know the difference between our parliament and the Federal Parliament in Canberra," Mr Franklin said.

Interactive programs are available online for students in regional areas across NSW in addition to the many programs and events at NSW Parliament House in Sydney.

The unique programs available to schools include:

- Guided tours
- Legal studies workshops
- Interactive online programs
- A short film competition; and
- Leadership events including a Secondary Student Leadership Program, Young Women's Seminar and the Constitutional Convention.

Visit the [Parliament of NSW Education website](#) to find out more.

