

# ISSUE 4

# CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TOURISM SCHOOL PROGRAMS

2022 Early Childhood to Stage 6  
Excursions/incursions/virtual classroom



Book  
your School  
program  
**NOW!**



**CITY OF  
PARRAMATTA**

# Welcome

**At the Parramatta Heritage and Visitor Information Centre we engage students in actively exploring and understanding our rich cultural and natural heritage. Our programs engage students in authentic historical contexts and nature based experiences. We aim to develop their creative and critical thinking skills through captivating structured activities and immersive interactions facilitated by our skilled guides.**

The programs are aligned with the NSW School Curriculum and are designed to develop skills in key areas, including use of bespoke tools and resources, interpretation of sites and artefacts and empathetic understanding through shared stories.

Parramatta is a unique and complex place brimming with stories and themes which illustrate the formation and development of our nation. It is a remarkable cultural landscape containing sites that document Aboriginal heritage, the first decades of colonisation and the ongoing urbanisation and cultural diversification of western Sydney.

For thousands of years the Baramada clan of the Dharug nation actively and effectively managed the open grasslands and towering eucalypt forests at the head of the harbour. The landscape was "pleasant and picturesque", offering fine prospects for agriculture to Governor Arthur Phillip, when

he and his party explored the area in May 1788. "I think the country as fine as any I have seen in England" wrote Phillip, and in November 1788 the settlement of Rose Hill was established.

Effective agriculture was fundamental to Phillip's vision for a thriving colony of emancipists and free settlers. The tenuous nature of this grand project is reflected in Governor Phillip naming the first land grant 'Experiment Farm'. From 1789 successive harvests consolidated the British foothold in Australia - a turning point for both the British and indigenous Australians.



Parramatta maintained a strategic role in the colony until the middle of the nineteenth century - becoming a place where decisions were made that shaped our emerging nation. This significance has been acknowledged by UNESCO, with Parramatta Park, encompassing Old Government House and the Government Domain, being included on the World Heritage list.

The administrative and agricultural focus of the district gradually gave way to the demands of urbanisation, which has once again positioned Parramatta as a strategic regional capital. Today it stands at the geographic and economic centre of greater Sydney. As the second largest economy in New South Wales, Parramatta is poised to play an integral role in shaping Sydney's future. It has high quality educational institutions, efficient and evolving infrastructure, and a strong focus on innovation. Parramatta also encompasses significant natural habitats, including Lake Parramatta Reserve and the Parramatta River corridor.

The story of Parramatta is one of dynamic change and continuity, reflecting that of Australian society generally. First nations, colonisation, dispossession, urbanization and increasing affluence are themes that are documented in a tangible way by the many heritage sites that exist in this modern city. The cultural diversity of our nation is well represented here and, increasingly, the living heritage of all our waves of people can be sensed, learned and celebrated in Parramatta by young and old alike.

In Parramatta students will enjoy a genuine opportunity to learn about people, cultures, industry, heritage places and natural environments. We thank you for your interest in our Education Programs and we look forward to welcoming you and your students to Parramatta soon.

**In this booklet, you will find all the essential information you'll need to plan a cultural and heritage or nature based tour to Parramatta.**

### **Cultural sites near the Heritage and Visitor Information Centre**

**Riverside Walk** - 10 metres  
**Hambledon Cottage** - 10 minute drive  
**Experiment Farm Cottage** - 10 minute drive  
**Elizabeth Farm** - 10 minute drive  
**Lancer Barracks & Linden House Museum** - 15 minute walk  
**St Johns Cathedral (down Church Street)** - 10 minute walk  
**Parramatta Park** - 10 minute walk  
**Philip Ruddock Heritage Centre** - 15 minute walk

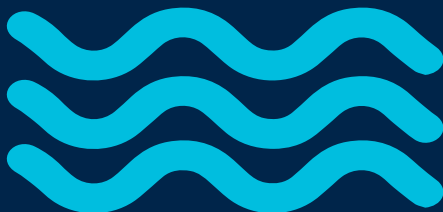
### **Rest or meal break places nearby**

**Park benches in Prince Alfred Square** - 150 metres  
**Parramatta Park** - 10 minute walk

### **Coach parking and set-down points nearby**

**Marist PI** - set down/pick-up only  
**Phillip St** (outside Park Royal) - 1 parking bay  
**Phillip St** (at Wharf) - set down/pick-up only  
**Hunter St** (outside SKYE HOTEL Suites) - set down/pick-up only  
**Valentine Avenue** - parking

*(Check for details/limited access due to Parramatta Light Rail construction)*



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**Our Visitor Services educational programs and activities are syllabus based and focused on meeting learning outcomes. They deliver inspiring site-based learning experiences and skills development. The emphasis is on an exploration of culture, heritage and nature through creative play, active games, social interaction and engaging interpretation.**

## **Our Visitor Services Team commits to:**

- Provide a safe and welcoming environment
- Offer a range of high quality, accessible and inclusive programs that support learning and development outcomes
- Provide equal opportunities for children to be heard and participate



# Booking your Activity

## Booking Your Excursion

All Schools **MUST** complete a booking form for all education programs. These are available online from **education@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au**

All amendments, including updating student numbers or cancellations are required in writing by email to: **education@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au**. These can be made until 5 days prior to your visit.

Payment can be made by Credit Card, EFTPOS, Direct bank transfer or cheque (payable to the City of Parramatta-Parramatta Heritage and Visitor Information Centre).

To find out more, contact **education@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au** or complete the enquiry form in the centre of this brochure.

## Terms and Conditions:

PLEASE NOTE: All attendees **MUST** be at the nominated venue, 15 MINUTES PRIOR to the scheduled starting time.

The City of Parramatta reserves the right to cancel a tour due to weather or other circumstances.

## Try Our Free City Tour

Want to experience Parramatta before you decide to book your excursion?  
Why not join us for a **FREE** city tour?

Our free two-hour walking tour is a perfect introduction to Parramatta city. You will experience heritage buildings, the bustle of cafes and restaurants, the open spaces of Parramatta Park, and discover what the City offers after dark.

Find out why Parramatta is a vibrant place to live, play, learn and explore!



# What our customers are saying:

## Aboriginal Cultural Incursions

"The team was amazing. The guide had charm, she was warm and friendly, she had great energy with the children, she was knowledgeable, answered questions, adapted to the learning style of deaf signing children, blind children and children who use cochlear implants".

*NextSense Sign Bilingual Preschool*

## Apprentice Riverkeepers

"Very interactive, hands-on".

*Seven Hills Early Childhood Centre*

## Dharug Language, People and Culture Online

"It was very engaging and extremely relevant to syllabus content".

*Epping Public School*

"Students were very engaged in these videos and were 'glued' to the screen. I found the entire program engaging and informative."

## Aboriginal Cultural Incursion

"Our students were enthralled the whole time".

*O'Connell St PS*

"Outstanding presenter. Exceptional cultural knowledge".

*Wentworth Point PS*

## Interactions and Interconnections

"Activities were appropriate and engaging for the kids".

*Merrylands PS*

## Evolution of a City

"This program provided a comprehensive range of topics that met change and continuity curriculum needs".

*Parramatta PS*

## Bushland Families and Communities

"The students were really engaged and enjoyed the walks and hands-on activities". *Westmead Christian School*

## Bats, Birds and Beastsies

"Our students really enjoyed being outdoors in our local environment and realising there was so much wildlife in our local area.

It had a strong link to classroom work about animal adaptations".

*Parramatta West PS*

## Urban Dynamics

"Amazing and very current knowledge of the changes in Parramatta. Pitched at the right level".

*Loreto Normanhurst*



# Early Learning Incursions

## Aboriginal Cultural Incursion

*Connections, Wellbeing,  
Confident Learners, Effective  
Communicators, Identity*



Duration: Negotiable

Children will discover local Aboriginal culture in this engaging program. They will have the opportunity to learn some words in the local Dharug language, hear a traditional story, handle some tools and be painted with natural ochre. Through hands-on contact with artefacts, and interactions with a traditional custodian, they will be immersed in traditional Aboriginal ways of life.

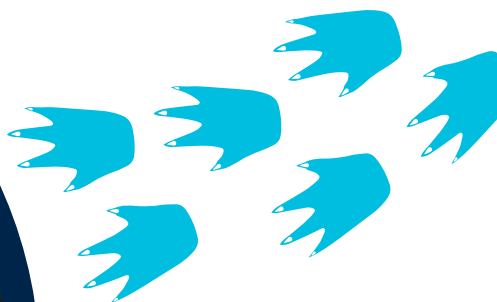
## Apprentice Riverkeepers

*Connections, Wellbeing,  
Confident Learners, Effective  
Communicators, Identity*



Duration: 1hr

Parramatta's name comes from the Aboriginal words for "the place of eels"; these fascinating animals still thrive in the Parramatta River. Discover their truly amazing life cycle in this engaging program which focuses on the wildlife and environs of the local Parramatta River. The program includes storytelling; musical fun with eel puppets and collaborative construction of an imaginary riverscape. Children will learn to protect natural environments while creating their ideal river habitat.



# Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers

## Teacher Professional Learning Program at Lake Parramatta

Duration: 4.5 hrs

This is a multi-faceted program, which aims to:

- develop teachers' understanding of Aboriginal culture and assist them with incorporating this into their classroom
- introduce teachers to the Lake Parramatta site and the teaching opportunities it offers
- familiarise teachers with Parramatta Visitor Services Educational Program offerings and demonstrate how these match Learning Outcomes across the syllabus





## Teacher Professional Learning Program - Aboriginal Culture

Duration: negotiable

An experienced Aboriginal presenter will deliver this highly engaging program. Teacher's will develop their understanding of Aboriginal culture and learn respectful ways to incorporate this into their classroom. Parramatta Visitor Services Aboriginal Cultural programs which align with Learning Outcomes for each Stage will be outlined. There will be opportunities to ask questions.

This program can be adapted to the needs of your school and can be delivered at your school or at Lake Parramatta.

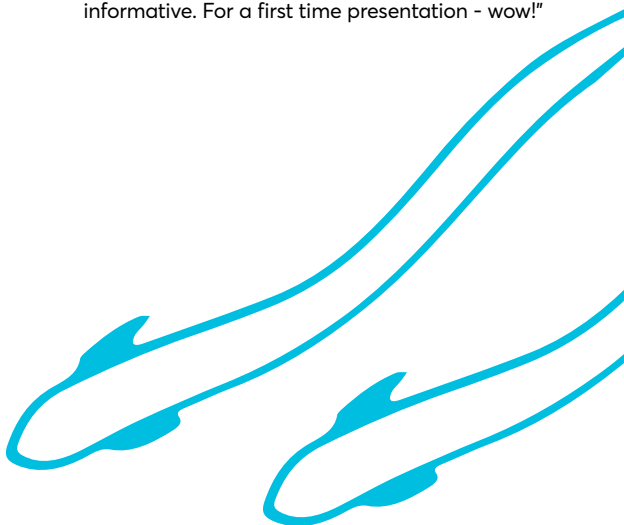


### What our customers are saying:

"I really enjoyed the day and think that it would be a fantastic place to bring the students for an excursion."

"The content for the activities for the students were amazing."

"Your presenters were motivated and informative. For a first time presentation - wow!"



# Early Learning (pre-school) & Early Stage 1

## Riverkeepers

*Connections, Wellbeing,  
Confident Learners, Effective  
Communicators, Identity*

*Science, Geography, English, Music*

Duration: 1.5hrs

Parramatta's name comes from the Aboriginal words for "the place of eels"; these fascinating animals still thrive in the Parramatta River.

Come and discover their truly amazing life cycle in this engaging program which focuses on the wildlife and environs of the local Parramatta River. The program includes storytelling; musical fun with eel puppets; hands-on, creative eel craft and collaborative construction of an imaginary riverscape. Children will learn to protect natural environments while creating their ideal eel habitat and making an eel to take home.

GEe-1, GEe-2, ENe-1A, MUES1.1,  
STe-3LW-ST



## Environmental Treasure Hunt

*Connections, Wellbeing,  
Confident Learners, Effective  
Communicators, Identity  
Science, Geography, English, Music*

Duration: 1.5hrs

Children will use their senses to actively explore the bush and uncover a world of natural treasures, as they embark on a hunt for environmental clues in their local bushland. There will be opportunities for children to accept challenges; to use symbols to map sound; to create a record of the beauty found in small things and to share their discoveries with the group.

GEe-1, GEe-2, ENe-1A, MUES1.3,  
STe-3LW-ST





# Stage 1

## Bridges Through Time

*History, Geography, Science,  
English, Maths*

Duration: 2.5hrs

The convict built Lennox Bridge opened the way for expansion to the north of the settlement. After many extensions and adaptations it still spans the Parramatta River, serving as a vital transport route. Discover the story behind this elegant stone bridge, how it was constructed and how it has changed to keep up with changing community needs and advances in technology.

Participants will engage in a fun activity to consider how bridges have changed over time from stepping stones to the complex structures we see today.

They will then discover our amazing local bridges (seven in all) on a short walk, examining the building materials and construction techniques, and finish by building their very own arch, beam and truss bridges.

HT1-2, HT1-3, GE1-1, GE1-2, GE1-3, ST1-4WS,  
EN1-1A, MA1-16MG



## Colonial Capers

*History*

Duration: 2.5hrs

This highly engaging and interactive excursion introduces participants to the daily lives of children from Parramatta's past - from their education and work, to the games they played. Participants will contrast the routines of convict, Aboriginal and elite colonial children and compare these to their own lives in the digital age.

Along the way students will visit significant colonial sites to discover what they reveal about continuity and change in the local area, play Aboriginal and colonial games and delve into the life stories of real children from the colonial era.

HT1-1, HT1-2, HT1-3



# Stage 1 & 2

## River Through Time

**S1 - History, Geography,  
Science, English, Maths**

**S2 - History, Geography, English**

Duration: 1.25hr

The Parramatta River was central to the lives of Dharug Aboriginal people, and later to the development of the second colonial settlement - providing a transport route, fertile soils and reliable fresh water. This program introduces the natural and cultural interactions around the river and shows how these have changed over time. After an introduction to the catchment, small groups construct model river-scapes - pre-colonial, colonial or modern - and then go on a tour of the various model rivers to compare the river-scapes of different eras and discuss the results.

HT1-2, HT1-4, GE1-1, GE1-2, GE1-3, ST1-4WS, ST1-1WS-S, ST1-4LW-S, EN1-1A, MA1-16MG

HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5, GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4, EN2-1A



## Minibeast Safari

**S1 - Science, Geography,  
English, Maths**

**S2 - Science, Geography,  
English, Maths,  
Visual Arts**

Duration: 2hrs

Students will use a range of techniques to get up close and personal with the tiny bugs and beasties that live in the bush. They will identify, draw, label and describe the creatures they find in different parts of the environment and complete surveys of critters in different ecosystems. Children will also learn how invertebrates benefit the entire ecosystem and help us test its health. Suggested for Term 1, late Term 3 and Term 4, due to increased insect activity at these times.

ST1-1WS-S, ST1-4LW-S, GE1-1, GE1-2, GE1-3, EN1-1A, MA1-16MG

ST2-1WS-S, ST2-4LW-S, GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4, EN2-1A, MA2-17MG, VAS2.1, VAS2.2







## Big Day Out at the Lake

**S1 - Science, History, Geography, English, Maths**

**S2 - Science, History, Geography, English, Maths, Visual Arts**

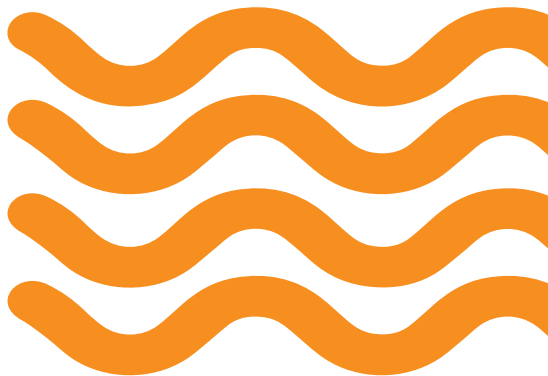


Duration: 3hrs

This multi-disciplinary excursion uses the central theme of water in the environment to introduce students to a range of scientific, geographic and historic tools and techniques. Students will participate in a range of activities including invertebrate investigations; a bird survey; and simple mapping exercises. A bushwalk incorporates an overview of local environmental resources and links these to the site's varied history. Materials are provided for further enrichment when back in the classroom.

ST1-1WS-S, ST1-4LW-S, GE1-1, GE1-2, GE1-3, HT1-2, HT1-3, EN1-1A, MA1-16MG

ST2-1WS-S, ST2-4LW-S, GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4, HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5, EN2-1A, MA2-17MG, VAS2.1, VAS 2.2



# Stage 2

## Aboriginal Cultural Incursion /Excursion

*History, Geography*

Duration: Negotiable

Join an experienced Aboriginal presenter for this immersive cultural activity, which can be organised as either an incursion, or an excursion to Lake Parramatta or John Curtin Reserve. Children will learn of Aboriginal people's relationships to land, listen to stories about country, discover Aboriginal ways of life and hear about the first contacts between traditional custodians and settlers, including the ongoing impacts of settlement. They will learn some words in the local Dharug language and may try their hand at some traditional skills.

HT2-1, HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5, GE2-2, GE2-3



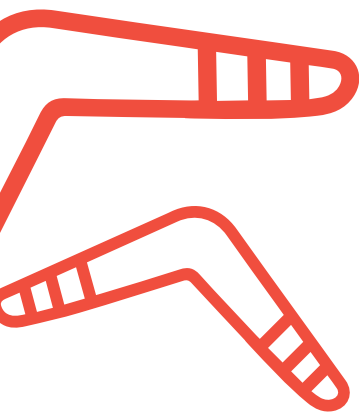
## Bushland Families and Communities

*Science, Geography, English*

Duration: 3hrs

This program incorporates nature based games and sensory activities to develop awareness of the features and characteristics of the bushland environment and local wildlife. In small groups, children then have an opportunity to design and make management decisions for their own model bushland reserve before welcoming other groups on a site visit to discuss management decisions.

GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4, EN2-1A, ST2-1WS-S, ST2-4LW-S





# Stage 2 & 3

## Warami Mittigar – Aboriginal Cultural Walk



*S2 - History, Geography, English*

*S3 – History, Geography*

Duration: 2hrs

The Dharug people are Parramatta's first people and the traditional custodians of this land. Parramatta's name comes from their word "baramada, meaning "the place of eels".

This easy walk, along the river and in beautiful Parramatta Park, is a wonderful opportunity to spend time on country with an Aboriginal traditional custodian, learning about connections to land, plant uses, tools, hunting and other aspects of local culture.

The route is partly along unfenced waterways and shared pathways. The activity will NOT be cancelled in case of rain or otherwise adverse weather. Instead, it will become an interactive cultural presentation in the Heritage Centre, where you meet. Should the weather then improve, a shorter walk will take place.

HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5, GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, EN2-1A

HT3-1, HT3-2, HT3-3, HT3-4, HT3-5, GE3-1, GE3-2, GE3-3

## Evolution of a City



*S2 - History, Geography, English*

*S3 – History, Geography, Visual Arts*

Duration: 3hrs

The fertile soils, rich resources, reliable water supply and easy transport options of Parramatta made it a desirable location for both the Darug people and the colonists. These factors shaped the growth of the city and continue to do so. During this walking tour children will visit significant transport, education, farming, food, trade, governance, meeting and housing sites. They will use technology to record change and continuity in Parramatta over time. Children will also develop awareness of Darug connections to this land and the built colonial heritage of our city.

HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4, EN2-1A

HT3-1, HT3-2, HT3-3, HT3-4, HT3-5, GE3-2, GE3-3, GE3-4, VAS3.1, VAS3.2

# School Activity Booking Form

Your details will be safely stored and only used for the purposes of this enquiry

Interactive online bookings forms can be obtained from, and returned to,  
**[education@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:education@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au)**

Please allow 3 working days for us to assess your requirements.

A confirmation email will be sent to you containing risk assessment information.

Contact person		
School or Organisation		
Phone		Fax
Mobile		
Email		
Address		



Type of group   ☐ school (Year\_\_\_\_)   ☐ tertiary   ☐ LOTE (Language Other than English)

Visit (Tour group capacity varies according to activity selected)

Preferred Day & Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Day & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe your area/s of interest/study

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List any special requirements to assist us with your enquiry: *E.g. student in wheelchair*

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How did you hear about us?

☐ Word of mouth   ☐ Visitor Services School Programs   ☐ Brochure   ☐ Previous visit

☐ Discover Parramatta website   ☐ Other please describe \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment	<input type="checkbox"/> Invoice	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card	<input type="checkbox"/> EFTPOS
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Signature (Authorized representative)	Date
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Sustainability Round Robin	\$15.00	4.5 hrs					
Aboriginal Language and Culture Exc/ Inc	On application	3 hrs - 3.15hrs					
First Contact – Trade, F'ships and Conflict	\$8.00	2 hrs					
Bats, Birds and Beastsies	\$8.00	2 hrs					
Bush Forensics	\$8.00	2 hrs					
Interactions and Interconnections	\$14.00	3 hrs					
A Portal to the Past	\$14.00	3 hrs					
First Contact in Parramatta	\$14.00	3.5 hrs					
Piecing Together the Past	\$10.00	2.5 hrs					
The Artist, the Artwork, the Audience	\$10.00	2.5 hrs					
Making Sustainable Choices	\$8.00	2 hrs					
Urban Dynamics	\$10.00	2.5 hrs					
First Contact Walks	On application	5 hrs					
Virtual Classroom Experiences	On application	POA - Depending on Program					
Exclusive School Visits to 5 & 7 Parramatta Square	POA	POA					

*(Please note groups need to arrive minimum 15 minutes prior to program delivery)*

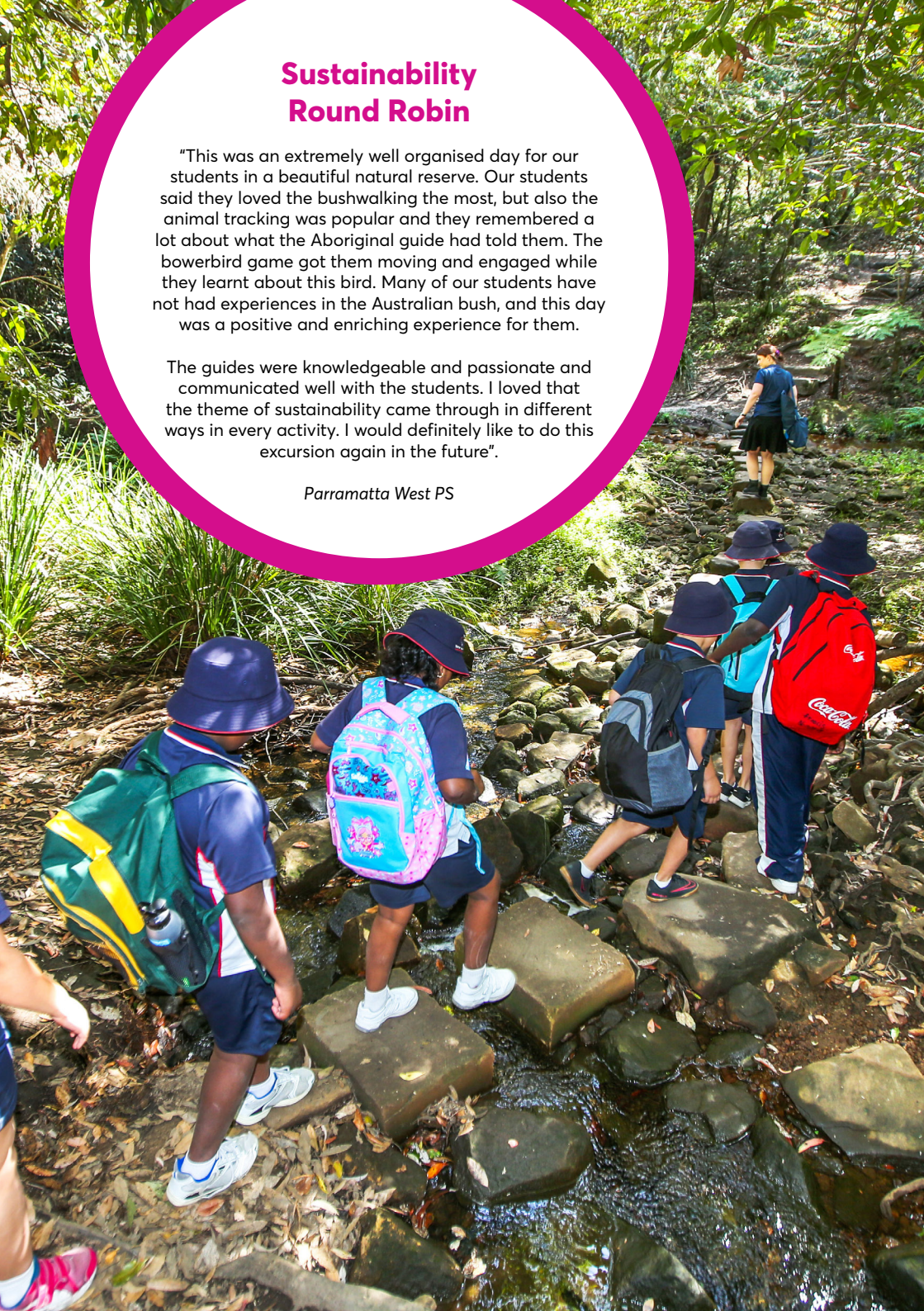
Programs	Rate (price per person)	Hours	Preferred start time	Your subject focus	Stage	No. students/ staff	Total cost
Teacher Professional Learning Program at Lake Parramatta	POA	4.5 hrs					
Teacher Professional Learning Program Aboriginal Culture	POA	negotiable					
Apprentice Riverkeepers Incursion	\$8.00	1 hr					
Riverkeepers	\$8.00	1.5 hrs					
Environmental Treasure Hunt	\$8.00	1.5 hrs					
Bridges Through Time	\$10.00	2.5 hrs					
Colonial Capers	\$10.00	2.5 hrs					
River Through Time	\$8.00	1.25 hrs					
Minibest Safari	\$8.00	2 hrs					
Big Day Out at the Lake	\$14.00	3 hrs					
Aboriginal Cultural Excursion/Incursion	POA	2 hrs					
Bushland Families and Communities	\$14.00	3 hrs					
Evolution of a City	\$10.00	3 hrs					
Warami Mittaggar Cultural Walk	POA	2 hrs					
Historic Dairy Precinct Tour	\$12.00	1 hr					

## Sustainability Round Robin

"This was an extremely well organised day for our students in a beautiful natural reserve. Our students said they loved the bushwalking the most, but also the animal tracking was popular and they remembered a lot about what the Aboriginal guide had told them. The bowerbird game got them moving and engaged while they learnt about this bird. Many of our students have not had experiences in the Australian bush, and this day was a positive and enriching experience for them.

The guides were knowledgeable and passionate and communicated well with the students. I loved that the theme of sustainability came through in different ways in every activity. I would definitely like to do this excursion again in the future".

*Parramatta West PS*





# Stage 2 & 3

## Sustainability Round Robin

*S2 – Geography, Science, English*

*S3 – Geography, Science*

Duration: 3hrs

This immersive day in a stunning bushland reserve allows children to enjoy quality time examining a natural environment and the living things that can be found there. Children progress through an Aboriginal cultural presentation, a bushwalk and a range of games and activities. They will consider how traditional owners and land managers use scientific knowledge to balance the many demands we make of our bushland, and discover that the knowledge gained can help them behave in ways that benefit the local environment.

GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, GE2-4, EN2-1A, ST2-1WS-S, ST2-4LW-S

GE3-1, GE3-2, GE3-3, ST3-4LW-S



## Historic Dairy Precinct Tour

*S2 – History, Geography, English*

*S3 – History, Geography*

Duration: 1hr

This is a rare opportunity to examine a site that has continually evolved, and yet maintains an ongoing significance which reflects changes in Australian society since colonisation. Originally an important site to the Baramadagal people of the Dharug nation, the precinct then became a cattle farm and dairy, helping to feed the struggling colony, until it was eventually absorbed as part of Governor Macquarie's private domain. Later returned to the people as part of World Heritage listed Parramatta Park, where it took on many roles over the years, it is now a fascinating monument to changes in society, land use, construction and technology over time.

This excursion includes a viewing of the sunken dairy, an engaging audio-visual presentation on the complex history of the site, a tour of the cottage vegetable gardens and surrounds and a virtual reality tour of convict George Salter's original cottage, the third oldest building in Australia (now incredibly fragile).

HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5, GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, EN2-1A

HT3-1, HT3-2, HT3-3, HT3-4, HT3-5, GE3-1, GE3-2, GE3-3



# Stage 2 & 3

## First Contact Walk – Trade, Friendships and Conflict

**S2 - History, Geography**

**S3 – History, Geography**

**Cross curriculum learning** - Aboriginal and TSI history and culture; Sustainability; Intercultural understanding; Diversity and difference; Work and enterprise

Duration: 2.5hrs, inc 30mins meal break

Parramatta played a central part in the history of first contact in New South Wales. As the site of the extensive government farm and the colony's first land grants, it was a place where dispossession of land strongly impacted Aboriginal people, and so it became a major focus for the early frontier conflicts.

Yet Parramatta was also the setting for a range of largely forgotten stories of trade, co-operation and some unlikely friendships.

On this engaging walking tour students will visit a range of significant sites which illustrate the complex shared history of first contact between Aboriginal people and colonists during the first forty years of the colony.

HT2-4, GE2-2, GE2-3

HT3-1, HT3-2, HT3-3, HT3-4, HT3-5, GE3-1, GE3-2, GE3-3



## Aboriginal Language and Culture Excursion/ Incursion

**S2 - History**

**S3 – History**

**Cross curriculum learning** - Aboriginal and TSI history and culture, Sustainability, Intercultural understanding, Diversity and difference and Work and enterprise

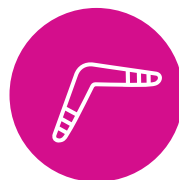
Duration: 3hrs -3.15hrs

A Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony prepare the children for this immersive experience of Aboriginal culture. The interactive program includes a Dharug cultural presentation; Aboriginal games from around Australia; an animal tracking exercise incorporating Dharug animal names and Aboriginal storytelling and song. This round robin program can accommodate up to 120 students and incorporate 3 or 4 separate cultural activities. The excursion takes place at the beautiful Lake Parramatta Reserve, but we can bring it to your school if preferred.

Contact us for details on possible variations to the program.

HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5

HT3-1, HT3-2, HT3-3, HT3-4, HT3-5, GE3-1, GE3-2, GE3-3



## **The Past in the Present - Parramatta Park Google Arts and Culture**



**S2 - History, Geography**

**S3 - History, Geography**

Duration: 2hrs

Parramatta Park has a multi-layered history. This is a rare opportunity to examine a site that has continually evolved, and maintains an ongoing significance, reflecting changes in Australian society since colonisation.

Using Google Expedition Virtual Reality goggles, and incorporating hands-on activities, we bring the UNESCO World Heritage listed Parramatta Park to your school.

Through virtual reality students will investigate the diverse landscapes of the park and consider how people have interacted and connected with them over time. They will enjoy rare access to explore the fragile interiors of the Historic Dairy Precinct and will delve into its evolution from a convict farm to a Ranger's cottage.

The virtual reality experience will be interspersed with interactive activities which will engage the senses and enhance learning opportunities.

HT2-2, HT 2-5, GE2-1, GE2-2, GE2-3, EN2-1A

HT3-1, HT3-4, HT3-5, GE3-1, GE3-2, GE3-3



# Stage 3

## Bats, Birds and Beasties

*Science, Geography, Maths*

Duration: 2.5hrs

The Parramatta River is the lifeblood of the city for a surprising array of creatures with fur, fins, feathers or scales. Learn how they are adapted to survive in the water, on the land, in the trees and in the skies on this activity based walk along the river. Students will consider why some native animals continue to thrive here, while others have disappeared. They will investigate life in a bat colony and discover the features of a variety of waterbirds. The secrets of echolocation and life cycle of Parramatta's iconic eels will also be revealed.

ST3-1WS-S, ST3-4LW-S, GE3-1, GE3-2, MA3-17MG



## Bush Forensics

*Science, Maths*

Duration: 2hrs

Students will become detectives in their quest to draw conclusions as to how the native landscape functions. They will uncover how the bush works by following natural clues, and learn what animal tracks can tell us about adaptations for life in a tough environment. They will use a range of devices - and all of their senses - to uncover evidence of animal hideaways, escape routes, and the wild lifestyles of the niche and fabulous.

ST3-1WS-S, ST3-4LW-S, MA3-17MG





## Interactions and Interconnections

*Science, Geography*



**Cross curriculum learning** - *Aboriginal and TSI history and culture, Sustainability, Intercultural understanding, Diversity and difference and Work and enterprise*

Duration: 3hrs

Through participation in immersive games and activities, students will examine various interactions and connections that occur in a natural environment, and discover how specialisation among animals allows them to share limited resources.

An interactive Aboriginal cultural presentation will lead students to consider how Aboriginal people used resources in a way that allowed them to live sustainably in this environment. The excursion will help develop intercultural understanding and promote behaviours that benefit both the children and the local environment.

ST3-4LW-S, GE3-2, GE3-3

**See also Piecing Together the Past and A Portal to the Past (listed in Stage 4)**



# Stage 4

## Piecing Together the Past

**S3 - History, Science**

**S4 - Science, History**

Duration: 2.5hrs

Through a range of activities, participants in this interactive program will gain experience in various archaeological processes. A scientific examination of genuine artefacts will allow students to determine the likely history of local sites. An interpretive walking tour of selected archaeological sites in the Parramatta CBD will illustrate what each has contributed to our understanding of the past. Finally, a visit to an active archaeological excavation (when available) will allow students to engage with genuine archaeologists.

The activities will illustrate life in Parramatta from pre-colonial times to the present, outline the role of archaeologists and demonstrate what archaeology can reveal about Australia's past.

ST3-1WS-S, ST3-2DP-T, HT3-2, HT3-5

SC4-6WS, SC4-7WS, SC4-9WS, HT4-1, HT4-5, HT4-6, HT4-8



## First Contact in Parramatta Walk

**S4 - History**

Duration: 3.5hrs, inc 30mins meal break

Parramatta played a pivotal role in the shared history of first contact in New South Wales. As the site of the colony's first land grants, and the extensive government farm, it was a place where dispossession of land strongly impacted Aboriginal people, and so it became a major focus for the early frontier conflicts. Yet Parramatta was also the stage for a range of largely forgotten stories of trade, co-operation and unlikely friendships.

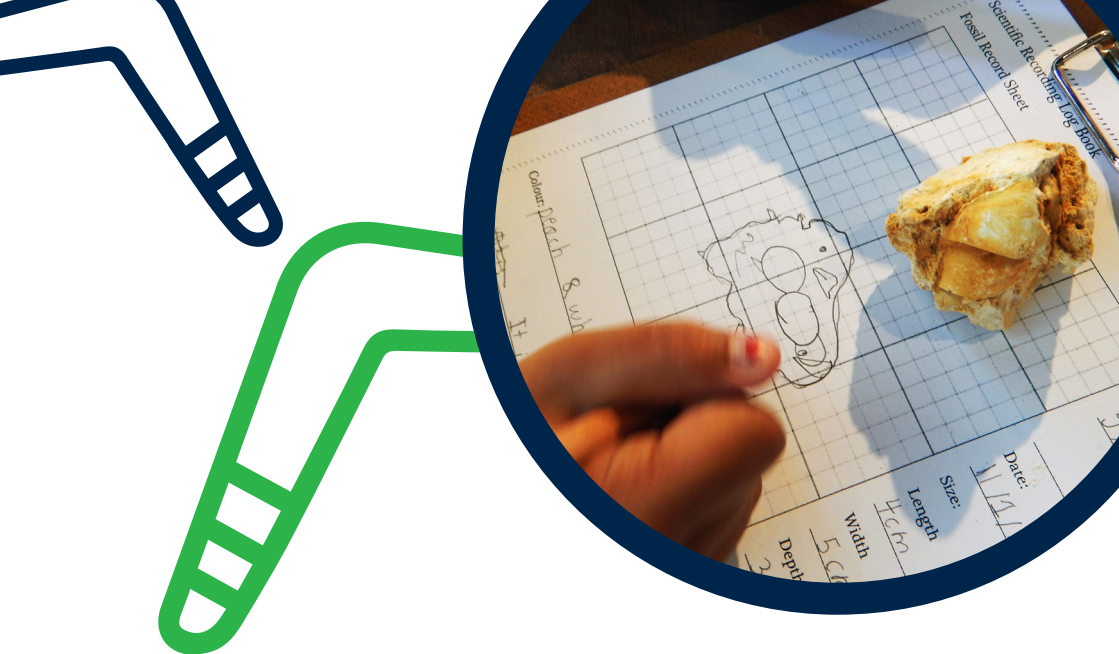
As a centre of governance for the colony, it was where the first recorded protest against dispossession occurred; where the annual Native Feast was staged; and where the Parramatta Native Institute, widely recognised as the site of the first institutional removal of children, was located.

On this engaging walking tour students will discover a range of significant sites which illustrate the complex history of first contact between Aboriginal people and colonists during the first forty years of the colony.

HT4-3, HT4-4, HT4-6, HT4-7

P1.1, P1.2





## A Portal to the Past

**S3 - Science, Geography**  
**Maths**

**S4 - Science, Geography,**

Duration: 2hrs

Unearth Parramatta's distant past on this exciting journey into deep time. Students will uncover what Parramatta was like over 200 million years ago, discover how the landscape was formed and how it, in turn, shaped the amazing critters that inhabited the area. They will learn how, in more recent times, the ancient foundations of Parramatta provided resources for Aboriginal inhabitants and settlers alike. Students will have an opportunity to handle, study evidence from real fossils, and to draw conclusions about past environments from those remains.

ST3-1WS-S, ST3-2DP-T, ST3-4LW-S, GE3-1, GE3-2, MA3-9MG, MA3-17MG

SC4-6WS, SC4-12ES, SC4-13ES, GE4-1, GE4-2, GE4-5, GE4-7, GE4-8



## The Artist, the Artwork, the Audience

**S4 - Visual Arts**

Duration: 2.5hrs

On this insightful walking tour students view a range of public artworks in the Parramatta CBD. The motivations of the various commissioning agents and the intentions of the artists are examined, along with the constraints inherent in the commission and imposed by the site. Students consider the likely audience for each work and how they might interact with the art. They will investigate the range of mediums incorporated in different pieces along with the practices of the artists.

Incorporating a range of murals, the tour enables students to identify the conventions of this artistic genre. A visit to the Parramatta Artists Studio will allow students to hear about resident artists and their practice.

AV4-1, AV4-2, AV4-5, AV4-8, AV 4.9



# Stage 5

## Making Sustainable Choices

*S5 - Geography*

*S5 – Commerce*



Duration: 2hrs

This walking tour showcases the sustainable and ethical consumption options that are available in Parramatta, including social enterprise, not-for-profit, charity and sustainable shopping opportunities.

Concepts such as the environmental and social impacts of consumption are examined. Insider tips and practical ideas for making a positive difference to the community and environment are shared. This will enable students to begin developing the skills, values and world knowledge to contribute to and progress towards more equitable and sustainable patterns of living.

This excursion is only available on Fridays to incorporate a site visit to the Parramatta Farmers Market. Other days can be arranged by prior request.

GEE4-4, GEE5-4, COM5-4, COM5-5, COM5-6





# Stage 6

## First Contact Walks – Trade, Friendships and Conflict/The Imbalance of Power

### S6 - Aboriginal Studies

Duration: 5hrs, including 2 x 2hr walks and 1hr meal break

Parramatta played a central role in the history of first contact in New South Wales. As the site of the extensive government farm, and the colony's first land grants, it was a place where dispossession of land strongly impacted Aboriginal people, and so it became a major focus for early frontier conflicts.

As a centre of governance for the colony, it was where the first recorded protest against this dispossession occurred; where the annual Native Feast was initiated by Governor Macquarie; and where the Parramatta Native Institute, widely recognised as the site of the first institutional removal of children, was located.

Parramatta was also the stage for a range of largely forgotten stories of trade, co-operation and some unlikely friendships. These stories allow participants the opportunity to look closely at the lives of individual Aboriginal people and consider how these illustrate the complex nature of first contact.

On this engaging walking tour students will visit a range of significant sites which illustrate the complex shared history of first contact between Aboriginal people and colonists during the first forty years of the colony. They will consider how this shared history came to shape policies and affected the lives of Aboriginal people for generations.



## Urban Dynamics

### S6 – Geography

Duration: 2-2.5hrs

Parramatta is changing fast! From business to recreation, accommodation to transport, there are big changes afoot. This lively and engaging presentation and walking tour will unearth and investigate current and future developments in the Parramatta CBD, including accommodation, economic, recreational and cultural developments.

Students will learn about the major infrastructure programs which are underway to support these developments, the planning processes involved, the inevitable disruptions and the desired outcomes.

They will develop skills in collecting, analysing and communicating urban data.

H1, H3, H5, H8, H9, H10, H12, H13



# New Virtual Classroom Experiences

## *Dharug Dalang, Yura and Dayalung*

### **Dharug Language, People and Culture Course**



*S2 - History*

*S3 - History*

**Cross curriculum learning - Aboriginal and TSI history and culture; Sustainability; Intercultural understanding; Diversity and difference; and Work and enterprise.**

This innovative course is introduced by an (optional) active and engaging incursion or excursion, which is followed by six online video sessions presented by Dharug elders, concluding with a live online Q&A session.

Our guides can visit your school to present an introductory Dharug language activity and some Aboriginal games, traditionally used to teach children environmental appreciation and survival skills. Alternately you can bring children on an excursion to beautiful Lake Parramatta for this introductory part of the program.

This is followed by three online video sessions introducing various aspects of culture, including the significance of welcomes and smoking ceremonies; sustainable use of natural resources; the creation and use of traditional tools and aspects of both traditional and contemporary Dharug life.

Three interactive cultural sessions follow where children learn a song in language, and then participate in weaving and painting sessions.

To complete this engaging learning experience students participate in an online Q and A session with Dharug elders. This can be delivered via Zoom or other online collaboration tool of your choice.

Dharug language is included throughout the course and the children will learn a range of basic words as they participate.

HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5

HT3-1, HT3-2, HT3-3, HT3-4, HT3-5

### **What our customers are saying:**

"This is a fabulous cultural experience. The program is professionally organised and delivered. The presenters are excellent and willing to share so much of their knowledge with students. I have struggled to find good resources to teach Indigenous perspectives, but this is an authentic experience that encourages true engagement with our first nations people. 5 stars out of 5."



# Aboriginal Culture Online

## History, Geography

Duration: 3 x 30 min sessions

This immersive online experience includes three video sessions (10-15 mins each) presented by Dharug elders and introducing some words in Dharug language. Children will learn the ongoing significance of ceremonies. They will discover a range of natural resources used for food, medicine and tools. Then they will discover how ceremony and natural resources feature in both traditional and contemporary Dharug life.

This is followed by an online Q and A session with a Dharug elder. This can be delivered via Zoom or other online collaboration tool of your choice.

HT2-1, HT2-2, HT2-4, HT2-5, GE2-2, GE2-3





## Urban Dynamics Online

### *S6 – Geography*

Duration: 1.5hrs

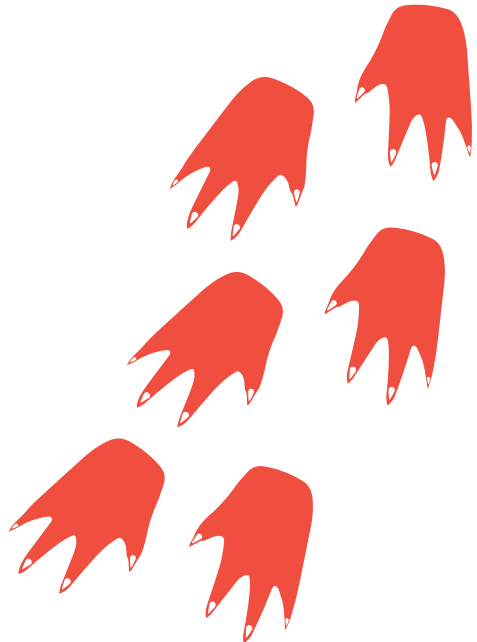


Parramatta is changing fast! From business to recreation, accommodation to transport, there are big changes afoot. This lively and engaging presentation will unearth and investigate current and future developments in the Parramatta CBD, including residential, economic, recreational and cultural developments.

Students will learn about the major infrastructure programs which are underway to support these developments, the planning processes involved, the inevitable disruptions and the desired outcomes.

They will develop skills in collecting, analysing and communicating urban data, utilising an interactive web portal.

H1, H3, H5, H8, H9, H10, H12, H13





## Parramatta People Online – Free access

**S2 – History, Geography**

**S3 – History, Geography**



Enhance your students' understanding of our colonial past with this series of short video biographies of the people who lived through it. Each video will bring to life the fascinating story of one person who lived in Parramatta since colonial times. Together they provide an overview of how the colony and how Parramatta continued to develop.

### **Available now:**

- Baludarri – A Burramatagal Man
- George Salter – Convict and Cattleman
- Betty Eccles – Dairymaid to the Governor
- James Houison – Colonial Architect
- George Caley and Daniel Moowattin – A Scientific Partnership
- Matron Gordon – Female Factory Superintendent

### **Coming soon:**

- Mak Say Sing – Chinese Entrepreneur
- Billy Hart – Aviation Pioneer

[historyandheritage.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/our-stories/parramatta-people](http://historyandheritage.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/our-stories/parramatta-people)

HT2-2, HT2-4, GE2-2, GE2-3

HT3-1, HE3-2, HT3-4, GE3-2

## **Teacher feedback:**

"Fascinating short histories of indigenous and non indigenous people who played critical roles in the early colonising period within Parramatta and beyond. These can easily and effectively be embedded into a range of both Primary and Secondary teaching and learning programs." Rachel Powell, James Ruse Agricultural High School



# Coming soon - Exclusive School Visits to Councils Civic and Cultural Centre

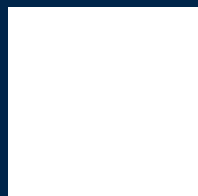
5 Parramatta Square is the fourth and final project to be delivered as part of the \$2.7 billion Parramatta Square precinct, one of the biggest urban regeneration projects in Australia.

The six-storey building for the City of Parramatta Council will include:

- A world-class public library at the forefront of technology, and a permanent home for a significantly enhanced City of Parramatta Library
- A ground-floor foyer (the 'Urban Living Room') with concierge, visitor services, Council customer services and a cafe, as well as spaces for live performances and cultural activities
- Community collaboration and creative spaces with associated programming and available for hire
- The new City of Parramatta Council Chambers
- Primary Schools programming will relate to civics and citizenship cross-curriculum learning priority and students can discover first hand the processes of Council decision-making
- Secondary School site visits will cover aspects of the Commerce and Legal Studies syllabuses including civics and citizenship cross-curriculum learning priority
- Schools can also explore the building, facilities and services available throughout the year.







Parramatta Heritage and Visitor Information Centre  
Accredited Visitor Information Centre

For assistance with information on attractions,  
educational programs and how to get around Parramatta:

Call **1300 889 714** or **02 8839 3311**

Visit: **[discoverparramatta.com](http://discoverparramatta.com)**

Email: **[education@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:education@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au)**



**CITY OF  
PARRAMATTA**