Japanese elective students attend cultural immersion day

Meriden's Year 10 Japanese elective students recently attended an excursion to the Nihongo Tanken Cultural Centre in Kirrawee. Tiffany Wang shares her experience with the School community in the following report.



On arrival at the Nihongo Tanken Cultural Centre, we were greeted enthusiastically by our host family for the day. We entered the tatami room (a traditional-style room with tatami flooring) and introduced ourselves in Japanese to our hosts who kindly prepared us a warm cup of *ocha* (green tea).

We then participated in several engaging activities, such as a word-matching competition and a shopping errand task at the *konbini* (convenience store) where students translated prices from Japanese and calculated which shops were the cheapest.

We also learned other phrases during the day, such as asking for directions and exploring the different parts of Japan, which directly related to our current class topic of travel.

For lunch, we enjoyed a bento box containing an assortment of dishes. We ate in the serene and calming gardens outside the centre.

After lunch, we got into groups and recited a brief interview scenario in Japanese. To enhance the immersive experience, we captured a video against a green-screen backdrop. We continued the day with a gameshow-style competition where we enthusiastically competed in several categories. We wrapped up the day with an engaging *kendama* contest, where the challenge was to successfully land a ball on a wooden hammer stick.

Thank you to our wonderful hosts for arranging our action-packed immersion day.





