Year 5 had an amazing excursion last week. It was our big excursion for the year and was very worthwhile. We visited Cadia mine first and looked at the very modern mining methods they have there and we were able to look for some gold and copper in the rocks that come from the mine. Unfortunately most of the gold we found was “fools gold”. The open pit was huge and we were intrigued at how it was dug out.

Our next stop was Mount Piper Power Station after a scenic tour of the countryside. This visit tied in with our science unit on electricity. We learnt so much from Wilf and Leo about the generating of electricity and the modern methods of reducing carbon emissions.
Our next stop was The Bathurst Goldfields. This was a fantastic visit and everyone had a great time and learnt so much. We were able to compare the modern methods of mining with the early days of gold discoveries. We went gold panning and some people were lucky enough to find some small pieces of gold in their pan.

Before this we were introduced to life on the goldfields by Kathleen who was “173” years old. She looked great though and assured us it was all to do with possum oil!! We made mud and straw bricks, played games such as tug o’war and quoits and cooked damper on the open fire.

We had a fantastic time and would love to go back there as there was so much to see and learn about.