

Year 6 Leadership Camp Reflections from our School & Vice Captains

Pippa, Henry, Keira, and I went to Collaroy Centre with many different captains from a variety of different schools all over the north shore. It was a terrific opportunity to build new skills and to help us improve our leadership.

From playing games like laser tag, to my personal favourite the high ropes course, as well as teaching us critical thinking skills and a bit of trial and error to get past each obstacle, each activity allowed us to work together to build powerful teamwork skills. We had some challenging games during the camp. The one I learnt the most from was the maze game where you had to direct a blind folded teammate towards the exit. This taught us that one of the best skills of a leader is just listening.

It was such a wonderful experience to meet new people and make strong friendships. It was such a great honour to be allowed to go to the camp and thanks to all Collaroy Centre staff members and kitchen staff that made it all possible to have a fantastic opportunity to gain experience and new skills.

John (5/6J)

On the 28th of July Keira, John, Henry and I had the privilege of attending the 2025 Leadership Camp at The Collaroy Centre. Leaders from all over Northern Sydney attended. Overall, there were about 200 children there.

Firstly, we were split into lots of different groups. Keira and I were in the same group with another 19 leaders from different schools. Our first activity was the challenge course. This was when we completed different activities as a group. These activities tested our skills of communication. We needed to be able to communicate to successfully complete each task. The task I found most difficult was the maze. For this activity we needed a partner. My partner was Keira. We had to guide each other through a maze while being blind folded. One of us was outside the maze and had to yell directions to the partner in the maze. And to top it all off we had to have a code for the directions and they had to be animal noises. For example, turning left may be squawk. This activity tested our communication and trust. We had to trust our partners not to lead us in the wrong direction. Even though this was tough, I enjoyed it.

Jumping off a cliff face with only a rope and harness to protect you may sound scary at first. Another one of our tasks was abseiling. Unfortunately, we didn't actually get to jump off a cliff face but we did jump down a 10m vertical wall. Standing at the bottom looking up and watching other people come down was exciting, but once I had my harness on and Keira and I were climbing up the ladder it became more scary. At the top of the tower I was a lot more nervous than before but having my best friend next to me made a big difference. When we were ready to walk down the wall Keira and I wished each other good luck and started our descent. When we got halfway we tried jumping. It was much harder than walking but I still had a go anyway. When we finished climbing down the wall I was so happy I completed this task.

Our last activity was orienteering. For this task we were in groups and had to follow a map around The Collaroy Centre. We were given a sheet with little boxes and at each point on the map we were meant to punch a hole into our sheet. Keira and I were in a group with our new friends Olivia and Rose. At first we got a bit lost and punched the holes into the wrong boxes. After a while we figured it out and got much quicker. In the end we finished just in time and found all the locations correctly. This activity taught me how to correctly read a map and how important teamwork is. After we finished this task teamwork meant so much more to me than before. I realised I could not have completed this activity without the help of my friends. Over the duration of camp this challenge was my favourite.

Overall, this camp has taught me the importance of communication and teamwork. I also learnt it is okay to be a bit nervous at times as well. Leadership camp was a great opportunity and I am so glad I attended.

Pippa (5/6B)

After completing several challenges in my session group, everyone started to communicate better, making new challenges easier to get through. One of the goals for a game was to all work together. The game had a seesaw where we all had to balance equally with 21 people but unfortunately many people fell off which eventually ended our balancing record of 35 seconds.

Another teamwork game was where we had to balance on 1 balancing beam, and we all had to order our birthdays in ascending order. But the 2 most important rules were that we did not have the ability to talk or communicate and only one person could step off the beam. We kept failing at the start of the activity but after numerous attempts without giving up, eventually we succeeded in the activity. I had a wonderful time at the Collaroy Centre, accomplishing many achievements throughout my time at the camp.

Henry (5/6C)

On the 28th of July, John, Henry, Pippa and I had the opportunity to go to the 2025 Leadership Camp. The camp was held at The Collaroy Centre, where over two hundred future leaders, from all over Northern Sydney attended.

The first activity my group completed was a series of challenges. My favourite of the challenges was called piranha lake, where we had to get all 21 of us on a 'not so big' tarp, without touching the ground or should I say the fake piranha lake. The only way we could get over to the tarp was to swing on a rope hanging from a tree. We also had to get a bucket of water onto the tarp without dropping a single drop. After falling numerous times and dropping the bucket a lot, we eventually managed to get all of us on the tarp. This challenge taught us teamwork and how to strategize together.

After lunch, which was provided by Collaroy centre, my group got to do the zip line also known as the flying fox. It looked scary at first but once you went on it it was so much fun. The zip line started at the top of a hill and ended at the bottom. It started really fast and slowed down when

you got close to the bottom of the hill. My group had to get safely strapped into the harness before we could have a go riding the zip line. It was so much fun and it taught us to face our fears.

The last activity we did was orienteering. We were given a map and a time limit, within that time limit we had to find all the points on the map. At the start of the activity my team got a bit lost and made a few mistakes but the further along we went the more we got a hang of the mission. It was really fun and my team got back to the starting point just in time and with all the correct locations. This activity taught us to be patient and how to work together.

I loved staying at Collaroy Centre, thank you for this amazing opportunity.

Keira (5/6C)