

## New Australians Experience Farm Life

On Monday June 23<sup>rd</sup> 18 enthusiastic Year 5-7 students visited the WA College of Agriculture to experience farm life.



The students had travelled from Perth for a week long excursion. The students are part of the English Second Language program run at Clarkson and Merriwa Primary Schools.

ESL specialist teacher, Melissa Kanzaki, explained the aim of the tour was for students to experience rural Australia and Australian culture and lifestyle.

The students were billeted out on farms, in the Three Springs District for the week, to be emersed in everyday rural Australian life.

Assistant Farm Supervisor, Geoff Baines, showed the students the farm, focussing on the animals.

The tour included the piggery, the hen house, the cattle nursery, the sheep yard, the bull yards and a drive around the paddocks.

Students experienced first hand how important walking slowly and quietly amongst the animals is. It was a lot of student's first opportunity to be up close to a cow. The cattle nursery proved popular with all the new calves to view.



The sheep were petted and caused a lot of entertainment as the students moved around the flock.

Mr. Baines expressed how impressed he was with the students especially how well they listened to instructions when it came to moving quietly amongst the animals.

Ms. Kanzaki reported the students were immigrants from Sudan, South Africa, Afghanistan, Vietnam, Colombia, Malaysia, Singapore, El Salvador, and Yugoslavia. One Aboriginal student was also part of the ESL program.

Thank you to Ms. Kanzaki, Mr. Brittan and Ms. Fussel for choosing the WA College of Agriculture – Morawa as part of this learning experience for the students.