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“She will bring a son to birth, and when she does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus—‘God saves’—because he will save his people from their sins.” -- Matthew 1:23 (MSG)



2017 - how quickly did the months go! We have all enjoyed this year, and have had many enjoyable moments. Now let's get onto the important stuff –the family highlights!

As a family, we went to some interesting places for holidays this year. We actually had two holidays – to Coffs Harbour in June and Ballarat in September. We also went on some shorter holidays such as our canoeing trip to Noosa River. Some of the highlights from the Coffs Harbour trip were visiting the Big Banana, and the day walks we went on. Some of the places we went walking at were Dorrigo National Park, Mooney Beach, Bongil Bongil National Park, and Muttonbird Island Nature Reserve. At Ballarat, some of our highlights were that we went trout fishing, went to Sovereign Hill, walked and rode the historical tram at a lake near our accommodation, and visited the Ballarat Botanical Gardens.

This year, Myles got two guinea pigs named Cookie and Lamington. Sadly, they were eaten by a carpet snake, so he got two near identical guinea pigs named Oreo and Espresso. Quite often we take them in at night to cuddle them. Chokito and all the birds have been going well.

Felix has had his first year of Middle School. He entered the Young ICT Explorers competition with Facemark, a program that uses facial recognition software to mark classroom rolls. He won a Merit Award for his year group for his program. Later this year, he entered the FIRST LEGO League competition in a team with other likeminded students in the school's Robotics Club. The team won the Innovative Solution Award for their research project, LeakCents, which is a pipe leak sensor. Felix was the main person working on the project.

Myles has had a good year with some exciting moments. Elizabeth had an old iPhone 5 from work, so Myles has gotten it, and is using it all the time. At Bald Rock, Myles has built a gunya (leaf hut). He has also began uploading to YouTube, and has gotten to 20 subscribers. His YouTube channel is called xAuz. Apart from that, he has been playing Minecraft and ROBLOX with some of his friends. He has also been doing image and video editing.

Our year has been very good, and we are looking forward to Christmas and whatever the New Year has to bring!

