

ISSE Mexico



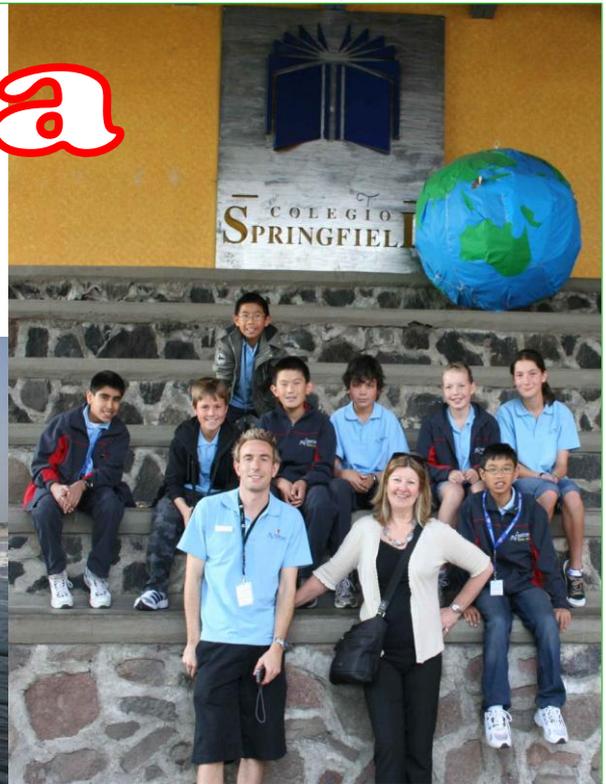
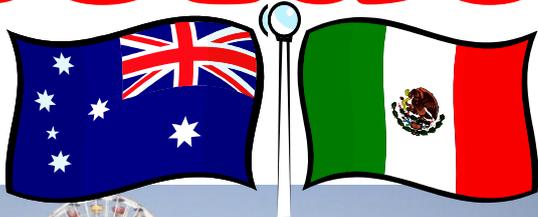
There are so many things about this cultural exchange that stand out. First of all it was the fantastic group of students we accompanied. Each one of them was a star in their own right and they were always 'Happy Little Vegemites'! The host families took great care of them all and ensured everyone was eating and sleeping well. The Mexican culture is so different to ours and it was a fantastic learning experience for us all. The history is amazing, the people are so friendly, warm and welcoming, and the food is sooooo good!! One of the things I personally will treasure forever is my wonderful host family. Laura and Uriel and all the members of their extended family were so very welcoming to me and made me feel like part of their family from the moment I arrived. In the short time we had together they managed to do so much for me and for that I am so grateful. My time in Mexico 2011 was a blast! I loved it all! Joanna Meehan

Travelling to Toluca, Mexico with the 2011 ISSE delegation was a wonderful experience that has left me with many lasting memories. Highlights of trip for me include seeing Toluca and Mexico City for the first time, enjoying the Mexican culture, eating traditional food dishes and seeing how their way of life is different from ours. The whole delegation enjoyed travelling to many places including Teotihuacan famous for its pyramids, staying overnight in Guanajuato, visiting Zacango Zoo and caving to see some amazing

stalactites and stalagmites. The ISSE provided the travelling students and chaperones with an amazing opportunity to travel overseas whilst making friendships and education links that which will last for many years to come. By Adam



Toluca



The people in Mexico were very welcoming. I stayed in the Ferrayra house with 5 other people. They treated us like family and we had a very emotional goodbye after building such close friendships. I'm sure we'll stay in touch for a long time. By Jackson

The biggest difference about Colegio Springfield and Mount View was the stairs! The school was at a high altitude and built into a hill. It wasn't wide, but it was very tall and there were stairs everywhere!!! It was very tiring! By Jonas

In Mexico, most people live in double storey houses. This is because there isn't enough land. Some of us stayed in 3 storey houses! My host had 8 pet dogs and 1 mouse. There were 5 people in my host family and they loved hot, spicy salsa, but I didn't! By Connor

In Toluca one of the most interesting things I ate was a grasshopper. It wasn't very nice! It was really salty and mushy on the inside, not at all like anything I'd eaten before. I much preferred the cheese tortillas. By Susan

The different excursions we went on were the Star Caves, the pyramids, silver mine and Guanajuato. We learnt lots about the history and independence of Mexico. The silver mine was cool! We went down 60m below, but the workers go 750m! By Jason

The lessons at school are different to MVPS. School starts at 7:30am for the seniors and 8:00am for the younger kids. We do 3 hours of English in the morning and go home by 2:30pm. By Jeremy

The best thing about ISSE was meeting our host buddies and making many new friends. The children are very close to their family members and spend lots of time with their extended families. My host brother was Egar and he liked soccer and basketball. By Oscar

I really enjoyed staying with my host family, the Nava-Pedraza family. I learnt that the Mexicans bury their kings in temples to preserve their bodies. ISSE was fantastic and I loved all of the stairs in the school! By Siddhant

The highlight of the trip was going to the pyramids and the caves. My host family were a lot of fun and we got on really well. I enjoyed the shopping in a large department store. It was like MYER, but better! The best thing I brought was my sombrero! By Jesse