



TOGETHER, WE

TRANSFORM

**MONGOLIAN  
PEACE CAMP**

**- A YOUTH EXCHANGE  
EXPERIENCE**





Participants in the three-week exchange program to Mongolia were fortunate to experience the colourful, centuries-old Naadam Festival in Ulaanbaatar. (Photo: Courtesy of *The UB Post*)

A **GROUP** of eight secondary students from Xavier College, NSW, and Victoria's Canterbury Girls Secondary College, Huntingtower School and Camberwell High School, had the privilege of experiencing the ancient nomadic culture of Mongolia in July 2017.

Accompanied by two chaperones from the Rotary Club of North Balwyn, Vic, the group spent an enriching three weeks in Mongolia's capital city, Ulaanbaatar, as well as

various regional areas.

During the camps, the students lived in *gers*, traditional round felt dwellings, at the Mongolian International Children's Camp, where they fostered connections with students from other countries and engaged in activities focused on promoting world peace. They built strong bonds with the Mongolian and Russian youth they teamed up with for cooperative games. The event is run in conjunction

with the National Authority of Children under the auspices of the Mongolian Government.

The *ger* is still used as housing by one third of Mongolians today; the suburbs of Ulaanbaatar are dotted with *gers* nestled among high-rise apartment buildings and single-storey houses. The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to experience this way of life, from the food