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Appetite for learning wins Byron Bay family an educational holiday

Celia Chew embraces every opportunity to learn.

The NSW resident from Byron Bay will spend the next week in Melbourne visiting the major tourist attractions and historic educational sites after winning ASG's 5-star Family Excursion, a holiday prize with an educational twist.

The holiday includes entry into the Melbourne Museum and IMAX cinema, the National Gallery of Victoria and a tour of the MCG.

"When I found out, I was shocked, I thought someone had played a joke on me, because I've never won anything like this before."

Celia and her husband Julian are kept busy with their three young children. Emma aged six, Elijah aged four and Naomi who is 15 months.

"I'm really excited about visiting the Melbourne Aquarian because the kids love animals and learning about them. They love watching shows and seeing different things they wouldn't normally see."

Celia entered the national competition asking entrants, "What inspirational ways do you use to help your child to learn?"

She impressed the judges with her response, "We use every opportunity as a learning opportunity—beach, bushwalks, family reading, drawing on the shower screen, counting peas on the plate. Learning is everywhere!"

ASG CEO John Velegrinis says innovation in learning also creates enjoyable family moments and fosters bonding.

"I congratulate Celia and Julian for embracing learning and realising that no opportunity should be missed. The role that parents have in their children's education was cemented in the 2015 ASG Parents Report Card. A key recommendation is that parents should demonstrate their support of their children, and remind them as they grow and learn how important education is to them. So parents are instrumental in their children's successes and if parents instil learning and share the aspirations they have for their children, this puts them in a really good stead for the future.

"That's also the concept behind this ASG family excursion, to encourage learning and inquisitive minds, while being out and about with friends and family."

Celia says her children have been counting down the days.

"They've been counting down from six sleeps and they were so excited yesterday morning with only one more sleep to go. Living in a small town, they love to go to big cities, so it's going to be a real cultural experience for them.

"I think I'd really like to go to Scienceworks because I love the hands on experiences and my little boy Elijah, he loves building things and things that move."

Celia and her family will be in Melbourne from Thursday 26 to Wednesday 2 December, 2015.

The excursion includes:

- return economy airfares
- return transfers between Melbourne airport and accommodation
- six nights twin share in five-star accommodation as selected by ASG
- AU\$1000 spending money
- free entry into the Melbourne Museum (including tickets to the IMAX cinema), the National Gallery of Victoria (and the Arts Centre exhibition), ScienceWorks, the National Sports Museum (with a tour of the MCG, subject to availability) and the Melbourne Aquarium, and transfers to and from ScienceWorks.

Ends.

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Editors notes:

The Australian Scholarships Group (ASG) is a member owned organisation, helping to create educational opportunities for children. ASG has been helping families and their children for more than 40 years. During this time, more than 520,000 children have been enrolled with ASG and more than \$2.3 billion in education benefits and scholarship payments returned to members. For more information visit: www.asg.com.au.