

National Boarding Week Activities Guide

ECHOES OF HOME



Home Country Map Wall – boarders place pins or photos on a large map showing where they come from, adding a short story, fun fact or memory.

Cultural Dress Day – invite boarders to wear traditional clothing, team colours, or outfits that remind them of home.

Shared Items Display – boarders bring an object from home (or a photo of one) and create a “Echoes of Home Gallery.”

Favourite Childhood Snacks Stall – set up a tasting station with nostalgic snacks from different regions or cultures.

Cultural Bake-Off or Cook-Off – boarders work in teams to recreate a meal that represents their family or heritage.

Memory Mural – boarders create a collaborative artwork representing things that “echo” from home: sounds, objects, sayings, traditions, people, pets, etc.

Echoes Playlist – boarders contribute songs that remind them of home; create a shared playlist for common spaces.

Traditions Through Time – a storytelling night where older boarders share memories from their early boarding years and traditions that shaped them.

Photo Walk: What Feels Like Home Here? – boarders take photos around the school or community capturing moments that feel like home.

Echoes Exhibition – art pieces or photos inspired by home: landscapes, pets, family quotes, symbols.

Cultural Craft Workshops – weaving, beadwork, carving, calligraphy, or craft traditions from boarders’ backgrounds.

Portraits of Home – each boarder paints or illustrates what “home” looks like to them.

Echoes Scrapbook – a communal scrapbook filled with memories, drawings, and messages from boarders across year levels.

High Tea or BBQ With Families – invite local families or those able to travel to celebrate the week together.

Inter-House “Echoes Games” – friendly competitions inspired by games students played at home (e.g., backyard cricket, traditional games, local sports).

Gratitude Wall: Messages to Home – notes of appreciation for family and community.

Backyard Games Tournament – Boarders teach and play the games they played growing up - backyard cricket, footy kicks, elastics, skipping games, spotlight/tag, handball, marbles, chasey, etc.

Boarder vs Day School Mini-Olympics: Include quirky home-inspired events such as gumboot throwing, sack races, backyard cricket accuracy, skipping, tug of war.