On Friday the 18th of March 2/5S welcomed Tex Skuthorpe a Nhunggabarra man into their classroom. Uncle Tex was NAIDOC National Aboriginal Artist of the Year 1990/91. Tex shared stories with our class about his culture and experiences using personal Indigenous paintings, drawings and photographs. All of Tex’s artwork incorporates a story, some are traditional stories and others, such as his environment work, tell the story of more contemporary issues.

Some highlights that the boys of 2/5S really enjoyed hearing about were how Nelson Mandela who served as President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999 was so intrigued and captivated by one of Tex’s paintings that he chose it for one of his private collections. In 1994, Tex presented a piece of work “Tomodachi” meaning friend to the Emperor of Japan, which is now in his private collection and destined to become part of the National Treasure of Japan.

The students of 2/5S completed their own drawings using many common Aboriginal symbols in their artwork. They listened to stories about the stars, planets, the land, animals, bush tucker, hunting and ancestors. They learned how Aboriginal Art symbols are used on all forms of Aboriginal Art to tell the stories of their history and culture. The students in 2/5S cooked Uncle Tex lunch and sat at the table and had it with him. We are so grateful for Uncle Tex’s visit and we are really looking forward to having him come to our school again to complete paintings and share more stories with us!

Thank you Tex Skuthorpe from the students in 2/5S.

Miss Sanchez and Miss Vic

