



Debney Meadows
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Debney Meadows Newsletter

Term 3 Volume 5

10 August 2009

Principal's Report

Dear Parents,

We have had an exciting start to our week this week.

Although it is the middle of winter and many people had a variety of other commitments, our winter Market Day was well attended by families and staff. The weather was superb. We couldn't have asked for a nicer day. Thank you to everyone who participated. Thank you to the families who made donations to our cake stall. A very special thank you to Jo, Helen, Khadra, Halima, Louise, Claire, Aine, Kerin, Jason and Esther who gave up their Sunday to help with the event. Also thank you to the many stall holders who came along to add to the atmosphere. Thank you to stall holders for their donations, even though sales and profits were down. The Debney Meadows Market Day raised a total of \$505.00 which is a great side benefit to a delightful community day.

We plan to hold a Market Day again next term in October, partly to raise funds but more importantly to celebrate and enjoy the wonderful community to which we belong. The stove for the After School Care kitchen will finally be installed which will make catering for these events far easier.

Thank you again to the whole school community for your support in building the community and helping the school raise funds to buy resources for our children's learning.

Thank you again for your support.

Christine Nash

Principal



Alison Lester Visit

Debney Meadows Primary School is very fortunate to have the Australian children's author and illustrator, Alison Lester, spend the whole day today visiting and working with classes.

Alison Lester was born in country Victoria. She grew up on a farm overlooking the sea and first rode a horse as a baby in her father's arms. Alison spends part of every year travelling to schools, using her books to help children and adults write and draw about their own lives. Alison began illustrating children's books in her late twenties. After training as a secondary art teacher she found that although she loved teaching art, she didn't like the everyday routine of school.

When Alison had her first child she started working from home illustrating other people's stories. After 5 years she found herself being selective with their texts and had a go at writing her own. "Clive Eats Alligators" was the result, and she has been writing and illustrating her own stories since then. Debney Meadows has a large selection of Alison's books which we have been reading and discussing in preparation for her visit.

Photos and student written accounts of the visit will be included in our next newsletter.

SCHOOL NEWS



Dates to Remember

Book Fair

Monday 17 to Friday 21 August

Parent Information Session

Drug Information

Friday 21 August 10am to 12 noon

Year 5&6 Camp

“Cottage by the Sea” Queenscliff

Monday 24 to Friday 28 August

School Council Meeting

Monday 7 September

3.30 to 5.00 pm

End of Term

Friday 18 September

After School Care

Monday

Athletics

Tuesday

Circus & Skipping

Thursday

Skateboarding

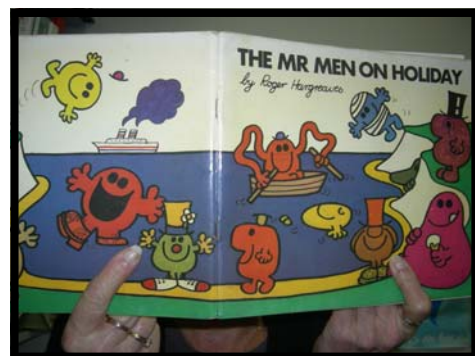
Come and join in the fun!



Book Week Competition

DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE CHILDRENS' BOOK?

Can you match the picture to the staff member?





PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Alcohol and Drugs Workshop

Friday August 21, 10 - 12 noon

We read about binge drinking in the newspapers.

We see advertisements about the dangers of smoking marijuana.

We hear about violence associated with alcohol and drug use.

How do we prepare ourselves and our children to live in a society where alcohol and drug use are common?

Come to the Alcohol and Drug workshop at Debney Meadows Primary School to find out more about this topic and hear about what parents can do to help their children as they grow up and socialise outside the family.

Outline of Session

- **What is a drug?**
- **What drugs are commonly used in Australia?**
- **What are the risks related to alcohol and drug use?**
- **The messages about safety we want to give to children.**
- **How do we talk to children so they will listen?**
- **How do we listen to children so they will talk?**