



Debney Meadows
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Debney Meadows Newsletter

Term 2 Volume 9

22 June 2009

Principal's Report

Dear Parents,

I was fortunate enough to attend the Western Metropolitan Region's "Westside Arts Concert" on Friday night and watch a number of our 2008 year 6 students represent Debney Park Secondary College in performances at the concert. Betty and Arok were part of a singing group who sang to guests as they arrived in the foyer. Kim and Jenny both played the flute in a band which had students from a number of secondary schools. All were pleased to see me and were very excited about their achievements.

It is the last week of term 2 and students and staff are looking forward to the school holidays. Teachers have been working particularly hard to ensure all reports are completed and representative of student efforts and achievements. Reports will be distributed during the Parent Teacher Interviews held on Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June. Parents are asked to arrive on time as it has taken a lot of organisation to ensure interpreters are available at the time of the interviews.

There will be a number of changes to our staffing profile in term 3. All arrangements to accommodate these changes have been made to minimise disruption to classes and your children's education. Lorna Langford is taking a well deserved 6 months holiday and will be replaced by Claire Fletcher who moves from the role of After School Care Coordinator to P1L classroom teacher. We wish to thank Lorna very much for the excellent introduction she has given P1L students to the 2009 year and wish her well in her adventures over the next 6 months. Esther Hassett will continue to support in the P1L classroom but has also taken on the role of After School Care Coordinator. Esther's role will be to organise and manage activities, staffing, student behaviour, policies and practices in the After School Care program. Jo will manage enrolments and the payment of fees and Child Care Benefits. Anita is taking 6 weeks Long Service Leave at the start of term 3 for a family overseas visit. She will be replaced by Jessica. Zakiya has needed to take leave for the first 2 weeks of term 3. Zakiya's program will be covered by a Casual Replacement Teacher (CRT) for this time. Fortunately all other staffing remains the same. Louise will return from Long Service Leave at the start of Term 3. We also hope to have the assistance of 3 RMIT students on placement until the end of the year who can help with lunch time activities, supervision of KAP room at recess and lunch, SRC, Playpals, leadership roles and transition.

The Student Representative Council (SRC) Cake Stall fund raising activity on Friday was very successful. \$177.00 was raised. The SRC plan to put this money towards the purchase of an additional computer for the computer laboratory. Thank you very much to all parents sent along cakes and money for their children to purchase. The additional computer for the computer lab has already been ordered as we are hoping the funds raised with the gold coin donation on the last day of term's "Free Dress Day" will raise the extra amount needed.

We greatly appreciate your support.

Christine Nash
Principal



Free Dress Day!

Friday 26 June

Gold coin donation please



Dates to Remember

Parent Teacher Interviews

Tuesday 23 & Wednesday 24 June
3.30 - 6.30

Last Day of Term

Free Dress Day

Friday 26 June 1.30pm finish

First Day Term 3

Monday 13 July

School Council

Monday 3 August

BMW Edge Excursion

On Friday 16 June, 4/5/6A & K performed two music pieces at BMW Edge at Federation Square. 4/5/6A recreated Puccini's Turandot with their own instruments and 4/5/6K performed a Taiko inspired drumming piece. We practiced these pieces in music classes.

There were also even other schools performing at BMW Edge.

When we arrived at school Anita and Kerin checked our lunches and got us prepared for what was going to happen for the day. We ate our snack early. We departed at 10.30am and arrived in the city at about 11.00am. After everyone arrived we watched the other schools perform. Our school was 2nd last to perform. After all the performances were finished we ate lunch for about 15 minutes. Then we watched a special performance by Peter Combe who sang fun songs. A lot of people enjoyed his performance. Finally when the performance ended it was time for both classes to go back to DMPS.



Students enjoying the Peter Combe performance.



Students' Work

Several weeks ago we published a story by Milita titled *Our Angel Forever*. This is the sequel, *Back From the Death*.

Please see Milita if you would like your work to be published in the newsletter.

Back From the Death *(Sequel from Our Angel Forever)*

This story continues from...When they were in primary school. This story is told in Jamie's point of view.

Preface

Time can never be stopped because nobody can stop it.

Have you ever wondered what it was like in the high skies?

Well I, Jamie Smith have reached to that point of my life.

*If it was time to choose 2 of the most important decisions in your life what would you have chosen?
Life or death?*

This is the journey of me, Jamie Smith

I woke up not knowing where I was. The only things I remember seeing were bright lights, cards and flowers all around my bed and also people who seemed so familiar but I couldn't tell who they were. Then all the unknown people shouted "JAMIE YOU'RE ALIVE" I still didn't quite understand why they were saying that. "Where am I?" I asked this kid who was probably around the same age as me. "You're in the hospital" the familiar voice replied. "Who are you?" I asked hoping I knew this person. "Don't you remember me?" the strange voice said again. "I'm Jacob your best friend, Kate, and Ally are here too" said Jacob. I thought about it for a second and then suddenly I had a flashback.

Straight away this moment of school came to me. I remembered they were my classmates. Now I knew who they were. Finally I remembered some people.

But I still didn't understand why I was in hospital. "Why am I in hospital?" I said softly hoping someone would have heard me. I didn't have the strength anymore to say things loud. I felt weak and clumsy. "Because you were really sick and then you fainted so that is how you ended up in here" said Kate. "You are very lucky to be alive" said a person dressed in a white uniform. It was probably a doctor or a nurse.

After I was relaxed I had a weird feeling that this wasn't the first time it would happen. I got scared but then said to myself. It's just a dream. That didn't help because I knew this was reality, not a dream. So then I said to myself no need to be scared, I still and always will have my family and friends supporting me.

A lot of years passed from the hospital stay. I was feeling healthy. By this time I was about 28 years old. I haven't seen my friends since the last day of primary school which was a grateful long time ago. I will never forget them.

One day I was out shopping for food and I saw a person who looked like Kate. I wasn't sure if it was actually her but it sure did look like her. Even though I don't really know how she would look after 20 years. I was scared and also brave. I didn't know what to do. Should I call her name out loud or quiet? Either one wasn't going to help me now because it was too late. The girls left the shopping centre just when I was about to take some action of who she actually was. Hopefully I do meet her again in the future.

I got a bit lonely for a couple of months. I was truly missing Kate, Ally and Jacob. Now that I lived by myself. I don't have a person to cheer me up. A few days later I couldn't handle it anymore. That's when I realized I was... depressed. Every now and then I wouldn't eat or talk to anyone. That's when I decided to buy a pet cat. Her name was Kitty. Sometimes it seemed that Kitty understood what I was going through.

One cold morning I woke up with a pain all over my body. So I went to the garden to see if Kitty could get the pain out of me. But when I went out the door I prepared for the worst. I saw...Kitty...flat on the floor. My first thought was my loving soul mate was now joined up there with the rest of my family. I was the only one left in this legacy family. We were known as that because my grandpa's father who was my great grandpa fought in World War II.

By this time I felt like I had enough of life and it was time to move on. By that I meant joining them up there. Since I didn't quite have the life I wanted. Going through depression was a hard time in my life. Well I do have a choice it's either go and fight for my life or leave this world for good and never come back.

If I left this world I wouldn't regret a thing because what else do I have in my life? Nothing at all. Like I will ever see Jacob, Kate and Ally ever again anyway.

I spent the last year of my life trying to recover from depression. I just did that to make everyone proud even though I couldn't talk to those I loved. I knew this was the right choice.

It was a little too late.

It was on the 18th of November when I was watching television and I felt this pain in my heart. A pain I've never felt before. Was it really the time? "Oww, OWWW" I cried. In my head I was saying these words because I was totally speechless. The words wouldn't come out my mouth. LIFE DEATH LIFE DEATH... DEATH. One second later I fell to the ground head first. After a few seconds my sight faded into black darkness. I also felt extremely numb. The last thing I remember hearing was 3 people calling "Jamie, Jamie don't leave us not yet!!!"

This is all I can recall from my life.

But I'm not gone yet. I can hear every single thing Kate, Jacob and Ally do. It was so sweet of them to live together just for me and they also left a lovely room with all my things in it.

Always and always do remember. I'm only gone for the moment. Next thing you know is that I'm making noise in my memorable room.

This was just the beginning of something new in the real world.

By Milita