



Debney Meadows  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# Debney Meadows Newsletter

Term 2 Volume 3

5 May 2009

## Principal's Report

Dear Parents,

I am sure everyone is anxious to hear about the decisions made at the Extra-ordinary School Council Meeting on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

The motion "That the Debney Meadows School Council agrees to invite the Western Metropolitan Region to explore options for a possible merger with Flemington Primary School" was lost with one vote in favour, six votes against and one abstention (one School Councillor didn't vote). This means there will be NO discussion with the Department of Education or Flemington Primary School about the two schools merging.

A second motion "That Debney Meadows School Council agrees to the Principal putting forward a submission for a total refurbishment of the school building, creating open learning spaces with the inclusion of Interactive White Boards in each area, an upgrade of the ablution facilities, administration and kitchen areas to provide an occupationally health and safe school environment which supports contemporary teaching and learning practices to the Western Metropolitan Region for the Economic Stimulus Package Primary Schools of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" was passed unanimously. This means that I will put this submission to the Western Metropolitan Region for approval. If accepted this submission will then be forwarded to the Commonwealth Government. If it is rejected we are still able to appeal directly to the Commonwealth. We are likely to be in round three so will not hear of an outcome until early June. We will keep you informed.

Parents at the meeting asked School Council to consider options for Debney Meadows Primary School to increase its enrolments so it can continue to provide the best educational opportunities for all students. Our next School Council meeting is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 3:30pm where we will try to identify some possible solutions. All School Council meetings are open to parents to participate in discussions. We would greatly appreciate your attendance and ideas at this meeting.

We hope to see you there.

Christine Nash

Principal



## CAKE STALL



Dear Families

We are having a cake stall at school this FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> May. Our Student Representative Council will decide how the money raised will be used for the students at Debney Meadows.

**Could you please send a cake to school on Friday for us to sell?**

Students need to bring money to buy a cake. Students will be able to buy slices of cake for 50 cents or \$1.00 at 1:45pm.



## **Parenting Program for Parents of Adolescents.**

Based on ABCD program.

Tips for dealing with issues parents face raising adolescents in Australia e.g. drugs, setting limits, cross-cultural issues etc.

Starts Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> for 5 weeks 9:30-12:00

Please let Claire or Jo know if you are interested.

## **Dates to Remember**

**Cake Stall**  
Friday 8 May

**Healthy Lunch & Dinner Program**  
Debney Meadows Primary School  
Thursday 7 May 10 - 11.30am

**“Adolescent Parenting Program”**  
Friday 8 May 9.30 - 11am

**School Council Meeting**  
Monday 11 May 3.30 - 5pm

**Queen’s Birthday Holiday**  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June

**School Council Meeting**  
Monday 15 June 3.30 - 5pm

**Parent Teacher Interviews**  
Tuesday 23 & Wednesday 24 June 3.30 - 6.30

**Last Day of Term**  
Friday 26 June 1.30pm finish

*This newsletter item features an article that highlights some of the activities that are taking place at the school. Please contact Michael O’Brien on 9376 1622 or email [obrien.michael.b@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:obrien.michael.b@edumail.vic.gov.au)*



### **Debney Park Secondary College Information Evening**

Primary school students and their parents are invited to attend an information evening which will provide an opportunity to learn more about our programs and to tour the school. Primary students will be able to work with some of our teachers and students by participating in some fun activities. Parents will be able to meet current parents of young people at Debney and discuss all of the issues surrounding the selection of a secondary school.

*Wednesday 13 May 2009*

*7:00 to 9:00pm, followed by light refreshments*

*Debney Park Secondary College Library*

*167-175 Mt. Alexander Road, Flemington 3031*

RSVP to Hue Borzini on 9376 1622 or [Borzini.hue.v@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Borzini.hue.v@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## Fresh Fruit Tuesdays

As a part of our Kids Go For Your Life Program we are able to provide fresh fruit for students every Tuesday. Thanks to Seu Jing and Kiung for preparing the fruit every week.



# Student Representative Council

The SRC meet with Christine and Louise every Monday at 9.30am. There is a girl and boy SRC member from each class. We talk about issues in the school and events that can be done. The SRC suggested fundraising money goes towards purchasing laptop computers for students to use.

## Fundraisng

There is a fundraiser happening this term. It is a cake stall. The fundraising leaders are Kim-My and Hellen from 4.5.6K. We are raising money for the school. If you have any ideas for fundraising see Kim-My or Hellen.

### After School Care

Active After School Communities Coaches are starting this week.

. Tuesday - Games,  
Wednesday - Soccer,  
Thursday - Skateboarding.

## Healthy Lunches & Dinners

Come together to learn, share ideas and make some healthy family foods for packed lunches and delicious dinners. **FREE!**

This Thursday is lunch at Debney Meadows Primary School

Interpreters and Childcare available.



## SCHOOL TOURS AND INFORMATION SESSIONS

We are offering school tours and information sessions on the following dates:

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 9:30 – 10:30am

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 9:30 – 10:30am

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 9:30 – 10:30am

## KINDERGARTEN TO SCHOOL TRANSITION

Children from our local kindergartens will attend school transition visits on the following dates:

### St Brendans (Dianne)

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 10:00 – 10:50am Library and prep classroom

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 10:00 – 10:50am Library and prep classroom

### Hopetoun (Sarah)

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 9:15 – 10:00am Library and outside playground

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 9:15 – 10:00am

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June 9:15 – 10:00am Computer Lab and sandpit

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 9:15 – 10:00am

# Students' Work

Hi, I'm Milita Jap and I am one of the newsletter leaders. I contribute to the newsletter regularly as part of my student leadership job. I was hoping if anyone had any work that they might want in the newsletter they could come and talk to me about it.

## Our Angel Forever

Hi I'm Ally and this is my story.

When I was 6 I met my best friends. Their names were Jacob, Kate and Jamie. Luckily we were all the same age. We have been best friends for many years.

Now sadly this was about to end. Because now we were all 12 years old. That meant we were in our last year of primary school. This was possibly the last week together.

I have thought a lot about secondary school. My parents had always wanted me to go to this fantastic school in the city.

Over the night I thought about it. I have decided to go to the city school and make my parents proud.

Before I knew it, it was time for school. I got ready to go to school and then I was out the door.

At school I told Jacob and the others about my decision. "Hey guys!" Jacob said. "What high school are you going to?" Jacob asks me. "This wonderful school in the city" I replied. "Oh, I have asked the others and they are going to DIFFERENT SCHOOLS!" Jacob said sadly! Kate and Jamie were speechless about my choice. Before I could say anything the bell rang to go to class.

"WOW" I said to myself relieved. One more week of school. I still could not BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE WAS GOING TO DIFFERENT SCHOOLS!!! Time was going very fast.

Today was the last day of school. Hopefully this was going to be the best day of my primary school time.

In the morning I could see this was going to be a different day. First of all our teacher had a camera. "YAY PHOTOS" whispered Kate to Jamie. Kate was correct. I have never liked to take photos but for this I did not mind. The teacher took photos of us with our friends playing games.

Now it was time to eat then it was out to play.

When we came back inside. WE SAW... LOTS OF...FOOD! The very first thought of mine was PARTY! One second later I saw a sign on the wall that read 'PARTY' There was everything you dreamed for on the table including chocolate fountains, triple scoop ice-cream and huge lollipops. After we all ate it was dancing time.

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By this time it was 2.20pm that meant that there was 10 minutes left until we go home and also say our goodbyes to all the teachers. "NOOO..." cried Jacob, Jamie, Kate and I.

Ten minutes later it was time to go home. I was so sad!!! I busted into tears! I hugged the teachers.

Then I ran to my best friends and gave them the biggest hug ever. "I WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR BEST FRIEND!" I said still sobbing in tears. We had a memorable chat.

Three years later I still have never seen them. Ever since the memorable chat.

Another year went past. One day I had a phone call from the hospital. They said "We have some devastating news to tell you, are you ready to hear it?" I was speechless for a minute or two. Then said "yes..." I took a deep breath. "With the bottom of my heart...I would like to tell you that... Jamie had died a few hours ago with a deadly heart attack. I still did not believe what I just heard. "NOO YOU HAVE GOT TO BE JOKING" I said in tears. "This is serious Ally" the nurse told me again. I still could not believe my best and childhood friend is gone forever and whatever I do his never going to come back to this world full of people who loved him.

One week later. It was Jamie's birthday and also his funeral. I attended the funeral of Jamie Smith who was born on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November 1979. Only at the age of 30. It was a very emotional time but also a strange time because I saw...MY BEST FRIENDS...JACOB AND KATE. "AHHH" I cried. They turned around and looked at me. I was scared. How about if they did not remember me after 23 long years. "Is that really you Ally?" Kate said. WOW YES IT IS ME, YOU GUYS HAVE CHANGED SO MUCH" I said so surprised! After a minute of silence I gave them the biggest hug like the last day of primary school. We talked about everything we could think of.

Finally we all decided to move in together in a house near the countryside where there was peace and quiet space. It was Jamie's favourite spot peace and quiet. I also did not waste a second. I needed Kate and Jacob's phone numbers. Now that they were old enough to have a mobile phone. So now we could never be out of contact.

One month later we moved into our new house. It had a lot of room. There was a large outdoor area. We had a room with Jamie's thing. Kate, Jacob and I will never forget him.

A year passed and we still lived in the same house. There were some days that we thought we could hear Jamie's angel voice. Other times if we listened carefully we heard sounds that came from Jamie's memorable room.

No matter what happens we always and always will know that Jamie is watching upon us until we join him up there.

By Milita 4/5/6K