

Hi Shane and Barbie

Thanks so much for such a lovely welcome today! It really was so wonderful chatting and getting to see all the changes (and seeing people who hadn't changed one bit!). The website for the Centre for Early Childhood development is www.cecd.org.za and you can email Prof. Eric Atmore on cecd@iafrica.com for additional details and/or how to get involved.

I've attached two links, the first being the link to purchase the book online and the second link being to the "Tails and Treats" Facebook page- where you can become a fan and be kept abreast of happenings as we undertake book readings, cookery classes and book signings- so we'll hopefully get a lot of Oakhill footage on there....

www.publisher.co.za/cart/details/42/5/children/tails-and-treats

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tails-and-Treats/168951676473448>

The above pages don't contain the background to this book- so I thought I'd reiterate it here: "Tails and Treats" was inspired by a children's book I had to write in Std. 7 in Mrs. Pasio's English class- "The magic moonbeam". I loved English whilst at school but decided to pursue a qualification in Management Accounting (which I'm sure PB would be proud of). Accounting textbooks and financial models drained me of my creative juices as you can imagine, but whilst on maternity leave last year I was gripped with this desire to be creative again and thus decided to write a children's book.... "Tails and Treats" was born!

The book is targeted at children between the ages of 5 and 10, and profits from the sale of the books are going to the South African Centre for Early Childhood Development (www.cecd.org.za)- the aim being to invest in the lives of those most vulnerable in our society whilst investing in our children at the same time.

It was important for me that the book:

- Allowed for the children to be creative and stimulate their "right" brain.
- Provided the children with facts and information to stimulate their "left" brain.
- Contained a message, to instill values at a young age.
- Was proudly South African.

The book (and Chef Uniform) is now also available at the following outlets for R150:

- Exclusive Books
- Fascination Books
- Wordsworth Books
- Estoril Books
- Selected P.N.A's
- C.N.A

Otherwise you can order books directly through me at a discounted price of R100 by e-mailing info@tumbleweedtrading.com or phoning me on 082 446 6296.

Thanks so much for your enthusiasm- I look forward to taking this forward!

Warm regards

Lara

Ladies and Gentlemen, you work in a magnificent institution! An institution which has made a significant difference in the lives of all the young men and women who have passed through these doors over the years. This has been done despite the odds that have been stacked against us and it has been done by warm, wonderfully vibrant teachers who have given of themselves selflessly.

This morning I met Lara Maré – a young lady who attended Oakhill in the late 90's. She is a bright, self-aware, energetic young lady who has made a significant difference in the world. She studied at the University of Stellenbosch and has a Master's degree in Financial Management and talks fondly of her time in PeeBee's class. She is currently on a sabbatical from Deloitte and Touche while her partner completes his MBA at Oxford in the UK. They have a young boy who is 13 months old and while she was on maternity leave she wrote a well-researched book called "Tails and Treats", a story suitable for children between the ages of five and ten. So, not only do we celebrate Kevin Evans, the cycling star, and Michelle Eray, the paddling star, but we can celebrate our own Author, inspired by a project given in Sheila Pasio's class in her grade 9 year.

If you ever doubt that you do not influence the futures of these young men and women, you should seek out young lady's like Lara. She is a breath of fresh air and someone who understands the selflessness of teachers and is humbled by it. It made my day even though I never taught her and it reminded me that we do have a purpose and that we do have influence to nurture those in our care.

Shane Kidwell

