



Up Up & Away

NEWSLETTER September 2008

**Foundation for Young Australians
And DSNSW**

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Enclosed:

Animation workshop- all welcome

**Invitation to parents and carers for informal coffee
and chat**

Andrew's Eurotrip



I went to France and Italy with my family for 3 weeks - Paris, Venice, Florence, Rome and Milan.

My mum and dad bought a watch in Paris for my 21st birthday and we had a special birthday lunch in the Jules Verne

restaurant in the Eiffel Tower.

I bought an Italian belt in the markets in Florence. We went to see Michelangelo's statue of David. My favourite meal was pasta with truffles at a cool restaurant in Venice.



The most interesting buildings were in Rome. The coliseum is like a big sports stadium and they had gladiator fights with wild animals.

Andrew Case

Andrew - we are soooooooooooooo wishing we could have come along!!

Amrita's detective day



One of Amrita Ramjas' goals is to become a detective so it was great when the University of Western Sydney organized for Amrita to join in their 'Science in the Suburbs' day at their Hawkesbury Campus on 23rd September.

Amrita attended a number of seminars about forensic science. Prof Glenn Porter (pictured with Amrita in her 'scene of crime suit') organized for Amrita to collect evidence (including finger prints, footprints and blood!!) at their scene of crime house. Amrita said it was one of the most exciting days of her life! It's her major ambition to become a detective.



My fair lady

If any participants and families are interested in coming to see "My Fair Lady" at Sydney's Theatre Royal starring Richard E. Grant please get in touch with Miriam (96831900) by end of October. No date has been set as yet.

Team Voice Report

Hi!



I have to say well done to Julia, Josh, Miriam Noble, Danielle and Shona who have been chosen to do the disc jockey and DVD soundtrack work with Nick Toth that is fantastic news for them- have fun!

Team coaches and film staff keep up the good work!

Thanks!

James

Research Update

Miriam has now completed around 16 interviews with participants, team coaches and parents.

She is currently writing up ('transcribing') the interviews. There is lots of positive feedback about the impact of the project. Here are some of the key messages which have come out of interviews so far:



Participants say:

- They are making new friends
- They like meeting at the workshops
- They have got support in learning new skills like traveling and budgeting
- Those who have circles of support say it has helped them many achieve goals already and helped some people get closer to their siblings and other important people in their lives.

Parents say:

- They appreciate the support from coaches in many areas.
- They want their sons and daughters with Down syndrome to enjoy all the opportunities that life has to offer but this has to happen at a pace that they feel comfortable with and which they feel is safe for their son/daughter.
- They feel the project is flexible in meeting their individual circumstances as a family.

Coaches say:

- They really like working in such a person-centered way, focusing on what the participants want to do and achieve.
- They have learned a great deal from working with participants and families in this way
- All staff like working together as a team
- They think James is doing a good job

More in November..... If any parent or participant has not been interviewed but would like to be, please contact Miriam on 96831900.

All people interviewed form part of the research steering group
Next research Steering group: Sunday 16th November 2-4pm
 at Miriam's house. Please let me know if you are going to
 attend.

Dates for your diary

Dates	Who is involved or invited	Event
Sat 27 th Sept	Everyone	Film and book editing workshop at Rydes Eastwood Leagues Club
Sat 18 th October	Everyone	Animation workshop
Sunday 19 th October	Everyone	DSNSW Buddy Walk
Sat 25 th October	Everyone	Film and book editing workshop at Rydes Eastwood Leagues Club
Sat 25 th October	Danielle, Shona, Joshua, Julia, Miriam Noble	DJ and Soundtrack workshop at the Seymour Centre
1 st November	Danielle, Shona, Joshua, Julia, Miriam Noble	DJ and Soundtrack workshop at the Seymour Centre
8th November	Danielle, Shona, Joshua, Julia, Miriam Noble	DJ and Soundtrack workshop at the Seymour Centre
Sunday 16 th November 2-4pm	All research participants	Research Steering Group
29 th November	Danielle, Shona, Joshua, Julia, Miriam Noble	DJ and Soundtrack workshop at the Seymour Centre
29 th November	Everyone	Flamenco Workshops

		at Ryde Eastwood
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