

Stuck at School

03/03/2023

Dear Diary,

It's Friday, I was getting my kit bag out of my locker in Hayward when all of a sudden the light started flickering, and then nothing. No lights; no people, nothing...

The whole of Bethany School went silent, I expected there to be yells and shrieks from the other students but nothing. Although I was terrified and confused I knew that there had to be someone else. Or at least I thought there had to be.

After what felt like an hour of frantic searching, I was starting to panic. I had searched everywhere, the cage, the Astro, all of the buildings, I even went into all of the bathrooms, no luck. As I calmed myself down, I tried to think logically. Ten minutes passed, I thought I could call my parents and tell them what had happened. I began looking and then it hit me, this was the only day ever that I had forgotten to bring my phone!

It was already 5:00 O'clock. Maybe my parents were here to pick me up. No. Ok, no people, no adults, NO RULES, NO WAY OF GETTING CAUGHT. Isn't this every kid's dream? That was the point that I started to think optimistically. Even though I knew there was no one here, I needed to make sure that no one could ever know what I would do.

Smashing up the CCTV cameras was surprisingly not as fun as I thought it would be, but it did take my mind off things for a bit. Before I knew it, it was already 9:00pm. I wondered where the best place was to get some food and rest. Food tech and Wellness were my best options right now. Luckily for me they must have just made pizza, so obviously that was my dinner, I walked up to Wellness and laid on the beds and soon I was fast asleep...

17/03/2023

Dear Diary,

I have finally found Mr Healy's stash of chocolate; I've been onto him for ages but now I've found it, I have proof. Cadbury Whole Nut, you've got to give it to him, he has spectacular taste in chocolate! This week hasn't been very successful, I haven't found out what has happened to everyone, and I still haven't found a way out. But I have found a friend - his name is Derrick. Derrick is tall and thin, fabulous hair, almost like dreadlocks but he does have a strange odour about him which reminds me of corridors. We met when I tripped over a bucket and he helped me up, we haven't left each other's side since.

31/03/2023

Dear diary,

Don't judge me but today I got so bored that I decided to lead my own chapel assembly with Derrick standing at the back and cheering me on, obviously as I could not give myself student of the week, Derrick had the honour of being awarded this certificate. He is always helpful; he is never in a bad mood, he is a great listener and last but not least, Derrick shows great perseverance with sports, even though he is not naturally gifted. I think he was pleased but I'm not really sure because he's not exactly the emotional type. We finished up with a song of Derrick's choice, he opted for the disco classic, Car Wash by Rose Royce - he didn't do much singing though.

14/04/2023

Dear Diary,

Time for some redecoration, I have found hidden spray paint in Mrs Hayward's drawer so you can guess what me and Derrick are going to do with these... First, we started with The Hayward Building. Derrick wasn't very enthusiastic so he just lent against the lockers and waited for me. I spray painted a load of animals onto the walls, but I did leave the classrooms as they were. I did the corridors in science but the same as in Hayward, I didn't do the classrooms because I was scared that there might be a chemical reaction. Although this was fun the spray cans soon ran out and I had to throw them away. Finding food hasn't been very tricky because everything I need is ether in Food Tech or the Dining Hal, I so I'm not doing too badly.

28/04/2023

Dear Diary,

IT'S DERRICKS BIRTHDAY!!!! Today was great, I can't believe that it is Derrick's birthday today. We filled ourselves up on pizza, chips, peas, cake and more delicious foods, it was basically a banquet. I didn't have very much time to find him a present, so I made a portrait of him in the art room. As we were packing up our meal I accidentally spilled my cup of squash on the floor, and even though it was his birthday, Derrick kindly cleaned it up and made the floor shine.

11/06/2023

Dear Diary,

I have to say, today has been full of surprises. It started off with the usual fish and chips for breakfast followed by some pudding from Mr Healy's secret stash, and then things started to get a little bit interesting. Derrick and I had been poking around in Mr Sturrock's office, Derrick always wanted to look in people's cupboards, and we found something that blew our minds. I had wondered how Mr Sturrock managed to get around the school so swiftly, always popping up when you thought you'd just seen him somewhere else.

Derrick and I had found the secret of his success - a neon, light up, ultimate skateboard with lightning bolt decals. It took us two seconds to decide that we needed to take it out for a spin in the car park- immediately. What we didn't realise was that when we reached the carpark, it was suddenly full of cars, and parents picking up their children- just like any other day at school.

What was going on? Why now? What had happened?

We decided to hang back and watch for a while, until only my parents' car was left waiting. I looked at Derrick and realised his parents weren't coming for him. I couldn't leave him behind. All through this strange time he had been my best friend, my partner in crime, he had cleaned up after me and supported me when I needed him the most. He would have to come home with me. It was decided.

I was overjoyed to see my family again, my Mum and Dad and Zoe had all come to pick me up - I had so many questions, but as I introduced everyone to Derrick and we got into the car, my sister had some questions of her own.

"Hi Mattie, how's your day been? Was it fun? Who's Derrick? And why are you bringing a mop home with you?"

By Matthew C