

# New Beginnings

By Sydney Dow, Hawea Flat School

Mackenzie was top in the class in everything, A+ and best grades in the school! But since she was so smart every student thought she was Miss-goodie-two-shoes. They didn't think she deserved it, but she never made a big deal about it.

One average night, Mackenzie was lying in bed doing random stuff like checking messages and taking photos. But wait. What is this? No way. She couldn't believe it. Was this really happening? BOOM! Snapchat overload: *nerd girl, baby face, pointy nose*, sent to everyone in her year group!

The next day, Mackenzie was petrified to go to school but tried not to show it. She was determined not to look anyone in the eye. As soon as she stepped into the classroom not one person blinked, or even glanced at someone else. Mackenzie usually sat in the fronts, but since all her feelings had died, she moved to the back, which meant Mrs Fields knew something was up.

As soon as the free period bell rang, Mrs Fields wanted to check up on Mackenzie.

"No, I'm fine I don't, really want to talk about it." Mrs Fields insisted, and after some time, Mackenzie told her that some people at school had posted extremely rude things on Snapchat about me for the whole year group to see.

"Oh my goodness," replied Mrs Fields. "Who would do such a thing to a kind, sweet, and smart girl like you?"

"That's the thing, they think I'm too good to be true, they don't think I'm that smart," said Mackenzie.

"Do you know who sent it?" asked Mrs Fields.

"Actually I do. It was that new girl over there, with blonde hair and blue eyes. Her name is Stephanie" Mackenzie said.

"Thank you. I hope you feel a bit better now" Mrs Fields replied.

"Yes, thank you as well."

"Hey," starts Mrs Fields, "Do you want to have a chat with Stephanie at lunch?"

"Ok" said Mackenzie. Thoughts were rolling through her head like what excuses she would come up with, but then DING, DING, DING. The lunch bell went. Mackenzie's heart sank.

"Stephanie can you please come with me," Mrs Fields requested.

"Allright, but why?" wondered Steph.

“I think someone wants to talk to you.”

“Who?” questioned Stephanie.

“Look ahead. I think Mackenzie is really upset” Mrs Fields suggested.

“I’m sorry, Mackenzie, at my old school I got bullied for being a nerd so, as soon as I moved schools I thought I didn’t want that to happen again,” explained Stephanie. “Do you remember how it felt to be bullied?” asked Mackenzie.

“I guess so,” murmured Steph.

“Well now you’re making others feel like that,” continued Mackenzie.

“I don’t want to be like that,” confessed Stephanie.

“Well, on Fridays I go out for ice cream,” said Mackenzie, “Do you want to come?”

That was the start of a new friendship.