Dear You,

Being a high school teacher teaches you a whole lot about life. The school I work at has about 900 students and 100 staff. So that is a sound about one thousand people who are around me on a daily basis, and I have 100 students passing through my classroom every week. Add to that thousand the parents, carers, brothers and sisters of those students, family members and housemates of the teachers and that is a lot of people who know of your existence. Being around those thousand people shows you a good slice of life as the students are aged from eleven to nineteen and then the teachers are aged anywhere from twenty-one to somewhere in their late sixties. This means you are around people aged 11 to 70 on a daily basis and when you have a thousand of those people there is always someone who has just moved house, someone who has just broken an arm, someone who has just had their first kiss, someone who has just eaten six dimensions and drank two cans of energy drink, someone who is pregnant, someone who has just bought a horse, someone who has just bought a new guitar,
someone who's cheating on someone else, someone who has just been cast
in a Hollywood movie, someone who has just been hit by a car. One
quick look around the corridor and you can see examples of people in
very different stages of their lives.
I've been a teacher for fifteen
years and have slowly watched
myself move from being the young
new teacher to the bald, middle-
aged teacher with two kids and a
mortgage and a beard. When I look
to my older colleagues the thing
that scares me the most is
watching them struggle with their
parents' deaths. I know this
happens at a different time for
everyone, but the regularity of
watching a fifty something teacher
struggling as their parents
die is heartbreaking. Circle of
life man, circle of life. Looking around
it is almost more than I can take
to imagine all the lives, all the
stories that have happened in the
fifty years since the building was built.
And I feel myself just slip into, amongst
those stories...... and then not.

I'll speak to you again soon.

FOUND

Small White Cat
Green Eyes
No Collar
Found in Brunswick

Call Sarah on 0434555075