

# The BRAINWAVES Club

Semester 1 2019: Imagineers Years 2 and 3

Venue: North Curl Curl

## A Write Adventure

Join the Imagineers as we embark on a *write* adventure! Off we go with a bang as we explore brilliant beginnings, leap from story to stage, head-hop over different viewpoints and then complete the term with a slamming time in poetry! That's only part one of our *write* adventure, though. Part two will see us crafting adverts, exploring adaptation (after our encounter with the Eejits), joking around with humorous writing and concluding the semester by writing a quest based on the hero's journey! Wow - we are sure to have a *write* adventure as we tell and write stories, analyse a range of classic and modern texts, perform, create and craft!

### 23 February

#### Meeting 1 – CRRRAAAASSSSSH!

#### Focus: Brilliant beginnings

*The Iron Man came to the top of the cliff...* a brilliant beginning for a classic novel? Join us in our first Imagineers session as we sort through a heap of brilliant beginnings which use different strategies to grab our attention. Can you identify what makes for a brilliant beginning and apply this understanding to transform some less awesome story starters into brilliant ones? A great beginning is about hooking readers from the very outset. We will also determine how interest is maintained in the first chapter and beyond. Let's begin our Imagineers Club with its own brilliant beginning, shall we?!

**Prior reading:** *The Iron Man by Ted Hughes (available online at Book Depository). Also, please bring along a favourite book that captured your interest with a brilliant beginning.*

### 9 March

#### Meeting 2 – Leaping from the Story to the Stage

#### Focus: Adaptation, performance

Matilda, Harry Potter, Cats, The Sorcerer's Apprentice, George's Marvellous Medicine, The Jungle Book – they all started off as written stories and have been adapted into stage performances. This meeting we'll focus on T.S Eliot's poems and how they have been transformed into the world-wide phenomenon that is Cats. What needs to be done to take a story to make it suitable for the stage? We will examine Jellicle Cats, amongst other stories that started off in the written form as we unravel what it takes to create a super stage show. We will take a text, craft it into a script and perform it for our Imagineers audience!

**Prior reading:** *Jellicle Cats by T.S.Eliot (from Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats); video clips from Cats the musical (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbpP3Sxp-1U>).*

**23 March**

**Meeting 3 – Whose Story is This?**

**Focus: Point of view, drama**

Warning: You may become dizzy in this meeting!! Today, we will experiment with head-hopping and similar techniques as we investigate point of view. We will apply drama techniques such as thought tunnels and interviews as we explore the varied viewpoints of the characters in our text *Flora and Ulysses*. Then we'll write about events from their differing perspectives. Bring an open mind!

**Prior reading: *Flora and Ulysses* by Kate DiCamillo (available at your local library or book store).**

**6 April**

**Meeting 4 – Time to Slam It!**

**Focus: Non-rhyming poetry, slam poetry**

This slamming session will see us exploring a range of non-rhyming poetry forms such as free verse and odes. Imagineers will examine rhyming poetry by Allan Ahlberg before we look at his non-rhyming poetry and debate – does it *have to* rhyme? Imagineers will consider the merits of poetry being read silently or being performed, and whether how it is meant to be enjoyed influences how we should write it. We will explore alternative poetry forms before we write our own poem based on our favourite form. We will put forward our most creative poems to compete in the slam poetry and performance poetry grand finals! Get ready for a poetic performance extravaganza!

**Prior reading: *Rhyming and non-rhyming poems* by Allan Ahlberg. Some poems are available online or can be read in Allan Ahlberg's books, 'Please Mrs Butler' or 'Heard It in the Playground'.**

**11 May**

**Meeting 5 – Awesome Adverts**

**Focus: Creativity, advertising techniques**

Calling all innovative Imagineers! We are on a mission to create the most awesome adverts ever by applying our understanding about the sneaky techniques used by advertisers to draw you in and make you want to buy, buy, buy! However, there's a catch.... your mission is to pitch your most creative and persuasive ideas to advertise products and services that are seemingly unsellable! Can you persuade us to buy metal detecting thongs? What about a pair of picnic pants to carry goodies so you never again need to worry about not having a picnic with you 24/7? Not forgetting the noodle splash face guard mask for everyday use? Can you convert the unsellable to sellable?? Let the creative awesome advert mission begin!

**Prior viewing: Watch adverts for *Slip, Slop Slap with Sid*, a happy little vegemite, the Cadbury's gorilla advert and the eyebrow dance Cadbury advert. All can be accessed via YouTube.**

**25 May**

**Meeting 6 – The Twits Become the Eejits**

**Focus: Language, adaptation**

The Twits are out and The Eejits are in! Join us for a super session as we compare and contrast Roald Dahl's well-loved story the Twits with their Scottish versions, the Eejits! We will take a look at Aussie versions of traditional stories before we take a traditional picture book or song and adapt it into an alternative version. Can you get creative with language to craft a new version of a story?

**Prior reading: *The Twits* by Roald Dahl. A short extract from *The Eejits*: <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/book/9781845020972/isbn/Eejits-by-Roald-Dahl.html>**

## 15 June

### Meeting 7 – It's No Joking Matter!

**Focus: Humour, storytelling**

It's no joking matter today as we try to get a grip on humour. What is the secret to the joke that has you rolling on the floor in laughter? Let's aim to 'laugh our heads off' in our Imagineers Club as we grabble with humorous storytelling. We will sift and sort through a selection of jokes to categorise them before we take centre stage to perform our favourite jokes at the Jolly Joke Competition. Timing, pace, intonation, relevance, word play and intelligence all play a part in cracking a joke. We will also explore how humour is used to make serious issues accessible through the work of author, Babette Cole. Bring a sense of humour and be prepared to have lots of pun, or should that be fun?

**Suggested prior reading: Own personal choice of a children's joke book such as Roald Dahl's *Marvellous Joke Book*. Search your local library.**

## 29 June

### Meeting 8 – The Call to Adventure

**Focus: The hero's journey**

You have been called to adventure and it's time to cross the threshold and begin your exciting journey in a new and exciting world! Our final Imagineers session will see us creating an adventure where we are catapulted into a new realm. Join us as we explore one type of the adventure genre in-depth and outline our quests, following the hero's journey. How will you enter your new world? What challenges will you face? Who will be your helper? How will your character transform as their quest unfolds? What vital ingredients do we require when crafting an amazing adventure! Bring a large helping of imagination.

**Prior reading: *Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow* by Jessica Townsend (available at your local library or online at Book Depository).**

### What to bring:

Bring a well-stocked pencil case to each session. Also, bring a hat and a nut-free snack each club meeting. You will be provided with an Imagineers journal for recording your thoughts and ideas. Bring your journal to each meeting. Please read the recommended texts prior to each meeting so that you get as much from the session as you can.

### About the Club Leader: Tracy Forbes

Tracy Forbes is a passionate teacher who simply loves to read and become lost in a story. She has completed her Certificate in Gifted Education and is an experienced G.A.T.E.WAYS presenter. Tracy gets excited about finding inspiring stories and exploring amazing literature. She is looking forward to taking the Imagineers on a *write* adventure where we immerse ourselves in the amazing world of stories.