

The **BRAINWAVES** Club

Term 3 2021: Imagineers – Years 3 and 4

Venue: Alphington Grammar

Term Fee \$285.00

Let's Lift the Lid and Leap In!

Meeting 1: Mystery boxes (cook up something in your imagination!)

Focus: creative thinking strategies – connection-making, generating original ideas and elaborating on those to develop stories

What's in the box? Surprising? Scary? Random? Ridiculous? There's only one way to find out what's in the curious box you'll be given today – lift the lid! First, let's set the scene with some suspenseful stories and arm yourself with a fantastic creative-connection-making strategy to help you generate original ideas. Then you're ready to lift that lid - the weird and wonderful contents you discover are your ingredients for concocting a story! Choose creative writing or drawing to share your ideas and spin a story that solves the mystery of 'what's in the box'.

Meeting 2: Thinking INSIDE the box

Focus: word play, vocabulary development, persistence and reasoning, a design option

Wait a minute - aren't we always told to think "outside" the box? Well, today is all about what can be found INSIDE certain mind-boggling boxes. Don't you be fooled though. They might *look* like games, but these are puzzles with a purpose – to perplex you! Your orthographic and linguistic skills, your knowledge of idioms and your ability to reason will be put to the test as you wrestle with clever crosswords, quirky quizzles, mad-match-moves or zig-zags and chain-chunks. You can turn your brain inside-out to tackle them all or invent your own box-based game this week!

Meeting 3: Pandora's box and The Happiness Box

Focus: Greek mythology, Historical-Fiction, philosophy, allegorical writing

Pandora was never supposed to lift the lid on the box she was given... for very good reason! Today we investigate this famous Greek myth and consider the 'moral' of Pandora's story. The contents of that particular box wreaked havoc for humans, but there was also something special right down the bottom that could have helped to change the end of the story. That same special thing appears in another story, set in World War One - The Happiness Box. What links do these two apologetic stories share? You'll think deeply this meeting as you decide on the most important elements to place in your own box-with-a-message. Using descriptive words or images, you'll craft a story with a moral - but here's the extra twist: the contents will be 'intangibles'. Myth-tified? All will be revealed in due course!

Meeting 4: Letter box chocolate box**Focus: word play, inventive thinking, epistolary writing, creative letter writing and a design option**

A letter has arrived addressed to Miss Caramel Mint-Smithers, 12 Macadamia Nut Lane, Truffle Town. Who sent it? Mrs Violet Crumble, Cocoa Headquarters, Flakesville 6543. The envelope itself gives us so many story ideas - and we haven't even read what's inside! Today we enjoy playful invention, combining contents of the chocolate box (just the words, not the chocolates themselves - sorry!) with the endless possibilities of envelopes and epistolary writing. What a collection of curious characters, amazing addresses and remarkable relationships we can invent (think Peppermint the Puppy writing to Cinnamon the Cat, his old neighbour in Coconut County - or an intergalactic letter from Mars.B.Bar sent to his pal in Milky Way!). We will share our brilliant ideas, then you'll get to choose or design sensational stationery (and stunning stamps) and write your delicious letter. I wonder what would happen if we posted them in the mailbox?

Please bring every meeting: a notebook or folder with paper. It is a good idea to have a folder or plastic pocket for keeping all your Imagineers materials each week. A well-stocked pencil case is a must.

About the presenter: Andrea Blake

Since she was a very young child Andrea has been told by adults that she has a "very vivid imagination" so she is most excited to be leading other 'Imagineers' into fantastical and inventive places! Andrea has a wealth of experience as a teacher and as a specialist in Gifted Education. She has published many educational resource books for teachers and loves designing enriched curriculum for highly able learners. Andrea is an avid reader and an enthusiastic creative writer who is guided by that most essential element for life-long learning: curiosity! She can't wait to see where your curiosity will take you each time you lift the lid of a Brainwaves box!