



Tales of the Unexpected
Years 1, 2 and 3 - Term 3, 2021

Fee \$108

It's a Mash Up! with Damian Robb

What if you could take elements from the real and literary worlds and combine them in new and unusual ways? What if you could take your grandma and give her Spider-Man's superpowers? Or take Niagara Falls and put them in your backyard? Or take that time you spilled soup on your pants but decide that what you actually spilled was radioactive waste! As a storyteller you can do exactly that, and more! In this workshop students will learn how some of the best story ideas can come from the most absurd connections. We'll look at mining your own experiences and knowledge of the world and choosing the strangest and most interesting pieces and putting them together to create a completely unique idea. From there we'll learn the skills necessary to take that idea and build an entirely new, and entirely you, story out of it.

Damian's love of storytelling led him down a forgotten path, through a hidden door, and into the world of writing. He has a Masters in Screenwriting from the VCA, has written for children's tv, and has had a number of short stories published. When not working on his own projects he teaches story craft at Melbourne Young Writers Studio and screenwriting at RMIT.

Etymology Escapades with Megan Dredge

Let's dive into the dictionary and explore etymology – the study of the historical origins of words. *Etymology*, for example, comes from the Greek word *etumos*, meaning 'true'. Are you ready to become a legendary lexicographer and uncover the truth behind fascinating words? Some have meaningful origins, some are humorous (to say the least!), and others are downright scary! The art of dictionary making is also as old as the field of linguistics, and over the years we have borrowed and adapted words from different languages and cultures since the dawn of civilization. Even today, new words are being added to the dictionary. You may be lost for words after this workshop for wordsmiths, but we can guarantee that it will be one great etymological adventure! Hold on to your hats, do you have what it takes to be a lexicographer in 2021?

Megan is a passionate and inspiring presenter, who loves teaching students and who loves teaching teachers. She's a teacher, an author, a writer, a speaker and a producer. If you've seen 'Project Planet' or 'The Sticky Gang' on the ABC, then you've seen some of Megan's work. Megan is the Global Leadership Coach for Propel Women, actively training over 5000 leaders in 80 nations. Whether it's in the classroom, the boardroom or the marketplace, Megan is passionate about communicating for life change .

Who's Who at The Philosophical Zoo with Janette Poulton

Behind every choice we make, is a belief. How do we decide what to believe so we can live well? Some beliefs seem perfectly fine until we take a closer look, like the Golden Rule, "treat others as you would like to be treated". Can we apply it to animals? Join us on this thought-provoking tour to find out who's who in the philosophical zoo, such as Mollie the gorilla from Melbourne, who for years was treated just like a human. What about the idea that "all animals make good pets", can you imagine having a leashed leopard or a pocket-sized piranha? Some ideas are simply too dangerous to test in the real-world, but not at the philosophical zoo, where your imagination can run as wild as its inhabitants – expect the unexpected! As philosophers, can we rewrite the rulebook for how we might live well with animals, the choice is yours!

Being a philosopher, Janette likes to think about the things we take for granted, like rules, beliefs, values, ideas etc. She also loves to work people of all ages in order to build a shared perspective. She has actively introduced Philosophy into Victorian schools for over two decades through the Victorian Association for Philosophy in Schools and initiated the Philosophy in Public Spaces programs for school children at Museums Victoria, Zoos Victoria and the NGV.