2015 Year 6 Writers’ and Illustrators’ Camp
with Alison Lester and Elizabeth Honey
Term 3 Week 3 Tuesday 28th to Friday 31st July 2015

2015 Pre Camp Preparation Tasks

This year's theme is "My Australian Story": We all have a story. The story we want you to create is the story about how you (and your family) came to be where you are today.

Somewhere in your family's past something occurred which changed the course of your family's history.

It may have been a single event or a string of events. It could have been a decision, an accident or a challenge, a catastrophe, a windfall, a disaster or simply the need for a change.

Most of you will be able to identify something which has led your family to be where you are today.

If you don't believe your family has such a history, or you are unable to investigate this history, you are welcome to research and adopt the story of another family.

Whichever you choose, you will create "My Australian Story".

Your task before camp will be to investigate your chosen family's history. You will need to gather as much information from as many sources as possible. On camp you will create a narrative / recount focusing on your past which identifies the people and events that have contributed to your family's destiny/journey.

You will use your research to turn your story into an illustrated children's picture book to share with your family and friends.

Prior to camp you will be required to prepare by undertaking the following tasks:

From Term 2 Week 6

1. **Research**: Research your family. Discover your past.
   - Ask questions - who are your family, your ancestors, what did they do, how did you come to be here?
   - Think about the different places where you can find out this information.
   - Dig deep - was anyone in your past famous or infamous? Why did they shift or migrate?
   - What happened to this person after the war? Were they forced from their home?
   - Gather together as many facts and versions of your family stories as possible.
If it is too difficult to research your family's story, you can adopt a family. Your options may be to:

- Research the story of a friend's or relative's family
- Research the stories of the family interviews posted on the DEEC website
- Focus on Anh Do's story - *The Little Refuge*

From Term 2 Week 6

2. **Read**: Discover and read some Australian picture books, novels, short stories, poetry or films so you can explore our theme, *"My Australian Story"*. Also have a good look at the illustrations which accompany the text. Think about how they are a part of the telling of the story.

The Reading List follows, **ONLY** read what you are comfortable with, although don't be afraid to explore more.


From Term 2 Week 8

3. **Connect**: Interview people who can best inform you of your history.

   - Ask your mum, your uncle or an old family friend.
   - Find out what is published. Research newspaper articles or obituaries.
   - Google your great grandfather's name - the town he came from, the place where he worked.

   It may be worth interviewing more than one person.

Read the interviews on the Daradgee website [2015 Year 6 Writers' and Illustrators' Camp](2015%20Year%206%20Writers%27%20and%20Illustrators%27%20Camp) to get an idea of the variety of interesting stories that are out there (available Week 8- 9th June).

Also please take the time to read *The Little Refuge* by Anh Do and Suzanne Do.

This book is a great example of how the author recounts his own family's journey. *The Little Refuge* may be used throughout the camp.

From Term 2 Week 6

4. **Create** - Gather together all of the information, your family's old and new knowledge.

   - Organise so as it is easy to understand. Build a family tree or a time line.
   - Learn about your family's journey - use maps of Australia and the world to explain their travels. Make up a family photo album with copies of old photos, documents - birth certificates or passports. Label your work with notes and comments about the time and place where events occurred.

   Gather all of your **Pre Camp Preparation Tasks** along with as much as you can find that will help you prepare for camp - books, stories, interviews, photos, sketches, and maps - anything to do with our theme which will be your reference material on camp. This can be collected into a shopping/enviro bag or something similar and be ready to bring along.

**Please note**: Have fun, learn about your history, and enjoy your preparation. The more you can gather together ahead of time, the more value you will get from your camp program.
We look forward to meeting you on camp!

Yours sincerely

Noel Cristaudo
Principal

Steve Cutuli
Teacher

Amanda Matthews
Teacher

Tania Simmons
Teacher

25th May, 2015

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READING LIST

Films/DVD’s
My Place series
Rabbit Proof Fence

Books
My Australian Story – series
White Ship
Jackie French
Refuge
Jackie French
Island
Armin Greder
Whispering Cloth: A Refugee’s Story
Pegi Deitz Shea
The Little Refugee
Anh Do and Suzanne Do
Refugee: The Diary of Ali Ismail
Alan Sunderland
Boy Overboard
Morris Gleitzman
Ziba Came on a Boat
Liz Lofhouse
My Place
Nadia Wheatley and Donna Rawlins
Tom’s Rabbit: A True Story from Scott’s Last Voyage
Meredith Hooper and Bert Kitchen
Ice, Wind, Rock: Douglas Mawson in the Antarctic
Peter Gouldthorpe
Jandamarra
Mark Greenwood and Terry Denton
Sophie Scott Goes South
Alison Lester
Are we there yet?
Alison Lester