



## Words on the Waves Writers Festival Kids & School Program 1 - 3 June 2022

### About Words on the Waves

Words on the Waves Writers Festival is a not-for-profit organisation based on the Central Coast of NSW. It held its inaugural event June 11 – 14, 2021 after a year of planning by a volunteer-led committee.

With two full days of author talks and panels, as well as an evening conversation event, a cinema screening, literary cruise, family fun day and schools program, the 2021 festival hosted nearly 20 sold-out sessions, over 40 inspiring authors, with approximately 3000 adult and 1200 local student attendances.

The 2022 festival will take place June 3 - 6, and will build on the success of the 2021 pilot with additional programming and event offerings.

The Words on the Waves Writers Festival mission is to: *To deliver an immersive annual festival of stories, ideas and connection, set against the scenic Central Coast, and to enrich the cultural landscape of the region year-round.*

The Words on the Waves Writers Festival vision is to: *To become one of Australia's leading regional literary festivals, known for its vibrant and diverse program as well as its unique setting.*





## About the Kids & Schools Program

In 2022, the Kids & Schools Program will deliver its second program of events for children and youth on the Central Coast, with the aim of creating and encouraging a community of readers, writers, and storytellers by connecting students with Australia's best loved children's authors.

We will be offering author panels (4) and creative writing workshops (4) for visiting primary schools at Umina Beach Surf Club, as well as a Family Fun Day session (1) for preschoolers as part of the Words on the Waves Writers Festival weekend.

The dates are June 1 - 3, and June 5 (Family Fun Day).

## Our Goal

The Kids and Schools Program was developed to be in keeping with the Words on the Waves Writers Festival goal/s to:

- *foster creativity and literacy in the next generation of writers and readers in the Central Coast*
- *establish a sustainable and growing organisation that enriches the cultural landscape of the Central Coast through a consistent flow of events*
- *to deliver programming that's diverse, thought-provoking, and has a commitment to place and community*
- *to create intimate gathering places for readers and writers to connect*



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## What we do

For visiting primary school and secondary school groups, we offer **author panels** and **author workshops**.

The **author panels** and **talks** offer a select group of authors and illustrators space to talk about their craft and engage with the students. These sessions can cater to larger groups, from **60 to 300**.

The **author workshops** offer a select group of authors and illustrators space to demonstrate knowledge and stimulate creativity in a more intensive, hands-on context. These sessions can cater to smaller groups, **capped at 25**. Our workshops will encourage young people to open their imaginations and be bold in their creative writing, and may result in a creative writing output. These workshops require the student to purchase the presenting author/illustrator's book.

All sessions are developed with connections to the Australian Curriculum and aim to:

- inspire young people to read and write
- improve communication and creativity skills
- build self-confidence
- improve learning and literacy
- encourage appreciation of a diversity of cultural expressions

In 2023, Words on the Waves will rebrand the Kids & Schools Program into the **Ripples Program**, and also facilitate author visits to schools year-round, thus enhancing the impact and reach of the Kids & Schools Program.

All Schools Program offerings are booked through the Schools only.

The **Family Fun Day sessions** are open to the public, and are primarily geared towards preschoolers, their siblings and families. This will be released separately closer to the date.



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## Why (our rationale)

Words on the Waves Writers Festival is passionate about the role stories, storytelling, ideas, and debate have in shaping our culture, and the need to support and nurture writers, storytellers, and readers.

We believe the **Kids & Schools Program** is a way we can help our young people thrive. Exposure to arts practices, literature, reading, and creative expression through writing and illustration, can have the following impacts:

- literacy and empathy
- engagement with community
- becoming life-long readers, writers and learners
- increased school engagement and critical thinking
- mental-health and resilience
- intergenerational communication
- enjoyment of literature as an art form
- cross-cultural understanding

## How (our values)

We value:

- Creativity: helps build confidence, improve academic engagement, and prepare young people for the future.
- Our volunteers: are approved to work with children, and acknowledging their contributions
- School teachers: respecting the hard work and achievements of local teachers, enhancing their efforts, and helping them develop new skills
- Remuneration: acknowledging the importance of artistic creation by paying our authors and illustrators at ASA rates
- Reflection: monitoring our progress, gathering good data and visual records, and deeply reflecting on our aims and what we are achieving and contributing



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- Our place: respecting the people, environments, and cultures of the Central Coast – including special respect for its traditional owners and storytellers, the Darkinjung people.

## Staying COVID-Safe for the Kids & Schools Program 2022

- Words on the Waves Writers Festival Schools Days will be operating under the NSW Public Health Order in place at the time of the event.
- Words on the Waves will follow Department of Education (or other education provider) guidelines for school-based events or events that invite school children to attend. Adherence with these guidelines may mean events will be cancelled or postponed.
- Teachers will be responsible for keeping a list of all participating students and will be required to share this information with NSW Health should the need arise.
- Students who are isolating, experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms should not attend.
- Venues may be operating at restricted capacity with social distancing measures in place.
- Words on the Waves will abide by third party venue policies with regards to vaccination status.
- For the health & safety of all, signage & sanitising stations are set up throughout the venues.
- We ask that all participants adhere to all COVID guidelines while attending the event.
- Please ask to view our COVID-Safe Management Policy for more information.



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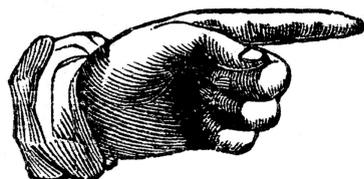
## 2022 Program

### Words on the Waves Primary School Program

#### Author & Illustrator Panel Overview

<b>Venue</b>	Umina Beach Surf Club, Umina Beach
<b>Dates</b>	1 - 2 June 2022
<b>Morning Sessions (2)</b>	10am - 10.45am 11am - 11.45am
<b>Afternoon Session (1)</b>	1pm - 2pm
<b>Cost</b>	\$5 per student per session

### How to Book



Email

[schools@wordsonthewaves.com.au](mailto:schools@wordsonthewaves.com.au)

registering your interest



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## Day 1 Program Wednesday 1 June 2022

### Author Panel: Let's Get Funny!

<b>Time</b>	10am - 10.45am
<b>Authors</b>	<b>Nat Amore</b> <b>Charlotte Barkla</b>
<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Deborah Abela</b>
	<p>Let's Get Funny is a fun-filled session! Maybe you prefer dark humour, suspense, and deeper story lines ... humour has a place in there as well. If we are lucky Deborah Abela will share jokes which are always funny, and Charlotte will tell you how to avoid sliming your entire classroom. And as for Nat, she says she is funny too. Students will explore humour which give momentum to poetry and prose read aloud and enhance enjoyment.</p> <p><i>General Capabilities: critical and creative thinking, literacy</i></p>

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## Day 1 Program Wednesday 1 June 2022

### Author Panel: What If?

<b>Time</b>	11am - 11.45am
<b>Authors</b>	Lynn Jenkins Kirrili Lonergan
<b>Convenor</b>	Deborah Abela
	<p>Showing children that their 'what ifs' can lead to feelings of fun, happiness and freedom is key in teaching them how we can change the way we feel simply by changing the way we choose to think. This session is an exploration of how little worriers think, and how they can choose to turn those worries into wonders. Students will get the opportunity to engage with the authors and illustrator. Students will draw connections between personal experiences and the worlds of texts, and share responses with others</p> <p><i>General Capabilities: critical and creative thinking, literacy</i></p>

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## Day 1 Program Wednesday 1 June 2022

### Author Panel: Transported Back in Time

<b>Time</b>	1pm - 2pm
<b>Authors</b>	<b>Katrina Nannestad</b> <b>Anna Ciddor</b>
<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Yvette Poshoglian</b>
	<p>What's more enticing than the possibility of being transported into another time by three award winning Australian authors. The panel will discuss how authors and illustrators make stories exciting, moving and absorbing. Students will hear how literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints and explore how the settings shape the events and influence the mood of the narrative. This will be an interactive session requiring student participation.</p> <p><i>General Capabilities: critical and creative thinking, literacy</i></p>

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## Day 2 Program Thursday 2 June 2022

### Author Panel: Find Your Best Idea!

<b>Time</b>	<b>10am - 10.45am</b>
<b>Authors</b>	<b>Charlotte Barkla Anna Ciddor</b>
<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Louise Park</b>
	<p>Our panellists write books that entertain, inform, and inspire. This session will look at each author's style and how their stories are constructed and written. They will talk about character development, plotline planning, incident building, great beginnings, and even greater endings.</p> <p>Storytelling can be both hard and a joy. When authors find the right words, that moment that grows into a story, with the right combination of passion, love and experience, amazing things can happen.</p> <p>Students will participate in role-play and other activities and will learn how to craft a good narrative.</p> <p><i>General Capabilities: Critical and creative thinking, literacy</i></p>

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## Day 2 Program Thursday 2 June 2022

### Author Panel: The Magic of Imagery

<b>Time</b>	<b>11am - 11.45am</b>
<b>Authors</b>	<b>Katrina Nannestad Cheryl Orsini</b>
<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Eve Tonneli, Senior Editor</b>
	<p>Author Katrina Nannestad's novels have a special kind of magic; this is mainly how she uses imagery and language. In this session Katrina Nannestad will elaborate on how she creates a "mental image" for the reader through her words. Cheryl Orsini is an illustrator; she has worked with Katrina Nannestad to bring imaginary to life. Illustrating books such as <i>The Girl the Dog and the Writer Series</i> and the <i>New Travelling Bookshop Series</i>. In this session the students will learn about the illustrator and writer collaboration. Students will get the opportunity to learn how authors and illustrators make stories exciting, moving and absorbing and hold readers' interest by using various techniques.</p> <p><i>General Capabilities: Critical and creative thinking, literacy</i></p>





## Day 2 Program Thursday 2 June 2022

### An Engineering Challenge with Charlotte Barkla

<b>Time</b>	<b>1pm - 2pm</b>
<b>Authors</b>	<b>Charlotte Barkla</b>
<b>Convenor</b>	<b>Louise Park</b>
	<p>Who doesn't love a challenge? In this session, students will work in groups to create the tallest structures they can, using only marshmallows and dry spaghetti.</p> <p>As well as taking on a fun engineering challenge, Charlotte will also give insight into her engineering career and the writing of her middle-grade series, Edie's Experiments.</p> <p>Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· What is engineering?</li><li>· Strong structures</li><li>· Writing a novel that incorporates science / STEM</li><li>· Author reading</li><li>· Student Q and A</li></ul> <p>KEY CURRICULUM AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Learning areas: English; Science • General capabilities: Literacy; Critical and creative thinking</li></ul>

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## Day 1 Creative Writing Workshop Wednesday 1 June 2022

### Resilience & the Power of Storytelling

<b>Workshop Leader</b>	<b>Katrina Nannestad</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>James Sharpe Room, Umina Beach Surf Club</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>10am - 11.30am</b>
<b>About the Workshop</b>	Katrina's historical novels, <i>We Are Wolves</i> and <i>Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief</i> , focus on lesser-known aspects of WWII. During this interactive session, Katrina will talk about the true stories that inspired each novel, and the exciting process of researching and writing. Students will participate in activities designed to bring aspects of each novel alive.
<b>Cost</b>	<b>\$20 includes signed book capped at 25 pax</b>



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## Day 1

### Illustrator Workshop Wednesday 1 June 2022 Nurturing Creativity

<b>Workshop Leader</b>	<b>Dub Leffler</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>James Sharpe Room, Umina Beach Surf Club</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>12.30pm - 2pm</b>
<b>About the Workshop</b>	<p>Join Dub as he introduces the students to drawing and illustration techniques that have seen him run workshops across the universe – from Scotland to the Tiwi Islands, Queensland to the moon and back. Dub has collaborated with other celebrated illustrators and artists including Shaun Tan, Sally Morgan and Banksy.</p> <p>Dub will demonstrate the process of crafting illustrations for picture books that complement an author's story and words. Dub will demonstrate how a simple idea becomes a final illustration.</p> <p>Students will be guided to their own complete illustration by the end of the session.</p>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>\$5 session \$20 includes signed book capped at 25 pax</b>



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**Day 2**

**Creative Writing Workshop**

**Thursday 3 June**

**Super Stars & Excellent Endings**

<b>Workshop Leader</b>	<b>Belinda Murrell</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>James Sharpe Room, Umina Beach Surf Club</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>10.00am - 11.30am</b>
<b>About the Workshop</b>	<p>In this workshop Belinda will inspire young writers to use their imaginations through brainstorming, interactive exercises, tips and writing techniques. Topics covered include the creative writing process, inspiration, plotting and planning, realistic dialogue, creating characters, vivid settings, editing and story structure. Belinda will guide the students to find and develop ideas about creating believable characters as well as developing plausible plots while using dialogue effectively.</p> <p>KEY CURRICULUM AREAS English, History • General capabilities: Critical and Creative Thinking; Intercultural Understanding; Literacy</p>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>\$5 Session \$20 includes signed book capped at 25 pax</b>



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## Day 2 Creative Writing Workshop Thursday 3 June

### The Boy Who Stepped Through Time

<b>Workshop Leader</b>	<b>Anna Ciddor</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>James Sharpe Room, Umina Beach Surf Club</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>1pm - 2.00pm</b>
<b>About the Workshop</b>	<p><i>The Boy Who Stepped Through Time</i> provides a glimpse into childhood in Roman times, with fascinating insights into life as a young girl and as a slave in an era that hasn't been explored in Australian children's literature.</p> <p>In this entertaining and incredibly useful presentation Anna reveals in front of the students' eyes how she plans a book, creates an illustration draft, how and where she researches, and all the effort that goes into the whole process from first idea to finished work.</p> <p>Students also get to play some ancient Roman games with her!</p>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>\$20 includes signed book capped at 25 pax</b>



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## Day 2: Writing & Illustrator Workshop

Thursday 3 June 2022

### Curious Creatures

<b>Workshop Leader</b>	<b>Sami Bayly</b>
<b>Venue</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Time</b>	<b>12.30pm - 2 pm</b>
<b>About the Workshop</b>	<p>Sami Bayly is the award-winning author/illustrator of the remarkable <i>The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Ugly Animals</i> and sequels. We are excited to offer this workshop that will involve drawing activities and a deep dive into the world's most weird and wonderful creatures. It will include an author talk and creative activities, where you will learn how to draw your very own ugly, dangerous, or peculiar creature and discover what it takes to be a scientific illustrator. <i>Basic drawing equipment supplied</i></p>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>\$20 includes ART materials capped at 25 pax</b>



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Or contact Schools Program Coordinator Jacqui on  
0459783200

## Author Bios

**Nat Amore** is a Sydney-based children's author and kidlit podcast host of *One More Page*. Her debut novel, *Secrets of a Schoolyard Millionaire*, came out in 2019 and has had great success as both Dymocks and QBD's 'Kids Book Of The Month', becoming Australia's #1 bestselling debut Aussie children's fiction in 2019. It has now sold into the UK, US, Italy, China, Estonia and Romania. Her second book, *The Power of Positive Pranking*, released in 2020, was shortlisted for the 2021 Readings Children's Book Prize and REAL Children's Choice Book Awards, and won the Environment Award for Children's Literature. Rounding out Nat's trilogy about the kids of Watterson Primary, *The Right Way to Rock* was released in June 2021. In 2021, Nat wrote a 5-part fiction podcast series called *Project ARI* for Nova Entertainment and the Australian Government as part of the #StopItAtTheStart campaign. *Project Ari* has been nominated in two categories at the Australian Podcast Awards. Coming in 2022 will be *We Run Tomorrow*, written by Nat and featuring graphic novel-style illustrations from Australian illustrator Mike Barry.

**Charlotte Barkla** worked as a civil engineer and physics teacher before rediscovering her love for children's literature. She now writes picture books, middle-grade fiction and feature articles. Charlotte's books include the Edie's Experiments series and *All Bodies are Good Bodies*. When she's not writing or running school workshops, you



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might find her teaching, reading, spending time with her family or drinking coffee. Lots of coffee.

**Sami Bayly** is a natural history illustrator based in Armidale, NSW, who loves all things weird and wonderful. She finds the beauty and importance of all animals regardless of their appearance, and hopes to share her appreciation with others. Sami's first book, *The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Ugly Animals*, won the Children's Indie Book of the Year Award and the Australian Book Design Award for Younger Readers. It was a CBCA Honour Book and was shortlisted for an ABIA Book of the Year for Younger Children and longlisted for the ABA Booksellers' Choice 2020 Book of the Year Awards. Her second book, *The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Dangerous Animals*, was a CBCA Honour Book, an ABIA Book of the Year for Younger Children, won an Australian Book Design Award for Younger Readers and was shortlisted for the Children's Indie Book of the Year 2020.

**Anna Ciddor** has always been fascinated by the past. It would be her dream come true to step through time! Instead, she immerses herself in research and hunts out the tiniest details so she can bring the past to life in her imagination - and in her **books**. Anna's meticulous work has been recognised by a grant from the Literature Board of the Australia Council, three of her novels have been selected as Notable Books by the Children's Book Council of Australia, and several have been translated into other languages to be enjoyed around the world. Most recently, in 2021 Anna was the recipient of the Nance Donkin Literary Award.

**Lynn Jenkins** is a clinical psychologist, author and mother of three. Lynn is passionate about early intervention in the social and emotional development of children, and has written two previous picture books on the topics of anxiety and worry (*Lessons of a LAC* and *Brave*) as well as two non-fiction titles for adults, *Best Start* and *School Start*.

**Dub Leffler** Descended from the Bigambul people of South-West Queensland, Dub Leffler has written two books for children and illustrated over 25 titles including the award winning picture books *Once There was a Boy*, *Sorry Day* with Coral Vass & the much lauded *Bindi* by Kirli Saunders. Dub's work has afforded him travel across the



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globe including remote Australia, Europe, Indonesia & America and his illustrations are now in permanent collection at The Library of Congress in Washington Dc. as well as the esteemed Kluge-Ruhe Aboriginal Art Collection in Virginia, United States. Dub's latest offering is 'Our Dreaming'-written by Kirli Saunders & published by Scholastic in 2022.

**Kirrili Lonergan** is a children's book illustrator, art therapist and mother of four. She has illustrated several picture books as well as creating designs for clothes, prints and pottery . She is passionate about illustrating picture books that have a 'healing' message.

**Belinda Murrell** worked as a travel writer and journalist before becoming the award-winning author of more than 35 books, ranging from junior fiction to adult non-fiction. Her presentations and writing workshops are energetic and dynamic, inspiring students from kindergarten to year 12. Belinda's books include Meet Zoe and Zac, popular series The Sun Sword, Lulu Bell and Pippa's Island, and historical novels The Ivory Rose, The Locket of Dreams, The Forgotten Pearl and The Lost Sapphire. Accolades include Honour Book KOALAS, shortlisted nine times for YABBA (Young Australians Best Book Award), CBCA Notable 2012 and 2017 and highly commended in the PM's Literary Awards. Her latest books include an adult non-fiction bibliomemoir, Searching for Charlotte and The Golden Tower, a timeslip fantasy. [www.belindamurrell.com.au](http://www.belindamurrell.com.au)

**Katrina Nannestad** is an award-winning Australian author. Her books include The Girl Who Brought Mischief, The Girl, the Dog and the Writer series, the Olive of Groves series, the Red Dirt Diaries series, the Lottie Perkins series, and Bungalow Creek. Katrina grew up in country New South Wales in a neighbourhood stuffed full of happy children. Her adult years have been spent teaching, raising boys, perfecting her recipe for chocolate-chip bickies and pursuing her love of stories. She now lives near Bendigo with her family and an exuberant black whippet called Olive.

**Cheryl Orsini** taught herself to draw as a little girl. She grew a little taller, studied Visual Communications at UTS in Sydney and finally, when she could grow no more, she started illustrating children's books, magazines and decorating a great many peg dolls! She has illustrated over 20 picture books including *Caravan Fran* (Lothian



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Books/Hachette Australia), *The Tales of Mrs Mancini* (ABC Books) *The ABC Book of Cars, Trains, Boats and Planes* (ABC Books), and *Pom Pom, Where Are You?* (Viking/Penguin). Her illustrations are also sought after by Australian magazines including *Gardening Australia* and *The School Magazine*. Cheryl lives in Sydney, with her husband and daughter.

**Louise Park** is an acknowledged literacy expert and widely published author for children, and has been involved in education and publishing for over 30 years. As an education consultant, she scopes, reviews and assesses education content, and is also an active ambassador for Indigenous children, English as a second language students, and children at risk. She has written over 250 books for children aged 2-12, and is regularly invited to speak at education conferences, reading symposiums and literature festivals. She is in schools on a regular basis as an author and educator working with staff, parents and students. As one half of the Mac Park writing duo, Louise co-authored Allen & Unwin's successful D-Bot Squad series of early readers. Today, she continues to combine her knowledge of English, literacy and reading acquisition with children's

**Yvette Poshoglian** is the bestselling author of over 40 books for children and young readers. She writes the wildly popular Ella and Olivia series (30 books + 6 treasuries and counting!), the Puppy Diary books and the Frankie Fox Girl Spy stories, and has written historical fiction including *My Australian Story: Escape from Cockatoo Island*. Yvette writes on the Gayamaygal Lands of the Kay-yee-my nation on Sydney's northern beaches and acknowledges the Land on which she creates. Yvette has worked as an English teacher in south west Sydney and consults on educational projects. Yvette works with the Technology 4 Learning team at the NSW Department of Education. She recently worked on Everyone's an Author, a digital creative writing program featuring 10 Aussie authors. Yvette is a regular guest and panel host at writers' festivals and continues to work in schools with both students and teachers in the area of creative writing, storytelling and literacy. She is proud to be an ambassador for the Books in Homes charity. Yvette's new book is nearly here - *Dear Greta* launches into the world in March 2022! It's for readers 8+.



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