



# DEBORAH ABELA

Dip Teach, BA (Comm) [www.deborahabela.com](http://www.deborahabela.com), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

## In-Person and Online - Virtual Visits

Check out this video for Deb's very popular online school visits:

<https://youtu.be/up5I7OfVual>

## Preferred audience

Infants, Primary, PD for teachers/librarians

**A BIT ABOUT DEB** – After completing a teaching degree, Deb went to Africa where she was caught in a desert sandstorm, harassed by monkeys and thrown in jail...twice! She became the producer/writer of a national kids' TV show before leaving to write [28 children's books](#). Her crankiness about climate change led to the novels, *Grimsdon*, *New City* and *Final Storm*. *Teresa A New Australian* was inspired by her dad, who, with a million other refugees, sailed to Australia after WW2. Her picture books are *Wolfie*, *An Unlikely Hero* and the CBCA notable, *Bear in Space*. *The Book of Wondrous Possibilities* is her love-letter to booksellers, books and librarians about how they can save us when everything feels dark. She is a proud ambassador for Room to Read and Books in Homes.

Deb's won [awards for her books](#), including CBCA Notables, the Maurice Saxby Award, US IBBY for Outstanding International Book and Best Book in Translation, Malta, CBC awards in Australia and the USA. She's spoken in schools and festivals for 20 years and enjoys getting kids excited about books and equipping teachers with activities to foster a love of writing in their students.

## PRESENTATIONS

**Author Talks Ages 5-12** Deborah's author talks are engaging, interactive and fun. With her teaching and TV background, she uses images, videos and storytelling to demystify the writing process and prove it can be exciting and fun.

**Writing Workshops Ages 5-16** Ever since Deborah was 7 she has been good at making trouble, so it was obvious she would grow up to be a writer. Find out how being a troublemaker led her to write about flying machines, swordfights and kids who face bad guys and sea monsters. Students will engage in activities that explore the writing process from developing ideas, to planning outlines and, most importantly, creating characters and plots readers will love whilst having lots of fun!

## PD Session for Teachers: Fun Activities to Get Kids Writing!

In this practical, hands-on session, Deborah will lead you through a series of activities to help your students develop ideas, draft exciting prose and create characters and plots readers will love.

Most importantly, you'll do it in a way that encourages them to enjoy writing. The session includes a 20-page handout brimming with fun and inspiring activities to use in your class.



'An absolute gem of a book!' Maryam Master, author of *No Words*

'... the most beautiful thing I have read in a really long time...just extraordinary.' Jen, Australian Standing Orders, Scholastic

'Moving and so utterly exquisite.' Sue Warren, Librarian



## Bookings & Enquiries:

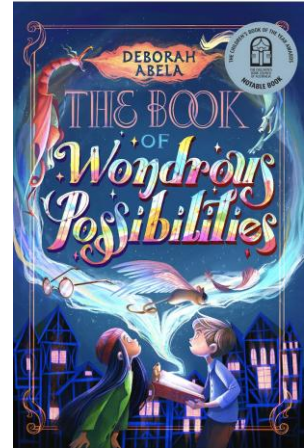
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Email [nexusarts@netspace.net.au](mailto:nexusarts@netspace.net.au) / [nexusarts@nexusarts.com.au](mailto:nexusarts@nexusarts.com.au)

## FEEDBACK FOR DEB'S SESSIONS

- *Deborah Abela was simply fabulous! Her wonderfully passionate storytelling had all our students enthralled - from Prep to Year 6. One of our teachers commented that this was by far the best author visit the school had ever had - and he has been at the school 20 years!*  
**St Paul's School**
- *Oh my goodness, we just had the best experience ever! I don't think I've ever seen the children so completely absorbed.*  
**Hunter Valley Grammar School**
- *Without exception every teacher and child who was part of your ZOOM visit to our school was excited and impressed by your energetic, well prepared and fun talk. Thank you so much!!!!*  
**Bronwen Loveday, Cherrybrook PS**
- *Today was one of the best days of my life! I love Deborah Abela's books and her personality so much.*  
**Imogen age 11 Dianella Heights PS**
- *Deborah Abela visited our school and it was the BEST ever day out of all my school years. Out of all the authors I've seen, she is the best!*  
**Kylan age 11 Riverbank PS**



## DEB'S LATEST AWARDS

- 2023 CBCA Notable *The Book of Wondrous Possibilities*
- 2021 CBCA Notable, *Bear in Space*
- 2021 Best Book in Translation, Malta, *Bear in Space*
- 2021 REAL Awards (Kid's Choice Victoria, NT, NSW, ACT) *Final Storm* shortlisted (3rd book *Grimsdon Trilogy*)
- 2020 REAL Awards (Kid's Choice Victoria, NT, NSW, ACT) *New City* shortlisted (2nd book *Grimsdon Trilogy*)
- 2020 Best Book in Translation, Malta, *The Stupendously Spectacular Spelling Bee*

