



DEBORAH ABELA VISITS THOMAS HASSALL

On Thursday 12th March, Year 5 had a visit from the well-renowned author, Deborah Abela.

She is a prolific Australian author and some of her books include: *Max Remy Superspy* books, *Jasper Zammit Soccer Legend*, *Wolfie: An Unlikely Hero*, *The Stupendously Spectacular Spelling Bee*, *Teresa - A New Australian - New City*, and *Grimsdon*

Deborah told the students the secret to writing stories: it has to have three basic ingredients: Characters, location and a complication. She also said that she is always thinking 'I wonder what would happen if...' The students thoroughly enjoyed the visit and felt inspired to write.

Children's novel, *Teresa A New Australian*, tells the story of a young girl and her family who survive the bombing of Malta during WW2, before migrating to Australia to start a new life. The following video uses footage from a trip to Malta in October 2016, where the book was launched by President Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca at her palace. <https://youtu.be/0gll0DfCiI8>

Deborah's final book of *Grimsdon*, is called 'Final Storm'. She told us that this book was written after she was harassed by "lots of angry children" wanting to know how things ended with the characters.

Deborah's site: <https://www.deborahabela.com/>

Mrs Emma Harris

P-2 Coordinator