

Project title: Book Week Author visit and National Reading Day video conference

Project description: Yr 7 from Moorebank High School and Yr 5/6 from three feeder primary schools were invited to the HS Library to hear a guest author (James Roy). In addition to these sessions, the four schools held a Literacy video conference the next day. Selected students from each school reviewed and discussed books chosen from the CBC shortlist for 2009 and titles by our guest author James Roy.

Person responsible for project: Lisa Tierney –
Moorebank High School Teacher Librarian

School, region, diocese: Moorebank High School (host)
Chipping Norton PS; Newbridge Heights PS; Nuwarra PS
Sydney South-West region

Contact person's email: lisa.tierney@det.nsw.edu.au

Number of students, teachers, parents, other community members directly involved:

- Approx. 494 students and around 15 teachers (ie. 322 year 5/6 students and 172 year 7 students)

Intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:

- To promote literacy, with an emphasis on boys and books
- To give Stage 3 & 4 students an opportunity to meet and work with an Australian author
- To highlight CBC Book Week and the promotion of Australian authors/illustrators
- To celebrate National Reading Day 2009
- To foster links among Stage 3 & 4 students as part of our Middle Years Schools initiative

Evidence of achievement of intended literacy and/or numeracy outcomes:

- Positive feedback from students to their teachers about how much they enjoyed James Roy's presentation
- Students from each school discussed the visit and wrote reports (see attached)
- Some increased interest in borrowing James Roy's books
- Stage 3 at one primary school now reading one of the author's titles "Captain Mack"
- Involvement in a Literacy video conference between the four schools



Other information: See below.

Feedback about making grants available for such projects:

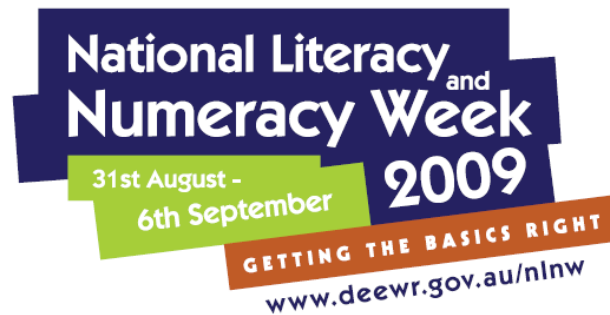


On behalf of the four schools involved, I would like to thank the NLNW committee for approving our application and allowing our project to be available to ALL students in Years 5, 6 & 7. Experiences such as this are important to engage students and suggest practical ways they can improve their own writing. By having the opportunity to meet published authors, they are also encouraged to see books and reading as part of their everyday experience.

We aim to encourage reading for pleasure not just reading as a means to an end.



An Australian Government Initiative



Moorebank High School: James Roy: The interview!

On Tuesday the 2nd of September, Year 7 were lucky enough to meet a famous author, James Roy, for National Literacy and Numeracy week. This was an amazing experience and it was very enjoyable.

James Roy is a very funny man. He doesn't care what other people think of him and he LOVES to talk. He told some stories of when he was growing up and then stories of what he did last week which were all very funny. He answered questions from teachers and students and he even signed some of the students' books.

James Roy has written heaps of fantastic books including: *Captain Mack*, *Town and Edsel Grizzler: Voyage to Verdada* just to name a few.

I think James Roy is a wonderful person and I hope to meet him again one day.

Claire, Year 7

Stage 3 Author Visit

On Wednesday the 2nd September all of Stage 3 went to see an author who visited Moorebank High School. The author's name was James Roy. We had to walk all the way from Nuwarra PS to Moorebank HS. Some students from Chipping Norton PS

were also there, but they got to catch a ride on the bus! We saw James Roy for an hour. He talked about how he grew up, what inspired him to write books and some wacky things that happened to him. He said a whole biography about himself in the hour. James Roy lived in Papua New Guinea and visited Fiji as a young boy. He likes to touch people's emotions and makes you relate to the characters. Mr Roy was hilariously funny.

James only gets 10% of the money from each book sale. So if his book sells for \$20, that means he only gets \$2!

Mr Roy sold some of his books and also gave some autographs. This author visit was a very fun experience. I'd love to do this again.

By Amani Kheir, 5E.

On Wednesday the 2nd September, Stage 3 walked to Moorebank High School to see famous author James Roy. We learnt that he was born in Trundle in NSW then a year later he moved to Papua New Guinea and also visited Fiji. He is 41 years old.

We only saw him for one hour. He told us that he has had 20 books published, including "Captain Mack" which Stage 3 is currently reading.

Mr Roy was a very amusing man. He told us how he likes to write stories that touch people's hearts and feelings. Also, he wants you to know all of the characters he creates in his books. At the end, we were allowed to purchase books and get his autograph.

By Mark Larkins, 5E.