



# **My Family and Other Romans**

## ***Author Events and Workshops with Marie Basting***

***Available from June 2023 for KS2 and above.***

### **Assembly and Larger Audiences**

#### ***Rome Play! A Fun Interactive Presentation***

How do you take history and myth and mix it up with live action role play (LARP) to create a hilarious timeslip adventure? Marie Basting will reveal all:

- See exclusive photos of Marie's bad haircuts as you learn about her writing journey;
- Explore Hadrian's wall and find out where you can visit Marie's favourite Roman toilet,
- Test your knowledge of bizarre and disgusting Roman facts;
- Discover your inner LARP warrior as you join battle of the war cries;
- And find out just how easy creative writing can be when you defy the limits others put on you, fire your imagination and mix things up! (Includes creative writing and drawing challenge.)

### **Creative Workshops - suitable for Festivals, Schools, Bookshops or Libraries.**

#### **Mixed-Up Mythology!**

*My Family and Other Romans* provides a unique spin on classic Roman mythology. Inspired by the unique characters in this timeslip adventure, you'll work with the author, Marie Basting, to create your own unique Roman god. You'll then draw them on a Roman scroll and tell us some key facts about them in the form of a *Wanted* poster. (Can be adapted to include a writing activity.)

#### **Roaming around Rome – *Create Your Own Timeslip Adventure***

With an emphasis on descriptive writing, children will be invited to travel back to ancient Rome to create their own time slip adventure. Through fun exercises, Marie will fire imaginations and equip children with the tools to ensure their stories have all the ingredients of a classic fantasy adventure. (Schools will receive additional plotting and editing resources.)

#### **Mythical Mosaic Workshop**

Join author Marie Basting in a fun creative session where you'll create your own Roman style mosaic. We'll start with a short reading from Marie's hilarious timeslip adventure, *My Family and Other Romans*, talk a little about how Roman's decorated their homes and then create our own mosaics.

(Involves scissors and glue so younger children may need parental supervision. An option to use a printed template and colouring pencils is available.)

## About My Family and Other Romans



Silvia just wants to fit in. So, being catapulted back to Ancient Rome and finding out her mum is a war goddess is not part of the plan. As for the rest of the family - her sister is a cyclops, her uncle is building an army, and her role-play obsessed dad is now a lava soldier.

And to top it all, the Romans seem to think she's some sort of chosen one – the fate of the world resting on her shoulders. Seriously, this is worse than double maths! Can Silvia embrace her differences and sort this mess out?

- . A laugh-out-loud family caper full of excitement and heart.
- . Time-travel adventure – with a LARPing twist.
- . Perfect for ages 8 and up

## About Marie Basting

Marie Basting writes funny fiction for children. Her debut novel, *Princess BMX*, was listed by the Guardian and BookTrust in their best new books category and was praised by Gender Collect as one of the best books out there for smashing stereotypes. A former Associate Lecturer at Manchester Met University, Marie has taught creative writing from foundation through to MFA level and has extensive experience of schools outreach. Her #BeMoreBMX school and festival events have inspired thousands of children to smash stereotypes and defy expectations.

Marie's latest release *My Family and Other Romans* (8<sup>th</sup> June 2023) combines classical mythology with live action role play, throwing in a double dose of family drama for good measure. The result is a hilarious timeslip adventure that makes the Windsors look functional.

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