

KIM MAHOOD VISITS ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

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Kim Mahood is an artist of astonishing versatility, she works with words, with paint, with installations, and with performance art. Her writing about her own work and collaborations, and about the work of the desert artists, is profoundly enlightening, making palpable the link between artist and country.

"Imagine the document you have before you is not a book but a map. It is well-used, creased, and folded, so that when you open it, no matter how carefully, something tears and a line that is neither latitude nor longitude opens in the hidden geography of the place you are about to enter."

Since the publication of her prize-winning memoir, *Craft for a Dry Lake*, in 2000, writer and artist Kim Mahood has been returning to the Tanami desert country in far north-western Australia where, as a child, she lived with her family on a remote cattle station. The land is timeless, but much has changed: the station has been handed back to its traditional owners; the mining companies have arrived; and Aboriginal art has flourished.

Comedy and tragedy, familiarity and uncertainty are Mahood's constant companions as she immerses herself in the life of a small community and in ground-breaking mapping projects. Mahood was shortlisted for the 2017 Victorian Premier's Literary awards for non-fiction.

St Joseph's College is a proud supporter of the Mildura Writers Festival and was pleased to be a part of the weekend of literary events once again.

Mrs Maree Jones

Technology Learning Area Leader