**A: senior school**

**Some thoughts on the way I write and edit my haiku -Jenny Fraser**

A dedicated haiku writer takes every opportunity to ‘net a haiku’…

be on the watch along the street, in a cafe or shop, travelling to school, the park, the beach, anywhere there’s a crowd …

***if you catch a phrase or fragment, write it down***

Look around for nature’s play with the wind in trees and clouds,

listen to the calls of birds and the sounds around you

use all your senses to write down or record your idea on paper or phone - be the muse!

I use my phone’s google docs to write my haiku, a new doc. for each month, dating each day.

**editing**

Put your haiku away for some days, even weeks. I return to edit at the end of each month - coming back to haiku later, a fresh slant is often found.

I go over my haiku many times, giving them *time to rise,*

then rework, often reshuffling the fragment and phrase around

**a haiku can take some time to find its shape**

I try setting a haiku out in different ways, cull it until it is minimal and strong, add articles, (a, an, and the), where necessary, delete unnecessary words

I often tweak a word by using the phone or a thesaurus to look for synonyms

***keep the surprise for the last line***

Once your haiku *settles*, this is a good time to voice record it, to listen to your haiku’s rhythm and flow. The best haiku will have a pleasing rhythm.

**creating a haiku is like being at the potter’s wheel….**

**reworking ideas and words until the perfect shape is found**

Jenny Fraser