**Sydney Writers Festival Excursion – Final Organisation** 

**TRAVEL**

**Students must have a valid Opal card for train travel.**

**Travel to the Venue:**

Meet at Woy Wot train station at 8 am.

* Depart Woy Woy Station at 8:14am
* Arrive at Chatswood Station at 9:18am

**Travel from the Venue:**

* Depart Chatswood Station at 3:320pm
* Arrive at Woy Woy Station at 4:25pm

Students are to be picked up from Woy Woy Station at 4:25pm. Please note that if your child is not being picked up by you (ie. they are walking home or being driven home by another parent), it is important that a permission note is provided to me on the day of the excursion.

**WHAT TO BRING**

Students must bring:

* their *Write On* Journal (for students in the elective), or a notepad
* a pen
* Opal card
* lunch, snacks and a bottle of water
* wet weather provisions
* money is optional – there will be an opportunity to purchase books and there *may be* an opportunity to purchase lunch

**WHAT TO WEAR**

Students must wear their full school uniform.

**Please do not hesitate to contact me on 43419066 should you have any concerns in the lead up to the excursion.**

Kind regards,

Jessie Heighington

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| **SESSIONS:**  **10:00am - 10:45am WE COME APART**  Sarah Crossan tells you how she came to love poetry and why you will learn to love it too! Sarah offers a behind-the-scenes look at the new verse novel she co-authored with Brian Conaghan, *We Come Apart*, focusing in particular on the themes of refugees and prejudice which characterise the book.  **10:45am - 11:30am LYING FOR A LIVING**  Gabrielle Williams spends a fair chunk of her working life telling whopping great lies and hoping people will believe her. She takes you on a journey of the greatest lies she and some of her characters have ever told, and helps you harness the power of the imagination in your lies.  **11:30am - 12:30pm Lunch Break and Book Signings**  With Sarah Crossan and Gabrielle Williams  **12:30pm - 1:15pm A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS**  What do running a youth-led organisation, driving really fast and writing a book all have in common? They're things Yassmin Abdel-Magied likes to do with her time. Hear a little about Yassmin's story as a brown, Muslim chick who likes to do random things ... and maybe, cheekily, learn a few things along the way.  **1:15pm - 2:00pm MAKING IT PERSONAL**  Inspiration for both *All the Bright Places* and *Holding Up the Universe* came from Jennifer Niven’s real life experiences. We hear from Jennifer about transforming the struggles she’s faced into stories and how the act of writing can be liberating.  **2:00pm - 2:30pm Book Signings**  With Yassmin Abdel-Magied and Jennifer Niven |