



Russ the Story Bus!

Our favourite biblio-mobile, Russ the Story Bus, is back! From 21 October to 13 December, Russ the Story Bus will be visiting schools across Western Sydney, from Penrith to Campbelltown and many stops in between. He'll be sporting a shiny new exterior, featuring beautiful artwork by a children's book illustrator, and his bookshelves will be filled with the latest, greatest and most in-demand new books for children.

Joining Russ to make his literary expedition even more special are the children's book authors and illustrators Deb Abela, Mick Elliot, Jules Faber, Leigh Hobbs, Remy Lai, Kirli Saunders, Gavin Aung Than and Frances Watts.

2019 School Tour 21 October to 13 December

From 21 October to 13 December, Russ the Story Bus will be visiting schools across Western Sydney, from Penrith to Campbelltown.

Russ the Story Bus has been visiting schools since 2014, making this his sixth school tour. In 2018, Russ the Story Bus visited over 5000 children at more than 55 schools in NSW, and the ACT.

A Russ the Story Bus School Visit

All aboard the magical bus with a belly full of books!

On Russ the Story Bus students are encouraged to:

- browse the library full children's books
- discuss their favourite books with Festival staff and volunteers
- chat to the visiting children's book author or illustrator
- leave a message for Russ on the whiteboard
- choose a brand-new book to take home and keep forever.

Students will also enjoy taking part in an interactive talk presented by a children's book author or illustrator. The author will share their love of books, discuss their craft and inspire children to think creatively about reading, writing and storytelling. There is also an opportunity to ask the author a question and get a book signed.

What Teachers Have Said about Russ the Story Bus

'Each student gained a rich learning experience and created a happy memory'.
Gillian Maugle, Teacher Librarian, Wiley Park Public School

'The joy of the children's faces when they realised they actually were getting to keep the books was priceless.' Kate Martin, Teacher Librarian, Riverbank Public School

'We try every day to instil in our kids a genuine love of reading ... so to be supported by you in that endeavour is so lovely.' Darren Denmead, Teacher Librarian, Bathurst West Public School

Booking for your School

A visit from Russ the Story Bus is suitable for primary-aged children. Up to 220 children can take part in a full day visit, which includes two, 45-minute presentations and ample time to visit Russ the Story Bus to browse and select a book to keep. Sydney Writers' Festival is able to provide some flexibility in the schedule for each school visit, as we understand that school timetables are not the same everywhere.

TO BOOK: Sydney Writers' Festival selects schools to take part in the Russ the Story Bus tour based on a combination of factors. To ensure that you are in consideration, please fill out our online expression of interest form at swf.org.au.

For more information, please contact Head of Children's and YA Programs, Amelia Lush:

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