



COMMUNITY UPDATE



Recent News

Queen Camilla visits Sydney Library

Students from J J Cahill Memorial High School were excited to meet Her Majesty the Queen as she attended a ground breaking writing workshop at Green Square Library on Tuesday 22 October. The writing workshop, which brought together aspiring young writers from Years 5 to 8, featured a diverse line-up of renowned authors who served as facilitators and mentors for the participating students. Her Majesty The Queen visited the workshop as part of the current Royal tour – the first since King Charles was crowned - and chatted with students, teachers and the authors about the craft of writing.

Our students shared that this event was truly memorable as we had the opportunity to meet Her Majesty the Queen, the Lord Mayor, the Deputy Premier, the Minister for Education, and many other distinguished guests. We enjoyed ourselves immensely, connecting with numerous authors and illustrators.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 5th November: NSW Schools Constitutional Convention

Monday 11th November: Remembrance Day Ceremony

Thursday 21st November: Year 10 Canva Excursion

**Monday 25th November -
Wednesday 27th November:** Year 7 Swim School

Tuesday 3rd December: Year 7 2025 Orientation Day

Tuesday 17th December: Presentation Day

Wednesday 18th December: Term 4 Ends

Each of us received personalised journals, custom pens, tote bags, a USB drive, and a school magazine. One of the highlights was meeting Matt Cosgrove, the author of "Macca the Alpaca." We also had the chance to work closely with various authors, including Kylie Captain, an Aboriginal leader and writer. Additionally, we met Yvette Poshoglian, who generously provided us with signed bookmarks and personal notes. The event featured a panel discussion where we participated in a Q&A session with the authors.



The visit provided a rare opportunity for students to engage with the monarch as she observed the innovative approaches being taken in NSW public schools in high potential and gifted education.

The Green Square Library writing workshop highlighted the work NSW public schools are doing to nurture talented young learners across the four areas of potential: intellectual, creative, social-emotional and physical. It is part of a broader commitment by the NSW Government to increase educational opportunities for high potential and gifted students (HPGE) and to have HPGE offerings for students in all schools by 2026.

"This workshop was a wonderful demonstration of the steps our schools are taking to ensure gifted and talented students have the resources, teacher expertise and support they need to thrive," said Department of Education Secretary Murat Dizdar. Students from primary and high schools engaged for most of the day with four published authors: Will Kostakis, Kylie Captain, Sue Murray and Yvette Poshoglian.

They facilitated groups of students to explore the concept of "Community" through writing. The four authors were then joined by other published authors including Matt Cosgrove, Roslyn McFarland, Apsara Baldovino and the Australian Children's Laureate Sally Rippin for a panel where students could ask them about being a writer and their inspirations.

Her Majesty also presented certificates to students who participated in The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition.

