On Wednesday 13 July, 15 students and three staff set off to Brisbane to explore career options for the future. The students had the opportunity to explore USQ, UQ, QUT and Griffith University. On most days we walked over 18,000 steps as a group and some students caught Pokémon along the way.

Students also attended the Tertiary Studies Expo. The expo was great for students to be able to see and learn about the different pathways they could take for their careers and talk to academics about university options.

During the evenings we watched ‘We Will Rock You’ at the Lyric Theatre and sang along to the iconic Queen songs, went late night shopping and visited South Bank and Surfers Paradise.

Overall the trip was very enjoyable and successful! I encourage younger students to attend in the future to explore their career options. Thank you to Amy McKenna for taking time out of her week to attend the tour and Shane Kuhz for the driving the bus.

Thank you to all students who attended! The trip was fantastic!
FROM THE PRINCIPAL
It is the half way mark for the year and our school is really starting to see the ‘green shoots’ sprouting as part of our journey to move the school from good to great. On top of our outstanding Year 12 outcomes from 2015 we are now focusing on junior secondary to ensure students have the building blocks that set them up for a great future. We have high expectations of students and quality assuring English, Maths, Science and the Humanities is essential and this is a primary focus for this semester. Creating a school culture that respects individuality is also a key to promoting good health and wellbeing in students and currently a working party of key staff are developing a ‘Health and Wellbeing’ program that will see every student learning the essential life skills that promote this.

Throughout the year many hours have gone into bringing the skill centre online so that it can be effectively used as an integral part of the school. In total $110 000 has been directed toward this project. Once completed, the building will be fully integrated into the school’s fibre network which allows for classes, special events, presentations, catering and additional curriculum offerings to be delivered.

Mr Doug Watson
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
First of all, I will introduce myself. I am Rob Tuppack and I am very happy to be at St George State High School. After leaving school I qualified as a Chef, moving to Hospitality Management. From there, I moved into Retail and then finally Education. Education has been the best career move I have made. I have worked for international, national, state and local organisations.

Attendance
Semester Two has begun and it is important that all students do their best at that time. For a student to do their best, they must attend school every day and engage in their learning, be respectful, be prepared, responsible and safe. If a student does this, I believe they will have choices in what they do, when they leave school. Remember that learning is ongoing and school is about preparing a student for their future.

Parent Teacher Meetings
I encourage students, parents and guardians to discuss their student’s report card and take the opportunity to meet with teachers at the parent teacher meetings on 26 July. I ask you to talk to us about your student and their needs. Your student is important to us.

School Opinion Survey
All parents and guardians should have received a letter from the school requesting that parents undertake School Opinion Survey. This letter contained a blue fact sheet that gave anonymous confidential logon details. If you require this information, please contact the school. This survey is to gauge the satisfaction with important aspects of schooling.

Key dates:
- School Opinion Survey for parents from the 11 July to 29 July
- Naidoc Ceremony 20 July 10.00 am
- Academic Awards Ceremony 27 July 10.00 am in Rec Centre
- Mentors in Violence 26 to 28 July.

Mr Robert Tuppack
Deputy Principal

FROM HoD SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
A warm welcome back to all the students for Term 3. Term 3 is a crucial term for our Senior Students with many events that are both exciting and challenging for senior students. I encourage all students to put in their best effort for Semester 2.

OP Students
OP eligible students will meet with their academic mentors to discuss their learning journey so far and how they can continue to improve, during week 4. OP predictions will be provided to students during these meetings. This term OP eligible students will sit the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) test on Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st August.

Report Cards
All Year 10, 11 and 12 students received their report card last week. I congratulate those students who have performed well in Semester 1. I have been completing QCE checks for each student in Years 11 and 12 and I will be communicating this information with students in week two. I will be meeting with students in the upcoming weeks to discuss what suitable strategies could be put in place to improve results for students who are not on track to achieve their QCE. I also encourage you to make times with your child’s teacher at our Parent Teacher Interviews to discuss their results if they are concerning you.

Attendance
Our goal for every student at St George State High School is to maintain attendance rates of 90% or higher and make every day at school count. We thank those parents and students who are maximising their learning by ensuring they are at school maintaining excellent daily attendance. Sadly, there are a few senior students who are missing out on being the best they can be because they are absent from school. All year 11 and 12 students are regularly tracking their attendance during tutorials and discussing the importance of regular school attendance.

Finally, I again take the opportunity to remind our Year 11 and 12 students attending tutorials that they must come prepared to undertake study during these periods on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. This may involve bringing textbooks and notebooks from lessons not on those days. Study can include revising and reading over class notes, homework, research on a new topic, or working on an assignment.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs Kelly Kuhz
A/HOD Senior Schooling

The Biggest Morning Tea was shared among staff
Staff at St George State High School held their annual Queensland Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea on Friday 17 June. Teaching and ancillary staff welcomed staff on leave and supply teachers to a delicious morning tea of profiteroles, caramel tarts, fruit kebabs, peppermint mousse, cupcakes, chicken wings and slices. A competition of ‘stick the cherry on the cupcake’ was held and this together with donations a total of $174 was raised and given to the local branch of QCC.

Mr Robert Tuppack
Deputy Principal

St George State High School
Office Hours 8am - 4pm Monday to Friday
Please phone during these hours or leave a message on 4620 8222.
Please advise the school office of all student absences ASAP
FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICER

ANXIETY DISORDERS

An anxiety disorder is more than just feeling stressed or worried. Anxious feelings are a normal reaction to a situation where a person feels under pressure. However, for some people those anxious feelings happen for no apparent reason or continue after the stressful event has passed and the feelings cannot be brought under control easily.

Anxiety disorders are the most common mental disorders in Australia. One in four people will experience Anxiety Disorder at some stage of their life. Consider the number students and staff at your school - how many people might need your help?

The causes of Anxiety Disorder include family history of mental health problems; stressful life events (triggers); physical health problems; substance use; personality factors. Symptoms and signs to look for include: feeling very worried or anxious most of the time; finding it difficult to calm down; feeling overwhelmed or frightened by sudden feelings of intense panic/anxiety; recurring thoughts than cause anxiety; avoiding situations such as social events; ongoing difficulties after a traumatic event.

At a school level we can support people (staff and students) who experience anxiety disorders by supporting them to get help. The sooner someone gets help the more likely they are to recover. This may include: referral to Guidance Officer, Qld Health Child Youth Mental Health, Qld Health Social Worker, GP who may then use the ATAP program to refer them to a psychologist or for school staff the employee advisor. The treatment a person will receive, can range from lifestyle changes eg exercise and nutrition, self help such as e-therapies to psychological and/or in some cases medical treatments.

More information available at www.beyondblue.org.au or contact Mrs Woodrow.

FROM HoD JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Welcome back to Term 3! This term will prove to be another busy and rewarding time for students and I am very excited to once again be working with our wonderful Junior Secondary students. As we start back fresh into a new term, it is a great chance to discuss attendance. Our goal for all our students is to achieve and maintain an attendance rate of 95% and above. After week 1, our cohort attendance rates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90.9%</td>
<td>89.0%</td>
<td>76.1%</td>
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Mentors in Violence Prevention

Last term the school advertised a valuable anti bullying program, *Mentors in Violence Prevention* that was being run next week by Centrecare Toowoomba. Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond our control the provider is no longer able to run the program during this term. At this stage, we are exploring the possibility of running this program during the Junior Secondary Enrichment week during Week 10 of Term 4.

Literacy and numeracy homework

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have weekly literacy and numeracy homework in the form of Maths Mate and Homework Reading Program. Both of these programs are designed to reinforce foundation skills in numeracy and reading comprehension. If students are not receiving this homework regularly please contact the classroom teacher.

Reading Intervention Program

This term we have commenced our reading intervention program. As part of our efforts to improve student outcomes, the school has appointed a literacy and numeracy teacher aide to provide in class support as well as targeted, individual reading support. Based on NAPLAN data, A-E reporting and diagnostic reading tests, some students have been selected to read with our literacy teacher aide for 15mins, four times a week for the next 10 weeks. Their timetable has been designed to minimise interruptions to other classes over the course of the week. Should you have any questions regarding this program please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Lastly, if you have any concerns relating to your child's academic progress or social emotional wellbeing here at school please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss Kelly Ott
HOD Junior Secondary Schooling

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data

The Nationally Consistent Collection of data on School Students with Disability provides information about the number of students with disability in schools, where they are located and the adjustments they receive.

It requires teachers and schools to make evidence-based decisions about:

- the number of students who are provided with reasonable adjustments to address a disability under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and Disability Discrimination Standards for Education;
- the level of adjustment that students with disability are being provided;
- the broad category of disability.

This data will be provided to the Australian Government, it is aggregated and not individualised. The data will be collected between the period of 16 May - 5 August.

If you do not wish for your child to be part of the data collection please contact the school administration on 4620 8222.
**Yr 7 students band together**

The Year 7 teachers wanted to honour the Year 7 students how they made a difference in their lives within the classroom, to encourage them that we are all different and unique. Each student was given three blue handbands inscribed with ‘Who you are makes a Difference’ and a note on how they made a difference to our lives. One handband the students will keep themselves and with the other two they will pass on with a note to someone who has made a difference in their life. The person they pass it onto keeps a blue band for themselves and passes the last band with a note, onto someone who has make a difference in their life.

*Miss Natalie Taggart and Miss Kym Weatherall, Year 7 Teachers*

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**St George State High School P & C Meetings**

Reminder that meeting for 15th August will be conducted at 7pm in the library.

**REMINDER**

ALL Student Resource Scheme payments are due Week 2 of Term 3, Friday 22 July.

Current statements were posted home on Friday 24 June advising any outstanding fees. Payments can be made in a variety of ways.

**DIRECT DEPOSIT**
Commonwealth Bank, St George
BSB: 064429
Account Number: 00090019

**EFTPOS and Cash** in school office

**BPPoint** - details on statement

**Cheque** - Made out to St George SHS, deliver to the school office or post to PO Box 209, St George, Qld 4487

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**Community Notices**

- **MIXED INDOOR NETBALL** @ The Centre (Opposite Council Chambers)
  6pm Tuesdays (babysitting possible) 7pm Tuesdays. It’s FREE! For more info phone Jodie Schiller on 0428 974 091

- **ST GEORGE RSL CLUB** Order a commemorative paver for the Memorial Wall. Contact Karen Berry 0474 522 256 or email: klb60@live.com.au.

- **STORY TIME @ THE LIBRARY** (2nd Tuesday of every month). Whilst the stories and activities are aimed at two to five year olds, all children are welcome to come along.

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**Pathways to Resilience Team**

The Pathways to Resilience Team are returning to St George to run the Wings Training (over 2 Saturdays) and the combination of Building Resilience in Families and Looking Beyond Behaviours (2 sessions in one evening with dinner between).

- **Building Resilience in Families** (5:30 - 7pm)/**Looking Beyond Behaviours** (7:30 - 9:30pm) - Thursday 11th August, 2016 (Please be aware the Looking Beyond Behaviour is aimed at educators, although all are welcome) - dinner provided between the sessions. Venue to be confirmed.

  - **Wings** - Saturday, 13 August AND 20 August 9am to 3pm....morning tea, lunch and resources provided. Venue to be confirmed.

  - Please register with Alison (0477746233 or afish37@eq.edu.au) for catering purposes for all workshops by Tuesday 9th August, 2016.