St George State High School students had the opportunity to commemorate 100 years of the ANZAC spirit both at school and community events over the last week. It was wonderful to see so many students commemorating this important day and representing our school with pride either through the school band, cadets or marching in the parade on Monday ensuring that 'lest we forget.'

ANZAC Day was celebrated on parade at St George State High School last Wednesday. Many thanks to Terry Salmon who gave the school’s ANZAC day address encouraging students to keep the ANZAC memory alive and understand the great sacrifice that was made by so many Australians so that we could live in a country that is free from conflict.

Members of the 142 Cadets assisted in the ceremony and School Captains, Ned Jones, Jesse Twidale and Jesse Wilkinson also spoke.
FROM THE PRINCIPAL
Welcome back to another busy and exciting term for our students. As the year progresses it is timely to discuss several important things that impact our learning culture here at St George State High School.

Uniform
As our school does not currently have an adequate formal uniform for cold weather, students are not required to wear formal uniform during Terms 2 and 3. Students are more than welcome to wear their formal uniform during this time but formal uniform will not be compulsory on a Monday and at assembly on Wednesday until Term 4.

Mobile phones
It is school policy that phones are not required at school and are not to be used during school hours. If students need to contact parents they can do so through the front office and likewise students can be contacted during the day by ringing the front office. If students do contact you during the day regarding any concerns they may have please direct them to their relevant Head of Department.

Extra-Curricular events
There are many wonderful opportunities at St George State High School to get involved with a wide variety of extracurricular activities. We look forward to seeing the upcoming musical, Annie Jr, which staff and students have been busily working on over the last couple of months.

On a different note, we farewell Mrs Jane Moran as Master Teacher and wish her well for her next chapter at Pimpama State High School. We thank Jane for her valuable contribution to our school and thank Miss Veronica Rakich for taking over Mrs Moran’s classes.

Mr Doug Watson
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
It has been a great start to Term 2 with many important events helping kick start the term.

Whole School
Congratulations to all students who participated in the Cross Country last week and thank you to those students who were involved in ANZAC Day commemorations both at school and within the community.

Junior School
Junior students had the opportunity to participate in Band Camp last week as well as experience the White Gloves Exhibition on 15 April that travelled all the way from the State Library of Queensland.

Senior School
Senior students had the chance to travel to Roma last week to participate in a QCS Masterclass to find out everything they needed to know about preparing for the QCS test later in the year.

Thank you especially to the teachers involved in coordinating all of these events, it is only with their commitment that we can ensure that a high standard of education and a broad range of extra curricula activities are being provided to students at St George State High School.

Mrs Kelly Kuhz
A/HoD Senior Schooling

St George SHS P&C Needs Your Help
The P&C is catering for “Annie” the musical with wine and cheese platters on Friday 20 and Saturday 21 May.

Donations of the following items would be appreciated and can be left at the tuckshop by 3pm on 18 May:

- Blocks of cheese – eg cheddar, camembert, fancy cheese
- Kabana
- Packets of Jatz or Rice Crackers etc
- Bottles Pickled Onions
- Dried apricots
- Cashews or Mixed Nuts
- Slices – eg sour cream apple slice, caramel slice or other yummy offerings that you might make

St George SHS P&C
Call for Donations
The P&C is catering for “Annie” the musical on Friday 20 and Saturday 21 May at the St George Cultural Centre. We need helpers to assist with the following:

- 5.30 – 7.00pm Food Preparation & service
- 7.30 – 9.00pm Food service and clear up
- 6.00 – 7.00pm Bar service
- 7.30 – 9.00pm Bar service and clear up

Bar manager and organisers will direct you on the nights. We need your helping hands for a few hours or half an hour. If you can help, contact Michelle in the tuckshop on 4620 8222 and let her know. Please leave your name, phone number and preference where to help.

Mrs Kelly Ott
A/Deputy Principal

FROM HoD SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
Welcome back from the Easter break. I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday and that students have had time to recuperate from a very busy Term 1.

Term 2 will be equally busy, particularly for the Year 12 students, who have only 2½ terms left before they finish secondary schooling. Every lesson of every school day is important and thus it is vital for the seniors to be committed and dedicated to their studies and consistently attending school. Non submission or late submission of assessment will have an impact on student report cards, their ability to attain a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and may lead to cancellation of enrolment at the school.

For students to achieve the best possible outcomes in the senior school, regular school attendance is imperative. Research consistently highlights the relationship between school attendance and academic achievement. Our attendance target in the senior school is 90%. Please help us by making sure your child is at school every day. Currently the attendance rates in the Senior School are –

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
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<tr>
<td>87%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>90%</td>
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Week 4 will see our year 11 and 12 OP eligible students sit a practice test for the Queensland Core Skills Test. The practice test will be held on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th May. The QCS Test consists of 4 papers — a Writing Task (of 600 words), a Short Response paper and two Multiple Choice papers. The results achieved for each of the 4 test papers are combined into one grade, ranging from A (the highest grade) to E (the lowest). Those sitting the test are asked to respond to a variety of stimulus materials, such as prose passages, poetry, graphs, tables, maps, mathematical and scientific data, cartoons and artistic works.

It is vital that students who are sitting the test attend and if they are unable to attend practice, a letter of explanation to the office before the date of the test is required. Alternatively, please ring me to discuss. The more practice students have completing the test, the more feedback they receive and thus potentially the better the grade they may achieve on the test itself. The QCS test must be sat by all OP eligible Year 12 students or those wishing to gain a ranking score to attend university.

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

Mr Doug Watson
Principal

Miss Kelly Ott
A/Deputy Principal
FROM HoD JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Five Tips for Helping Students in NAPLAN (10, 11 and 12 May)
(Adapted from Happy Schools article)

**Keep Calm**
It is vital that parents model a calm approach. Attitudes are contagious and will be ‘caught’ by your child. Focus on encouraging your child to do their best and trying hard. It is important to choose your words carefully when you speak. As with all learning activities we should put our focus squarely on effort rather than results. The only pressure should be to try hard rather than to do well.

**Keep NAPLAN in Context**
It is important to keep perspective. NAPLAN is only ONE measure of student achievement and a VERY NARROW measure of that. It is a point in-time test only. NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test. It is not expected that all students will be able to answer all questions correctly.

**Acknowledge that exams are stressful**
It is helpful to acknowledge that some students may be worried or anxious. NAPLAN provides an opportunity to help students build resilience to anxiety through teaching students some relaxation techniques - deep, controlled breathing, relaxing the shoulders and keeping calm thoughts. Reassure students that you’re on their side. You are there to support and encourage them.

**Share your own stories of what helped you in your exams**
What was your secret - Baroque music? Enough sleep? Healthy snacks? Supportive peers? Going for a run? Colourful mind maps? Give them a way to learn from your successes and failures.

**Prepare them for all circumstances**
Give tips such as bringing a water bottle, eating healthy snacks and getting some exercise at breaks. Remind them about monitoring their time and not getting bogged down on a question for too long!

And finally, wish them luck on the actual day!

Mr Wayne Batiste
Acting HoD Junior Secondary Schooling

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

- **MIXED INDOOR NETBALL** @ The Centre (Opposite Council Chambers) 10.30am Tuesdays (babysitting possible) 7pm Tuesdays. It’s FREE! For more info phone Jodie Schiller on 0428 974 091

- **NOTICE TO ANGLICAN PARENTS** - Your children’s Confirmation. Baptism and Confirmation are important milestones in the life of a member of the Anglican Church. In recent years, Confirmation was delayed until candidates reach the age of 15 yrs. This was particularly difficult for rural children. The Archbishop has now agreed that children can be Confirmed from 11 years old ie from Grade 6. We the Anglican Parish of St George with Dirranbandi are keen to hear from parents whose children (including older brothers and sisters, and indeed the parents themselves) may wish to know more about Confirmation in the Anglican Church. We would like to move towards Confirmation during the Bishop’s visit in September. Confirmation classes will start in the **July school term**, ie the first meeting will be in the **week of 11 - 15 July**. If you are interested, please contact Marion Ellem on 4625 3044, Pam Turnock on 0428 253 343 or Desley Buchan on 0408253620, or talk to Anglicans in the community.

- **THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS)** St George - Friday 13 May Conversations with health, disability and community workers 1pm - 2.30pm, St George RSL

- **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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Jnr Band Camp for Instrumental Music

On the 19 and 20 April the cluster Instrumental Music Junior Band Camp was held at St George State School.

The camp involved 33 students from four different schools including St George State School, Dirranbandi P-10 School, Thallon State School and St George State High School. The students worked and performed extremely well and had accomplished four difficult band pieces by the end of the two days.

A concert was held on Wednesday for parents and St George State School with all students really enjoying the afternoon of music.

A big thank you to all the students who participated for making it an amazing camp and also a big thank you to all the parents who car-pooled kids and for your support at home, thank you.

Mr Luke Todd
Instrumental Music Teacher
On Wednesday 20 April students competed in the whole school Cross Country. The event was held on school grounds with a 3km race. It was an extremely hot afternoon for this time of year for Cross Country. At the finish of the event, ice blocks were given to all competitors followed by a social touch football game. A big thank you and congratulations needs to go to Miss Stephanie Wood for her organisation and coordination of the carnival.

Congratulations to our Age Champions and well done to all the runners and walkers. A high participation from each grade was excellent to see. Mitchell House just scraped in to take home the winners trophy in front of Leichhardt, followed by Nixon. Thank you so much to all staff for their assistance and support on the day.

Term 2 Sport Update

Term 2 has started with a quick succession of school sport, Balonne district and south west school sport trials. There are numerous teaching and non-teaching staff who consistently volunteer to manage, train, coach and transport students to various sporting trials and carnivals outside normal school hours. The school and students are very appreciative of their commitments.

On Friday 15 April the Balonne District 10-12 Football Team travelled to Chinchilla for south west trials. Congratulations to Molly Jones and Chelsea Reid on her selection into the South West 12 Girls Football Team. Molly and Chelsea will be travelling to Stanthorpe later this term. Good luck girls.

On Monday 18 April we had a number of girls attend the Balonne District Softball Trials that were held in Dirranbandi. Congratulations to Paige Clark and Shakryra Cowburn on their selection into the Balonne 12 Years Softball team. These girls will travel to Taroom in late May. Good luck Paige and Shakryra.

Also on Monday 18 April 13-18 years students travelled to Chinchilla for the South West Touch Trials. We had 23 students attend trials with a 15 years team in both boys and girls. The 18 years girls combined with St John’s, Roma and the 18 year boys joined with Miles State High School to play. Students worked hard during hot conditions for this time of year.

Congratulations to the following students on their selection into South West Touch Teams in their respective age groups; Lochie Pollock, Reeghyn Beadmore, Kyla Dahlstrom, Olivia Hoolihan (shadow), Madison Spackman. These students will attend state championships at Toowoomba in early June or on the Gold Coast in late July.

I would also like to make special mention of Rhyley Petfield, Keeley Neighbour and Kelepi Matapa on their hard work refereeing games in between their matches. Particular mention needs to go to Keeley on her excellent refereeing of the 15 boys possibles and probable game. This game was of an extremely fast pace and Keeley's consistent calls were well appreciated by both players and officials on the day.
Term 2 and 3 - UNIFORM

Winter uniform can be worn in Terms 2 and 3. The formal uniform must be worn at the Principal’s request.

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICER

University Open Days 2016

Each year the various universities host open days where parents and students are welcome to attend, look at the facilities that the universities provide and discuss future study options, scholarships and the like with university staff. Following are the open days for the various universities so you can plan for any trips away. Please check with the individual university website for further details about the days.

6 MAY: UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND (UNE): Armidale Campus
23 JULY: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ASC): Brisbane Campus
31 JULY: QLD UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (QUT): Gardens Point Campus
31 JULY: QLD UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (QUT): Kelvin Grove Campus
7 AUGUST: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND (USQ): Toowoomba Campus
7 AUGUST: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND (USQ): St Lucia Campus
7 AUGUST: UNIVERSITY OF SUNSHINE COAST (USC): Sippy Downs Campus
14 AUGUST: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND (USQ): Ipswich Campus
21 AUGUST: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND (USQ): Springfield Campus
21 AUGUST: UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND (USQ): Gatton Campus
21 AUGUST: QLD UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (QUT): Caboolture Campus

If you would like information regarding course offerings and eligibility, please make a booking with Sally in the front office to see Mrs Woodrow, Guidance Officer.

Mrs Annette Woodrow
Guidance Officer

PIERRE DE COUBERTIN AWARDS

Students in Year 12 have been invited to nominate for the Pierre de Coubertin Awards for 2016. The awards, named after the founder of the modern Olympic Games, promote the importance of participation in sport and physical activity. They recognise students who demonstrate initiative, teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play through participation in a variety of sports, qualities which we are very familiar with, and are consistent with the fundamental aims of the Olympic movement. They aim to recognise good sportsmanship and not just elite performance.

Eligibility:

Students eligible for the award must:

• NOT have received the Pierre de Coubertin Award on a previous occasion;
• be enrolled in Year 12; and
• meet the criteria for the award

Criteria:

• Sport Participation: During years 7-12 students must have represented the school, district or region as a participant in at least three sports in the competitive arena, demonstrating initiative, teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play. One of those sports must be in the current Olympic program.
• Literary or Artistic Artwork: Students must submit an original piece of literary OR artistic artwork, which illustrates their appreciation of the Olympic Movement.

Nominations for this award are due by Friday 29th of April 2016. Award recipients will have the unique opportunity to participate in the Leadership Program prior to the Award Ceremony held.

Students are to see me for further information regarding this award.

Mrs Sarah Goddard
Sports Coordinator

ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS™

PARENT COURSE

Monday 2nd, 9th & 23rd May 2016

A three-session program for parents and carers
How to manage and build a stronger relationship with your 13-18 year olds

If you are interested please contact Care Balonne Assoc. Inc. on 07 4625 5450 or St George Community & Allied Health Social Worker Glenda Corlett on 07 4620 2265

What one parent said:
A step dad recalled an incident at the weekend with his 12 year old step daughter. He said that the input he had received the previous week from the course helped him keep his cool and brought a more favourable outcome.
Year 8 students applied what they learnt in Science in an extended experimental investigation at the end of Term 1. They worked in groups to test some polluted water. The water was contaminated with lead, copper, aluminium or sulphuric acid. By adding special indicators to their sample and noting colour changes or formation of precipitates, they were able to identify what was polluting their water sample.

In addition, students had to design an experiment to determine the percentage of salt in a sample of river water from near the sea to find out if yellow belly fish could be released into the water. They used a Bunsen burner to evaporate the water from the river water sample in an evaporating dish and by weighing the dish and sample before and after were able to find the mass of salt in the water. Each group found that the salt content was about 10% and recommended that the fish should not be introduced to the river since the fish can only tolerate 3%.

All students worked well in the science labs and used the equipment safely.

Karen McKechnie
Science Teacher

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Family & Domestic Violence PREVENTION Month

- Duration of May

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Time and location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Commencement of DV week Ceremonies.</td>
<td>Get together to distribute T Shirts and pedometers for those participating in DV walk about. Start walking!</td>
<td>Time: 5pm Venue: Amphitheatre (across from Rowden park)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>HITDV for 6, Cricket game and Free BBQ.</td>
<td>Local cricket game all welcome to participate.</td>
<td>Time: 3.30pm for a 4pm start Venue: State Primary School</td>
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<td>15th</td>
<td>Local Rugby League game and Presentation of Buzzy Cup.</td>
<td>Come down and support our local football teams who will wear an orange ribbon to show their participation in DV month.</td>
<td>Time: Games start at 11 Venue: Rowden park</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>Community walk up the main street of St George.</td>
<td>Please join us to raise awareness for DV month and help keep the Walkabout alive. Meet at JCM’s.</td>
<td>Time: 10am Venue: JCM’s walk to Lions Park</td>
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<td>27th</td>
<td>Blue light disco Orange Theme</td>
<td>Join in the fun for the blue light disco for ages starting from prep – 14 $5 entry includes dinner.</td>
<td>Time: 6pm - 8pm Venue: Cultural Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th</td>
<td>Walkabout ceremony closure of DV month activities. Free meal provided</td>
<td>Candle lighting ceremony – Lighting candles in memory of those who have lost their lives as a result of Domestic or Family Violence is a public gesture to the families and the community that we will not give up our fight to end these most preventable of deaths. Report total steps completed in the month of May to Jenny from Far West to record results. Certificates will be provided to those who took part in the Walkabout.</td>
<td>Time: 5.30pm Venue: BBC area across from Information Centre</td>
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For further information about any of the events held during the month please contact:

Gavin Waters - PLO on 0429538922 email Waters_GavinM@police.qld.gov.au
Cath McQuillan - DV Counsellor on 1300 447 433 email: cmcquilian@tmba.centacare.org.au

Proudly organised by: The Balonne Shire Domestic and Family Violence Panel