For the past eighteen months, eight of our senior students have been preparing to sit the Queensland Core Skills test (QCS). Their results will give them an OP rating that will enable them to choose from a variety of courses at universities next year. These students have attended weekly tutorials and have participated in a variety of workshops to prepare them for the two day test. A couple of weeks ago they attended a full-day session in Roma.

A catered breakfast was supplied to the Year 12 students prior to sitting the QCS on the Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Thank you to Ms Garner, Ms McKenna and Mrs Brimblecombe and the Year 11 students who volunteered their time to ensure that our Year 12 students were nutritionally sustained for their tests.

We would also like to thank the wonderful Community Representatives, Mrs Loretta Sting and Mrs Sue Mizen, who supervise this test under exam conditions. Well done to the Year 12s for your hard work and commitment. We eagerly await your results in December.
Academically, we have improved our pass/fail rates, NAPLAN results have continued to improve and our extension program is really making students think laterally. School and community links to support structures have been recognised regionally and we are continually looking at ways to improve how we support students and families. Healthy and active students are also a priority, the increased participation in netball and rugby league competitions has had many benefits within the school such as increasing attendance, engagement in the classroom and building resilience. It certainly takes a community to educate an individual.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Vietnam Veterans’ Day
A bouquet to Jessie Twidale for her speech at the 50th Commemoration of the Battle of Long Tan and thank you to Isabel Anderson and Kelepi Matapa who also represented the school at this commemoration.

Attendance
On Week 7 parade, the following students were recognised for attendance above 95% to date for this term: Isabel Anderson, Jake Arnall, Chelsea Beadmore, Steven Bennett, Ellie Birney, Courtney Bosher, Lily Brimblecombe, Peter Brischetto, Daniel Brischetto, Rachael Brown, Jessie Chapple, Layla-Jane Chevin, James Claxton, Steven Clifford, Bryce Cochrane, Dayna Colley, Holly Cooke, Sophie Cooke, Taylah Draper, Ryan Du Preez, Brayden Gawne, Brodie Grayson, Isobelle Griegg, Molly Jones, Ned Jones, Jackson Kann, Taylor McDougall, Max McGee, Brody McGuire, Briannah McMillan, Anna Moloney, Haley Moloney, Keeley Neighbour, Bree Parkes, Brodee Parkes, Beau Petfield, Aerol Plaza, Jasmine Popp, Chelsea Reid, Jayden Rayner, Haley Rollins, Stephanie Schiller, Alana Schurrman, Billy Scriven, Harry Scriven, Jack Scriven, Kate Southern, Courtney Spackman, Madison Spackman, Paige Sudholz, Troy Tatam, Preston Thurston, Jessie Twidale, Cody Urquhart-Speed, Georgina Waters, Lochie Waters, Keillie Weatherall, Dillon Weribone, Sarah Whitaker, Heather Wilesmith, Jesse Wilkinson, Jennifer Woodbridge, Shari Woodbridge.

For Week 7, the top two cohorts for attendance were Year 8 and Year 9.

Road Safety Week
Also on parade last Wednesday, as a part of Road Safety week, the Road Safety Unit addressed the parade highlighting how students can be safe on the road.

FROM HoD SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

QCS
By the time you read this, the 2016 QCS Test will be finished and my fingers are crossed for our students. I wish to thank the students who sat the practice sessions, tests and attended the QCS targeted workshops. All of these events provided our students the chance to maximise their QCS success. The workshops with Mighty Minds gave the students valuable feedback and tips to be used during the actual QCS Test.

YR 11/12 EXAM BLOCK – Thursday 8th September – Wednesday 14 September
The Year 11/12 students have been given an exam timetable. Exam block is from Thursday 8th September to Wednesday 14th September. Students who have all assessment completed need only attend for their scheduled exam sessions. Student absences from exam sessions must be covered by a medical certificate. All year 11 and 12 students who are completing a Certificate II in Rural Operations will be required to attend block training throughout exam block and on Thursday and Friday in week 10.

Work Experience
A big thank you to Sarah Scriven who has been working hard to place all Year 10s in work experience placements. Year 10 will experience life at work in the last week of this term. I hope students enjoy their time in the workforce and I look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return in term 4.

Year 11 Camp
The 2016 Year 11 Leadership Camp will be held from the 20th November to the 25th November at the Apex Youth Camp at Mudjimba Beach, Sunshine Coast. This camp will provide opportunities for our year 11 students to participate in leadership and team building activities in preparation for their senior year at St George State High School. Students received an information letter last week. If you would like your child to attend and missed the deposit date, do not worry as we will accepting deposits up until the last day term.

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

Mrs Kelly Kuhz
AHOD Senior Schooling

P & C NEWS
Our “Day to Create” will be held on Saturday 22 October in the Skill Centre. Please promote this event amongst your friends and family. We have some very talented ladies sharing their skills and a delicious morning tea and lunch will be served. In addition to getting some fantastic guidance, all participants will receive a gift bag valued at over $60! Thanks Annette Woodrow for coordinating this event. If you can’t attend, or like me are not at all creative, you can show your support by donating some treats for morning tea or helping on the day.

The ‘tryathon’ date has been set for November 13 and we are looking forward to lots of participants this year – so please spread the word! Funds raised by the P & C this year continue to support the lease of the bus, zinger prizes and the awards evening. This year we have also donated $10,000 towards the connection of fibre to the Skill Centre, linking the centre to the school network. This will be a valuable asset for the school and the students providing extra learning/teaching areas.

Mrs Michelle Strugnell
P&C Secretary

St George State High School P & C Meeting
Reminder that meeting for 12th September will be conducted at 7pm in the library.

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.
On Tuesday 23 August, all Year 10 students travelled down to Warrawee Retirement Village to volunteer at the annual Balonne Senior Games. The weather conditions were not ideal but this did not deter the students’ enthusiasm as they played the role as event officials on the day. All students demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout the day and shared a laugh with the many contestants competing in the competition.

The hours that students accrued as volunteers on this day contributes to their 30 hours required to achieve their Certificate III in Active Volunteering in Term 4.

All participants, volunteers, students and staff had a great day!

FROM HoD JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
This week we saw a combination of increases and decreases in attendance rates across Junior Secondary. As we approach the assessment end of the term, it is imperative the students are at school every day. Our goal for all students and cohorts is to maintain an attendance rate over 90%. Our attendance data for Term 3 to date is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>88.7%</td>
<td>85.5%</td>
<td>82.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Maintained from Wk 7)</td>
<td>(▲.5% from Week 7)</td>
<td>(▼.8% from Week 7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 9 Camp
A reminder that notes and a deposit were due at the end of last week, however it is not too late for your child to participate should they change their mind about attending. Final payments are due by Friday 9 September as well as all textbook fees. If you have any questions about payment please do not hesitate to contact the school.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about the academic progress or social and emotional health of your child please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss Kelly Ott
HOD Junior Secondary Schooling

State Touch Football
Congratulations to Lochie Pollock, Reeghyn Beardmore and Kyla Dahlstrom for their recent SW representation at the 15 State Touch Carnival.

COMMUNITY NOTICES
• PROJECT ICE - True Grit - Community Education Forum
  When - Tuesday, 11th October 2016, Time 8am - 10.30am
  For who - the WHOLE Community
  What is it - to educate and inform the Balonne Shire Community on the ICE (Methamphetamine)

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

Shakespeare was brought to life this morning as Year 12 students presented their Macbeth monologue assessment as part of their Senior English class.

Ms Garner
English
Yr 12 BCT class at Pink Ladies Day

Once a year the tiny town of Weengallon swells, as 600 women hit the town to participate in the Weengallon Pink Ladies Day. As part of the upcoming unit on Event Planning, the Year 12 Business Communication and Technologies class volunteered their services in order to get first-hand experience in what planning an event entails. The Wednesday event saw students leaving St George as the sun was rising and not returning until the sun was almost set. We would like to thank the organising committee for all being so welcoming and allowing our students to participate in such an amazing community event. Although it was an extremely tiring day, all students and myself found the day very informative and rewarding and we look forward to being able to apply our knowledge with the unit content next term.

Miss Garner
BCT Teacher

Water quality along the Balonne River under study

The Geography and Biology classes joined forces and embarked on an expedition to determine the water quality of the Balonne River. This involved students visiting three sites, from Beardmore Dam to the Jack Taylor Weir. Students were required to collect data on factors such as pH, phosphates and dissolved oxygen.

The students also undertook a macroinvertebrate study which involved the collection of water “bugs” and identifying their sensitivity ratings. Students from each class will use this information to write a report on the water quality of the Balonne River.

Thank you to Dave Campbell for driving the bus for this trip.

Mrs Karla Small
Biology Teacher
On Sunday 28 August, five students from Years 7, 8 and 9 travelled to Roma to compete in the South West Division of Optiminds. Students completed two challenges on the day including one spontaneous task and a practiced performance. The main task on the day was for students to present a creative solution to an environmental change over a 50 year period. Our school decided on providing a creative solution to pollution in waterways and its effect on turtles. Their solution included the development of a genetically modified acid beetle that destroyed pollutants such as plastic bags in the ocean. Congratulations to Aerol, Jarrod, Georgie, Paige and Molly who won their division and have been invited to the next round in Brisbane. A big thank you to Miss Ott for organising the team and encouraging them to do their best. Best of luck to students in Brisbane!

Miss Wood and Miss Keim

Four very keen up and coming tennis players travelled to Chinchilla to compete in the Queensland school sport tennis challenge (held in conjunction with Tennis QLD). They arrived keen to show their skills and were plunged straight into their single fixtures, after a short break they continued with their nail biting doubles. They may not have won all of their games or gone on to the next round of tennis in Rockhampton but I am proud of the conduct these students showed. Not only were they playing against students of higher rankings but they also had to contend with the early morning start and the car travel. Congratulations to Paul Whitaker, Clayton Harrison, James Claxton and Sam Killen for representing your school so proudly and for giving Chinchilla students a run for their money.

Mrs Kylie Whitaker
REMEMBER

ALL Student Resource Scheme payments were 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

BPoint - 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

Have you, your son or daughter, ever wanted to try dance?

Balonne Ballet Association Inc. are looking for new or returning students to take part in our charity concert, supporting local drought relief.

We offer classical ballet, jazz and tap classes, for ages 2.5 years through to adults. Both males and females welcome!

For more information please call Kirsty Waterson 0429810604

St George State High School P&C Presents

A DAY TO CREAT

A day for women to experience various art workshops in St George

22nd October 2016
8.30am to 4pm

Registration & Stalls open 8.00am
Venue: Balonne Skill Centre
2 Victoria St, St George

Cost: $100 per participant which includes tuition fee, high tea morning tea, lunch and gift bag. Minimum age 12. Participants complete two 2.5 hour workshops with a tutor.

2016 Tutors
Patricia Heymans: Watercolour Painting
Olivia Ross: Photography
Sylvia Bridge: Patchwork
Mary Jibson: Embroidery
Lola Cuffe: Quilting

Limited Spaces so book early! RSVP by 10th October.
Registration Forms Available from:
St George State High School Office
Or
St George State High School Website
Or
Email: awood142@eq.edu.au

Further information contact: Annette Woodrow on 0429657354

Care Balonne is in the early stages of planning a monthly book club aimed at people aged 15 years and older.

If you are passionate about reading, would like to meet some new people and broaden your literary horizons please send an expression of interest to carebalonne@gmail.com or call Delroy on 0473602540.

We will add you to the mailing list and once we receive enough interest from people we will contact you with more information.

Balonne community Suicide Prevention Network
Accessing support available at the Balonne Resource Centre

If someone you know suffers from depression, reach out and connect with them. Showing that you care could make a huge difference in their life. If you are struggling yourself, you might feel better if you reach out for support, get involved and start taking steps towards recovery.

Join our online book club. Balonne Community Suicide Prevention Network

Join us for a FREE coffee and chat
September 18th
0.30 am – 11.30 am
Sign for licence – a conversation to check in with your mental
https://mmb.org.au

Stevie Jeans
Join us for a FREE coffee and chat
September 8th
0.30 am – 11.30 am
Sign for licence – a conversation to check in with your mental
https://mmb.org.au