From 10 to 16 August, the St. George Sheep Team had the opportunity to participate in the 2015 EKKA competition in Brisbane. Six team members, Courtney Barr, Anne Barr, Bree Tattam, Claire Noble, Brodie Wolff and Samantha Duffey, made the long journey for the busy week which saw them compete against over 150 competitors in a range of Young Judging competitions including Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goats, Boer Goats, Fleece, Mohair, Angora Goats, Horses, Meat Sheep Breeds and even cake and art judging. During these competitions, students were judged on their ability to identify, handle and place the exhibits before providing justification for their placements.

In these competitions our team received several awards. Brodie and Anne received a “highly commended” for Dairy Cattle and Dairy Goats respectively. Bree received a “highly commended” for Horse Judging and a 1st place for Cake Judging. Courtney receiving a “highly commended” in Horse, Angora and Fleece Judging as well as a 2nd in Cake Judging.

In addition to the judging competitions, our students also competed in the Young Handlers Competition against 220 competitors. After a number of hours of fierce competition, Samantha and Courtney were awarded “highly commended” within the senior division and Anne and Brodie were awarded first and third in the junior division. Due to her win, Anne then went on to compete and win in the Open Handler’s division.

On Friday our main competition occurred. This saw our sheep compete against 10 other schools from across Queensland. From our 5 animals, the school was awarded Champion and Reserve Champion Poll Dorset Ram, Champion and Reserve Champion Poll Dorset Ewe as well as Grand Champion School Ram (given to the best School Ram at the EKKA). In addition, due to our various wins, the school was awarded “Most Successful School Exhibitor”. This is an outstanding achievement for our small stud and shows the potential we have in our flock going into the future competitions.

Our successes and achievements over the course of the week would not have been possible without the help of a number of people. I would like to say a special thanks to Julie Worboys and Kylie Whitaker for assisting us with our display and very special thank you to Sarah Scriven and Phil McCosker for their time, efforts and enthusiasm in assisting the team throughout our week stay at Brisbane.

Thank you everyone for an excellent showing year.

Matt Franklin - Sheep Team Co-ordinator
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Moving from Good to Great
The school has an amazing resource in the Balonne Skill Centre facility. Presently the school is in the process of tendering for fibre optic cabling and wireless access point to be installed so that this facility can be used to its full potential. The key to improving student outcomes and having students produce high quality products is to ensure they have access to quality teaching and resources. This improvement in infrastructure will certainly allow us greater flexibility to deliver more targeted programs.

Culture and Spirit
Congratulations to our netball girls at the recent Vicki Wilson Cup tournament and our Track and Field Athletes who competed in the Regional meet, they certainly did themselves and the school proud. It is also amazing to see the energy and spirit that our staff put into Book Week, showing students that learning is fun and it’s great to have a laugh with your teacher. These relationships are an important part of school life.

Great Opportunities
We had an amazing outcome for our students at the recent Optiminds tournament in Roma, with our students awarded Honours in Science and Engineering and the Spirit of Optiminds awards. The ‘In the Bin’ tournament in Roma, with our students awarded Honours in Science

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

It would hope that all students do their very best in all they attempt, using their time, resources and teacher input effectively. As parents, your support and encouragement for this is invaluable.

YR 11/12 EXAM BLOCK – Fri 11 Sept to Fri 18 Sept
The Year 11/12 students have been given an exam timetable. Exam block is from Friday 11 September to Friday 18 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.

YR 10 Formal EXAM SESSION – Thurs 10 Sept at Skill Centre P1/ P2 only
All year 10 students will sit Science together in the Skills Centre P1 and Mrs Brimblecombe and Mrs Small’s Maths classes will sit Maths exams together in P2 on that day. Normal classes will occur for the remainder of the day.

FORMAL UNIFORM WEDNESDAY FOR TERM 4
A reminder that with the return to warmer weather in Term 4, we will require that students wear formal uniform every Wednesday. Please use the next few weeks to get this organised. It is timely to also be aware that all students who receive awards at Speech Night in Term 4 must have full formal uniform including black shoes. All items are available from the tuckshop.

WORK EXPERIENCE
Once again Melissa Scriven has performed miracles placing our Year 10s in work experience placements of their choice. Year 10 will experience life at work in the last week of this term. Thank you to Melissa, I hope this proves to be a wonderful week for all.

FROM HoD JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Students in Junior Secondary have been very busy over the last two weeks involved in many extracurricular events. Highlights include:
- Our OptiMinds team winning Honours in their Science/Engineering prepared challenge as well as a ‘Spirit of OptiMinds’ award for team work
- Year 7 students creating a series of short films and hosting a Film Festival attended by their parents and family

Next week on Wednesday 9 September, we are hosting our Junior Secondary Information Night in Year 7 classrooms.
- 5:30pm - Year 6 students transitioning into High School.
- 6:30pm - Year 8 students transitioning into Year 9.

The evening will include information about enrolment, subject selection and a chance to meet teachers and key staff. Please contact the school if you require any more information.

FROM HoD SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Well what a busy two weeks! Last week, my colleagues and I had the opportunity to formally meet the parents of many of our students as we conducted the annual SET Plans for the year 10s. This was a great opportunity for parents and our Admin Team to learn more about our talented students and what their dreams and desires were. There were some students who did show some uncertainty about what they wanted to do after completing school, but can I say - ‘don’t worry!’ We are here to help you by giving you opportunities to ‘learn’ more about yourself – your interests and aspirations. Year 10 students will be doing work experience during week 10, and this is one chance for students to learn more about possible careers post school. For students who need more opportunities to learn about work options, I implore you to please come and see me! My commitment to you is that I will do my best to help you explore your available options.

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 and Gilmore Education gave the students valuable feedback and tips to be used during the actual QCS Test.

As we look towards the end of the term, there are still so many things to look forward to. Over the coming weeks, we will start the leadership selection process. This year, we will be looking to groom potential leaders from Years 7 right through to 12. It is important that our school has a solid leadership program in place for all year levels, so that by the time we reach Year 12, we will have a high performing student leadership team. Also happening this term is QTAC selections for enrolment into selected University and TAFE courses. The year 11s will be off to Mudjimba for their leadership camp next term – information for the camp will be out shortly!

I would also like to inform our current OP eligible Year 11 students, who might be considering taking on a University subject next year to continue working hard through your assessments! Most of the universities require a B average to be eligible, so please continue to work hard.

Mrs Lynne McCosker
Deputy Principal

Ms Jo McGrath
A/HOD Senior Schooling

FROM HoD JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

FROM HoD JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL
Over the week I had some fantastic opportunities; from participating in many different Young Judging competitions, to meeting a lot of new amazing friends from different schools. I would highly recommend this opportunity to anyone who has an interest in sheep or livestock husbandry. Sheep team requires a lot of dedication from early morning meetings, to assisting with paper work, preparing animals for show and much more. I would like to thank Mr Franklin for his continuous dedication with sheep team. Without him our school sheep team would never have existed. I would also like to thank Sarah and Phil for all their help at the EKKA this year.

Courtney Barr
Captain

If you’ve ever wondered if the concentration of ammonia in the cleaning solution called “Cloudy Ammonia” matches what’s written on the label, don’t despair, because the Chemistry students can find out for you!

Last week, the Year 11 & 12 Chemistry students used all of their lab skills and brain power to analyse some Cloudy Ammonia using a special technique called “Acid-base Titration”. In this precision procedure, some hydrochloric acid is used to react with the ammonia in the “Cloudy Ammonia” in the presence of a special indicator. This allowed the students to test the solution and calculate the concentration within an error range of less than 10%.

It seems that the quality control for this brand of “Cloudy Ammonia” needs a shake up. The label says there is 20g of ammonia per litre, but the Chemistry students found that it was closer to only 10g per litre! Ripped off!

It’s good to know that manufacturers can be kept on their toes using some good science.

Karen McKechnie - Chemistry Teacher

HELPERS URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR A MAJOR P & C FUNDRAISER - CATERING FOR A DOCTORS CONFERENCE AT THE HIGH SCHOOL SATURDAY 5 & SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER. PLEASE CONTACT MELISSA SCRIVEN 46208 222 OR MICHELLE STRUGNELL 46208 333 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.
What a big couple of weeks we have had with rugby league. The girls had an opportunity to attend a training day delivered by the Gold Coast Titans. The girls tested and refined their skills under the guidance and watchful eye of the coaches. It was a challenging day physically, with tackling drills and practice games. The Toowoomba weather also made it all the more challenging, but the girls persevered and really gave it their all.

The open boys Rugby League team have played two games against Charleville. Our first game was held here at school and it was a fantastic display of physical dominance and terrific sportsmanship and resulted in a win to St George. I would like to thank Gavin Waters for refereeing the game and all the volunteers who made that afternoon a success. The student council also played their part by cooking up a storm with the sausage sizzle. Next year we will be able to buy our own school jerseys as a result of money raised. Dean Bosnich, the NRL development officer for Toowoomba, also managed the drive out here to see the game. He was impressed with the quality of the game and really enjoyed his time at St George High.

Just last week, Mark Morris and I travelled with the boys to Charleville. Our boys played out of their skin on the Charleville SHS oval. Our 13 man squad was supported by some extra players from Charleville and we made the use of them. Harrison Thorn scored a try on debut and is now in happy retirement. We drew the game 26-26, albeit controversially.

I would like to thank Mark Morris for coaching the boys and I know they appreciated his guidance and jokes. Also, a thank you goes to Jaco Du Plessis for his captaincy of the team, his guidance and calm nature brought the best out in every player. Thank you to all!

Miss Ratcliffe - Teacher

What a big day for the Senior Vicki Wilson team last Sunday 30 August! The seven committed, and by the end of the day, very exhausted players, did themselves and the school very proud. The team of only seven players, five of which don’t play netball on a regular basis, showed their commitment and dedication to ensure that the school attended this year’s Senior Vicki Wilson Carnival that was held at Downlands College. The girls played nine games for the day having 2 wins and 7 losses. They came up against some of the districts’ top teams, who had subs available, and never gave up, giving 100% for each game.

Thank you goes to Brittany Cochrane, Jessie Twidale, Madison Spackman, Emma Rogers, Jessie Chapple, Kellie Weatherall and Courtney Barr who played hard all day, Kym Weatherall for umpiring, Amy McKenna for managing and supporting the team and most of all to the parents who travelled to Toowoomba with the girls. Good luck to the Junior Vicki Wilson team who play this weekend in Toowoomba.

Kathryn Dohle - Coach
COMMUNITY NOTICES

- **St George RSL Club** Order a commemorative paver for the Memorial Wall. Contact Karen Berry 0474 522 256 or email: klb60@live.com.au.
- **GUITAR LESSONS** Acoustic or electric, bass & vocal. Small group & private lessons. Styles—Blues, Jazz, Rock & Pop. Alan Espie Ph. 0487700711.
- **STORY TIME @ THE LIBRARY** 2nd Tuesday of each month from 10.00—11.00am. Phone the Library on 46253 375 for further information.
- **ST GEORGE SWIM CLUB AGM** Thursday 3 September 2015 @ RSL at 5.30pm. Everyone welcome.

The scoop on technology.

Sadly we are racing at full speed towards the end of the year. Looking back, have you got some New Year’s Resolutions that haven’t been ticked off? Well it’s not too late to start! There are plenty of great apps to help you achieve your goals!

If you wanted to learn a new language, try ‘Duolingo’. Its free and available for iOS and Android.

Did you want to save the environment? Reduce your carbon footprint? ScannerPro will let you take photos and turn them into editable PDF’s. Available for iOS.

There are many of us who ‘forget’ important dates or tasks. If your resolution was to be better organised, Wunderlist is an app to help you organise yourself better. It is free, and available for iOS, Android and Windows.

What about an app which helps you to cite and create bibliographies? One way to help improve your academic results! RefME is a free app which is available on iOS, Android and web.

POSTIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

What does a classroom look like where students are respecting each other’s right to learn and the teacher’s right to teach? Are there hands up? Is there calling out? Students talking to each other? Depending on the classroom context this may look different. Sometimes a respectful classroom is students talking and working together collaboratively. Sometimes it looks like chaos, where students are working on different projects with different timelines. One thing that a respectful classroom has in common is just that – RESPECT. Students know expectations and work within those boundaries, trying their best and staying on task. A respectful classroom is one that is enjoyable to be in.

PBL Team