On Tuesday 24 February, five of our brilliantly talented Year 12 students competed in Lions Youth of the Year. Braden Mulholland, Mallory Bartlem, Bronwyn Pike, Teri Strugnell and Madison Espie, delivered a 5 minute prepared speech on the topics of “Motivation”, “Malala Yousufzai”, “Powerful Women over the Ages”, “Inspirational People” and “Muscly Guys vs Geeky Guys”. As well as their prepared speech they had to each speak for 2 minutes on 2 impromptu speeches – “Would a theme park be an asset for St George?” and “Are mobile phones destroying our conversational skills?” They all made a valiant effort at the impromptus and received much praise from parents, teachers and guests at the dinner who would not have liked to be in their place. As well as presenting their speeches, the students were interviewed on Sunday afternoon by the three judges. This accounted for half of their marks and the speeches accounted for the other half.

The judges remarked that they had a very tough time judging the speeches as all students did extremely well. Teri Strugnell received the award for Public Speaking and Bronwyn Pike was awarded Lions Youth of the Year.

Lauren Thorn
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Partnerships between students, parents and teachers and building a well rounded; confident individual who has reached their full potential, is what every great school has achieved. St George SHS is committed to this journey and attendance, literacy, numeracy, cultural activities, sport and setting high expectations, largely come down to the home and school environment. We are committed to supporting students and parents through this journey and like all adventures they have their ups and downs, but that’s what makes the achievements at the end such a celebration.

Expectations and Routines

Fundamentally, with the underpinning of a good school and home, you can help your child by developing a routine that suits your family and that your child responds to. Children love the stability that routines provide and look forward to things happening at particular times, especially if they enjoy the activity. No is equally as important as it establishes rules and boundaries about meeting these expectations, whether it be school or home expectations. Most importantly teachers are here to work in partnership with parents to grow individuals. Please feel free to contact teachers directly so that we can work together.

Mr Doug Watson
Principal

FROM THE ACTING DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

School Photo Day

Wednesday 25th March, is our photo day. Can you please check your student’s uniform to make sure they have a full formal uniform. On the day, teachers will also be checking students for excessive jewellery (only allowed one small set of earrings, watch), that students have the correct shoes/socks/shorts/skirt/shirt/ties, no bright headbands and conservative makeup & no colour for nails.

In addition to their individual photos students will also have the opportunity to have a family one, so if you want a nice keepsake make sure you select that option when you place your order. Thank you for your support in checking that your child has everything they need for the school photo day.

Mr David Jeffs
Acting Deputy Principal

HOME EC HAPPENINGS

Year 8 Home Economics student have just completed their first sewing task for the term. They’ve been making smaller-sized aprons for the smaller-sized Junior students who were swamped by the aprons we already had.

We also tried a velcro closing at the back which should be easier to do up and will prevent tangled straps in the wash – I HOPE.

Students’ task is now to complete an apron for their own use, applying their creativity and working independently.

Julie Worboys—Home Ec Teacher

UNIFORM - SHOES

Reminder to all students & parents!
Shoes worn to school must be lace up shoes to comply with Workplace Health & Safety standards.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

• THE BREAST SCREEN MOBILE VAN Located at St George Hospital from 14 April to 1 May. Phone 13 20 50 for appointments.
• It’s Story Time @ the St George Library Every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Contact Rebecca Lomman during Library hours on 46253 375.
• ST GEORGE NETBALL ASSOC sign on day 14 March @ 10.00am. Nomination forms - Peta Hart @ The Medical Centre and Vicky Parker (St George Primary School).
• ST GEORGE ARTS COUNCIL presents “The Adventures of Fagaro.” Saturday 21 March @ 6.30pm at the St George Cultural Centre. Tickets available from Harry & Co.
FROM HOD SENIOR SCHOOL

As we approach Week 7, students are in the midst of or about to start assessment for their subjects. I ask all students in the senior cohort, to give their best effort at all times. I have seen some students feel the pressure and I ask that any students who are feeling stressed to please come and see me. Some things you can do to reduce the stress in your life can be:

- Eat well and have a regular exercise routine
- Get plenty of rest
- Talk to friends, your teachers or others you trust
- Explore new ways of thinking or doing things e.g. breaking down your tasks so they become manageable
- Draw up a study plan

In other news:
- The School and Vice Captains took a trip to Toowoomba to participate in the USQ Change Makers program. From here, our leaders will plan a community project and then participate in ‘Pitchfest’, where they present their idea to a panel of business and community leaders to secure funding for their project. We wish them luck!
- The Tertiary Cultural and Careers Tour will take off on 27 May and return 30 May. Year 12s who are interested are asked to secure their place with a deposit. More information can be found on the letter, which will be given out to all year 12 students. Seats are limited, so hurry!

Ms Jo McGrath
A/HOD Senior Schooling

FROM HOD MIDDLE SCHOOL

As the term progresses, our Junior Secondary students are well underway with learning and assessment. Key to this assessment preparation is the use of the school diary and the assessment calendar. Could you please make sure that you are encouraging your child to do both so that they are able to manage and organise their time effectively.

Key dates

- Year 7 – Payment of camp to be finalised by Tuesday 10 March
- Year 7 & 8 – Meet and greet will be held on Wednesday 25 March. Please note the amended date from the previous newsletter. There will be more information about this event in the next newsletter.

Miss Kelly Ott
HOD Junior Secondary Schooling

2015 Indigenous Connections

Last week 10 students and 2 staff members headed down to Toowoomba to attend the 2015 Indigenous Connections, hosted by the USQ. The day was created to provide Indigenous students with motivation, aspiration and learning experience to encourage students to view university studies to achieve their long term goal.

Professor Tracey Bunda, Head of the College of Indigenous Studies, Education Research, was the inspiring MC for the day, who shared his touching story on his life.

Student’s interacted and engaged in mini-workshops held by the USQ to provide snapshots on university life, activities and cultural sessions throughout the day.

2015 Indigenous Connections was a valuable learning experience for students; it has opened up doors for our students after schooling to consider university.

Kym Weatherall, CEC

Wanted - Pre-loved Books

THE YEAR 7 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT IS ASKING FOR DONATIONS OF ANY PRE-LOVED BOOKS (FICTION OR NON-FICTION) TO BE UTILISED BY THE YEAR 7’S. IF YOU HAVE ANY ENQUIRES PLEASE DON’T HESITATE TO CALL THE SCHOOL.

MISS TAGGART (YR 7 ENGLISH TEACHER).
Year 7 students have been working hard and have already started assessment tasks in some of their classes. A copy of the assessment timetable was sent home in the newsletter a couple of weeks ago and all students copied the important assessment dates into their diaries. It would make a great addition to your fridge door! Please assist your child by checking what assessment they have due and encouraging them to study, research and review classroom work.

You will have seen student’s mathematics homework change a little bit with NAPLAN style questions being sent home as part of our preparation for the tests. We are continuing to complete quick facts at the start of each maths lesson and are up to the 8 x tables this week. You would not believe the improvement we have seen in just a few short weeks! Keep quizzing your child on their tables in the car or over breakfast.

I have noticed that a number of students do not have a scientific calculator for use in mathematics. I have been reminding students to get one since the start of the term but there are still quite a few that don’t have one. Please check that your child has the appropriate calculator. They can be purchased from the office for $20. We are all looking forward to our camp at Columboola in just a few short weeks!

Mrs Jodi Hyland & Miss Natalie Taggart

On Wednesday 25 February a total of 28 students represented St George SHS in the trials for South West Soccer in Roma. This day resulted in great success as 13 of these students were selected into South West. A big congratulations to Claire Noble, Alana Schurmann, Madison Spackman, Jessie Chapple, Emma Rogers, Jaco Du Plessis, Tyler Young, Camden Lee, Jarrod Peall, Lochie Pollock, Blake Beardmore, Anne Barr and Reeghyn Beardmore. Although the day reached close to 40 degree heat, all students succeeded in putting in their best efforts and made St George SHS feel proud as a school. A special thank you to Mr Franklin and Mr Campbell for all your hard work throughout the day.

Stephanie Wood—Teacher

Brandon Twiner has secured a School Based Apprenticeship with Beeson’s Electrical. Brandon will be studying a Certificate III in Engineering Mechanical Trade (Refrigeration & Air Conditioning).

Brandon will attend the workplace on Mondays and Tuesdays. He will then attend school on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays to complete his school subjects of English Communications; Mathematics A; Industrial Technology Studies; and Recreation Studies.

Congratulations Brandon!

Melissa Scriven—Transition Officer

Hayden Monagle has obtained a School Based Traineeship with Maranoa Tyres.

Hayden will attend the workplace on Mondays and Tuesdays to complete a Certificate II in Automotive Tyre Servicing Technology.

He then attends school on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays to complete his school subjects of English Communication; Prevocational Mathematics; Recreation Studies and Agricultural and Horticulture.

Congratulations Hayden!

Melissa Scriven—Transition Officer
Head lice have been detected in the school. The parents/carers of all students are being notified via this notice. It is extremely important for you to check your child’s head for head lice. If you do find head lice, commence effective treatment immediately and be sure to complete the process of treatment. This will help prevent head lice from spreading.

St George State High School P & C Association Inc
Tuckshop Relief Convenor - Casual Hours
Applicants must possess:
- Strong Communication Skills
- Must be a good organiser and time manager.
- Applicant must hold a valid Blue Card or be in a position to apply for one.
- Two Referees to be provided with resume and letter of application.
- Food Supervisor Certificate or ability to acquire qualifications.

Remuneration is paid at award rates and for further information please contact: Scott Scriven on 0458 253 898.

Applications are to be forwarded to:
The President, St George State High School P & C Association Inc
Po Box 361, St George QLD 4487

INTRODUCTION OF SMS MESSAGING FROM THE SCHOOL

Last week saw the introduction of SMS messaging for unexplained absences at the point of roll marking. It is planned that the SMS messages will be sent between 11:00am and 11:30am each day, please let us know before this if your child is absent from school.

Are your contact details up to date? Having correct contact details is crucial in the event of emergency, illness and for general contact. If you have recently changed phone numbers or moved home, you can call the school office on 4620 8222 or email our office staff on admin@stgeorgeshs.eq.edu.au with your correct contact details.

Also on display: Light horse memorabilia – military uniforms and saddlery

As part of Dirranbandi’s Anzac Centenary celebrations, Dirranbandi Arts Council, with support from Dirranbandi RSL, Balonne Shire Council and Partners in Grain are very excited to be bringing to the Balonne Shire the Jally Production ‘Gallipoli - a manual of trench warfare’.

Gallipoli - A Manual of Trench Warfare takes place in a sandbagged trench at Gallipoli, 1915 and puts a perspective on the Great War’s legend of heroism. The main character is Barry Moon, a country boy battling not only the enemy, but himself and the establishment.

Coming just fourteen years after the Federation of Australia, the Gallipoli campaign was one of the first international events that saw Australians taking part - as Australians.

Dirranbandi Civic Centre March 24th at 7.30pm
Bar (Dirranbandi RSL) from 6.30pm. Supper provided.

Tickets are available at the door; Members & Concession $20; Non Members $25 and Secondary Students $8.

Free bus from St George leaves at 6.00pm from in front of Council Administration Building, Victoria Street. Contact 0487700711 for bookings & further details.

Recommended for ages 12+, content includes swearing & simulated violence

Please come along and support Dirranbandi Arts Council and RSL in this Anzac Centenary Year
Make the effort!!! You will not be disappointed! A fabulous production!

Dirranbandi Arts Council Raffle Prize
“Lavender” Sepia Ink & Watercolour by Pam Crothers
Tickets $5 each or 5 for $20
To be drawn at “Gallipoli”
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