On the 6 April to 8 April, nine students from St George State High School Sheep Team travelled to the Toowoomba Royal Show to compete in the Meat Sheep section against a number of other exhibitors. At the end, the school walked away with a number of achievements, including Reserve Champion Ram with “Runaway”. In addition to the showing achievements, Courtney Barr competed in the QLD Young Judges State Final, which she had qualified for earlier last year. Against strong and much more experienced competition Courtney managed to win Runner Up in the competition and is now the 2nd Ranked Sheep Judge under 25 in the State. This is a tremendous achievement, well done Courtney.

On 29 and 30 April, the Sheep Team travelled to Goondiwindi Show to compete again in the Meat Sheep section. Throughout the day, the students not only showed our sheep but assisted with the other 49 entries. At the end, the school walked away with a number of achievements, including retaining the trophy for Supreme Champion Interbreed Ram with “Runaway”. In addition, two of our students succeeded in their individual judging events, with Amber Priestley and Taylor McDougall winning 2nd and 3rd in the Under 15 competition respectively.

After an eventful day, the students travelled back to St George to compete in the St George show’s first ever Meat Sheep section, organised and run by our show team captain, Courtney Barr. In addition to our school, Mr Lyndon Frey of Silverdale Dorset Stud and Mr Geoffrey Batterham of Navaho Stud competed in the day’s events. The day started with Junior Judging, where students placed a group of Dorset Horn rams. In the Under 15 division the placegetters all came from St George State High School, with Georgina Waters in 1st, Amber Priestley in 2nd and Taylor McDougall in 3rd. In showing, our animals won 1st place in the Poll Dorset Breeder's group and Reserve Champion Ram.

Students who attended were: Courtney Barr, Anne Barr, Samantha Duffey, Taylor McDougall, Bobby-Jo Tattam, Hayley Rollins, Georgina Waters, Dylan Hill, Jarica Lamprecht and Amber Priestley. Successes aside, competing in the shows would not have been possible without the incredible parent support that we received. Thank you to Cherie Tattam, Simone Bennett, Raymond Priestley, Terney Tanner and William Barr. Thank you also to Sarah Scriven for her help with the Sheep Team.

Courtney Barr and Mr Matthew Franklin
Show Team Captain and Agricultural Sciences Co-ordinator
FROM THE PRINCIPAL

School values are one of the most important underlying aspects of school culture. They clarify our identity, what we stand for and set an aspirational standard. As part of our school’s renewal process we are currently redefining these key values with the view to having 3-5 key words or short phrases that encapsulate us as a school, what we stand for and what values we foster in students.

Staff have recently brainstormed over twenty high quality values, which as a school community we would like to foster in students. These have now been refined down to ten. Shortly, students and parents will be asked to select five values that most resonates. So parents, please keep an eye out for our Survey Monkey link on our Facebook page, as we would really value your input.

Mr Doug Watson
Principal

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

During recent parent teacher interviews, teachers were repeatedly asked by parents how they can help to improve their child’s learning outcomes. While there are a wide and varied set of variables that influence a child’s learning, a student’s home environment can either nurture and support achievement of students, or it can be harmful and destructive.

Leading educational researcher John Hattie has invested 15 years of research involving millions of students and represents the largest collection of evidence based research into what actually works in schools to improve learning. In his book, Visible Learning, he identifies many influences at a school level that teachers and school leaders can use to improve student outcomes. However, for parents who want to nurture and support their child’s education he suggests that ‘parents can be critical to the success of children’ (Hattie, 2009) and play a valuable role in supporting children through their educational journey.

So, for parents who often find themselves asking the question, how they can help to improve their child’s learning outcomes, Hattie’s research has identified several things you can do at home:

- Speak the language of schooling and be familiar with what your child is learning at school.
- Provide assistance to your children in terms of developing their learning and love of learning.
- Create high expectations and positive shared expectations for learning.

Only when parents and schools work together can our students achieve to the best of their ability.

Miss Kelly Ott
A/Deputy Principal

FROM HoD JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Week 5 sees us well and truly underway with learning and assessment. However, there have been several exciting things happening outside the classroom in the Junior Secondary arena.

- Congratulations to all JS students who participated in NAPLAN. The results from NAPLAN support the school in delivering a quality education by targeting classroom practices. It was great to see such a large number of students attending NAPLAN despite some nervous feelings.
- Last year the school purchased a large amount of sporting equipment for JS students to keep them active during break times. These include tennis racquets and balls, touch footballs, soccer balls and netballs. It is great to see students are continuing with active lunch times.

Mr Wayne Batiste
A/HOD Junior Secondary Schooling

FROM HoD SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Last week our OP eligible students met with their academic mentors to discuss their learning journey so far and how they can continue to improve. OP predictions will be completed again at the end of Semester One for our OP eligible Year 11 and 12 students.

This week our Year 12 QCS students will sit a practice QCS exam under authentic exam conditions in preparation for the QCS test in August. We look forward to receiving the results from this practice QCS test and working closely with students on making improvements as well as celebrating the progress they have undoubtedly made.

This year the Tertiary Tour will be held in week one of Term Three from Wednesday 13 July to Sunday 17 July. This tour provides opportunities for our Year 11 and 12 students to tour various universities in Brisbane and Toowoomba. One highlight of the trip will be a visit to the Tertiary Studies Expo. This event presents an ideal opportunity for students interested in education, training and employment opportunities. Exhibitors include Australian-wide and international universities, private education providers, TAFE institutes, graduate employment, Defence Force recruiting, student support services and employers. Places on the tour are available if you would like your child to attend.

As you are aware we have a very strong focus on the need for all students to be at school every day they possibly can. This term, Year 11 and 12 students will be calculating their own attendance rate every month and setting a goal to reach the target of 90% attendance. Currently the attendance rates in the Senior School for Term Two are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

St George SHS P&C Needs Your Help

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.

Call for Donations

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 of Pickled Onions
- Dried apricots
- Cashews or Mixed Nuts
- Slices – eg sour cream apple slice, caramel slice or other yummy offerings that you might make
Backpacks and Boulders

Sometimes young people feel like they are carrying around a lot of ‘stuff’ but often cannot identify what it is. It is important for us as adults in a child’s life to help them identify the things that weigh us down and how to get rid of them.

A Boulder

A boulder is something that we carry that is not our responsibility. It is actually another person’s responsibility but we have offered to carry it or they have given it to us. For example: Both you and your friend decide to go to Dreamworld for the day and then after go to the movies. All day your friend is spending their money and when it comes time to go the movies, they have no money and so you pay. It was their responsibility to manage their money as they knew they would also be going to the movies later. But you took the boulder and this cost you money. Another example: Your best friend is fighting with another one of your friends, you get involved to defend your friend. Both your friends end up fighting with you. You carried your best friend’s boulder when they should have been carrying it. If you had kept out of it and let your friend carry their own boulder you would not have ended up in the fight.

A Backpack

A backpack is something or things that we carry that has happened to us or our own belief system, but instead of getting rid of it we carry it through life. It’s like big rocks in our backpack. Some people have a few big rocks others have their backpack full and find it hard to carry. For example: There is a death of a family member or pet, there is a grief process that is healthy but someone who puts the grief in their backpack and never moves past the grief will carry that rock until they can hold the grief rock and let it go. Another example: Your best friend and you fight, you don’t forgive them and hold the grudge against them. You put that rock into your pack and don’t let it go. You lose your friendship over it. Now every time you make a new friend, you are carrying that rock and it burdens you. If you forgive your friend the rock will go and you may get your friend back.

Adults can also carry around boulders or backpacks full of “stuff” so it is not only our children we should look out for. Sometimes it is time for a spring clean to remove these things that are weighing us down and let them go. Just like a weight loss program to remove excess physical weight you might be able to do it yourself, however, some people need coaches and personal trainers to remove emotional baggage from their lives. The best way to deal with things is immediately, but if you find yourself or your child cannot move beyond something, then it may be time to consider getting yourself professional help such as seeing the Guidance Officer, your GP or a counsellor. If you need any support, feel free to contact me. ( Adapted from Jenny Northduft, Regional Youth Development Officer article)

Mrs Annette Woodrow
Guidance Officer
ST GEORGE STATE HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

Ann'ie JR.

Friday 20th and Saturday 21st May at 7:00pm
St George Cultural Centre

Tickets: Adults $20, Seniors/Children $20, Family** $50

Tickets available at Betta Electrical from the 7th of May

Broadway Junior Collection ®

Book by
THOMAS MEEHAN

Music by
CHARLES STROUSE

Lyrics by
MARTIN CHARNIN


** Family tickets include 2 adults and 2 children tickets