

BOURKE HIGH SCHOOL



Term 3, Week 6 Newsletter

Six BHS students travelled to Dubbo in Week 4 to compete in the Schools Wether Challenge, run in conjunction with the National Merino Show and Sale. About 600 students from 76 schools across the state attended the event.

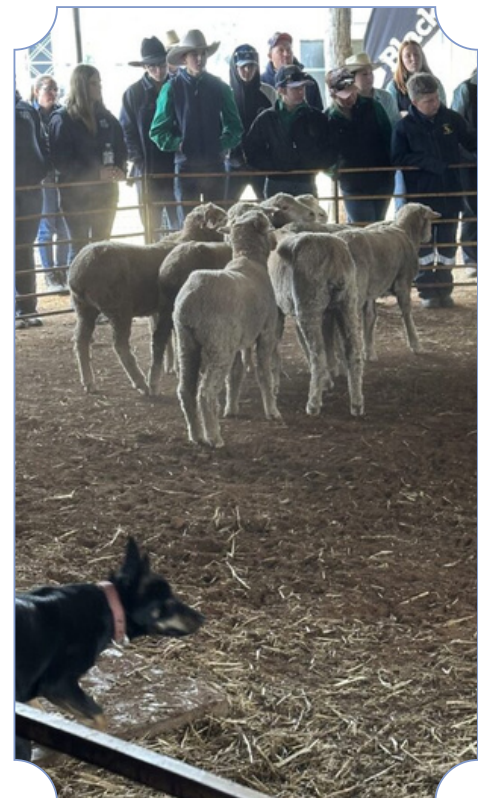
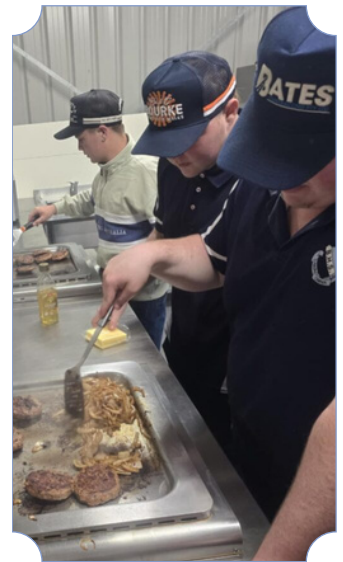
We received six Egelabra Merino wethers in March and were responsible for their feeding and care over the following months as we worked to get the best from them. Students managed their feed rations, monitored their health, and tracked their growth using our Gallagher system, which allows us to record and graph their individual progress. It was also very interesting to have our sheep ultrasound-scanned to determine their muscularity and fat cover.



Over the two days, students presented their wethers on the mat, both in wool and for carcass value. They had the opportunity to discuss their presentation with judges and industry representatives, and also participated in several workshops, including career panels, young judges, and a working dog demonstration.

The educational benefit of a program such as the Wether Challenge is undeniable, as we are able to integrate real industry experiences, technology and data collection, and networking with other schools and representatives of the Merino sheep industry. While no ribbons were brought home this time, our wethers achieved consistent weight gains and presented as a tidy team come show day.

Miss Burgess
Agriculture Teacher





Book Week



Book Week and Australian School Library Day have come and gone, and what an adventure it was! Students and staff truly embraced the theme "Book an Adventure" with creative and colourful costumes. From the clever Matilda by Roald Dahl, the magical Harry Potter by J.K. Rowling, to the thrilling Firebite series inspired by Aboriginal folklore, the library was bursting with imagination.

Our friendly book dragons have been keeping watch over the space, while students have dived into exciting activities that spark curiosity and embrace all literacies. We're already looking forward to the upcoming visit from author Lisa Nicol and the fun-filled History Week in Week 8.

Keep the adventure going — see you in the library!

Miss McGuigan
Librarian



Year 6 to Year 7 Transition

This term, our Year 6 to Year 7 transition program has been in full swing, starting in Term 3 with weekly visits to Bourke Public School and St Ignatius Parish School. Our high school teachers have been actively involved, visiting classrooms, team-teaching, and running lessons at both schools.

These visits have provided wonderful opportunities for our staff to get to know the Year 6 students, building connections and easing their transition to high school. It has also been fantastic to partner with our local primary school teachers, ensuring we understand each student's strengths and needs as they prepare for this important next step in their education.

We are excited about the transition process so far and look forward to the continued collaboration and partnership with the wonderful staff at both Bourke Public School and St Ignatius Parish School.

Mrs Graham
Learning & Support Teacher







Bourke Yabbies



Shine at the 7 & 8 Rugby League Carnival - Dubbo

Wow, what a trip it was for our Year 7/8 boys! We kicked things off with a stop in Narromine, where the boys enjoyed tacos and a friendly game of touch footy to set the tone for camp. That night, we wound down with pizza and a movie on the big screen.

A real highlight was our visit to the Western Plains Zoo. For many of the boys, it was a whole new experience compared to the emus and kangaroos back home. Walking through the zoo felt like stepping onto an African safari — a memory the boys won't soon forget.

Then came game day. We teamed up with our mates from Brewarrina, forming a combined side that proved unstoppable at times. The boys notched up some great wins, dropped a couple of close ones, but through it all, they showed outstanding spirit and determination. Scores aside, the effort and attitude were second to none — the true Bourke way.

A special congratulations goes to Malcolm, who proudly took home the Clontarf Spirit Award for his commitment and leadership across the carnival.

Well done, fellas — you should be proud of yourselves!



Ronnie Gibbs



Under 15's Girls



Open Girls



Open Boy's Runner up

Principal's Report

Hello Everyone!

As we move past the halfway point of this term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible progress our students and staff have made so far this term. It has been inspiring to see the enthusiasm and dedication demonstrated across our school community. With many exciting learning opportunities and events still to come, I encourage everyone to continue being the best version of themselves and supporting one another as we move forward together.

I am proud to share that our students demonstrated outstanding positive participation at the Ronny Gibbs Rugby and Netball events this week. Their teamwork, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm were truly admirable, reflecting the values we uphold at Bourke High School. It was wonderful to see students encouraging each other, showing respect to opponents, and giving their best effort throughout the day. This event not only highlighted their athletic skills but also strengthened their sense of camaraderie and school pride. Well done to everyone involved and a huge thank you to all staff involved to ensure the school and broader Bourke community was showcased in such a positive manner.

Our Year 12 students have recently completed their trial exams, marking an important step in their preparation for the final HSC assessments. I commend their hard work, focus, and determination throughout this challenging period as they completed their final school-based assessments in their 13 years of formal schooling. These trials provide valuable experience in managing exam conditions and identifying areas for further study and improvement. I encourage all Year 12 students to reflect on their performance, seek support where needed, and maintain their commitment as they continue their journey towards achieving their academic goals.

Principal's Report

Our Year 12 Visual Arts students have been hard at work developing their Body of Work, showcasing their creativity, skill, and personal expression through a diverse range of artworks. This crucial component of their HSC demonstrates their growth as artists and their ability to communicate ideas visually. As we approach the lock-up date, students are finalising their pieces and preparing for submission. I look forward to celebrating their achievements and would like to take the opportunity to recognise Miss Amanda Smith's dedication and passion in supporting these students.

On Tuesday, 16 September, we welcome parents and caregivers to the Year 8-9 and Year 10-11 Parent Information Evening for 2026 subject selection. This important event provides families with comprehensive information about the subject choices available for the upcoming year, helping students to make thoughtful decisions about their learning pathways. Our teachers will be on hand to answer questions and offer guidance tailored to each student's interests and goals. We invite our school community to attend and encourage all students to take full advantage of the support available as they plan for their academic futures.

We are excited to announce the upcoming Year 12 Graduation Assembly, which will be held on Thursday, 25 September at 10.00am at the school MPC. This special event is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the achievements, growth, and dedication of our Year 12 students as they complete their final year. The assembly will include speeches, awards, and acknowledgements of the hard work and resilience demonstrated by our graduating cohort. We look forward to coming together as a school community to honour and support our students as they embark on the next chapter of their lives.

Trent Graham

Executive Principal



Thursday 11th September 2025

Sausage Sizzle & Cupcakes

Come dressed in YELLOW



“A conversation could save a life”

Bourke High School Newsletter

Term 3, Week 6

Upcoming Events

- **1st to 4th Sep** – Literacy & Numeracy Week
- **8th to 12th Sep** – History Week
- **10th Sep** – AECG Meeting @ St Ignatius
- **10th & 11th Sep** – Westwords Author Visit
- **11th Sep** – R U OK Day
- **11th Sep** – St Ignatius & BPS Transition Visit
- **16th Sep** – 8, 9, 10 & 11 Parent Info Evening
- **16th & 17th Sep** – WHIN Nurse Visit
- **25th Sept** – Year 12 Graduation Assembly
- **26th Sept** – Last day for Year 12



After School Homework Club

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
in library until 4:30pm