

February 6, 2018

Queensland teachers learn to brie cheese makers

Teachers across Queensland will be 'wheying' up their lesson plans, after taking part in the RNA Teachers' Cheese Making Workshops at the Brisbane Showgrounds from today.

Over the next four days, more than 25 teachers from 14 schools will get a lesson in making blue cheese and camembert from dairy expert and Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) judge Russell Smith.

Taking part in the internationally awarded workshops are nine Brisbane-based schools, along with a number of regional schools including Dalby State High School and St Johns College Nambour.

The six hour workshops are now in their ninth year and include a mix of theory and hands-on practical work in both blue and white mould cheeses.

Once back in the classroom, the teachers will share their new-found cheese making skills with their students, who will then enter the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) Student Made Cheese Competition in June.

Russell Smith said making cheese is a fun way for students to learn where their food comes from - it doesn't just appear on the supermarket shelf.

"After making the cheese, the students are required to look after them for six weeks before they're judged and the winners are awarded," he said.

"Because the students are involved with their cheese for an extended time, they gain a much better appreciation of the processes involved in its commercial production.

"Possible career pathways the students could then follow are studies in food science including dairy food science. There are many opportunities for jobs in these industries in Australia."

When: 8.30am to 2.30pm, Tuesday 6 to Friday 9 February

Where: Council Stand, Brisbane Showgrounds – 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills

Participating schools:

- Beenleigh SHS

- Bowenville SHS
- Dalby SHS
- Ferny Grove SHS
- Glasshouse Christian College
- Mount Alvernia College
- Mt Gravatt SHS
- Parklands Christian College
- St Benedict's College
- St Johns College Nambour
- St Pauls Strathpine
- St Peters
- St Peters Indooroopilly
- Toogoolawah State High School

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