

March 12, 2019

## Teachers get a lesson in cheese making

South-east Queensland teachers will soon wheel the art of cheese making into their classrooms, after taking part in the RNA Teachers' Cheese Making Workshops at the Brisbane Showgrounds from today.

More than 30 teachers from 20 schools will learn to make blue cheese and camembert over the next four days, from Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) judge and dairy expert Russell Smith.

Nine Brisbane-based schools are taking part in the free workshops, along with a number of regional schools including two from Toowoomba and one from Proston in the South Burnett region.

The six hour workshops have been running for 10 years and include a mix of theory and hands-on practical work.

Once back in the classroom, the teachers will pass their new-found knowledge onto their students, who will then spend six weeks making cheese to enter in the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) Student Made Cheese Competition in June.

Nowhere else in Australia offers educators free cheese making workshops combined with student cheese making competitions.

Russell Smith said making cheese was an engaging way to teach students where their food came from.

"It's incredibly important for the next generation to learn about farming and agricultural food production," he said.

"The curriculum aligned Student Made Cheese Competition is also an introduction to a possible cheese maker or dairy food scientist career.

"When judging the competition, we consistently find dozens of cheeses that are every bit as good as those commercially available which is a credit to both the students and teachers."

**When:** 8.30am to 3pm, Tuesday 12 to Friday 15 March

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

### Participating schools:

- Burpengary State Secondary College
- Caboolture State High School
- Churchill State School
- Eight Mile Plains State School
- Fig Tree Pocket State School
- Flagstone State Community College – Jimboomba
- Good Shepherd Catholic – Springfield Lakes

- Kilcoy SHS
- Mary Mackillop Catholic College – Highfields
- Morayfield State High School
- Moreton Bay College
- Mt Gravatt High
- Northside Christian College
- Proston State School P-10
- Sandgate District SHS
- St John Fisher College – Bracken Ridge
- St John's College – Nambour
- St Peters Lutheran College – Indooroopilly
- The Gap State High School
- Wilsonton State High School – Toowoomba

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