

SEYMOUR SHOW 2016

Mount Lilydale Mercy College introduced the McAuley Park Young Farmers program at the beginning of 2015 when the school purchased 3 Boer Goat does. The Young Farmers program was started, to give us students the opportunity to learn about livestock such as Boer Goats and develop our knowledge and skills in the agricultural and farming industries.

The program has enabled our school to make valued connections in these areas resulting in many opportunities arising for us students to get a feel for the industries. These opportunities have included attending the Stud Beef Cattle Camp and a day at RIST in Hamilton which gave us insight into the farming of both cattle and sheep. Having goats in the school has provided us students with even more opportunities, such as experiencing the Royal Melbourne Show, Lilydale show and the Seymour show.

Having experienced these exciting and fun filled events, I have taken a particular interest in Boer Goats. This has led to me beginning my own small herd. My herd currently consists of just four, of which two are unregistered and two registered. McAuley Park Holly has been shown at Royal Melbourne in both 2015 and 2016, where she has placed 2nd in her age section both years. She has also been shown at Lilydale show 2015 and Seymour show 2016. Her mother Skittles has most recently been at the Seymour show where she placed 1st in her age section and came 'Reserve Champion Senior Doe'. My other two goats Holly and Lucky were taken in the junior handlers class.

At the Seymour show, students from our school were given the opportunity to not only show goats and compete in junior handler, but assist in judging. While judging, we learnt what to look for in goats, and how to distinguish and decide between goats for placings. It was fascinating to see what different judges looked for as we focused on in the conformation of the goats. Seymour show was an awesome and fun day which I would without a doubt recommend that other schools attend. I also encourage the students from my school Mount Lilydale to get involved in the McAuley Park Young Farmers program and attend the Seymour show in 2017.

The Young Farmers program at Mount Lilydale gives students like me, the opportunity to experience different areas of agricultural and farming industries which provide a wide variety of inspiration for future career paths and hobbies. By being involved in this fabulous program, I have been inspired to begin my own herd of Boer Goats. I also plan on studying Veterinary science at university to be able to care for for all animals including Boer Goats.

Sheridyn Hiney (student, Mount Lilydale Mercy College)



SEYMOUR RESULTS October 1, 2016
Judge: Nerida Tull



