

Education - St George's style

Year 8 students at St George's are visiting local businesses as part of a Humanities unit on Trade. First up was a visit to Q-West Boat Builders on Monday. Future trips will be to Pacific Helmets, Havoc Coffee and Springvale Garden Centre.

Teacher Sue Van Dort said that the students were "buzzing" after being shown the construction of a 12 metre passenger Catamaran that the company is building. They were impressed by the sheer size of the boat and the number of people needed to build it. They asked questions about the sourcing of the aluminium and what other Wanganui companies were involved in the supply of materials.

The students are required to find out answers to questions like how



Students using their iPads to take pictures

long the company been established, its trading partners, who does it sell to, what are its economies of scale and how does the company benefit Wanganui. Then they need

to make a presentation of their findings.

The companies chosen represent a good cross section of businesses in Wanganui and although it can be time-consuming

for the school to set up the visits with all the approvals required, these visits are seen as invaluable in helping make students aware of what is happening locally.