



# AGTECH Connections

The newsletter of the Australian Technology  
& Agricultural College (RTO #45556)

'Connecting the College with the Community'

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**Independent Senior Secondary College for Years 10 to 12**

4808 Mt Lindesay Highway, North Maclean Q 4280.

**Edition 57: May 2020**

## College Founder/CEO

*Dr Narendra Nand*



### Principal's Message Greetings to the ATAC community.

We are now past the mid-term point in the 6th week of Term II. We thank all the students and staff for working hard and embracing the changes and challenges in response to the Covid-19 crisis. Regular advice from State and Federal governments and the Independent Schools Queensland enabled us to adhere and follow the protocols for safe practices and keeping ATAC fully operational. The restrictions on students at all levels to attend classes were lifted from 25th of May 2020 and we now have full attendance. Our internal measures for sanitisation and hygiene enable students, staff and visitors to practice safety. We will maintain current protocols and procedures and closely follow the advice of ISQ and the Government Departments.

We are pleased to have all students back from this week. Most students are on track for completion of their academic work. We are closely working with those who need attention and support. Work from home was difficult for only two students. Their parents collected the activity sheets and assessment tasks from the college at agreed times. We greatly appreciate the effort of parents who took the initiative and made efforts to contact us about the progress of their child. Year 11 & 12 students are working hard towards their QCE completion, with a Certificate II in Business and FSK and a trade certificate as planned. I have now obtained qualifications to deliver Cert II Business

and FSK onsite and I am working closely with the students to help them complete their studies.

Senior students will attend TAFE program as scheduled. Dates for Year 10 students have been confirmed

for attending the "Trade Taster" program at TAFE. All communication from TAFE is made directly to the parents. We request parents to forward the dates of engagement at TAFE to our office so that we can record their attendance accordingly. The flexible and adaptable learning experiences at ATAC has been providing opportunity for students to join ATAC at any time. We are glad to have enrolled two new students in year 10 this week. We welcome Cameron and Kirk and their parents to the ATAC community.

The gardens and seedlings are now ready for planting. Students are planning the planting, watering and protecting their vegetables, herbs and succulents.

North Maclean Community Garden (NMCG) members have been encouraged to continue their project. A rotor hoe purchased by our groundman is available for hire to prepare larger areas for planting. Water has been pumped from the dam to keep the tanks full to ensure there is adequate water for all crops. Students, parents and members of the general public are encouraged to join the community gardens project at the college. Please contact the office for further details.

## Gary Suthers

*English, Humanities and Agricultural Science Teacher*

Welcome back! As of Monday, the 25th May, all students have returned to classroom learning at ATAC. Two students have joined us to continue their learning journey and I welcome, Kirk and Cameron. All students have been able to kee

their learning a priority during their learning from home experience and I can see that they all have been engaged in the learning activities. In class students will continue to use the online resources for individual learning and they can now also learn as a group. Thank you to all students and their parents for managing to engage in the process of learning over the last five weeks. English for the year 10 is about poetry in its many forms, where to find poetry and even how to write it. For year 11 we are looking at leadership and teamwork and Josh has been introduced to the film “Apollo 13” where both these essential skills were tested to the extreme. In year 10, Health and Physical Education the area of study is, making good decisions around partying, and avoidance of drugs and alcohol. In Science we are exploring the Theory of Evolution and how many creatures have evolved to what we see today. The Agricultural Science plant growing unit is taking shape, with some seedling planted into the growing beds (Cucumber, Dwarf Beans, Eggplant, Lettuce and Spring Onions) with more seedlings ready to transplant soon (Baby Carrots, Tomatoes and Bok Choy). We are using plants as natural insect repellents, Marigold, Mint and Chili as companion plants growing along with the vegetables. With each student tending to their own growing beds, come spring there will be plenty of fresh produce to enjoy! Thank you to all parents and care givers who are providing continuing support for their students’ learning journey.

## Radhika Behal

*Business Development Manager*

COVID-19 spreads primarily from person to person. Fighting this disease is our joint responsibility. Protect yourself and others by making these 6 simple precautions your new habits:

1. Wash your hands often with soap and warm water or clean with sanitizer
2. Cough or sneeze in your bent elbow – not your hands!
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth

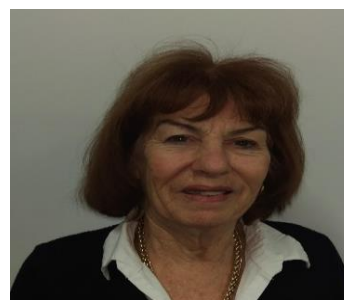
4. Limit social gatherings and time spent in crowded places
5. Avoid close contact with someone who is sick
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

## ALL ABOUT ATAC

ATAC is a new not-for-profit senior college which provides individual support in small air-conditioned classrooms, allowing students to work at their own pace. Regular parental discussion & feedback provides ongoing support to develop academic success, opportunity for work experience and potential apprenticeship in Year 12. Students learn to become more independent, responsible and respectful as they would be expected to display such behaviors at any workplace. Mental health support and behavior management training is provided to ATAC staff and students through a grant from the Federal Government via Hon Bert Van Manen, Local member for Forde.

*ATAC AGM – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 10.00 am at ATAC. Parents and well-wishers are welcome to join. Please contact the College for further information on membership.*

## MEMBER-BOARD OF DIRECTORS



*Ms. Mary Irene Bayldon- Director (Independent Media Production Professional)  
Chairman (2008-2020) - Ethnic Schools Association of Queensland (ESAQ). Past Secretary of Radio 4EB and community worker.*

Welcome to the Australian Technology & Agricultural College E- LEARNING store.  
(FROM ATAC Welcome to the Australian Technology & Agricultural College E- LEARNING store.  
(FROM ATAC WEBSITE)

All courses and resources are provided by ACS Distance Education (<https://www.acs.edu.au>) click on [howtheywork.aspx](#) to study short courses online.

The short courses include:

Business  
Hospitality  
Horticulture  
Medicinal Herbs  
Plant Taxonomy  
Farming & Gardening  
Project management  
Indoor & Outdoor Plantings  
Backyard Nursery  
Animal Courses  
Beekeeping  
Aquaponics

## Well-Wishers supporting ATAC and our students.



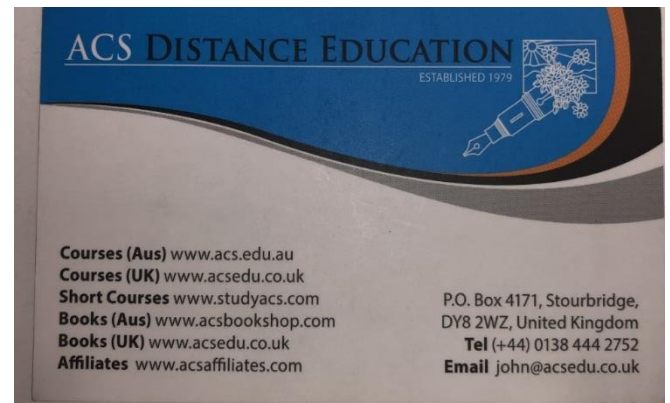
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## **INVITATION**

### **1. Student BBQ Sausage Sizzle**

LUNCH on Wednesday 20 June 2020  
at 1.00 PM  
Parents & Guardians invited  
RSVP by 3.00 pm 15 06.20

### **2. Breakfast Session with Zaq Iqbal**

(of Fernland - A horticulturist supporting  
local growers)

Saturday 9.00 am -noon 20 June 2020  
RSVP by 3.00 pm 19.06.2020

Invitation is extended to any  
volunteers who can assist with small  
student projects such as:

1. Raising chickens
2. Establishing a small sheep farm
3. Horticulture
4. Aquaculture

**Support our youths to create a hobby  
or to establish a small business  
enterprise.**

## **ENROLMENTS OPEN**

***Join ANYTIME  
(DON'T FALL BEHIND)***

***BUILD YOUR CAREER IN YOUR  
TRADE BY INDIVIDUAL PATHWAY  
PLAN***

### **YEAR 10 PROGRAMME (QCAA)**

English  
Mathematics  
Science  
Agricultural Science  
HPE/History

### **Years 11 & 12 (QCAA CURRICULUM)**

English  
Mathematics  
Agricultural Practices  
CERT II BUSINESS  
CERT II FSK (JOB SKILLS)  
CERT II TRADE (TAFE)

**OBTAIN QCE & THREE CERTIFICATES  
BECOME SKILLED & JOB READY**