

# AGTECH Connections

The newsletter of the Australian Technology  
& Agricultural College

*'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 102: July 2024**

**College  
Founder/CEO**

*Dr Narendra Nand*



### Principal's Message

Across the midterm, work is progressing very well for all year levels. With some extra assistance and support of parents, we have been able to engage our students to complete their assessment tasks. It is greatly heartening to see that the parents are engaging with the learning and progress of their child as per our enrolment agreement. We have introduced hospitality Certificate II training with a fully qualified trainer so that our students get some experience and formal training to seek holiday and weekend jobs, in the service industry. With two students signed up for apprenticeship, and most at work experience and TAFE, our students are doing well to achieve their individual pathways to their careers. Most important is having a positive attitude, personal skills, workplace knowledge and transferrable skills such as the use of technology to assist us in recommending them for work placements. Professional trainers provide HPE and Arakan Martial Arts training for physical and mental growth and development of our students.

### **Education Plan**

English, Essential Mathematics, Agricultural Practices and Certificate II in Workplace Skills (BSB20120) and Work for Skills & Vocational Pathways (FSK20119) form the QCAA curriculum requirement for years 11 and 12 students.

Trade Taster program at TAFE for Year 10s for their white cards and entry into TAFE or work placement is very crucial for our vocational pathways.

### **Infrastructure Development**

ATAC facilities are open to the public to help building a healthy community. The Health & Fitness Centre is equipped with commercial training equipment and is open to all our community members, staff and students upon arrangement.

The commercial kitchen is now ready for use by the Certificate II Hospitality students for training and Bee Keeping workshops for the young and older communities. Bee hives are already producing honey for the Bee All-natural project, and we look forward to our first harvest of natural organic honey at ATAC very soon.



***The Kitchen equipment is installed and is waiting for gas fittings by the end of this month.***



***The kitchen sinks as part of the requirement for the kitchen is installed and waiting for final connections for water by the plumber. It has been a long time coming for the plumbing completion.***

### **Green House**

Finally, the greenhouse is completed with the help of volunteers from Man-Up organization. The students are setting up seed beds and propagating cuttings as part of their agricultural/horticultural projects and life skills. Community members are most welcome to join in for some organic gardening and learning propagation techniques and horticultural skills

### **“Grow Your Own Vegetables” (GYOV) -**

Active Life Skills (ALS) – the learning pathways with hands on gardening, nursery and poultry projects are becoming very popular for assisting our communities to live active and healthy lives. Growing healthy organic vegetables, caring for some chooks or ducks either as a hobby or a side income encourages young and older people to be engaged for healthy living.

Embedded with the engagement, is our “TRIPOD” model which provides an opportunity for close partnerships between parents and/or guardians, and students. The goodwill encourages positive behavior and mutual understanding making students to become honest, hardworking, respectful, and independent learners and workers.



***Our gardens are in full harvest. Families are purchasing and enjoying the fresh vegetables and eggs. Great small business enterprise model.***

### **Acknowledgement**

Congratulations to all students who have attained their work experience and/or apprenticeship and are completing their assessments on time. Special thanks to all parents and guardians, “Man-Up” Team, ATAC Board volunteers, RSL Greenbank, Logan City Council, and the government for small grants to support ATAC projects

## **ACTIVE LIFE- LONG SKILLS (ALLS)**



***Good effort by very keen brothers Ishaan and Ethan preparing their chicken burgers. Planning to have a Kumar Brothers’ Restaurant? Ms. Marnie Parker is trying to assess them for their class work.***



***Ms. Marnie Parker checking skills of Jaxon and Mia during the hospitality session. There is so much to learn to make the food look, smell and taste good. What is wrong Mia? It smells good though. Thank you Marnie for your astute observations and teaching the finer skills.***



***Ms. Marnie Parker and the students enjoying their prepared lunch during the Cert. II Hospitality class. Good effort makes it taste nicer.***



***Building his chef knife handling skills during the training. Damian enjoys cooking and food preparation and of course eating it. Good effort Damian.***



***Yes, it tastes good Ethan, Ishaan and Brad (Trainee teacher) in the background. It is fun to work with some teenagers.***



***Ms. Marnie Parker supervising Zeke (L) and Lachlan Crabbe for their assessment. Make sure the photos are attached to your portfolios.***



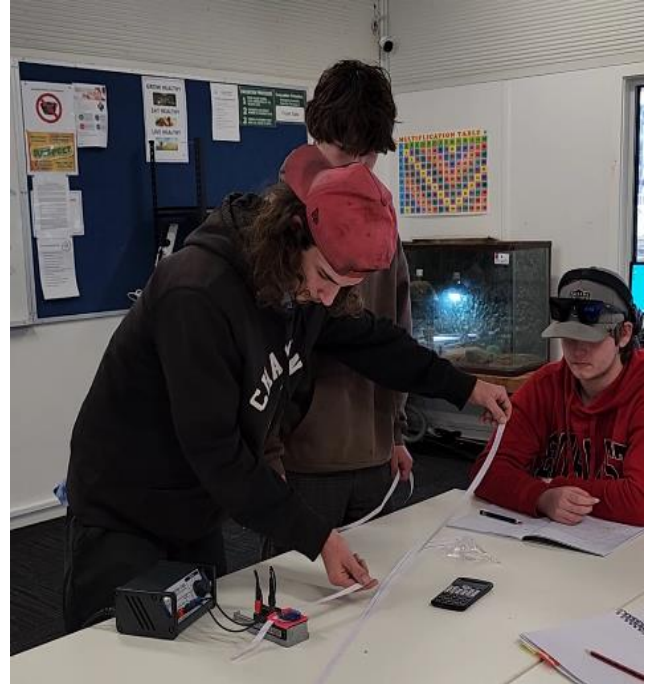
***A duck finds the front of the admin building as the safest place to lay eggs. Her clutch has 17 eggs, and we look forward to a good number of ducklings in a few weeks. Agricultural Science students do poultry studies project.***

**From the Teacher's Desk**  
**Mrs. Nandani Chandra**

The students are currently busily completing their assessment tasks. Upon having a conversation with a student about the need to do his very best to complete the assessment, he responded, "Who cares, I will probably fail anyway like everything else in my life." This incident reminded me of how we become what we tell ourselves. These stories are a choice, and these choices form the essence of who we are. If our children do not have a positive mindset, then failure is inevitable. As their carer, educator and mentor, our role is to nurture our child's positive self-perception by holding them accountable for their choices and holding high expectations. Whether it is studies, house chores or being responsible when going out with friends, let's keep our children accountable, hold high expectations and follow up with positive feedback afterwards. Because when you do this, it will help your child choose success over failure and a positivity over negativity.



In the classroom, students have been learning about the physics of motion and measuring the velocity of objects using a ticker tape timer.



**Students in action with ticker timers calculating velocity during a mathematics class.**



**We welcome to the team, Mr. Bradley Smith from Griffith University who is completing his teaching placement for the next four weeks. He has dived right into the classroom and engaging the students.**

**The Annual General Meeting was held at ATAC on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024.**



**The New Board of Directors 2024-2025 (L-R) Mr. Dhirendra Singh, Mr. Bramha Deo, Dr. Narendra Nand, Ms. Mary Irene Bayldon (Chair), Mrs. Natasha Roebig and Mr. Ramesh Rai.**

**Volunteers from “MAN-UP” and Destiny Relief Organization**



**The members of the MAN-UP team volunteering at ATAC. They finished off the nursery, chicken pens, compound cleaning and checked out the ATAC bus which could be used for student transport.**



**Jason Roebig handing over frames full of honey to the board members. ATAC has bee hives that are used for bee keeping workshops and training. More workshops are being planned for adults and the expressions of interest can be made to [info@beellnatural.com.au](mailto:info@beellnatural.com.au) or [bees@atac.qld.edu.au](mailto:bees@atac.qld.edu.au)**



**Samuel Tamaki (R), with his son and Sam from Man-Up and Destiny Relief organization volunteering to complete the ATAC nursery with hard labour. Greatly appreciated by ATAC staff and the Board.**

## Well-Wishers supporting ATAC and our students. They can be contacted via their websites.



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