



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.

College Founder/CEO

Dr Narendra Nand

Principal's Message



What a wonderful feeling and progress after the borders opened both nationally and internationally despite with great caution and limitations. The Covid-19 sanitization protocols are now a business routine and a household practice which supports a long-term strategy to reduce general infections and health and safety issues. Covid-safety includes products, procedures, and compliances.

The visit by The Minister for Communities and Housing, Digital Economy and the Arts, Hon. Ms. Leeanne Enoch, to our College last term, was greatly appreciated by the ATAC Board of Directors, guests, staff, students, and parents. The ground-breaking ceremony for our multipurpose shed and the announcement for "Leeanne Enoch Bushfoods Park" at ATAC has set the pace for expedient activity to build the uniqueness of our college.

Three students are attending TAFE and others have been enrolled to start later. Year 11 students are progressing well with their Cert. II FSK and will start Cert II Business in Term III. Parents and/or guardians have been regularly contacted to support their child through meetings and emails. All parents are encouraged to arrange regular meetings at their convenience to ensure better support to staff and students regarding progress of projects and academic work.

The aquaponics project has been supplying fresh green vegetables free to ATAC staff and students. New pumps and materials have been bought to set up vertical gardens and we congratulate Nick Springall (Year 11 student) for the great effort. He is supported by Dylan Sutcliffe and Lewis Schulte. Two species of fish have been selected to be introduced after obtaining licenses. Bush foods plants have been planted and native bee-hives prepared, using demonstration kits. The chicken coop has started with baby chooks this week. Students also visited the Kenon mushroom farm on 27th May and met with the owner Mr. Simon Tang. We hope to work closely with Simon to help some students with their mushroom projects and the opportunity for some students to seek casual employment.

Our alternative pathways and engagement with projects. and certificate courses that enable students to enter employment while at school is an attractive arrangement to support them to seek employment. Earn and learn and starting an early career is a great option which is attractive to many students in pursuing their careers. ATAC greatly appreciates the support and understanding of parents and well-wishers.

Our RTO (#45556) is now approved to provide online training courses in Cert. II Business, Cert II FSK, Cert IV & Diploma in Leadership & Management, and Diploma in Business. These courses are now available and open for enrolment. Information and enrolment packages can be obtained from the college.

Gary Suthers

English, Humanities and Agricultural Science Teacher

It is the middle of term two, assessments have been given out, examinations have been written and work has started on reviewing what we have learnt and finding out what we have yet to do. After settling into the new term and refocusing on the new term learning, the year 10 class has viewed Baz Luhrmann's Romeo + Juliet and the animated film Gnomeo and Juliet to see how each director tackled the story of Shakespeare's play. Also we have been looking at Australian history and how freedom fighter such as Vincent Lingiari and the Gurindji Strike, Charles Perkins and the Freedom Ride and Eddie Mabo and the Mabo land rights decision have changed our country today. In Health and Physical Education, we are learning about how to plan a responsible party and how to avoid the problems of antisocial behavior. Year 11 students are halfway through their Future Skills certificate course and also have been looking at workplace language in English. As future employees they are finding out the rules and requirements of starting a new job. Some of our students have been working enthusiastically on their Agricultural Science projects, with the renovation of the greenhouse, maintenance of the chicken coop, the adding of a new pump to service the vertical garden set up in the Aquaponics and a trip to the mushroom farm to see mass production of the friendly Fungi. The aquaponics grow-beds are still producing plants, with the winter harvest of herbs, strawberries, tomatoes and lettuce growing steadily. Both the year 10 and year 11 students have been learning about the anatomy of fish, how to care for fish and have been researching the right type of fish for the Aquaponics. Thank you to all parents and guardians, for your continued support of your child's learning here at ATAC

ALL ABOUT ATAC

ATAC is a new not-for-profit senior trade college which provides individual support in small, air-conditioned classrooms allowing students to learn at their own pace. Regular parental discussion and 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 behavior at a workplace. Gambling Community Benefit Grant has been approved to provide some tools and machinery complement our training and ATAC is about to build a multipurpose shed with facilities for training in construction and automotive as soon as possible. Our electrical, plumbing and communications network is being upgraded to meet the infrastructure requirements by the Council.



Mr. Henry Bart-Plange of "Get Connected IT" with Dr Nand discussing ways to improve the ATAC IT systems and build training platforms for RTO courses.



Caleb Smith (L) Jackson Richards (R) with Mr. Simon Tang known as the King of Mushrooms; the Director of Kenon Mushrooms invited us to visit his multimillion-dollar Shiitake Mushroom farm only few minutes from our college in North Maclean



Nick and Dylan always get lost from the classroom only to be found at the Aquaponics. The greens are flourishing and has become an attraction for visitors.



Shiitake mushroom grown on imported round blocks. Simon plans to make the blocks on the farm soon. His machinery is about to arrive, and he looks forward to providing employment opportunities to young people in North Maclean.



Nayte with a surprise visitor, a turtle which has now become an attraction for students. Plans are underway to find a designed habitat for the turtle and to introduce another one to co-habitat with native lizards.



Lewis (L) and Jayden busy building the nursery while Caleb looks on. The nursery will be used to grow seedlings, herbs, and native plants.

2021 School Terms Date

Term1	Wednesday 27 th January- Thursday 1 April	10 weeks
Term 2	Monday 19 April- Friday 25 June	10 Weeks
Term 3	Monday 12 July- Friday 17 September	10 Weeks
Term 4	Tuesday 5 October- Friday 10 December	10 Weeks

ENROLMENT OPEN FOR 2021/2022

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ATAC RTO #45556

Enrolment is now open for Online courses:

- 1. Cert. IV in Leadership & Management**
- 2. Diploma in Leadership & Management**
- 3. Diploma in Business**

For more information please contact:

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ENROLMENTS START from 01/06/2021