

# **AGTECH Connections**

The fortnightly newsletter of the Australian Technology & Agricultural College 'Connecting the College with the Community'

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#### **College Founder/CEO**

Dr Narendra Nand

## Welcome to North Maclean Campus- Now Open

Australian Technology & Agricultural College has been able to establish and start at North Maclean Campus. What a great achievement within four weeks of our presence here. With a great challenge, our infrastructure has been upgraded to meet all health and safety needs and additional work has been completed to improve on outdoor activities for student recreation. Some new sports equipment has been purchased to keep the students occupied during the break times.

A great feedback from seven students who successfully completed their Year 12 certificate last year based on our alternative pathway focus, a great achievement. Our individualised attention, support and persistence in small and flexible classes enabled these students to achieve what would not have been possible any other way.

A very warm welcome to Rosie Jumelet. College now has new staff who have adjusted quickly and have students fully engaged in academic work and their trade pathways. Priority is now for remaining students to upgrade their life skills, become job-ready, and secure their work experience, traineeship and school-based apprenticeships with our business partners. We have had several meetings in the last few weeks and discussions are ongoing to confirm the remaining students in workplaces.

Congratulations to **Jack Hollonds** and **Kodi Thorncraft** who will be on work experience at Mendham Engineering. Both our students performed exceptionally well at the interview, witnessed by Radhika and myself.



Kodi Thorncraft with her proud mother Sandie and Ron at Mendham
Engineering



Jack Holland with Dr. Nand discussing work experience.

#### **Services at ATAC**

Eric Bailey from RACQ will be providing his "Turning Pro" Presentation in a couple of weeks. Eric is a motivational speaker and he will be visiting ATAC on Monday 5 March for a 40min presentation from 8.30am. Parents are welcome to attend. Staff will be present and it may be a good opportunity to also meet them.

ALIVE and Springwood Wellness Centre will continue to provide their professional services during Term 2.

#### **Strengthening our Employer base**

We welcome our new employer relationships in our work experience program who are excited to offer opportunities to our students. Thank you, Matt from BP service station and Victor from North Maclean Produce for providing these opportunities to our students. Students are developing their confidence, building various transferrable skills and learning to work with others in a team. This also provides an insight of the amount of hard work that is required to keep workplaces presentable and constantly attracting customers through communicating with them.

Thank you, Ron from Mendham Engineering for giving the opportunity to our students and your continued support is highly appreciated. We hope our students will work towards becoming future assets in your business and contribute towards its growth and development.

Our constant relationship with Skills Tech (TAFE), Oceania College of Technology (Automotive), QAT (Queensland Academy of Technology - Child care), AQI (Australian Qualifications Institute- Business) and other new local businesses will continue to grow. All VET courses provide credit points towards their Year 12 Certificate and this engages students in learning the theory. Work experience provides practical training in building their skills for their future careers. This is an alternative pathway and is unique to ATAC in ensuring students achieve their QCE and enter the workforce.

We are introducing our agricultural aspect which is a project-based learning program where students will be learning to make gardens, grow vegetables and build irrigation systems with our Agricultural Trainer, Mr Gary Nahrung. This will be followed by animal-based projects where students will engage in caring and feeding animals.

#### **ATAC Board**

The ATAC Board meeting was held on Saturday, 17th February, 2018 at the new site. The members were extremely happy with the progress on the infrastructure in such a short time. Board members sacrifice their time and contribute voluntarily to make ATAC a success.

Parents are also providing exceptional feedback and we are taking these ideas and comments to improve ATAC. We will be happy to invite any parent, trade, agricultural or business people who wish to provide any voluntary time towards activities at ATAC. We would make arrangements for the Blue Card if you do not have one. Big thank you to all those who have been supporting our new and only trade and agricultural pathways college in Logan, one of the fastest growing multicultural city in Australia.



Ron of Mendham Engineering addressing ATAC students in our new fully air-conditioned Fleetwood building.

#### **Enrollments**

Enrollments for 2018 are open for new students and returning students will need to fill in new enrolment forms to comply with amended 'conditions of entry'.

Our flexible learning options along with completing the Year 12 is an offering unique to ATAC.

Please visit our website for further information and contact ATAC to enroll now. We hope to meet with you in the smartest uniforms to start 2018 academic year.

#### **Administration Officer**

#### Wanshika Rai

Thank you, parents/guardians for your patience with us last week in coping with the electricity outage.

I will be invoicing for 2 weeks this week. If you have any questions regarding fees, please do not hesitate to contact me.

We are also working with a new App which will allow us to communicate with parents instantly, there will be an email going out within the next couple of weeks with instructions of how to download and use the application. Please keep a look out of emails from "ATAC News".

ISQ Executive Director David Roberstson and Allan Guse at ATAC with Dr Nand and Wanshika Rai

### **ATAC Photo Gallery**



Andrea (middle) and Merilyn from Australian Qualifications Institute (AQI) at ATAC with Dr Nand to discuss new agreements and program for Business & IT qualifications for 2018.



Matt Turnham (right) from North Maclean BP Service Station with Cody Siacci (middle) and Dr Nand discussing job experience for ATAC studnets at BP service station, North Maclean.



Students very attentively listening to the speech by Professor Roderick Drew (Chairman of ATAC Board)



Partnership with North Maclean Produce. Thank you, Victor and Jessica for your support to ATAC.

#### **ATAC Events**

#### 5th March 2018, 8;30am

We will be hosting RACQ's Turning Pro presentation. Inspiring our students to reach their greatest potential through simple everyday steps. Improve your attitude

- Improve your attitude
- Be prepared
- Do a little bit extra

Thank you RACQ for allowing us this opportunity.



Donna Corben joins ATAC as Admin Officer to support the staff, students and parents

### Few more spaces to go!

Grab this opportunity for an early entry to the workforce today!

Enrolling Now for 2018!

Enjoy small classes, flexible learning, individual support and hands on activities

Please share with Family & Friends!

Contact us on

07 5547 8598 or visit: www.atac.qld.edu.au