

AGTECH Connections

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



Independent Senior Secondary College for Years 10 to 12
4808 Mt Lindesay Highway, North Maclean Q 4280.

Edition 94: September 2023

College Founder/CEO

Dr Narendra Nand



Principal's Message

Year 10 students have started doing the trade taster program at TAFE and one of Year 11 students is doing his TAFE Certificate III in Engineering while two are waiting to start doing Certificate I in Construction early next year. School Based Apprenticeships can be arranged at a senior level with any company wishing to engage our young people. ATAC staff provides full support to employers and parents for the signing of agreements. Parents are encouraged to contact us if they find any potential employer for their child. It is always very heartwarming to parents and staff when students become engaged and re-focused in their career paths. Each student completes a Certificate II or III in a trade from TAFE or another RTO, Certificate II in Work for Skills & Vocational Pathways (FSK20119), Certificate II in Workplace Skills (BSB20120) and their QCAA approved QCE or year 12 completion certificate. ATAC students begin their careers earlier than most people of their age and at times sign up apprenticeships by mid-11 or early year 12. This is a great opportunity for an early start to their life careers.

Infrastructure Development Plans

A gradual progress has been made towards the completion of the ATAC multi-purpose shed which is now a prominent landmark facility available for seminars, workshops, conferences, and events that could be hired to public. Students also have the privilege of doing some indoor sports and training. The shed has open learning spaces, and a commercial kitchen and amenities to allow the opportunity for future growth and development.

After proudly hosting the first Australian Bushfoods Conference and the 8th Queensland Bushfoods Conference in May, ATAC has been working closely with the Bee All-Natural directors to provide beekeeping training and workshops at ATAC. We also intend to provide some horticultural training to our local growers. Our Nursery grant has been approved and we are looking forward to conducting some activities in the nursery as soon as it is constructed over the coming months.

Community Engagement

Honesty, hard work, responsibility, resilience, and respect are a priority and students engage to build self-confidence and self-esteem as they learn how to become good learners. Our TRIPOD model provides an opportunity for close partnerships between parents/ guardians, students, and the staff. Understanding, tolerance, resilience, and goodwill between parents/guardians and ATAC is the key to progress and success of our students provided with a lot of personal attention to their progress, and career pathways.

Bee All Natural has engaged with ATAC to provide opportunities to locals and young people in

beekeeping to support the rapidly growing industry. Logan City Council's KRANK School holiday Beekeeping programs have been held at ATAC and more young people are now becoming interested in its education and training. Apart from honey production, bees play a major role in the biodiversity of our flora and fauna species. There is an ever-increasing need for more people to be involved in the fledgling industry. ATAC has been working with Natasha, and Jason Roebig, for the past five years and there is a tremendous opportunity for us to develop a long-term training program based at ATAC.

With the improvements in the weather, the members of the North Maclean Community Garden (NMCG) are planning to start their vegetable gardening. Free water is provided via an irrigation system and ATAC supports the members and any hobby farmers. More members are welcome to join the group: "Grow Your Own Vegetables" (GYOV). Volunteers are most welcome to join at any time. Our progress and achievements are published in our monthly newsletter and is made available to all parents/guardians and our supporters via emails or on our website.

Student Engagement

Project-based learning and work experience provide opportunities to young people to become responsible for their own learning and success. As they become engaged, they realize the need to become focused, self-directed and in building their personal skills and to improve their academic achievements. Working with some businesses and self-employed trade companies provides hands-on experiences and training. ATAC works closely with businesses, training organizations and parents/guardians in empowering students with job-ready skills and knowledge. Most important in this social media climate, is to build a positive attitude, tolerance, and perseverance to enable young people to engage and become responsible for their future goals. ATAC facilitates training, with the support of some businesses and self-employed trade companies for providing hands-

on experiences, obtaining their White Cards, finding work experience, and joining TAFE for their trade careers.

Acknowledgement

A huge thanks to ATAC board members, parents and guardians who have been so supportive in assisting us with the infrastructure development, ATAC events and projects. A profound thanks to our Chair, Irene Bayldon, Dhirendra, Brahama, Daniel, Wanshika, Kaushik and past members for volunteering and providing their support. The Board immensely appreciates the support of all businesses and parents who have assisted in providing any opportunity to our students towards completion of QCE and early entry into the workforce.

Gary Suthers

English, Humanities, Science and Agricultural Science Teacher

Welcome back! Spring holidays are over and term four has begun.

We have begun the comedy of satire for year ten English, as we look at political cartoons, sketch comedy shows, parody films (like Scary Movie, The Super Hero movie and Galaxy Quest) and what is so funny about stereotypes. The year 11 students are continuing to look at autobiographical writing and writing about personal experiences.

Find your Walkman, vinyl records and cassettes and twirl your Hula Hoop to the music as the year 10 students learn about popular culture and fads from yesteryear in History.

For mathematics the year 10 students are learning to read travel timetables, the metric system of volume, area, perimeter, and circumference. For year eleven, money and interest, travel and timetables and data collection will be the area of study this term.

Agricultural Studies will be all about poultry for all students, as we look to improving our poultry runs by building a larger fence and mobile coops. Also, our chicks are growing fast, and we will be soon putting them into their chicken run to lay eggs as we look at an agricultural business model to market and sell the eggs.

For Science we are looking at the Solar System, stars, and planets and what exactly is a black hole?

Working with our students is a very rewarding experience for me and seeing them all grow in confidence and in skills and knowledge is a great privilege. Over their time here at ATAC, I hope that you will see your young person grow more confident and happier as they gain new skills and learn in other ways.

Thank you to all parents and guardians, for your continued support of your child's learning here at ATAC.

Gary Suthers (ATAC)



Mr. Bhagwanji Bhindi
Retired Linguistics Lecturer (Fiji)

Fear- A State of Mind

*Fear is a crippling and debasing experience
Only they know who go through
Excruciating painful incidents and episodes
Dreadful experiences create fear
When fear strikes the mind*

*It becomes complex
Difficult to decipher its true nature
Fear at the mental level
Alters the behaviour patterns
Exhibiting weird temperament
When fear of failure clutches the mind
It impedes one from meeting progress
Because fear overshadows the mind
When fear of darkness preoccupies the mind
One cannot confront darkness
Causing anxiety, fright and distress
The root of fear is time
What I will be, what I have been, what I
might not be
The time is the past, the present and the
future
The past modifying and altering itself*

*In the present and continuing in the future
Some have fear of public speaking
They essentially cannot face a crowd
Because of their inner introvert and
complex nature
Sometimes we fear the non-existent
Sometimes it is a figment of imagination
Sometimes it is actually true
It reflects the state of mind
Fear is like a troubled river
Leading to a turbulent journey
One must confront the fear with courage
And dive into the unknown
Slowly the fear dissolves
Embracing the truth with valour
Fear of any kind has a debilitating impact
On the mind and behaviour patterns of
human beings
Freedom of any kind has a liberating effect
It has the potential to overcome fear
Faith is a powerful means to fight fear
Research and creative thinking
Has the capacity to answer fear
Indomitable courage, self-confidence and
professional guidance
Can immensely help tackle fear*

ATAC STUDENT PROJECTS



Native Lizard Project started in 2020 by Dylan Sutcliffe – Bearded Dragon (Hazey) and Blue tongue lizard (Marco) in the classroom are cared for by staff and students. Learning animal care and conservation.



Nursery Project – new vegetables planted last term. Students will have the opportunity to use these for lunch salads along with new vegetable crops to be planted.



Chicken Project- students learning tricks for rearing chickens and the theory for husbandry to develop a hobby or a small business.



Nursery Project- Tomatoes are doing well in the nursery despite dry weather and heat.



Native plants for our bushfoods forest beautification of our compound and beekeeping project. More native flowering plants are ready to be planted.



Mr. Ramesh Rai (L) and Ms. Mary Irene Bayldon (ATAC Chair) inspecting the nursery project in initial stages. Thanks, Irene for supplying resources to start the project.

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[ATAC RTO #45556](#)

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Management

BSB50120 Diploma in Business

[ATAC RTO #45556](#)

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



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