



## PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Jingeri All,

A warm Arcadia welcome to the second-half of 2023. As we enter into the last half of the year, I would like to congratulate all of our students for their efforts and achievements so far this year. Our students continue to impress all of our staff by demonstrating resilience and commitment towards their learning and wellbeing; we are very proud of their results. I would also like to thank all of our parents/caregivers, for your continued support of the college. We couldn't achieve the success that we do, without your continual engagement and commitment, so thank you.

### New Learning Space

With the continued growth of our college, we have decided to fill in the void area located on the first floor which also overlooks the main canteen space. This new space will provide an additional flexible learning area for our 7,8,9 students to ensure all of our young people are provided with safe, productive learning environments.

### Family Interview Nights

A reminder to all families that the 2nd August, 2023 is our Family Interview Night, to which is a great opportunity for existing and new families to meet our incredible staff and discuss the individual successes of our young people. Booking information will be emailed to families early next term.

### Attendance

As we enter into Term 3, a reminder that 'everyday counts,' for our young people. Semester 1 averaged around 80% attendance, which is a great result, however we are always wanting to improve our overall school attendance and strive for 85%. A reminder to all families, that when your child/ward is unwell with an ongoing medical condition (2 days or more), we do require a medical certificate to ensure that the absence is explained. In addition, it is important that for any day that your child/ward is absent from school, parents/caregivers are required to inform the college with an acceptable explanation of their absence before 9am.

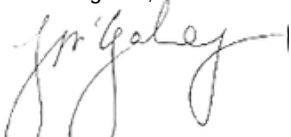
### Distance Education

A reminder to all families, that Arcadia College is now accredited to deliver our programs via an online learning mode (Distance Education) of delivery. We are now accepting enrolments for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 students to commence Term 3, 2023 DE. For further inquiries, please contact our enrolments team [enrolments@arcadia.qld.edu.au](mailto:enrolments@arcadia.qld.edu.au).

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to our exceptional staff group, who continuously strive to ensure that our young people have the best individual learning outcomes and opportunities. Together, we are a great team and are proud to be offering alternative pathways for our young people.

I wish all students a happy and safe remainder of the school holidays, and I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 11th July.

Kind Regards,



Tahlia McGahey  
Principal

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# YR 7 & 8 COORDIATOR

*Ev Sasin*

This semester, Year 7 students explored language features and how they enhance narrative writing and capture the reader. English lessons were based on exploring how to use figurative and evaluative language to create character descriptions and settings for an interesting narrative.

Students conducted an investigation on the needs of young people and how they could help their peers with the development of a youth centre. Their findings were presented in the form of a factual report. Students developed a deeper understanding of budgets through mock shopping experiences and financial mathematics. Students completed a Self-Clay Portrait, where they sketched an abstract drawing of themselves, before etching it into clay.

Through elements of Music, students learned how to identify the features of different types of world music genres. They also learned to perform on the drums and the keyboard.

Science has been full of investigations and exploring how scientific elements have affected the relationship between the Earth, Moon and Sun this term. We have studied moon cycles, seasons, tides and were lucky enough to see a total lunar eclipse! It was out of this world!

In Geography, we learned about extreme events, such as volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and earthquakes. We then researched the importance of water in the world. The Year 8 students particularly enjoyed Term 2 where they built on their entrepreneurial capabilities and developed their own businesses linked to real world contexts. They brought this to life, through a Market Stall, selling their products to families, staff and students.

Business and Mathematics was delivered in fun and engaging ways, linked to real-world contexts. Through engaging Science lessons students learned about the exciting world of rocks and fossils. They used mars bars, clay and crystals to study the rock cycle and how the earth was formed. In Art lessons students were provided with abundant opportunities to showcase their creativity. During English, students conducted an investigation into the impact human activity has had on a chosen endangered species. They also wrote a short story, from the perspective of a worker in a developing country.

In Geography, we studied landscapes and landforms, and how they were created. We also looked at the impact of humans on the environment with a focus on urbanisation, including learning about megacities.

The Year 8s also went to CYC Burleigh for an amazing Camp.

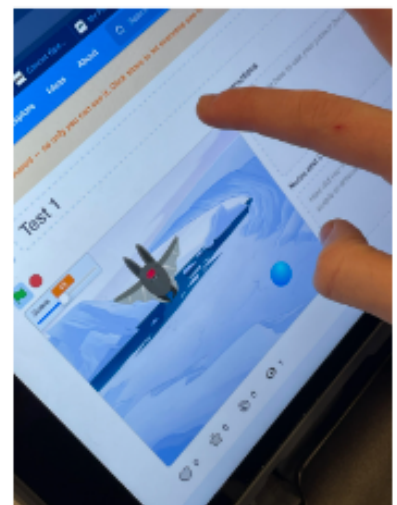


# YR 9 COORDINATOR

*Sarah Hann*

This semester, the Year 9 students have settled into their learning well. They are learning to tackle new challenges with an open mind and give everything a go. Our students have engaged with many learning activities such as the digestive system, writing narratives, creating a volcano and overcoming their fears at Bounce. During Innovation in Term 2, students have been learning a new skill such as playing an instrument, crochet, macrame, coding and candle making. They then had to create a how-to guide to teach someone else their new skill. During Reconciliation Week, we explored what Reconciliation means to us and created a sea of hands which had messages and symbols to be a voice for generations. Students have also been engaging in Art and STEAM lessons, where students have demonstrated and developed a range of skills, including creativity and problem-solving.

Well done to all our students who overcame challenges and achieved success this Semester.

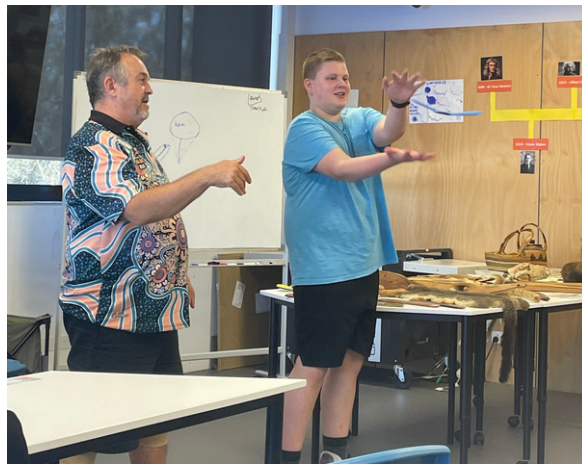


# YR 10 COORDINATOR

*Elisha Crossfield*

The Year 10 students have had a positive first Semester, and are beginning to grow in their connections as a whole cohort. Students have been engaging in Fun Friday Olympics, where they are in mixed groups with their peers and they are competing in a range of challenging games and activities. This activity is providing students the opportunity to practice and improve their team work, communication, and problem-solving skills. There are also a large number of students who are beginning to engage in Certificates, Traineeships, and Trade Taster programs, as they are starting to establish their future career pathways. Within their subject areas, English has seen students exploring the culture, traditions, and history of various cultures, whilst engaging in the unit 'Festivals around the World'. In Science, students looked at Biology, including how DNA, genes, and chromosomes are passed on through generations, and how this makes us all unique. A huge well done to all of the Year 10 students from the past semester, who have all demonstrated a great amount of growth and perseverance.

This year, there are 16 Year 10 students who are working to obtain their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. This Semester, students have engaged in the 'Got your Back' program for the Service component of their Award, where they planned, purchased, and packed backpacks for the Multicultural Communities Gold Coast. The students have also been practicing their Bushwalking and Navigation skills in preparation for their first Adventurous Journey (Camp) at Binna Burra in Week 10. Good luck to all of the students on this excursion who, for many, will be their first time camping and cooking on a Trangia stove.



# YR 11 COORDINATOR

*Michelle Gill*

This semester we have begun to see the Year 11's really settle into the senior space and make it their own. The start of Term 2, Year 11's went on a connection/wellbeing excursion to Schuster Park. This excursion helped to create a sense of unity amongst the students and staff within the year level. Each Wednesday during extended check-in, the year 11 students have been engaging in trivia challenges, with year 11 staff as well as fitness with Rhys and Tk. They have continued to engage in their house challenge by upholding the Arcadia Values. This semester students finished off Unit One. In Essential English, they discovered the World of Work, specifically Language that Works through a multimodal presentation and examination. In Essential Mathematics they looked at numbers, data and ratios. They created a dinner party and sat an examination. In Social and Community Studies students learnt about financial literacy and health and nutrition. Students have been dedicated in their electives through the completion of some fantastic artworks, coaching sports, engaging in rock climbing, conducting an environmental study and building model sustainable houses. Year 11 should be congratulated for completing an exceptional first semester.



# YR 12 COORDINATOR

*Samantha Dunemann*

This semester, Year 12 students have taken on the role as the school leaders with great pride. They demonstrated their admirable leadership skills during the school camp in Term 1 where students were pushed outside their comfort zones. To sustain the connections formed on camp students collaborated to establish new clubs including cooking, fitness, writers', art, and music clubs. These clubs have allowed students to connect with like-minded peers and showcase the vast range of talents. Year 12 students have thoroughly enjoyed working with Year 9 students through various activities such as Buroinjin Cup and Laps for Life. Our goal is to further enhance the peer mentoring program over Semester 2. In the classroom students showed great determination and resilience as they worked towards preparing for the Common Internal Assessment for English and Maths. Students have begun to focus on their career pathways with several students engaged in a certificate or enrolled in the UniStart Pathway. We are excited for the remainder of the year and the further opportunities that will arise for our year 12 students.



# WINTER SPORTS DAY

The 14th of June saw Arcadia College hold its annual Winter Sports Day at the Gold Coast Sports and Leisure Centre. As the students entered the venue the House colours were vibrant and the passion was palpable. It wasn't long before the Houses were battling it out on both the basketball court and indoor soccer field, with all teams experiencing various amounts of victory on the day.

As always, major points were earned during the mighty dodgeball battles, before the students accepted the challenge put forward by the staff in a winner takes all game of dodgeball. Once the dust settled and the scores were tallied, it was Nyirang that walked away as the Champion House. However, Mibany's consistently high team spirit and support saw them walk away with the Ohana Award.

A huge shout out to the following students who took out the following awards for their House:

## **Nyirang**

Most Valuable House Member - Zoey

Outstanding House Spirit - Max

## **Guruman**

Most Valuable House Member - Luke

Outstanding House Spirit - Kayde

## **Gurgany**

Most Valuable House Member - Drew

Outstanding House Spirit - Kiara and Rianna

## **Mibany**

Most Valuable House Member - Trae

Outstanding House Spirit - Jack. F

Lastly, a HUGE shoutout to Brent and Byron for organising the most fun-filled and successful sports day once again!



# THE LAST DAUGHTER

On Wednesday the 26th of April, a group of our Indigenous students and Peer Leaders had the privilege of attending All Saints Anglican School for the official book launch for 'The Last Daughter'. Written by Brenda Matthews, the book tells the story of Brenda being taken from her family at two years old. She was raised by a white family on the outskirts of Sydney. Five years later she was suddenly reunited with her birth family, a family she did not know.

Brenda finds herself searching for her foster family and beloved white sister.

The Last Daughter is an account of Brenda's journey to discover the truth about her past – and to unite her two families. It's a story of heartbreak, love and hope, one that shows a way forward for all Australians.

During the excursion our students were excellent. They connected with young people from other schools and were attentive to Brenda's presentation. Our students were lucky enough to get a photo with Brenda while she was signing the book.

In the future, we are hoping to organise a special screening of 'The Last Daughter' film that recently won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the 2022 Adelaide Film Festival.



# LEARN 2 DRIVE SAFE

We have been lucky to be selected by the Learning 2 Drive Safe Program for our Year 11 and 12 students who have their Learner License. The program allows students to obtain their required driving hours before obtaining their Provisional Licenses. This program will run for the entire year and we will assess where students are at with their hours and rotate more students in Term 3 and 4 depending on need.

This program is available to students who have an 85% and above attendance and are on track with their school studies. There are currently 16 students enrolled in this program.



# WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK

The We've Got Your Back project will continue to run this year in partnership with Multicultural Communities Council Gold Coast who currently provide arrival refugee children the opportunity to participate in education. The college will support up to 20 families who have limit resources, by providing 30 backpacks filled with school essentials. The backpacks will be created by Arcadia studnets and provided to a range of primary and secondary school students.

# LAPS FOR LIFE

Throughout the month of March, the college participated in Laps for Life to raise funds for ReachOut. ReachOut seeks to ensure that young people in Australia have access to mental health support and create awareness to prevent youth suicide. Students elected to participate and were requesting to attend each session, they supported each other, reached personal bests and never gave up. Staff were swimming outside of school hours, and engaged in a school swim where 11 swimmers swam 21km in 1 hour. As a collective the college swam 300.43km and raised \$2553.09 to support ReachOut in proving classroom resources and support needed in crisis.





# SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING/THE RESILIENCE PROJECT AT ARCADIA COLLEGE

During Semester 1, students have been working from The Resilience Project Program, where they have extensively covered the topics of Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy. Students undertook lessons that are helping them form evidence-based habits now, that will increase their capacity to deal with challenges, changes and stressors in the future.

Students engaged in activities to support them to establish and build positive relationships with others, focusing on being grateful, showing kindness towards others and are working on being calm and present.

Included in this newsletter are some great tips for families on 'Gratitude - focusing on the things we do have, not on the things that we don't.'

## PROJECT +

## Parents & Carers

### Gratitude

**Practising gratitude** is the ability to **notice things in your life** (big and small) and appreciate them, rather than thinking about the things you wish you had, or might be missing out on. **Making this a daily habit rewires your brain to scan the world for the positives** rather than default to our negative bias. Over time, this leads to **increased levels of energy, happiness, and self-esteem.**



### Gratergies

#### You Will Need

- Get your family together.
- Paper for each player.
- Pencil/pen for each player.
- Timer.

#### How To Play

- This game can be played individually or in teams.
- Choose a letter of the alphabet at random (you might use an alphabet chart, sing the alphabet song, put all the letters of the alphabet in a container like a raffle or you might have a letter dice at home).
- Place a timer on for one minute.
- In that one minute, each player/team writes down as many things they can that they are grateful for starting with that letter.
- Winning player/team scores a point.
- Play again with a different letter.
- Play continues for as long as you like.
- Winner is the player/team who has the most points at the end of your game.

**'It is not happiness that brings us gratitude. It's gratitude that brings us happiness.'**



Scan the QR code to listen to Dr. Kiran Martin on the imperfects podcast. She says that gratitude should be our **fundamental orientation of life** and that we need to wear glasses that have gratitude lenses.

#### Gratitude Walk

As a family, go for a walk around your home, local neighbourhood or favourite park and imagine you are wearing 'Gratitude Glasses'. Point out all the things you see that you are grateful for.



Jump onto TRP@Home on the The Resilience Project website. Here you will find a range of **free resources and activities** you can do at home.



**TRP@HOME**

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**TUESDAY 11TH JULY**

**TERM 3 COMMENCES FOR ALL YEAR LEVELS**

**WEDNESDAY 2ND AUGUST**

**FAMILY INTERVIEW NIGHT**

**FRIDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY - GC SHOW DAY**

**FRIDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER**

**LAST DAY OF TERM 3**

## **HAVE YOU MOVED, CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS?**

**A QUICK AND EASY WAY TO UPDATE YOUR DETAILS IS  
THROUGH PARENT LOUNGE. IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE  
AND SAVES YOU TIME ON THE PHONE OR COMING INTO  
THE OFFICE.**



# 2023 COLLEGE CALENDAR

January							
Wk	Su	M	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2	29	30	31				

February							
Wk	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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3	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
5	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
6	26	27	28				

March							
Wk	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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April							
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	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
2	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
3	30	31					

May							
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5	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
6	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
7	28	29	30	31			

June							
Wk	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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10	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	

July							
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4	30	31					

August							
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September							
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	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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October							
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5	29	30	31				

November							
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9	26	27	28	29	30		

December							
Wk	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31						

**Term Dates 2023:**

**Term 1:**  
 -Induction New Students Thursday 19 January  
 -ALL Students Mon 23 January to Fri 31 March

**Term 2:** Tues 18 April to Fri 23 June

**Term 3:** Tues 11 July to Fri 15 September

**Term 4:** Wed 4 October to Fri 1 December

**Year 12 Last Day:** Fri 17 November

**Year 10 & 11 Last Day:** Fri 24 November

**Year 7, 8 & 9 Last Day:** Fri 1 December

**Queensland Public Holidays 2023:**

**Monday 2 January** New Year's Day substitute  
**Thursday 26 January** Australia Day  
**Friday 7 April** Good Friday  
**Monday 10 April** Easter Monday  
**Tuesday 25 April** Anzac Day  
**Monday 1 May** Labour Day  
**Friday 25 August** Gold Coast Show  
**Monday 2 October** King's Birthday  
**Monday 25 December** Christmas Day  
**Tuesday 26 December** Boxing Day

**School Events 2023:**

**Family Interview Nights:** Wednesday 15 February  
 Wednesday 2 August

**School Photos:** Friday 24 February

**Challenge Days:** Wednesday 21 June  
 Wednesday 8 November

**Year 12 Graduation/Formal:** Friday 17 November

**Whole School Awards Day:** Friday 24 November

**Junior School Excursion:** Wednesday 29 November

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

**PUPIL-FREE DAY (Staff Professional Development)**

