



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Jingeri Parents/Caregivers,

As we wrap up another exceptional year at Arcadia College, I would like to acknowledge the people who make our school the wonderful place that it is. I would like to thank our parents/caregivers who place their young people in our care. There is a huge amount of trust that our parents/caregivers place in us and, as a staff, we respect and understand the responsibility you bestow upon us.

2023 has certainly been what we believe one of the most successful years for the college. We have consistently maintained our onsite enrolment numbers and expanded our distance education program exponentially to ensure that we are supporting as many young people in need as possible. Through exciting community-based, service learning, Arts and Cultural programs, Sport and enrichment activities and extra curricular offerings, students have experienced innovative opportunities to showcase and unlock their talents and interests. In addition, all students have demonstrated individual success which has seen excellent results for our young people.

These opportunities would not be possible without the dedication and commitment of our exceptional staff and the vision of our College Board. Thank you to our amazing staff for your continued support and hard work to ensure our young people have the best access to educational and wellbeing programs.

As we enter into 2024, we will be saying goodbye to some of our existing staff and welcoming new staff members to the Arcadia Family. Please join me in thanking Emma Chamberlain, Ella Barlow, David Brown, Catriona Law and Chloe Marlow for the hard work and commitment over the past years. We would also like to acknowledge and thank our longstanding staff member Byron Cracknell, who will also be exiting Arcadia College to support our Sister School Ohana College as they grow their new campus. Please join me in thanking all of these staff members and we wish them all the best.

As we enter into 2024, we look forward to the exciting new opportunities and programs on offer for our students. On behalf of the college, I wish you all a Merry Christmas, safe, happy holidays and a prosperous New Year. Bring on 2024!

Best Wishes,



Tahlia McGahey
Principal

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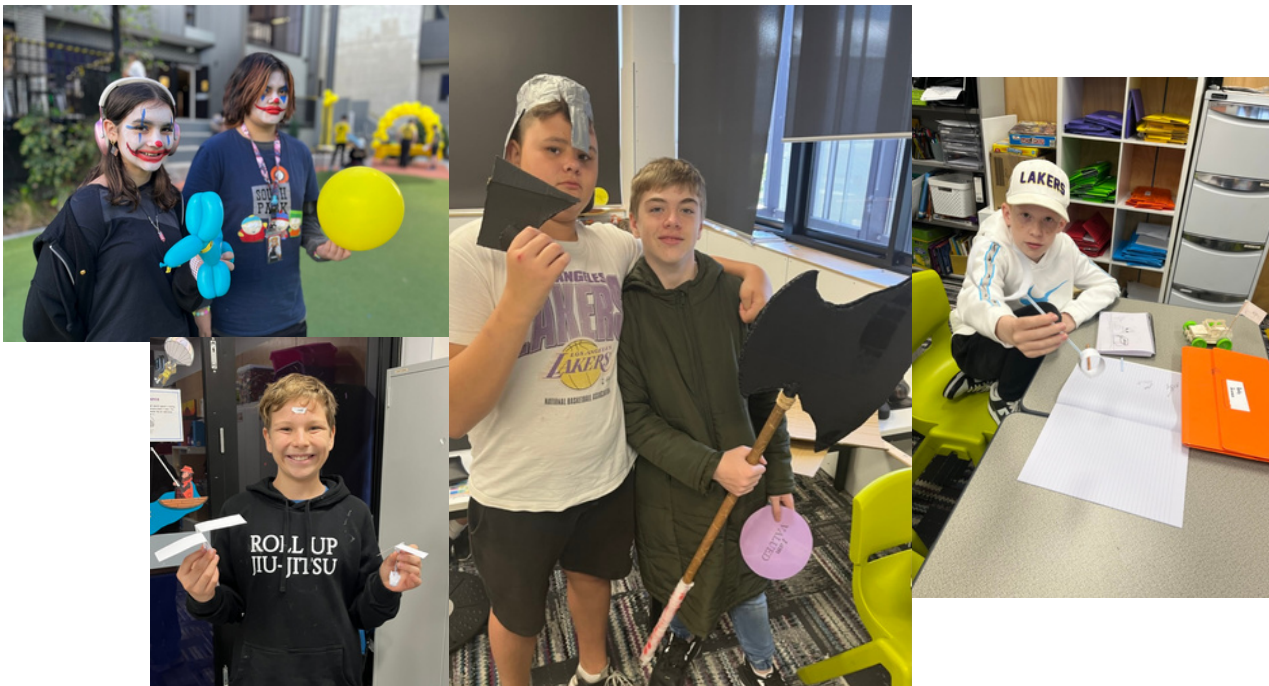
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YR 7 & 8 COORDIATOR

Ev Sasin

The Year 7 & 8 students have worked very hard over the semester, engaging in a range of hands-on learning experiences, and teaching linked to real world concepts. In English, students engaged in narrative writing tasks and embedded Indigenous perspectives by reviewing the book titled the 'Honey Spot' written by Jack Davis. The students also explored the needs of young people by developing Youth Centres to cater to the diverse needs of youth in our community. Science has been full of investigations and exploring how scientific elements have affected the relationship between forces that are balanced and unbalanced. In ABL students, were fortunate to spend quality time at a local Aged Care facility, building positive relationships with our older generations by playing games, sharing stories and designing artworks with them. Students also engaged in nature walks within our local communities to make connections to land and place. Our cohort really enjoys and gets involved in our connections to significant days such as 'Are You Okay Day,' and 'Wear it Purple Day.' With the celebration and recognition of these vital aspects of young people's lives, our students are developing into caring young individuals by understanding diversity and inclusion.

The Year 8 students particularly enjoyed engaging in their Science lessons where they 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 this semester, 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, students studied landscapes and landforms, and how they were created. They also looked at the impact of humans on the environment with a focus on urbanisation, including learning about megacities. In History, students engaged in the world of Vikings and created their own artefacts to showcase to the school. There were also a selected number of students who wrote and illustrated their own books for the Kindergarten across from Arcadia College in our 'Write a Book in a Day' program.



YR 9 COORDINATOR

Sarah Hann

Term 3 was another successful and engaging term for our Year 9 students. It has been great to see our students achieving goals, facing their fears, challenging themselves and creating a community.

In Science, students learnt about chemical changes through a weekly experiment which ranged from growing crystals, making tangy sherbet, creating lava lamps and everyone's favourite; making slime!

In English, our Year 9 students learnt about the value of oral histories and established a partnership with Varsity Views Aged Care Residence. Our Year 9's spent time with the residents and interviewed them about their life and the lessons they could pass on to others. Some of our students were even asked back to volunteer their time at the weekend!

In Geography students learnt about Biomes and created their own 3D dioramas.

In Art, students explored street art and put their skills to work creating and designing their own hat.

One of the highlights of the term was being part of Space Camp! This was run by the organisation Convoy of Hope. Our students were transported into space through VR headsets, participated in robotics battles and even sent messages to the Space Station! This was a fantastic experience for all our students and provided them with an experience and opportunity they may never have again.



YR 10 COORDINATOR

Elisha Crossfield

The Year 10 students have been working extremely hard the past semester in all of their subject areas. Within English, students explored Utopian vs Dystopian societies as they analysed the text 'The Hunger Games.' Students scrutinised and commented on contemporary social issues in an attempt to answer the inquiry question 'Can a perfect world ever be achieved?'

In Maths, students were supported to solve problems involving linear equations and inequalities and make the connections between algebraic and graphical representations of relations.

Science saw students focusing on Physical and Chemical Sciences, as they explored the periodic table and varying rates of reaction. For their assessment, the students were required to design their own experiments to attempt to influence this chemical rate of reaction. The students loved being able to explore and experiment within this area.

In Business, students focused on marketing as they created a marketing portfolio that considered practical marketing and business skills to start a business.

The students who demonstrated the highest levels of effort in English and Maths were rewarded with an Excursion to The Club Mini Golf – Boulders and Badlands. Students loved the excursion and even commented that it was the best excursion they have been on! This definitely increased the students' levels of motivation toward their subject areas to be selected to attend.

Within the Elective subject of HPE, students have been studying modified games, including how the classification system works in the Paralympics. Students engaged on an excursion to Carrara Stadium to experience wheelchair basketball, as they were coached by players from the Gold Coast Rollerblaze Wheelchair Basketball.

Many of the students have also been engaging in Trades, Certificates and Traineeships, with 16 students engaging in some form of a career pathway this past Semester.

The students should be proud of their hard work and focus within this area, as they navigate this engagement while still maintaining their achievement with their academics and school work completion.



YR 11 COORDINATOR

Michelle Gill

This semester Year 11 students engaged in various activities and lessons to support them to gain necessary skills and confidence to engage in the community and begin their transition to Year 12.

Year 11 students have been setting measurable goals and taking the steps to successfully reach these goals, whether it be academically, socially, emotionally, school related or personal. Students have shown great enthusiasm with this and have seen that when they put their mind to it, they are able to experience success.

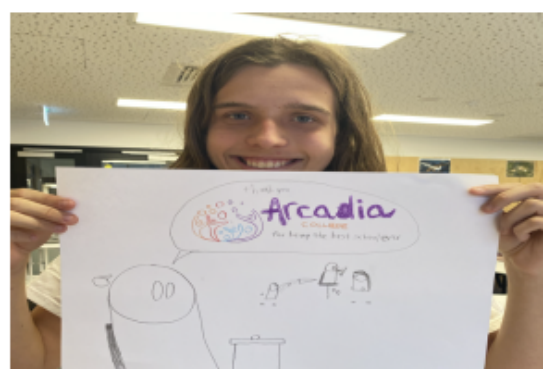
In English, students have focused on human experiences and explored the many topics in text and their own lives.

In Mathematics, students have looked at financial maths and time and applied this to real world contexts. In Social and Community Studies, students have been exploring communication, conflict resolution and employment. Students have shown commitment across all learning areas and have been able to experience individual and collective success. The hard work and growth of Year 11 has not gone unnoticed.

An initiative from Term 3, has been our Yarning Circle. This has been every Thursday, where students have had opportunities to share opinions and discuss topics in a respectful manner.

Students in Year 11 have engaged in cultural activities to share and create awareness of the many cultures we have in Year 11. They have also been engaging in many extra-curricular activities within the school, such as the Inter-school Touch Tournament with Ohana College.

The teaching staff are proud of the efforts displayed this semester by each student in Year 11.



YR 12 COORDINATOR

Samantha Dunemann

In the classroom throughout Semester 2 students delved into the exploration of Australian Identity through film and song in Essential English, while in Social and Community Studies engaged in discussions on social issues and expressed their understanding through online blogs. In Essential Mathematics, students applied their knowledge of numbers, data, and graphs to analyse Olympic sport results and complete an exam. In Arts in Practice students explored the art of media persuasion and visual communication, while in Science in Practice they focused on finding ways to reduce the college's carbon footprint and looked at technological advancements in relation to vehicle safety. Additionally, students in Sport and Recreation obtained their first aid certificates and applied their skills to various scenarios.

Throughout Term 3, Year 12 students focused on building meaningful relationships, connecting with the community, and honing their skills to make a positive impact. They actively participated in special interest groups such as Sewing Club, Gaming Club, and Gym Club, which provided opportunities for personal growth and fostering greater connections with peers and staff.

As we embarked on the final term of formal schooling for our Year 12 students, our focus shifted towards developing post-schooling skills while creating cherished memories. Students embraced the thrill of Go Karting and reflected on the year amidst the beauty of Bochow Park and Natural Bridge. As the term neared its end, a heart warming Clap Out event brought the community together, before the grand finale of the Formal. This term exceeded student expectations, leaving an unforgettable mark on their high school journey.



SUMMER SPORTS DAY

Arcadia College held their annual Beach Sports Day on Wednesday 8th November. The weather forecast was questionable leading up to the event, however, the sun shined down on us when it mattered the most.

In the end, Mibany, led by the mighty Ev Sasin, proved too much for Nyirang, Gurgany, and Guruman, as they ran away with the Champion House Award. It must be mentioned that Gurgany demonstrated great tenacity and team spirit to hold up the prestigious Ohana Award.

The House Member Awards went to:

Mibany

Most Athletic House Member - Brady R

Most Spirited House Member - Trae P

Nyirang

Most Athletic House Member - Jess P

Most Spirited House Member - Max M

Gurgany

Most Athletic House Member - Taj A

Most Spirited House Member - Kiara A

Guruman

Most Athletic House Member - Luke M

Most Spirited House Member - Cooper M

Shoutout to our Head of HPE Teacher - Brent, for organising another successful Summer Sports Day!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Elisha Crossfield

This past semester, the Duke of Edinburgh students have been extremely busy, as they have been working hard towards achieving their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. For the Service component of their Award, students have been engaging at Currumbin Community Special School, where they have been running lunch activities every week for two hours.

The students have been running basketball games, trampoline activities, engaging in Just Dance, colouring, and arts and craft activities. The students have loved engaging with the Currumbin students, building their own communication and social capacities.

For the Physical component of their Award, students have been completing Orienteering with increasing difficulties in the circuits. The students have developed strength in being able to read a map and a compass, navigate whilst in unfamiliar environments, and work effectively with different peers.

Students have been geographically embarrassed a few times within these activities but have always managed to use problem solving and their navigation skills to support themselves to find their next post. The students' Adventurous Journey in Term 3 saw them engage in a one-night camp at Springbrook National Park. The student's campsite was quite challenging, as they had no showers, hot water, and only a drop toilet to use.

The students excelled in this environment and showed high levels of adaptability and independence.

Congratulations Dukes! 🌞



CAREERS

Michelle Hoffman

We have had a very busy year in Careers and Training in the Senior School for 2023.

We had students in Year 10 completing Tasters at TAFE. These Tasters are for Health, Cooking, Hospitality, Trades, Barista and Community Services. It's a great way for the students to get an insight into the industry and decide whether they would like to complete a qualification in that field. We had quite a few students sign up for the Certificate II qualification in the Taster they completed which is exactly what it's all about.

We have also seen an increase in our students taking on School Based Traineeships. This is a great way to 'earn while you learn' with the student attending the workplace minimum one day per week for paid work and also completing a qualification which is usually a Certificate III in Business depending on the industry. School Based Traineeship vacancies are sent out to the students emails every 3-4 weeks while in Year 10 and Year 11. If a student finds a business they would like to work in, they need to come and see me and I get the process started of applying for this position. The release day that the student attends their workplace is an approved release day and does not affect your students attendance percentage.

We have a new and exciting qualification being delivered at Arcadia next year. This will be the Certificate II in Cookery. We will have a Third Party Trainer (chef) coming in to deliver this qualification and we are lucky enough to be using the brand new Bond University commercial kitchen which is directly across the road. Students will learn all aspects of cooking and kitchen skills in this qualification and it would be a great qualification to have for future job prospects and life skills!

At this stage, this qualification has been opened up to Year 11 and Year 12 but if there is any room, it will be opened up to Year 10 students as well.

TAFE@School for Semester 1 2024 is closed for applications but they do have a few vacancies in certain classes. If your student is wishing to start a course in the beginning of 2024, please get in touch with me so that I can see if it is a possibility. TAFE will release courses for their Semester 2 intake approximately the end of Term 1 or beginning of Term 2. As soon as these are released, I will forward all information to families/carers and students.

Gold Coast Trade College will have courses starting in each term. These courses are in Plumbing, Electrotechnology, Construction and Automotive. They are based at Currumbin and have a wonderful supportive college. If you would like more information about these trade courses please get in touch with me.

Completing a qualification whether through TAFE/RTO or a traineeship is a great way to earn QCE points that go towards your students' Queensland Certificate of Education. Certificate 1 in Construction is worth 3 QCE points and all Certificate II's are worth 4 QCE points. If a student is completing a Certificate III or above, these are worth 8 QCE points. VETis funding will cover every student to complete either a Certificate I or II and if your student decides to complete a Certificate III or higher via TAFE there will be fees involved. If your student completes a Certificate III through a School Based Traineeship, this would be free of charge as it is different funding.

Completing qualifications via TAFE or School Based Traineeships also looks fantastic on a Resume as it shows commitment, responsibility and tenacity

If you have any questions regarding Careers and Training, please email me at mhoffman@arcadia.qld.edu.au

UNI START PROGRAM

Tahlia McGahey

UniStart students have now completed the 15-week intensive course, ensuring direct entry into Southern Cross University. Students completed the course to an exceptionally high standard, with students Kyra H and Jasper E taking out first and second place overall.

There were 120 students completing the course state-wide and Arcadia students placed first, second and fourth. This year, SCU offered scholarship prizes for those students who placed first, second and third overall. As such, Kyra received a \$10,000 scholarship and Jasper a \$7,500 scholarship.

We are extremely proud of the hard-work and dedication of our 12 UniStart students, who have all gained direct entry into Southern Cross University for 2024.

KINETIC-SCHOOL BUS 2024

Please be advised of this important notification in preparation for Term 1 2024.

School Bus Pass Notification – Term 1 2024

Who should apply / reapply?

- All students transitioning from Primary School to High School / Year 6 to Year 7
- Students with a 2023 bus pass who need to update or change any of their details
- Students without a bus pass wishing to travel on a bus.

Who doesn't need to apply / reapply?

- Students who currently have a bus pass for 2023 which do not fall into the above categories
- Students without a bus pass not wishing to travel on the bus

Please visit the below links for more information on applying for a School Bus Pass through the School Transport Assistance Scheme (STAS).

<https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/public/school/school-transport-assistance/apply-for-school-transport-assistance>

<https://stas.forms.tmr.qld.gov.au/content/forms/af/TranslinkForms/STASApplication/STASApplication.html>

FAMILY WELLBEING SURVEY

Tim Fulton - Head of Wellbeing / Senior Psychologist

Family Wellbeing Survey

The wellbeing of our students and school community is very important to us. As part of our continued commitment for improvement, we are seeking feedback from families into our wellbeing supports. Below is a link to a survey that will allow us to gather data that will help inform Arcadia's wellbeing framework. The survey should take approximately 10 minutes to complete and all responses are anonymous.

Your feedback and insights would be greatly appreciated.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8F5BGBN>

Happy Families

Arcadia College families will now have access to Happy Families for free. Happy Families was created by Clinical Psychologist, Dr Justin Coulson, and provides regular Insight articles and webinars on topics that impact many families and young people.

Some webinar topics include:

- What to do When Kids Won't Listen
- Digital Kids
- Emotion Coaching
- The Teenage Brain
- How to Help When School Sucks

To access all the Happy Families content for free, including 300+ articles and webinars in the catalogue, click on the link below and use this password.

Arcadia College

<https://schools.happyfamilies.com.au/login/arcadia>

PASSWORD: happyac

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING/THE RESILIENCE PROJECT AT ARCADIA COLLEGE

During Semester 2, the students have been looking at 'Empathy' and what it actually is and how to go about practising it. Attached are some ideas and explanations about empathy.

PROJECT +

Parents & Carers



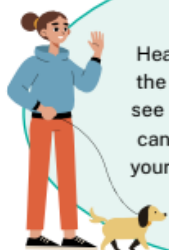
EMPATHY & KINDNESS

Working on empathy helps us to identify, understand and feel what another person is feeling. When we show empathy or we do something kind for someone else, our brain releases oxytocin. This leads to us increasing our self-esteem/confidence, energy levels, positivity and overall happiness.



Empathy has no script. There is no right way or wrong way to do it. It's simply listening, holding space, withholding judgment, emotionally connecting, and communicating that incredibly healing message of 'You're not alone'. - Brené Brown

You can practise empathy in a variety of ways. Below are some ideas you could have a go at doing with the family.



Kindness Walk

Head out for a walk and challenge the people you are walking with to see how many acts of kindness you can accumulate together while on your walk. Afterwards, discuss how it made you feel.



Support A Charity Or Organisation

Together as a family choose a charity or organisation you would like to support. This may be something you are passionate about or a cause you feel is in need.

- Research the best way you can support this cause.
- As a family, make a plan of what you are going to do.
- Work together to support your charity or organisation.

Neighbourhood Kindness Challenge

This is a great way to show kindness and build connection with your neighbours:

- Offer to walk your neighbour's dog or go for a walk with them.
- Take your neighbour's bins out or bring the bins in for them.
- Offer to do some gardening for them.
- Cook or make a neighbour a meal or some treats.
- Write a little kindness note and place it in their letterbox.
- Make a gift and deliver it.
- Stop and have a chat with your neighbour and ask how their day is going.



Listen Empathetically

Listening is a big part of being empathetic. If you haven't already listened to Lael Stone on the imperfects podcast talking about listening and responding to children with empathy and compassion, check it out!



Proudly supported by

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The Resilience Project is proud to partner with Coles to support students, teachers and parents to become happier, healthier and more resilient. We are grateful for the commitment and shared vision of Coles to support the mental health of all Australians.

education@theresilienceproject.com.au | (03) 9113 9302 | theresilienceproject.com.au

THE
**RESILIENCE
PROJECT.**

Arcadia
COLLEGE

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM 1 2024

MONDAY 22ND JANUARY

TERM 1 COMMENCES FOR ALL YEAR LEVELS

FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY

AUSTRALIA DAY

WEDNESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

FAMILY INTERVIEW NIGHT

FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

SCHOOL PHOTOS

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

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.



2024 COLLEGE CALENDAR

January							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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July							
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August							
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October							
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November							
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December							
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Term Dates 2024:

Term 1: Mon 22 January to Thurs 28 March
Term 2: Tues 16 April to Fri 21 June
Term 3: Tues 9 July to Fri 13 September
Term 4: Tues 1 Oct to Tues 3 December
Year 12 Last Day: Fri 15 November
Year 10 & 11 Last Day: Fri 29 November
Year 7, 8 & 9 Last Day: Tues 3 December

Queensland Public Holidays 2024:

Monday 1 January New Year's Day substitute
Friday 26 January Australia Day
Friday 29 March Good Friday
Monday 1 April Easter Monday
Thursday 25 April Anzac Day
Monday 6 May Labour Day
Friday 30 August Gold Coast Show
Monday 7 October King's Birthday
Wednesday 25 December Christmas Day
Thursday 26 December Boxing Day

School Events 2024:

Family Interview Nights: Wednesday 14 February
 Wednesday 7 August
School Photos: Friday 23 February
Challenge Days: Wednesday 19 June
 Wednesday 6 November
School Reports to Parents: Monday 1 July
 Friday 6 December
Year 12 Graduation/Formal: Friday 15 November
Whole School Awards Day: Friday 22 November
Junior School Excursion: Wednesday 27 November

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

PUPIL-FREE DAY (Staff Professional Development)

