



Arethusa News

Newsletter 1, 2023



Welcome to our Term 1 Newsletter,

In our endeavour to communicate with our families more regularly, I am thrilled to say we will now issue our newsletters every Term, and as you can see in the pages that follow there is so much to share, from excursions to certificate courses, cooking classes to presentations, student successes and quality teaching and learning. It's been a full Term.

I have been incredibly impressed with the enthusiasm, dedication and hard work the students have shown over the past few months. Our teachers and staff have also been working diligently to provide high-quality education that inspires and challenges our students.

Our admin team have also been working hard on updating some of our policies in line with legislation changes; all of our policies can be found on our website.

We wish you all a relaxing and refreshing holiday and, as always, we look forward to seeing all of our students rearing and ready to go for an exciting Term 2.

Lisa Coles,
Executive Principal

Pathways

Alicia Kent-Rooney
Head of VEP



Welcome to 2023 from the Arethusa Pathways team. Marnie, Kerry, Nathan, Alicia, Charlie and Liz are looking forward to helping young people across all our campuses with work experience, vocational training, career education, and so much more! Just get in touch at pathways@arethusa.qld.edu.au

Arethusa College provides work ready skill sets in Barista, First Aid, White Card, and RSA to Year 10, 11, and 12 students – giving them in demand, job ready qualifications and leading them to better opportunities.



Five of our Deception Bay students received their Prepare to Work Safely in the Construction Industry (White Card) recently. These students worked with Blue Dog Training and are now ready to for work experience or paid work in a construction industry area of their choosing.

Student Success

Enthusiasm, determination, and drive are three characteristics Sienna has displayed to realise her pathway into the future. From a love of working with young children Sienna completed work experience two days a week at a childcare centre over a 6-week period. The knowledge gained enabled her to cement her passion and commitment to becoming a childcare educator. Although the initial placement she attended couldn't take on a trainee at the time, she earned positive feedback, and the search began for a school-based traineeship. The time period between the first and second provider was longer than we'd hoped, but Sienna's drive didn't waver and after just two days of work experience at the second centre, she was offered a traineeship. Her hard work has secured her a job, training in a Certificate III in Childcare and she has already been offered extra shifts through the holidays as a result of her great attitude. Sienna is still attending school, completing courses such as the recent RSA certificate and is currently learning to drive on her learners. She is saving for a car so she can easily attend more shifts at her placement and manages to squeeze in a part-time job. She is a fantastic example of one of our young people taking control of their future and directing her own dreams.



Pathways

Alicia Kent-Rooney
Head of VEP



The Year 9 pre-work experience program kicked off across Montague Road, Forest Lake and Springwood Campuses in the first week of February, with students reflecting on their transferable skills and making a start on their employment portfolio.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are embedded in the course through taste testing bush tucker recipes featuring native ingredients. This week's sessions featured bunya nuts, wattleseed ice-cream and kangaroo meatballs.



Some of our Forest Lake students made delicious kangaroo sliders and pizzas while working towards their Certificate II in Hospitality last week. The Certificate II in Hospitality helps provide students with the skills and knowledge to work in the industry.



At the start of February, Forest Lake students had a (literal) taste of hospitality to help them decide if they want to enrol in the Certificate II in Hospitality. Our young people followed safe and hygienic practices to prepare coleslaw with a honey mustard yoghurt dressing.

This qualification gives students 4 QCE credits upon completion, transferable workplace skills such as communication, teamwork, initiative and problem-solving, and general skills for life.

The Bay

Jo McCracken
Campus Principal, The Bay

What a fabulous start to the year! I am so thankful for the opportunity to lead our amazing school and our absolutely amazing students. The start to the term has been remarkably busy with lots of staff changes and new enrolments. As we approach the end of Term One there are a lot of things to celebrate:

Senior students have a wide range of subjects that are on offer: Essential English & Maths, Short Courses in Literacy & Numeracy, Business Studies, Social & Community Studies, Personal Project, Visual Arts, Media Arts, Drama, Science, ICT, and Sport and Rec. Cert I in Construction & Cert I in Automotive. Nathan Roberts (Pathways Support Officer) has been diligent in supporting students with work experience and the implementation of the Work Ready Bundles (Barista Course, RSA, First Aid and White Card).


This term there has been a focus on excursions and incursions. Students visited the Planetarium as part of their Science unit. NRL team incursion with ASA students (feedback that Arethusa students are the best behaved and engaged of all the students/high schools that they have visited this year). AAA beginning outdoor trekking building up to the Kokoda Trail.

Students have participated in Assemblies each week – on a four-week rotation Senior, Junior, Middle and whole school. Some students have received certificates celebrating success in Academic, Effort, Community, and Culture and Wellbeing

Fun with Cooking Elective and Skilled for Life students continue to use their culinary skills to cook recipes for the school community. Students have been cooking generous portions to share with students in their sector.

Well-Being Team ESOs, Chaplains, Youth Workers and Social Workers have been working together to clarify role statements that are campus specific. Teams have been working together as part of the Wider Welfare Team to support students' and their sense of belonging, as well as staff feeling valued and having a voice.



Find us on 



Deception Bay
Campus



ASA - Sports Academy

*Trine, Garry, Karl and Lance
Arethusa Sports Academy (ASA)*

Welcome to the 2023 school year. For a lot of our students, the first term of school brings with it many firsts; first year of High School, first day in a new class with new teachers and new peers, or perhaps a new school. We have welcomed plenty of new faces to ASA this term including a new teacher, Garry, and plenty of new students.

This term we have been working on becoming a good social unit and inclusiveness. I've seen plenty of examples of that already within our cohort, which makes me so proud.

Our Term 1 English curriculum has seen students writing their very own narratives. After reading students' drafts, the final products are eagerly anticipated by myself and other staff. Our Integrated unit has focussed on Earth and Space Sciences, which saw us take a trip to the Planetarium at Mt Cootha, which was an interesting and fascinating experience for all students.

We ventured to another high ropes course at the Big Pineapple, where many of our students went out of their comfort zone and tackled a fear of heights to complete the course – so awesome to see!

We have also had the game development officers from the NRL visiting us to give us some useful skills and drills and some fun games to further develop students' footy skills.

Term 2 will see ASA tackling the Kokoda Challenge with plenty more of our Arethusa peers. Keep an ear and an eye out for the details of upcoming events.



Find us on



Arethusa Sports
Academy

Adventure Academy


*Michael Hanmer
Arethusa Adventure Academy (AAA)*

This term has been quite eventful. We have a new ESO called Jess. Jess is outdoor qualified, so we are able to have canoes and fires! This term's focus has been on Survival. So, for English, we have been looking at 'The Hunger Games' and the survival skills needed for people who were taking part in the Hunger Games. In Maths, we have been looking at the different uses of water and how we can be more sustainable using rainwater. For our Skills sessions, we have had the project of making shelters, which we used for a camp in during Week 10. Students have made sure that their shelters are waterproof and sustainable in preparation for any bad weather.

AAA students have been learning basic canoeing skills with Jess; learning basic strokes. Students have been making use of the canoes to go fishing, utilising the fish we bought last year.

We have had two excursions this term; a walk up the Kondalilla Falls and the other at Australia Zoo. Next term we are hoping to get all students to join us in walking for the Kokoda Challenge which has been organised by our amazing Deputy, Trine Allwood (ASA). For this, students will have the chance to complete an 18km walk in Kenilworth, working in teams.



Find us on 



Arethusa Adventure
Academy

Montague Road

Theo Tsimboukis
Deputy Principal, Montague Road

We Belong

At Montague Road we have been embracing the campus wide theme of 'Belonging' this term. As part of this theme, we have been acknowledging students and staff for the valuable role they play in making our community a safe and enjoyable space in which to learn and grow.

Senior Visual Arts

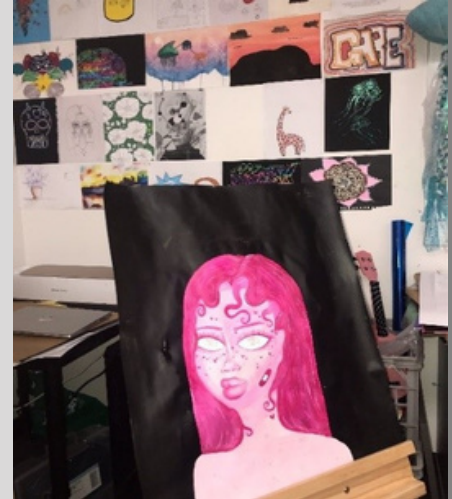
Students have kicked off the year investigating the topic 'belonging'. This school wide theme has been explored in the art room through many forms. Students have engaged in collaborative tasks, and brainstormed what the word means to them. Pictured here, they have interpreted the word belonging to have a 'warm and fuzzy feeling' and 'a sense of calm'. Another student has decided to write a song about belonging, or the absence of it.



Song writing



Collaborative art




Warm and Fuzzy

Further to this, students continue to work on their social, emotional, academic and physical wellbeing. Gym sessions are a highlight for many students and a great stress release from their studies.

Liam Polden, pictured with his art pieces on 'belonging and identity'. These, he created using an energetic and experimental art style. He routinely plays with brush strokes and form, focusing on vibrant colours and expressive movement. This acts as an outlet and allows for self-expression. He has also taken to signing his works with a pink thumb print as a literal seal of belonging.



Find us on 



Montague Road
Campus

Montague Road

*Theo Tsimboukis
Deputy Principal, Montague Road*

Clubs and Projects

Our Arethusa community garden bed has certainly grown over the holidays! We have started to tidy it up, making space for new growth. We have also decided to take advantage of our amazing, raised bed and have grown some carrots! Watch this space.

Yoga

Montague Road Campus offers Yoga Club sessions with a qualified and enthusiastic yoga instructor for students. We have seen successful outcomes such as improved academic, emotional and social performance. Practicing yoga in school facilitates improvement in mental, social, and physical wellbeing, minimizing self-destructive behaviors in the classroom and reducing stress among students.

Crochet Project

Rylee McGregor learnt how to crochet in a club in 2022 and has since created a collection of wearable art. Pictured is her most recent design, a 'monster bag', complete with zipper teeth and a heart pocket.



The Middle Years


Pre-Vocational work experience sessions

Marnie Parker from our Pathways Team has met with our Year 9 students to run interactive sessions in preparing their work portfolios and get them job ready. At the end of each session a special highlight for students were being recognised the following week with a certificate and gift while becoming workplace ready.

The Middle school have been working on their cooking skills and have continued to bless other College students with a warm cooked meal for lunch each day. You are a blessing to your community.



Making Maths fun and finding practical applications to real world problems is key to good teaching and learning. Our students have embraced the opportunity to get their hands dirty not only inside but outside the classroom walls visiting Davis Park and redesigning play equipment as part of their Maths assessment.

Find us on 



Montague Road
Campus



Junior school

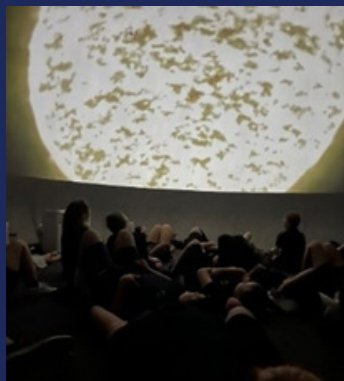
Our junior school has been busy making 3D models of the solar system in their Integrated Studies program. The students have made good progress in their studies and have really enjoyed the hands-on activities.

We are proud of the hard-working junior students and their efforts across all their subject areas this term.

Forest Lake

*Eryn Grady
Campus Principal , Forest Lake*

The students participated in a Visit from the Planetarium. This was part of the Science unit this term. They were all very excited and completely engaged in the experience.




We have had several students complete their RSA and White Card this term. The work ready bundles are being very well received by students and parents. Charlie from pathways has been a great addition to the team!

Swimming Activity has been overwhelmingly popular this term. We go to the Carole Park pool every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. This has only been limited by transport. We take two bus loads (20) students each day.



Australian Deadly Animal Show was well received by most students. Some did not like the snakes! It was great to see our seniors encouraging our Junior students to hold the snakes!



Find us on 

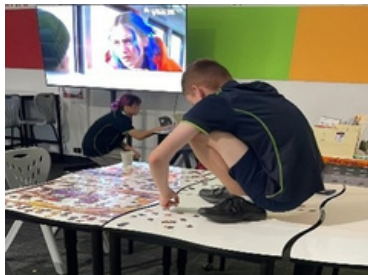


Forest Lake
Campus

Students received awards in Assembly this term for outstanding work and leadership.

Forest Lake

Eryn Grady
Campus Principal , Forest Lake



Students love puzzles at the Forest Lake Campus. The students ask to do them for activities as well as 5 min Brain Breaks.



The Afternoon Activity Program has been driven by the students. They love Swimming and Cooking in particular. These have been expanded to several days per week. The cooking program has been focusing on cooking health snacks for morning tea and lunch the following day at school. Healthy oat slice has been a hit with the students! The students also cooked Vanilla and Chocolate cake for the end of month Birthday celebrations. They all look forward to that! This week we had Lemonade Scones with Jam!




Thank you to the Pathways team! They have been doing a great job with our students in SIT20322 Certificate II in Hospitality (in partnership with TAFE Queensland). I especially love it when students bring me in something to try for lunch!



The Senior room organised an Art Work to show belonging and collaboration.



Find us on 



Forest Lake
Campus

Forest Lake

*Eryn Grady
Campus Principal , Forest Lake*

JUNIOR ROOM

Integrated:

This term students have been learning about Earth/Space sciences with a focus on Space and all things in our solar system.

We used Oreos to learn about the phases of the moon with Oreos – just had to catch them before they were all eaten!



The order of the planets and their relative distances became a problem-solving activity as much as anything... (not to mention the occasional mishap..)



HPE focused on teamwork this term and we discovered that we can do that in some non-traditional ways.




The focus on Maths was all about measurement, geometry and space. What better way to work it out than with Marshmallows and Rice Crispies!



Not to mention some of our general shenanigans 😊



Find us on 



Forest Lake
Campus

Forest Lake

*Eryn Grady
Campus Principal , Forest Lake*

MIDDLE ROOM

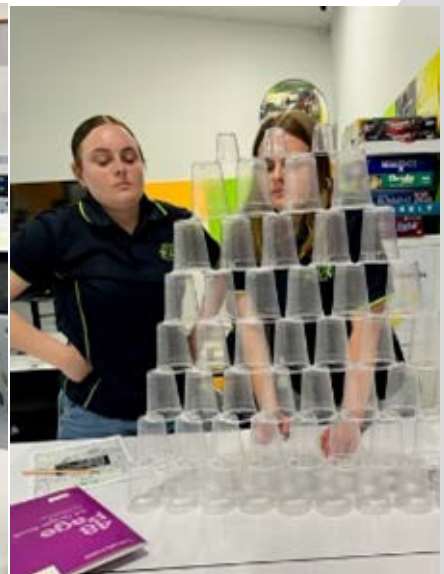
For HPE this term we have been learning the rules of Ultimate Frisbee. Before we could play a game, we had to practice our skills.




We have also been engaging in stem activities. We had a plastic cup tower challenge. The students had to build the tallest tower in the quickest time.



Students working on their BKSB in class.



Find us on 



Forest Lake
Campus

Springwood

Mary Mansour
Acting Campus Principal , Springwood

Our New Acting Principal

This term we also had to say goodbye to the wonderful Malgosia. We were very sad to hear that Malgosia needed to leave us but in her place came the amazing Mary who has been taking everything in her stride and been working incredibly hard to work with families and students during our time of transition and we thank everyone for their patience and understanding.




This term we have had an energetic start to the year as we are continuing to grow. Students were introduced to our new staff and were able to continue enjoying our campus. We are eagerly waiting for the upstairs section of our campus to be completed which is going to be ready very soon. While upstairs is being created, we have had the privilege of engaging the students with authentic learning at various playgrounds.



ID Photos done differently!

This term, we have been taking our student's photo for ID cards. However, instead of only having the traditional photo, some of our wonderful students posed with props and a giant big fish! There was lots of laughter and giggles.



Find us on 



Springwood
Campus

Springwood

Mary Mansour
Acting Campus Principal , Springwood

Celebration Day

In the middle of the term, our Middle School students went to laser tag and bowling as a celebration for their amazing work and to take a breather. There was a lot of competition between our Staff and Students! We still don't know the results but regardless everyone came back with some of the biggest smiles!



Ice Skating


Over the last few weeks, we have had the privilege of taking our students ice skating. Our Middle and Senior School enjoyed the excursion together and have started to create some great friendships while also learning a new skill for many of them. Our Junior School also had an amazing trip. All our students had the privilege of our Wellbeing team members – Scott and Liam attend, who just so happen to play ice hockey!



Staff wellbeing

As part of our school, we understand that everyone needs love and care including our staff so on Friday the 24th of March as part of Harmony Week, we celebrated our staff's cultures through food! It was a great time to understand more about our staff.



Find us on 



Springwood
Campus

Spring Hill

Kerry McFarlane
Campus Principal, Spring Hill

“When educating the minds of our youth, we must not forget to educate their hearts.” Dalai Lama

Excursions

We have had a successful start to Term 1 at our Spring Hill Campus this year. Junior and middle school students have been engaged in work from week 1 and were fortunate enough to attend the Planetarium as part of their Integrated Studies Unit. Later in the term, the junior students will attend rock climbing as part of their Health and Physical Education Unit. We will continue to engage students in real-life experiences to consolidate their learning.



Electives

Junior and middle school students at Spring Hill participate in a number of electives during the week. These electives include Fun with Food, Fun with Fabric, Fun with Coding, Fun with Art, Fun with instruments and Lyrics and Lego Challenge. Students have enjoyed making cushions in Fun with Fabric using hand sewing and machine sewing techniques. Students have created their very own Spring Hill baby BLT subs and have enjoyed making pancakes and Oreo thickshakes amongst other delicious recipes.



Find us on



Spring Hill
Campus

Spring Hill

Kerry McFarlane
Campus Principal, Spring Hill



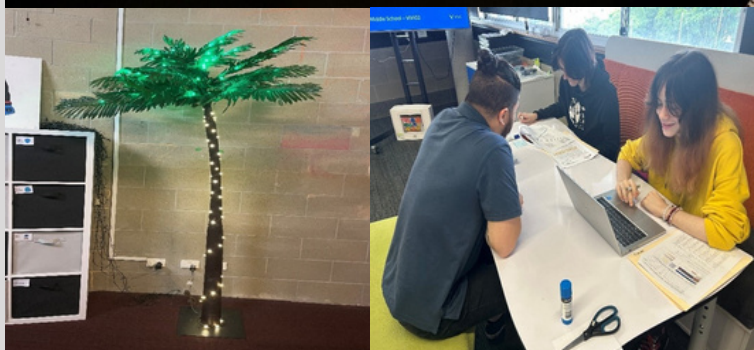
Hospitality

Senior students have been enrolled in Certificate II Hospitality. The Certificate II in Hospitality is designed for aspiring food and beverage attendants who want to build a career in the growing hospitality industry. They have been busy cooking up a storm in the kitchen using their culinary flair. Corey Young achieved a Certificate of Recognition for his outstanding contribution and commitment to the course.



Well-being

Student wellbeing remains a priority within our community and we have seen a lot of students accessing our wellbeing space (Bamboo Room) when they need. We continue to encourage the use of this space to support students maintaining engagement with their learning. As a community at Spring Hill this term we have focused on Kindness, with both staff and students engaging in random acts of kindness. Don't you just love our Kindness Tree!




Assessment

All students have been working diligently on assessment this term. This term a focus has been on students completing inquiry and project-based assessments. It has been great to see our students demonstrate their knowledge and skills in their responses to assessment tasks.



Senior students have been given the opportunity to complete a Certificate 1 in Workplace Skills and Certificate II in Hospitality. We look forward to seeing these industry qualifications prepare students for work post school. If your student is struggling to complete assessment, please remind them to speak with their classroom teacher.

Find us on 



Spring Hill
Campus

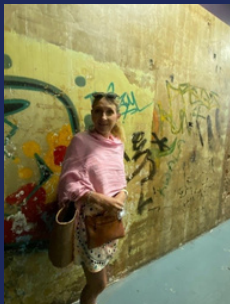
Maroochydore

Marcelle Calitz
Campus Principal, Maroochydore

Senior students have collaborated with staff during their weekly leadership meetings to organise and run community events.

Upcoming events include excursions to Noosa National Park and Noosa Art Gallery, board games, stand up paddle boarding, air fryer cooking competition, indoor bowling, visiting a cinema to have a tour behind the scenes.


Students are being mentored on their personal responsibility to work with us to ensure that every student feels safe on campus. We are intentionally raising awareness about strategies they can use to help peers feel safe in class. Students are responding well to this awareness of what they need to do to help create and maintain safe learning environments. Visitors to our campus are impressed with the calm, safe atmosphere, and the friendly welcome they receive from our young people.



On Monday the 20th of February 2023, Year 11 and 12 Visual Arts students from our Maroochydore campus went on an excursion to the Powerhouse in Brisbane. The Powerhouse was built in 1928 and was used to provide power for Brisbane's expanding tram network and is now a heritage-listed building.

Our students participated in a guided tour of the Powerhouse and learnt about its history and how it has evolved to become a leading arts and cultural hub, where art exhibitions, plays, performances, and musical events are held throughout the year.



Find us on 



Maroochydore
Campus

Anywhere Learning Team

Stacey Power
Head of Inclusive Education & Anywhere Learning Team

The average length of time students attend the Anywhere Learning Team Program (ALT) is five months. Great outcomes can occur in a short period of time when great choices are available to our students. Examples of outcomes include:

- Successfully gaining their Literacy and Numeracy competency through QCAA Short Course;
- Further education and training such as Certificate I in Construction at TAFE;
- Employment at businesses including a local mechanic;
- Traineeships in Child care;
- Enrolling in an Arethusa campus;
- Enrolling in a local high school;
- Completing Year 10 via Distance Ed.

A new program ALT students are finding success with is Euka – which is a blend of home schooling and elements of distance education.

Students who transition from the ALT program who have chosen to attend an Arethusa campus, can access additional support for a time. To help students settle in comfortably ALT staff can continue to check-in with students while on campus, running social skill programs and individualised support.

Working with stakeholders is an important way to set our students up for success. “Where the Wild Things Are” bookstore is based in West End and are a valuable support for increasing student literacy at Arethusa. Recently at the Montague Road campus, a pop-up Book Fair was organised by Inclusive Education literacy coordinator Tina Clothier. Students are given stickers to place on books that interest them. Once all of the students have visited the Book Fair, the selected books become part of the school library. These books are also used for supporting Arethusa-based English units as well as the literacy intervention program – Macqlit.



Coming up: Mobile Pantry for ALT students to develop at-home cooking skills as well as a Mobile Library for ALT students learning at home.

TERM 2 DATES

Term 2 Dates:

Monday 17 April - Friday 16 June

Term 2 Public Holidays:

Good Friday - Friday 7 April

Easter Monday - Monday 10 April

ANZAC Day - Tuesday 25 April

Labour Day - Monday 1 May

Student Absentees

To report a student absence, please call or text the absentee line by 10:00am on the day of absence to report the student being away.

Call **07 2000 0200** or Text **0417 207 465** to report an absentee.

If a student is late to class and the parent has not rung to advise the student is running late, an absentee text may be sent out to the parent/carer.

Find us on



Find us on

