



Arethusa News

Term 3, 2023



Dear Parents, careers and Arethusa Community,

We hope you are enjoying your break; I cannot believe how fast it came around. Term 3 has been packed full of quality teaching, fun activities and exciting excursions across all of our campuses. The term has seen some of our campuses undertake camps for the first time, as well as an increase in the number of students engaging in Work Experience programs, with some of these students being offered Apprenticeships as a result of their hard work.

It is with regret that I also share some disappointing news with you. Recently the College has been the subject of some divisive and derogatory comments posted on Social Media Sites. Thank you to the many parents and students who have contacted the College about these posts and objected to this public denigration of the reputation of the College. The many risks and unwelcome outcomes that can arise from thoughtless or careless use of social media are now well known, as are the harms and legal consequences available, such as breach of the Enrolment Contract between parents/carers and the school, defamation and breach of privacy laws.

While the Enrolment Contract establishes a partnership between students' guardians and the College to act together in the interests of our students, we acknowledge that there will be times when parents/carers will seek to raise concerns or issues with the College about College decisions and/or the education of their children. At such times, parents/carers are welcome to make appointments with relevant staff, including me, as Executive Principal, or activate our Formal [Complaints Policy](#) and [Process](#), rather than take to social media to air these grievances.

At the centre of what we do are our students, and our unwavering commitment to ensure the best outcomes for all of our young people. This works best when all people who are involved in their lives work together to support, encourage and love them on their journey.

I am looking forward to our students returning for the final term of the year, my favourite term, where we get to celebrate our Year 12 students who have diligently persevered through their schooling years and are honoured for all they have achieved. Mick Cross, CEO, and I love being at our Campus graduations and are excited to see you all there in a few short weeks.

Enjoy the last few days of your holiday!

Lisa Coles, Executive Principal

The Bay

Jo McCracken
Campus Principal, The Bay

JUNIOR SCHOOL

The highlight of this term was our excursion to the Spark Lab in Brisbane. Located in the Queensland Museum, students used their understanding of science concepts to experiment and test their theories. The students really enjoyed this experience and getting to see some of their ideas put into action!

Students have engaged with algebra concepts this term in Maths and surprised themselves with how much they already knew! Students were also surprised to see how often they use algebra in their daily lives and will continue to use it within their work in the future.

In health and physical education, students researched healthy lifestyle choices and developed fitness and nutrition plans.

Students developed their understanding of information texts, completing research and reports on a range of topics, including countries of the world and cultural experiences.




MIDDLE SCHOOL

During Term 3, students in middle school looked at a range of topics across all learning areas. Investigating and discovering new things about the body systems, our middle years and ASA students looked into the lives and accomplishments of famous and influential scientists. The students enjoyed hands-on activities and investigations.

Students investigated and created an information text to look at homelessness and where different people come from. This was supported in HPE by looking at the healthy food options, with cooking groups preparing food for the cohort, and the application and evaluation of leadership approaches, collaboration strategies and ethical behaviours across a range of movement contexts.

Students focused on algebra in Maths, linking the questions and problems to real-world situations.

Find us on 



Deception Bay
Campus

The Bay

Jo McCracken
Campus Principal, The Bay

A highlight for the term was the work around genetics and genetic mutations in science, with students looking into DNA. Students also spent time at Australia Zoo and were able to reflect on what they were learning in the classroom in a real-world setting. Staff and students have worked extremely hard, with fantastic outcomes being achieved throughout the term.



SENIOR SCHOOL

For the senior students, Term 3 marks the next period for change. For our year 12 students, they are preparing for life beyond formal schooling, while our year 11 students will be finalising assessment and preparing to move into leadership roles in Term 4.


The year 12s enjoyed their trips to Suited to Success – the Brisbane-based organisation that supports students and young people in overcoming barriers to career readiness and success. This program works with personalised styling and clothing options provided to all who attended to see that they are well-equipped for upcoming interviews and work placements, as well as the end-of-year celebrations.

Our senior classes also visited the Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (QGOMA) as part of their Visual Art unit on Identity: States of Being. As the students wandered the gallery, they explored how curators work to create an exhibition.

In the Adventure Academy, Term 3 has continued to build on the foundation of outdoor education activities with the students branching out from building forts to the construction of their own floating pontoon and dedicated fishing “humpy”.

Students extended their connection to the great outdoors with a fishing day trip to the Shorncliffe Pier. Staff and students enjoyed the glorious weather by the water as they extended their connections to each other and the community overall.



Find us on 



Deception Bay
Campus

Montague Road

Kelly Barnes
Acting Principal, Montague Road

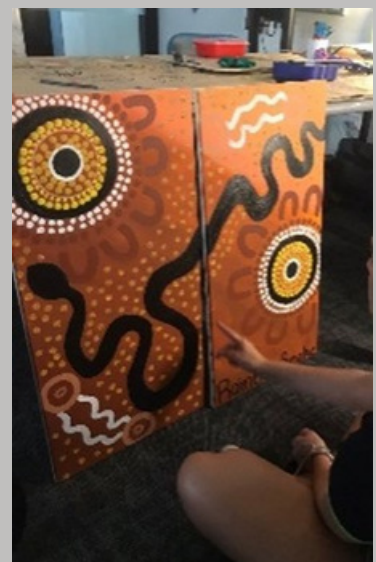
This term has seen MR make some exciting changes to the way we deliver middle school curriculum, with the introduction of Life Learning excursions. Teachers have linked curriculum requirements to a series of external/ community activities designed to appeal to the more active learner. These included:


- Catching a ferry to Hamilton North Shore to explore the urban design plan for the Olympic Village.
- Trip to Southbank Maritime Museum to use the journeys of the HMAS Diamantine to explore the use of a Cartesian plane, and write a report on the travels of famous Australian sailor, Jessica Watson.
- Comprehension of instructions text and application of information texts to follow instructions for canoeing at Kurwongbah.
- Visit to Victoria Park Minigolf course to apply the use of Pythagoras' Theorem to plan the perfect shot.
- Abseiling at Kangaroo Point to describe a procedure and label and explain the function of key pieces of equipment.



Visual Arts Project

The Arts empowers students to make their own decisions about their learning goals and pathways in order to inspire life-long learning. One of our senior students responded to the assessment topic of 'Public Art' by pursuing the pathway of 'raising awareness and celebration of Aboriginal culture in Australia'. The student chose the story of the rainbow serpent to showcase their strong ties to their culture, to the public and community.



Find us on 



Montague Road
Campus

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Kelly Barnes
Acting Principal, Montague Road

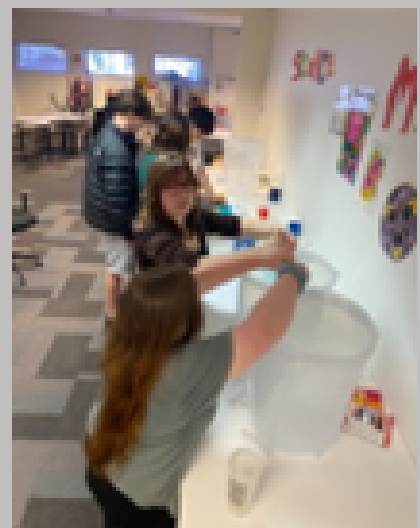
MEKKR Day


We celebrated our own MR version of the EKKA in order to promote our Wellbeing theme of Belonging. Activities designed to form connection and a sense of community included photo booth; racing car encounter; hip hop extreme classes (more staff than students); ice-cream stall; hot food; sample bags; group art projects; giant games; henna and nail painting; shooting gallery; mechanical surfing ride and the big hit – the baby animals, were enjoyed by staff and students alike. We used the opportunity to take a group photo and cut the Belonging cake.



Science in Practice

Our seniors have enjoyed experimenting with brewing ginger beer this term. The taste-testing sure has been interesting, but the learning and sense of accomplishment has been exciting to see.



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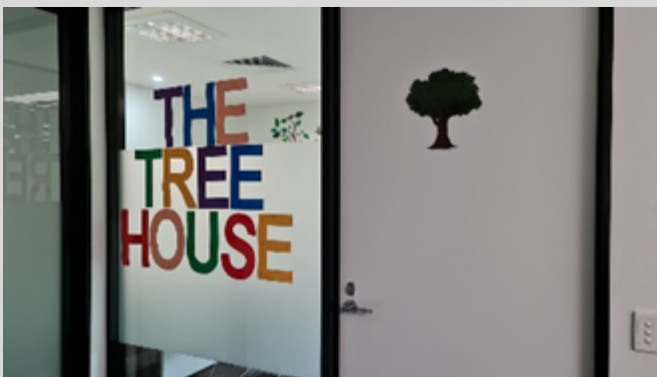
Montague Road
Campus

Montague Road

Kelly Barnes
Acting Principal, Montague Road

The Tree House

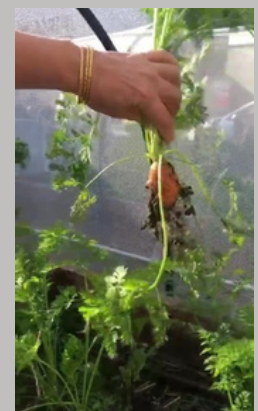
We've also opened up a new wellbeing space for those times when young people need to decompress or seek out help; we called it 'The Tree House' because it's at the top of the stairs (our house). Students have enjoyed helping with the design and layout of the space and decorating for maximum calm time. One of our students took the opportunity to develop a personal project of hosting a high tea, where she invited staff and students to experience the sheer joy of a good cup of tea in bone china.




Afternoon Activities

We've had a great time exploring personal interests and activities that meet the social/emotional needs of students, but none more exciting than our first ever home-grown carrot. Okay, so we have some work to do, but this was still pretty cool! Some other firsts include our first Music/band Club and our first Sewing Club.

There are so many more things to share but the important ingredient in all of these is the sense of being in this together, in a space where everyone knows their uniqueness is embraced and celebrated, and that they matter.



Find us on 



Montague Road
Campus

Forest Lake

Eryn Grady
Campus Principal, Forest Lake

Welcome to Term 3 at Forest Lake.

We have had an exciting term at Forest Lake, starting with our 2nd Birthday celebrations! We had a visit from the Baby Animal Farm, competed in Sumo Wrestling, and had Lazer Tag on the oval!

The campus has been very busy with our students achieving great things! Well done to all the students who completed their Barista Course, White Card, and Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) this term.

We have had students going to TAFE for trade taster days and students involved in a variety of different types of work experience to see what they might like to do once they have finished their formal schooling.

Our first overnight camps to Maranatha and Emu Gully took place. Everyone was very excited and had a fantastic time! I look forward to the Juniors going on their Day Camp next term.

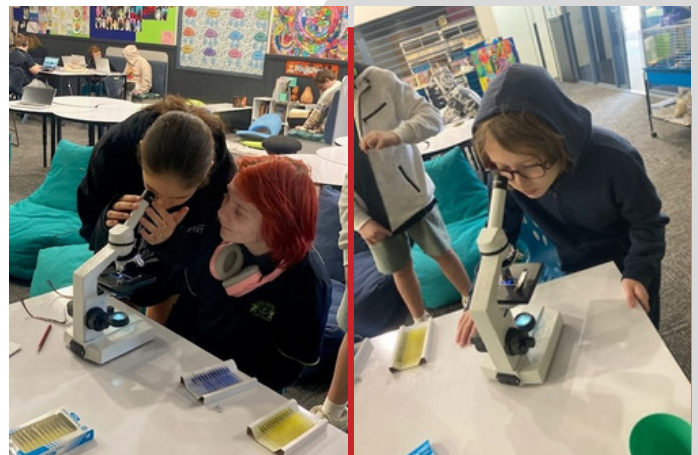
Eryn Grady- Campus Principal

Junior Room


INTEGRATED: With a focus on Body Systems, students have been able to participate in lots of hands-on activities.



Experiment with eggs firstly in vinegar and then in corn syrup to make observations and the semi-permeability of the membrane in cells.



Learning how to use microscopes.

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Forest Lake
Campus



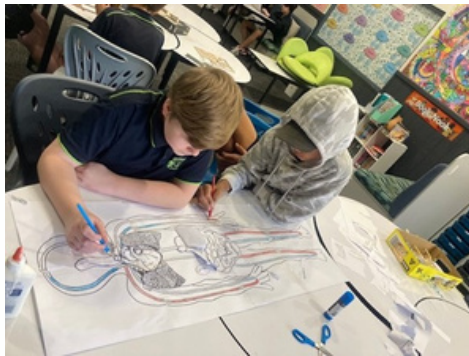
Seeing how lungs work with balloons, straws and bottles.

Forest Lake

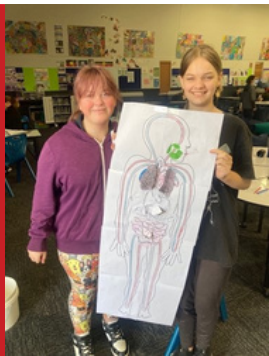
*Eryn Grady
Campus Principal , Forest Lake*



Decorating lungs to show healthy/unhealthy lungs in a creative way.



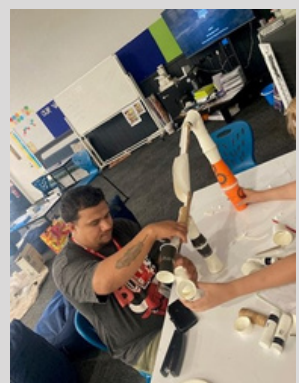
Putting the body system together.




MATHS: Utilising manipulatives (who doesn't love skittles to do Maths!) and a visit from World of Maths kept students engaged.



In addition to traditional teaching and learning activities in our various subjects, this term we have continued to engage and extend students in STEM activities. This has had a strong focus on the design and development cycles, teaching students skills in revising and improving their work while building resilience when tasks need refining.



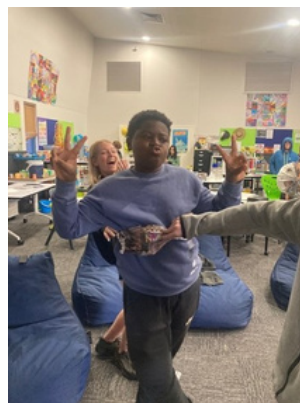
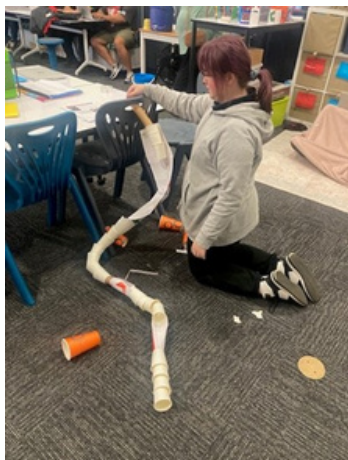
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Forest Lake

Eryn Grady
Campus Principal, Forest Lake




Middle Room

Term 3 has been action-packed for students in the Middle Room – including our first school camp! In English, students have explored informative texts throughout the term including newspapers, online articles and informative videos. They identified the key features and used them to explore information about social issues such as refugees and homelessness, which they later created their own information report or infographic about.

Maths has seen students take on challenging topics this term such as patterns and algebra, Pythagoras' theorem and linear equations. Our science unit enabled students to learn about genetics and understand the role that it plays in their lives – investigating DNA and mRNA, selective breeding and how it has led to many breeds of various animals, and exploring the pros and cons of genetically modified organisms.

In HPE, students explored nutrition and how it relates to diet-related diseases and overall health. Students explored the Australian Dietary Guidelines and used them to evaluate and improve the diet of a similar-aged student from a case study.

During Project time students became familiar with dystopian fiction through the film 'City of Embers', which inspired their own creations. They created art, music, food and maps – both from and inspired by the film.

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Forest Lake
Campus

Forest Lake

*Eryn Grady
Campus Principal , Forest Lake*




Middles have been studying genetics and learn how DNA is formed and then were able to extract some DNA from strawberries themselves.



Middles also joined the Newspaper Challenge with some super-creative outfits emerging from our young designers.



Personal Projects:
Food & Art Inspired by "City of Embers".
Exploring how to make Lego Float

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Senior Room

In amongst all the academic studies, it has been an exciting term for Forest Lake Senior students with our first senior camp.

Students have been focusing on Advocacy in Essential English, Budgeting and Time and Motion in Essential Maths, and Law and Order in Social and Community Studies.


Students in Sport and Recreation have been off campus each week, participating in Orienteering at different locations around South East Brisbane including Robelle Domain and Sherwood Arboretum. Our Visual Art students worked on creating a piece of art and a flyer to advertise for an art show.



Camp

Senior students spent a night away at Maranatha Christian Camp in Yandina. Students got to participate in activities including the Giant Swing, Ropes Course, and Rafting. At night time, we all got to sit around a campfire, eating marshmallows, and cooking damper – for a lot of students it was their first time eating damper. The students had a great time in what will be the final school camp for our Year 12 students.



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Eryn Grady
Campus Principal , Forest Lake

Middle Camp


Middle school students had the opportunity to go to Emu Gully campsite for an overnight camp. Once we arrived, students were tasked with selecting their own food for the camp, setting up their campsites and then going through goals for the camp. For each minute students were late to a group meeting, they had to complete 10 push-ups!

Once student's camps were all set up, it was off to the first activity – carrying barrels through the mud. Students had to make sure each barrel always had two people touching it. It was great to see students working together as a team and leaders stepping up when presented with an opportunity. At the end of all this, students got to go down a water slide!

Then it was time for dinner and a night activity. Students prepared and cooked a BBQ dinner then had to clean everything up afterwards. For the night activity, students grabbed their torches and went on a night walk which included a giant slide and crawling through tunnels.

After a good night's sleep, it was time for breakfast and packing up. It was great to see everyone helping each other get the job done! We had time for one final activity before travelling home – the buggies. Each student got to drive for 2 laps and be a passenger for 2 laps – safe to say this was a favourite activity for many of the students! After this it was time for a quick hot dog and then on the bus for the ride home.



Find us on 



Forest Lake
Campus

Springwood

Mary Mansour
Acting Campus Principal , Springwood

As we head towards Term 4 of our second year, we reflect on the past year and how much we have grown as a campus. We now have approximately 150 students enrolled with 25 staff. This term we welcomed Keith Willie, our new Chaplain, and Elizabeth Williams, Senior teacher, to our team. Both of these staff bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to Springwood campus.



As part of our staff wellbeing, we have enjoyed having themed days, usually with a particular colour. These days bring us together with a sense of unity and fun, as well as giving our students a good laugh!



TEACHING & LEARNING

Flexible classrooms provides our students with the opportunity to be in teacher-led discussions or private quiet spaces to learn. More and more students are joining in the teacher-led lessons and maturing in their academic skills. The work submitted this term by students has increased significantly as the students gain confidence to engage in learning.




PERSONAL PROJECTS

Our Personal Project program is developing well. The following programs have been offered this term:

Art

The students examined the work of Andy Warhol and the forms of pop art, paper art, collage, clay and sculpture. Students created portfolios and a major piece of work.

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Springwood
Campus

Springwood

Mary Mansour
Acting Campus Principal, Springwood




Fitness and Nutrition

The fitness and nutrition elective provides students with the opportunity to get outdoors and be physically active, as well as learn some basic healthy meal preparation skills.



Music

A few students enjoy our music program where they have opportunity to create and collaborate on various music pieces.

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Springwood
Campus

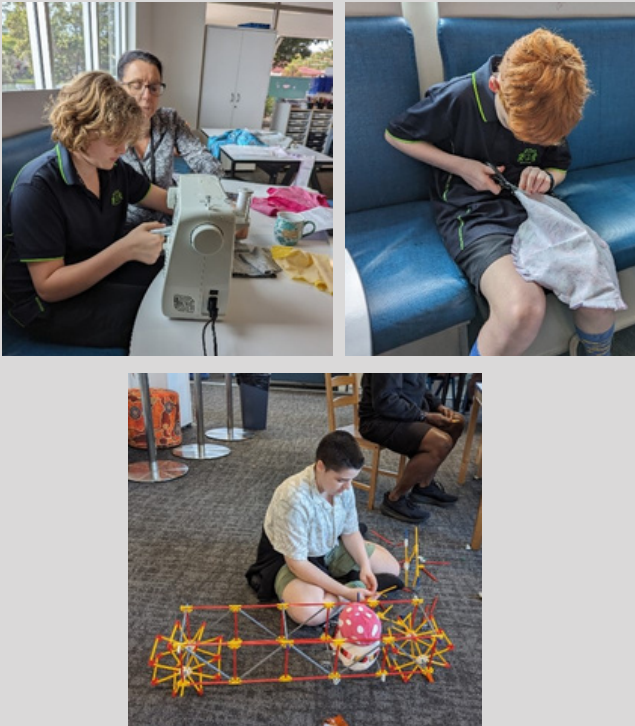


Springwood

Mary Mansour
Acting Campus Principal , Springwood

Life Skills

A group of students enjoyed developing life skills such as sewing and construction this term.



SPORT

Our main focus for sport this term was the Rugby program. We were so proud of our students and the way they conducted themselves at the training and competitions.




PATHWAYS

Happy Paws Happy Hearts

We have just had our second last session of the HPHH program at the Wacol RSPCA. Week 1 Term 4 will see the final graduation session for the students and a celebration of their efforts over the term. While some may think that it's been all about playing with puppies and kittens, the reality is that students have learnt to build resilience, self-confidence, social connections and improve communication, all whilst working to help shelter animals prepare for their transition to a "forever" home. It has been incredible to see the relationships build between students from Montague Road, Forest Lake and Springwood as they learn these essential life skills.



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Springwood
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Springwood

Mary Mansour
Acting Campus Principal , Springwood


First Aid

First Aid is an essential skill to have, not only in the workplace but at home as well. Springwood campus was “Stay’n Alive” in week four as our students learned how to administer life-saving techniques such as CPR and the use of Pressure Immobilisation bandages. Short courses like this are a great way for our students to learn life skills that make them more employable. Thanks to our external trainer, Sam, who made the course fun and engaging, as well as our Pathways team for the “behind the scenes” work needed for days like this.



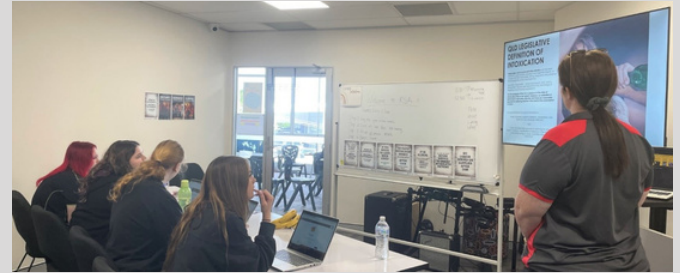
RSA

Springwood campus was fortunate to be able to run a Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) course in week five. With all four participants being assessed as competent and obtaining their RSA. It really demonstrated the desire for success that our students have, as well as the depth of talent within the Arethusa team. Thanks to Liz and Debbie from our Pathways team for making it all happen and running such an engaging session.

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Springwood
Campus



ASSEMBLY

Three times a term we celebrate our students’ success at our assembly. It is so encouraging to see how students respond to receiving acknowledgment for their hard work.



PARENTS and CARERS

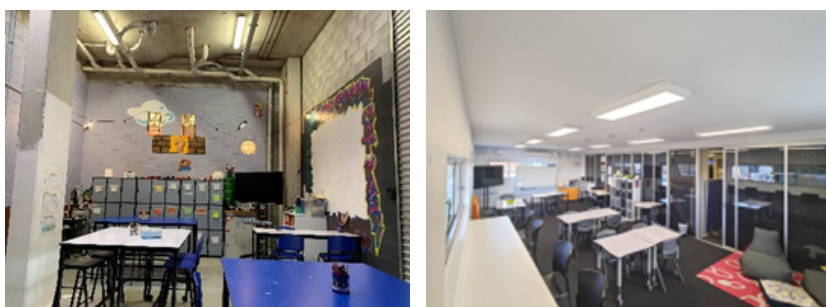
Many parents and carers are so supportive and thankful for Arethusa and the unique opportunities it offers their children. One family gifted the staff with delicious cupcakes at the end of term. Grace (one of our senior students) handmade and delivered some cupcakes and the news that she had just attained her driver’s licence. Congratulations, Grace!



Spring Hill

Debbie Morris
Acting Principal, Spring Hill

There have been a number of changes at Spring Hill in Term 3; Debbie Morris has led the College as Principal, while Kerry McFarlane has moved into an Accreditation role within the organisation. Additionally, Sally Butler has accepted the position of Acting Deputy Principal of Culture and Wellbeing. Within the College, a number of spaces have been redeveloped to ensure that students receive refreshed classroom spaces conducive to quality learning. The Garage space has been redeveloped to support Media Arts and Visual Art classes which will be offered in 2024. The Penthouse classroom has been revamped to support two junior classes, allowing for greater explicit teaching to occur.



Subject Information Evening

Subject information evening was a huge success and we are grateful for all students and parents/carers who could attend. It was great to see students considering their future pathways before they enter the senior phase of their schooling. The next step in this process will be the Senior Education and Training Plans (SETP) developed in partnership with parents/carers in Term 4. This SETP is a key document which maps out a plan of action in order for students to remain on track to achieve success during senior school, post-school education, and work. During SETP, students are able to identify their intended learning options and pathway/s for Years 11 and 12.



School Initiatives

Staff and students at Spring Hill have celebrated a number of events this term to spread awareness. These included Book Week, Wear it Purple Day, National Pyjama Day, Student vs Teacher Basketball competition, and R U Ok? Day. This year the theme for Book Week was “Read, Grow, Inspire”. Teachers and students dressed up to support this week and there was a competition run for the best designed classroom door that represented the 2023 Book Week theme. Wear it Purple Day is an annual awareness day to celebrate the diversity of young people in the LGBTIQ+ community. In the last week of school, students were challenged by staff to a game of Basketball. The students and staff worked well together, with lots of teamwork and a supportive atmosphere with the staff team coming out on top!

Find us on



Spring Hill
Campus

Spring Hill

Debbie Morris
Acting Principal, Spring Hill

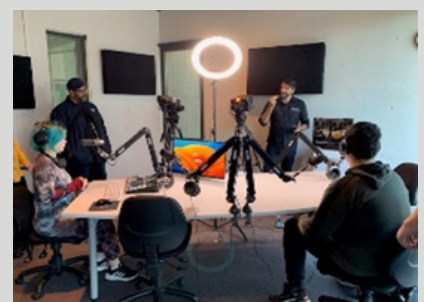


Camps and Excursions

Spring Hill students were lucky enough to attend our first ever Arethusa Camp. Students from years 7 – 10 attended Sunshine Coast Recreation Precinct. Students had the opportunity to participate in archery, rock climbing and raft building. It was great to see students get out of their comfort zones and experience activities outside their normal school routine. We hope to make this school camp a yearly experience.



Year 11 and 12 Media Arts students attended a workshop at SAE Creative Media Institute. Students met with an artist in residence to gain a keen insight into potential future careers.



Fortnightly rock climbing has been an on-going excursion for our year 7 and 8 students. Students have been able to work together as a team and develop their skills during rock climbing sessions.



As part of the Hospitality Certificate, students ran Pug Life Café to showcase their skills. Students have run the event on two occasions with great success. Students and staff enjoyed a variety of hot drinks and hors d'oeuvres with a lot of fun and laughter to be had in our community at Spring Hill Campus!

Maroochydore


Marcelle Calitz
Campus Principal, Maroochydore

Our Year 12 students have had the opportunity to get work ready and styled with an organisation called "Suited to Success". This organisation offers students free attire for when they go for job interviews. Sessions are individually tailored to their personal style, so they feel comfortable and confident.

Year 12 students were also taken to "Formally Ever After" to receive dresses, suits, and accessories that they will wear to their formal in Term 4. Students made an excellent impression with their gratitude, courteous behaviour, and manners.



A group of Middle and Junior School students went out on a First Nations' cultural excursion with food and fun activities.

Find us on 



Maroochydore
Campus

Our Wellbeing Staff members have taken groups of young people out on Stand Up Paddle Boarding excursions.

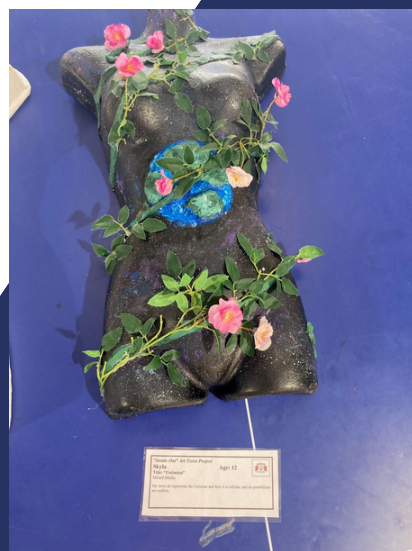



Maroochydore

Marcelle Calitz
Campus Principal, Maroochydore

We are mentoring our young people on how they can avoid triggering others. We are noticing that more and more young people are starting to help their peers with academic work.

The Torso project commenced for Art therapy on Thursday the 10th of August, running for 5 days over 5 weeks. The students commenced by creating a torso mould. They are currently busy creating their designs for their torso which will represent their feelings and emotions. Young people will add 3D items, utilise multi-media and paint to create their finished pieces which we hope to display to families and friends.



Find us on 



Maroochydore
Campus

Our director of Culture and Wellbeing, Paul Sampson, has created excellent connections with Headspace, across the road from us. We use their Art space for Art classes, and gymnasium for weight and fitness training.

TERM 4 DATES

Term 4 Dates:

Tuesday 3 October - Wednesday 29 November

Year 12's Finish - Friday 17 November

Year 10/11's Finish - Friday 24 November

Year 7/8/9's Finish - Wednesday 29 November

Term 4 Public Holidays:

Kings Birthday - Monday 2 October

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Student Absentees

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

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