Arcadia College
A First for the Gold Coast

After Arcadia College's official opening in April, news travelled fast about how Arcadia successfully re-engages young people who have disconnected from conventional schooling.

The official launch of the college attracted some excellent media exposure including a segment on the Channel 9 Today program, and numerous TV news channels and radio stations. As a result of the unique feature of our Palm Beach campus we are often referred to as “The school with the beach classroom”! So nice of people to notice how lucky our students are!

A special thank you to Minister John-Paul Langbroek for officiating at our College opening.

Arcadia Students are Well-Connected!

Arcadia students are well-connected with their community and take time to give back to those who are less fortunate.

The Palm Beach girls from Studio 3 have been tending their own garden plots at Tugun Community Gardens and donate all the fruit, vegetables, herbs and edibles to “Lunch with Friends” at Coolangatta. Lunch with Friends provides delicious hot meals to local homeless people twice per week. Our Palm Beach girls have been involved in serving meals and talking to the locals, which has led to another wonderful connection with the Rotary Club of Kirra-Currumbin District who have pledged sponsorship funds to support Arcadia College students to complete their studies.
Arcadia’s Athletics Carnival

Arcadia’s four Penthouses competed at the inaugural Arcadia College Athletics Carnival at Pizzey Park on 9th July for the Campus Trophy and the Winning Penthouse Trophy.

The Penthouse Trophy was awarded to Wave for their exceptional efforts in all athletics events. One of the day’s highlights was The Harlem Shake that featured some very unusual maneuvers from students and a few standout moves by Dave and Byron.

Arcadia’s Penthouses

When it came to deciding on sports houses so students could develop their sense of competition at Arcadia, we knew we had to do something completely different to conventional schools.

We wanted our sports houses to have iconic names that reflected the true Gold Coast spirit of giving things a go, standing out and being different. So we looked upon our most iconic Gold Coast buildings and realized they all had penthouses. Why not name our sports houses after iconic Gold Coast penthouses?

And so the following penthouses have been created:

Wave, Q1, Oracle & Soul

Each of these highrises has been designed by the same award-winning architect, Barry Lee of DBI Design. Barry Lee is also designing Arcadia College’s first permanent campus which will be built once we have secured appropriate land.
Project-Based Learning at Arcadia College

PBL provides Arcadia College students the opportunity to pursue areas of personal interest and become an “expert” in the field of their choice.

Students reveal their own curiosity by researching and discovering demonstrable knowledge about an area they are genuinely interested in.

To reflect the performance often required in the workplace, students develop, design and create a real-life project that is then professionally presented to fellow students.

The projects provide an authentic experience for students to demonstrate learning outcomes that are typical of the standards seen in the professional workplace.

PBL is applicable to both self-directed individual learners and learners working in teams. Advisors and Team Leaders act as “facilitators” to support and guide the students or teams with their projects.

Benefits to students: Provides students a voice and choice, students achieve through inter-disciplinary and cross-curricula learning, students gain access to industry professionals and mentors, students receive feedback from peers as well as facilitators, students learn from others’ project presentations, students receive authentic real-life experience.

Individualised Learning Plans for Every Student

When we first opened our College doors back in April, our priority was to ensure our students felt settled, comfortable and safe and had time to get to know each other and the routines of their new school. We cemented relationships, team work, expectations and a sense of belonging among students and staff, and we are now ready to dive headfirst into some intense learning!

Each studio has started their projects and kicked off their career planning in preparation for their Individual Learning Plans. Students have had time with their advisors and team leaders to plan how they will achieve their QCE. This has given students a real sense of control over their education and the career direction they wish to follow.
College Notices

Term IV commences
Tuesday 8th October

Students Last day of term is Thursday 5th December

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Charity Fundraising Car Wash and Sausage Sizzle

To wrap up this term the boys from Studios One and Two in Palm Beach held a charity fundraising event. This event was held in support of Damian Williams, the husband of one of our wonderful mentors, who will be completing the 777 Marathon. Damian will be completing seven marathons in seven different states over seven days. The money raised from his epic challenge will be going to the Bravehearts Foundation, who’s mission is to stop child sexual assault in our community, and support survivors of abuse.

The boys started back at the end of term two with a visit from Damian who shared his remarkable story of losing his sight, and the challenges he had to overcome. He rose to become a top level competitor of several sports, travelling the world, achieving many titles and supporting various charities along the way. The boys started a project where they researched several fundraising opportunities and then planned and hosted the event.

The event planned was a charity car wash and sausage sizzle. After marketing the event to the local community for Wednesday 18th September, the boys washed over thirty cars, sold many sausages and received individual donations for their hard work. It was also great to receive support from the girls’ studios on the day, who helped promote the event. Big thank you also to the mentors who assisted on the day and help organise the chaos.

Overall the event raised $315 to give to Damian in support of his epic marathon challenge. They will present Damian with the money raised and we all wish Damian the very best on his adventure.

From all the Arcadia Team we hope you all had an amazing and relaxing school holiday!