

WEEK 5, TERM 4 NEWSLETTER 2024

ARKANA COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

As we conclude the 2024 academic year I would like to thank everyone within the Arkana College community for your support and collaboration. Term four has been a busy yet productive time at Arkana College and this newsletter is brimming with the exciting events and opportunities experienced by our students inside and outside of the classroom.

A meaningful education is built not only on what is learnt but also on the lived experiences afforded to our students which not only improves learning but also creates life long memories.

In the first half of term four we introduced the K-6 robotics program, Yr.6 s Big Day Out on the Gold Coast, K-6 gymnastics program for sport, Grand Finalists in boys and girls cricket with the girls winning their final, parent social media conference, Palestine Al Quds Awareness Day, Personal Interest Project (PIP) exhibition, IPSHA public speaking and a homeless outreach program in Martin Place

It is with a heavy heart that the conflict in Gaza has overshadowed our school community as we united in grief and shock at the continued suffering of the people of Gaza and Lebanon and we responded with prayer events, advocacy and a fundraising campaign which has raised over \$10 000 for the victims of the conflict. Arkana College stands in solidarity with Palestinian and Lebanese people and Al Aqsa Mosque.

I have been very impressed with the quality of students seeking election to the SRC for 2024 and we are currently finalising the selection process. All leaders will be presented to the whole school at the EOY assembly.

Wishing every success to all students and staff for the remainder of the school year.

Mr. Karolia
Principal



KEY DATES

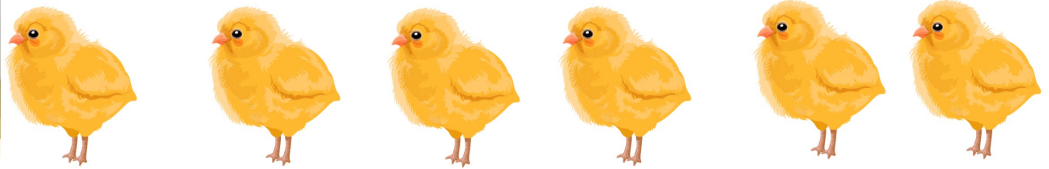
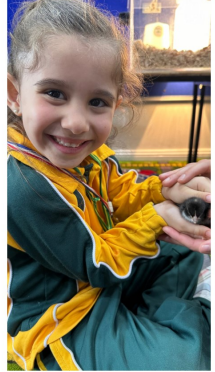
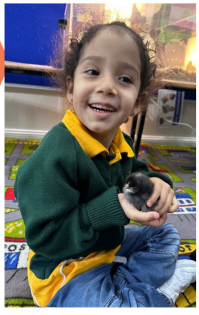
- 18/11 Usman Khawaja Cup Cricket
- 21/11 Yr.6 Hijab Party
- 23/11 2025 Kindergarten info session
- 3/12 EOY School Assembly
- 4/12 PreK Graduation
- 05/12 National Robotics Finals - SOP
- /9/12 Yr. 6 Graduation
- 11/12 EOY School Picnic and Last Day of school (students)
- 03/02 First day Term 1 all students PreK - Yr.6

Arkana College students at our Palestine Al Quds and Lebanon Awareness Day





PREK'S SPECIAL VISIT FROM CHICKS 'R' US



KINDERGARTEN

What a fantastic year it has been in Kindergarten! From learning the basics of reading and counting to exploring the world around us, our young learners have achieved so much and grown in leaps and bounds. We're incredibly proud of their hard work, curiosity, and enthusiasm, which has made this year unforgettable. A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful families for their continued support. Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday – we can't wait to see what the next school year brings!



TK NEWSLETTER

Our Kindy and Year 1 students have had an incredible time splashing into fun at Swim School and bouncing into action with Gymnastics for sport! They've been learning new skills in the water, building confidence, and showing off their best jumps, flips, and tumbles in the gym. The smiles and laughter have been non-stop, and it's been a joy to see them so engaged and active. Our young athletes are already looking forward to the next round of adventures!



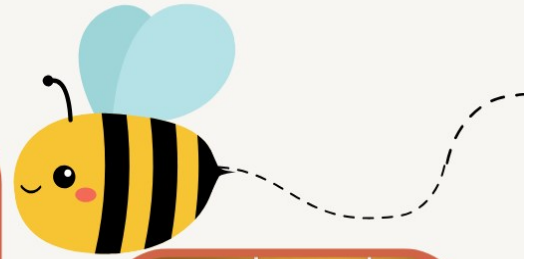
YEAR 1

Term 4 Newsletter

Gymnastics

Year 1 have been having a blast this term building on their balance and strength. Check them out!





THANK YOU

FOR BEE - ING



A PART OF YEAR 2!

IT WAS THE BEST
YEAR EVER!



YEAR 3 NEWSLETTER
TERM 4 WEEK 5



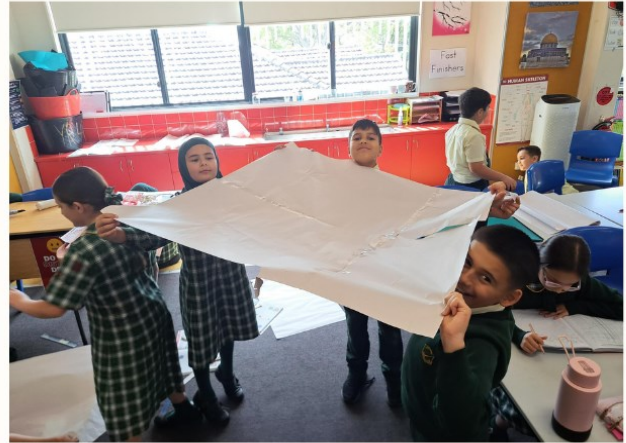
THE YEAR 4 SCOOP

A NEWSLETTER BY YEAR 4 STUDENTS



THE WILD ROBOT

Years 3 and 4 got to watch our very own private screen of 'The Wild Robot' in 'Da Moviez'. Year 4 have been reading the Wild Robot in class and are engaged in reading and writing literacy activities focused on this text.



MATH - AREA

Have you ever wondered how big a square meter really is? Well Year 4 have made their very Square meter model to help them measure things around the school.



SCIENCE

What does the Earth's surface really consist of? We are learning about how mountains are formed and how the Earth's surface changes over time.



SPORT

Gymnastics is all about stretching those muscles and getting our body moving. Whether its a tuck shape, or a motorbike, these Year 4 gymnasts are doing a great job working out those muscles.

Making Memories

Weeks 1-5 Term 4, 2024



LEARNING & LESSONS



GOLDEN TIME



CRUNCH & SIP



PROBLEM SOLVING



THE MESSY TABLE



TIME WITH FRIENDS

THERE IS LOTS TO
MISS ABOUT YEAR 5...

YEAR 6 WITH MRS RIZK

WHAT AN INCREDIBLE TERM IT'S BEEN SO FAR WITH OUR UNFORGETTABLE GOLD COAST TRIP, THE EXCITEMENT OF THE HARMONY CUP CRICKET EVENT, AND ENDLESS LAUGHTER FILLING OUR CLASSROOM EACH DAY! AS WE HEAD INTO THESE FINAL WEEKS WITH YEAR 6, WE'RE CHERISHING EVERY MOMENT, MAKING MEMORIES THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME. THEY'LL BE DEARLY MISSED AS THEY WRAP UP THEIR PRIMARY SCHOOL YEARS, BUT WE KNOW THEY'RE READY TO SHINE IN THE NEXT CHAPTER!



Arabic Quran Islamic Studies

Arkana College students have had the opportunity to immerse themselves in enriching cultural experiences this term. The Arabic Department hosted breakfast in class, where students had the opportunity to prepare a meal and learn all the Arabic names of the different ingredients. Students also roused the crowd at Multicultural Day with a dazzling performance of a traditional Palestinian dabke.



EXTENSION

Term 4



In Extension Class, students have been busy wrapping up their Personal Interest Projects, showcasing their creativity and dedication.

Year 4 has been diving into fractured fairy tales, giving classic stories a unique twist.

Year 5 has been exploring spoken word poetry, collaboratively creating a powerful poem about Palestine that they presented at assembly.

Year 6 is engaging deeply with Shaun Tan's *The Rabbits*, exploring its themes and artistry.

Meanwhile, Year 3 is building digital skills with Teams, Office, and Padlet as they develop their narrative writing. It's been an inspiring term of creativity and learning!

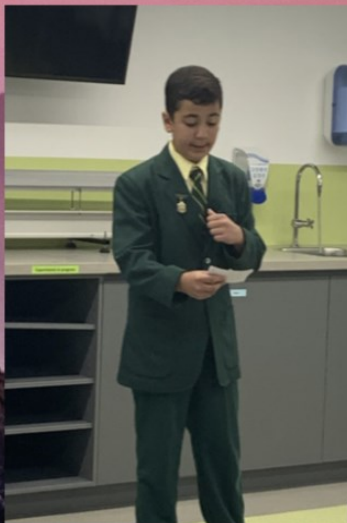


DEBATING TERM 4

Lakemba Public School -Debating Competition



IPSHA SPEAKERS' CHALLENGE



SUPPORT REPORT

With Mr Puglisi

NUMBER SENSE

Number sense is so important for your young Mathematical learners because it promotes confidence and encourages flexible thinking. It allows students to create a relationship with numbers and be able to talk about Maths like knowing another language. I tell my young mathematicians that numbers are just like letters. Each letter has a sound, and when you put them together, they make words. Well, using the same concept, every digit has a value, and when you put those digits together, they make numbers! Some ideas for promoting number sense include:

Estimating to bring Maths into students' everyday world. For example, by estimating the number of steps it takes to get from the car to the house, or how many minutes you have to wait in line at Coles, Woolies or Aldi.

Model numbers in different ways. Seeing numbers in different contexts really helps students connect with numbers. For example, looking at numbers in a deck of cards or identifying numbers on dice or dominoes, without counting the dots. Become a super subitiser!

Think about Maths with an open mind. Instead of asking, "What is $6+4$?" ask, "What are some ways to make 10?" This allows for more flexible thinking and builds confidence with knowing more than one answer. Or, you can also ask, "Can you make eight with three different numbers?" or "What is 10 more than 22?"

Solve problems mentally. So, if you know $6+6=12$, then you know $6+7=13$. Students can use this double fact ($6+6$), to help find a harder fact ($6+7$), and build on concepts that they already know, to help solve new problems.

Strong number sense helps build a foundation for Mathematical understanding. Focusing on number sense helps build the foundation necessary to compute and solve more complex problems later in life. Building a love for Maths in students, must begin with building an understanding of numbers, i.e. number sense.



NRL Skills Development Program



Yr. 5/6 participated in a skills development program delivered by the NRL skills team. Students practiced passing, stepping and ‘tagging’ other players. They also learnt about fair play, respect and being playing in the spirit of the game.

It was great to see the event delivered on our new field!

Harmony Cup Cricket Grand Finals



Our girls team won the Harmony Cup Grand Final & our boys narrowly lost the Harmony Cup Grand Final in the last over!!

Another outstanding result from both teams and their coaches Mr. Ali and Ms. Rizk.

Once again punching well above our weight against much larger schools to make us the most successful team across all sports in the Islamic schools sector with multiple GF appearances and wins in 2024

Learn to Swim Program



K - Yr 4 students recently participated in our Learn to Swim program.

Beyond having a great time students learnt important skills to stay safe in the water.

Swimming is also a wonderful way for students to stay fit and active!

Gymnastics Program



The K-6 gymnastics program is all about teaching children the fundamental movement skills they need to lead a physically active and healthy life full of sport and recreation.

Gymnastics is the basis of all sports, laying the building blocks for a range of athletic and recreational pursuits

Gymnastics lessons build strength and flexibility. It helps children to grow in self-confidence and mental toughness. Additionally, gymnastics encourages kids to set goals and how to have the discipline to achieve them.

It helps children build confidence whilst having a great time.

Thank you to our program partner Gymnastrix!

Parent Social and Digital Media Conference

Thank you to all parents who attended our social/digital media conference today for parents. Our highly experienced panel ensured all attendees were highly engaged with strategies and information. Speakers included Amira Amin, a youth worker and former Arkana student who has worked in this space for NSW Govt and UN in a program run in over 50 countries, Sulaima Samman a paediatric psychologist and Gandhi Sindyan from NSW police.

Take home points

- Parents are in control and set boundaries with their children's use of devices
- Digital devices are not meant to do child minding. Engage with your children and supervise use of devices
- Stranger danger online is real with predators using common sites such as Roblox, PlayStation groups and other similar platforms to prey on children as young as 5
- Cyber bullying is real and continues out of school. It occurs at all ages and is most common amongst teenage girls.
- Children are losing sleep and becoming aggressive and highly anxious the more they spend time on devices.
- Social and digital media is impacting language and behaviour across the world
- Children are exposed to inappropriate content, fake information and hate speech at alarming rates
- Whilst there are some benefits to online access, the dangers are immense and use needs supervision

Arkana College looks forward to similar information events in 2025 on a variety of topics.



Homeless Outreach Program

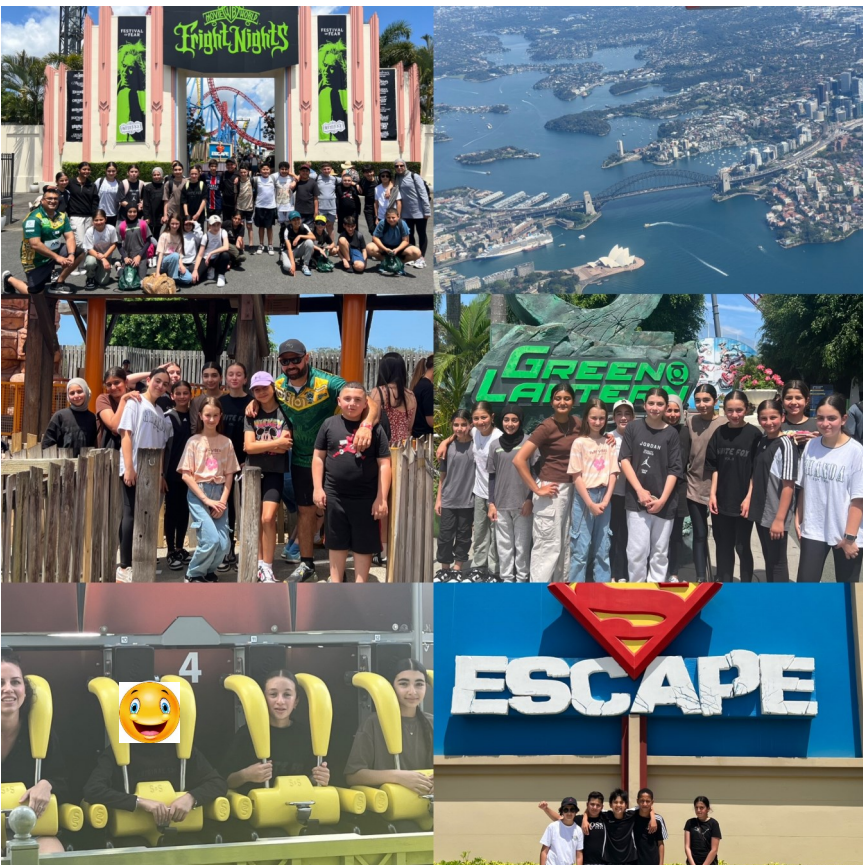


Students from Yr. 5/6, siblings in younger years, alumni and staff participated in our recent Homeless Outreach program at Martin Place distributing food items to the homeless community.

The best way to teach empathy, compassion and respect is through lived experience and our students were amazing

We are thankful to Brothers In Need for the opportunity.

Yr. 6 Gold Coast



The Year 6 Big Day Out at Movie World is truly a day to remember forever! It's the moment our students have eagerly awaited all year, and it's an experience like no other.

While Year 6 is full of memorable excursions, nothing compares to the excitement and joy of this once-in-a-lifetime event. We thank Allah SWT for blessing us with the opportunity to share such special moments with our graduating class.

A heartfelt thank you to the teachers and parents who go above and beyond to make this day unforgettable.

The friendships and memories made at Arkana are ones we hope our students carry with them for a lifetime.

Personal Interest Project (PIP) Exhibition



Personal Interest Project (PIP) Exhibition featured an amazing array of diverse projects, including robotics, artworks, fabulous business ideas, interior design works, photography projects, computer games, Arabic games, car constructions, 3D works, and Islamic history and science works. Congratulations to all students!

NSW Islamic Schools Harmony Cup Team



Congratulation to our Yr 6 students Aiden S, Ammar N, Isaac J, Sarah M and Iffah A, on being selected to the NSW Islamic Schools Harmony Cup team to play against a Victoria Combined Islamic Schools team in Futsal and Basketball next week!

Our very own Mr Ali Kourouche will be their head coach along with coaches from other schools. Today Arkana College hosted the NSW team for training sessions.

This included students from Al Hikma College, Al Zahra College, Amity College, Irfan College, Unity Grammar as well as our five students. It was wonderful to host students from those schools, their teachers and parents.

All the best Team NSW!

Yr. 3 and 4 excursion—One Path Network



Yr 3 and Yr. 4 visited the amazing One Path Network to see how news items are made.

Students even had the chance to make videos and learn about editing and filming.

Al Quds Palestine and Lebanon Awareness Day



The Al Quds Palestine and Lebanon Awareness Day was a celebration of Palestinian and Lebanese history and culture

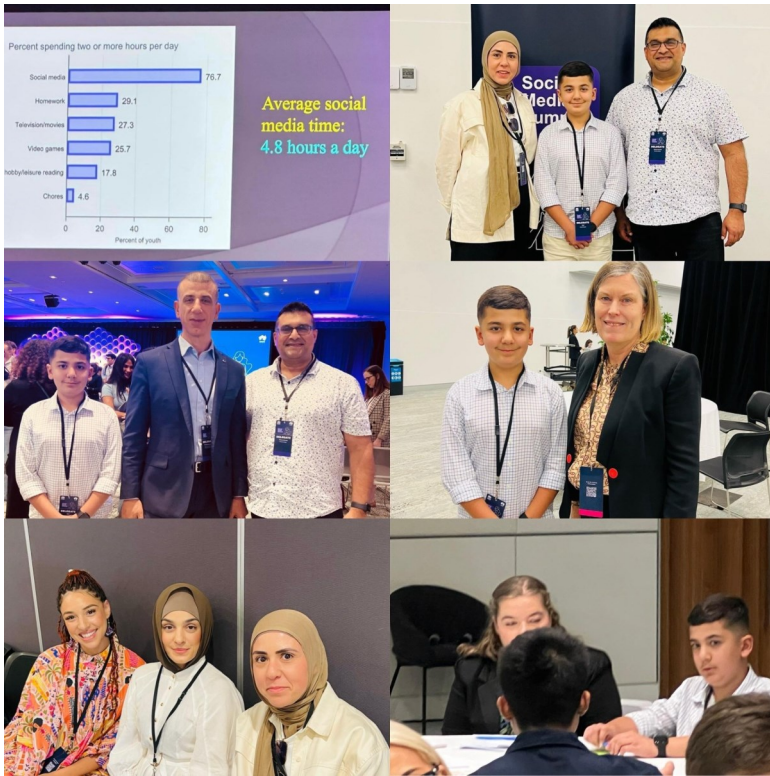
Students were treated to performances including songs and a traditional Palestinian folk dance or Dabke.

Students also heard of the important position Masjid Al Aqsa or Al Quds Al Sharif holds in the Islamic faith including it being the first Qibla!

Students expressed sympathy for those impacted by conflict in Gaza and Lebanon

\$ 7000 raised on Al Quds Day for humanitarian aid for those impacted by conflict in Gaza and Lebanon

NSW Govt Social Media Summit



We were thrilled to have our school captain Sayf Arja and Ms Rizk represent our school and the Islamic schools sector at the NSW Government Social Media Summit on safer use of social media and digital platforms for our children.

Sayf represented Arkana College and all Islamic schools articulately and confidently and we are very proud of him! He also gave up his holiday time to attend! Sayf was congratulated by Dr Kerry Chant, NSW Chief Health Officer and Professor Mehmet Ozalp on our robotics achievements in Japan to finish 5th in the world!

In a lovely coincidence we met Amira Amin, a former Arkana student who was one of the event organisers and senior figure in the NSW Govt on youth in NSW.

Lakemba Public School Visit



We were thrilled to host Lakemba Public School students and staff for a day of robotics and debating, sharing conversations, great food and making new friends!

We look forward to a long collaboration between our two schools!