

NEWSLETTER

TERM 3

2024

Issue 32



From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

As we conclude a successful Term 3 at Fairbridge College Pinjarra, I would like to formally introduce myself as your new Principal. While I have been previously served as Deputy Principal, I am honoured to now take on the full responsibilities of Principal. I have had the privilege of being part of the Fairbridge College community for two years and deeply appreciate our school's unique mission and values.



I have been impressed by the growth and development of our students this term, as evidenced by their enthusiastic participation in a wide range of activities, including Wear It Purple Day and R U Ok Day. Their commitment to supporting our school community is a testament to their character, and I look forward to witnessing the exciting events and projects they will undertake in the coming term.

My primary goal is to ensure that Fairbridge College continues to be a nurturing and supportive environment where all students can reach their full potential. I am committed to fostering strong relationships with our students, staff, parents, and the broader community. I believe that collaboration and open communication are essential for the success of our school. I encourage you to share your thoughts, ideas, and concerns with me. Your input is invaluable as we work together to shape the future of Fairbridge College. I will be providing opportunities for staff, students and families to share their views and experiences in the coming term.

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From the Principal's Desk (cont'd)

As we embark on this new chapter, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. Together, we can create a vibrant and thriving learning community where students are inspired to learn, grow, and achieve their dreams. I look forward to building upon the legacy that Dr. Jennifer Newlands has left behind.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to working with you all in the coming years. Have a safe and happy holidays and come back refreshed for Term 4.

John Pearson



Peter's Pack

Term 3 has been a whirlwind of fun, learning, and asking, "R U OK?" (spoiler: we are!).

We showed off our best bowling skills—some strikes, some gutter balls, and a lot of laughs. We embraced Wear it Purple Day with flair, proving that purple really is the superior color. Our litter pick was a solid mix of saving the planet and competing to see who could find the weirdest trash item (spoiler: it was a rusty umbrella base).

Manhunt and scavenger hunts kept us on our toes—literally! Who knew our year 7s, 8s and 9s could run that fast when prizes were involved? In between all the action, we've made huge strides in Literacy, Math, and HASS, solving mysteries from Grammar to Science. Our class is clearly on track for world domination—or at least, Term 4 success. Keep an eye out, Australia! We are coming for you!

Peter



Magda's Managerie

Term 3 at Fairbridge College could easily be mistaken for a season spent in the misty hills of Great Britain, with the rain making such a grand appearance (no jokes, I've been there!). The students were as unstoppable as a drizzle in London, showing fantastic progress across curriculum. And just like the weather, their thirst for knowledge only kept pouring in!

Our students worked tirelessly, making strides in Life Skills and developing an insatiable taste for learning. The Resilience Project stretched our mental muscles as we balanced the hard work with colourful joy during Wear it Purple Day and reflective support on R U OKAY Day. Outside the classroom, I was gently inducted into the world of football, proving once and for all that I'm more of a thinker than a kicker!

In Inquiry, we delved into biodiversity, travelling from the mysteries of the oceans to the quirks of camelids, touching on agriculture, and landing with a soft hum on the essential role of bees. In HASS, we pondered the power of water and its ripple effect on our lives, while in Maths, we boldly tackled fractions—conquering nearly all of their tricky little problems! English saw us breaking down the recipe for a great story, which, in turn, made us experts in identifying the not-so-great ones.

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Magda's Managerie (cont'd)

Beyond our classroom, our students rolled up their sleeves for Building and Construction, Mechanics, and Hospitality lessons, proving that hands-on skills are as engaging as academic knowledge. And, as if that weren't enough, we seem to be in the early stages of forming our own band! The talent on display—from strumming guitars to keeping rhythm on drums—suggests that Fairbridge might soon be famous for the youngest band to win ARIA award (followed by a few Grammys).

In between scavenger hunts, manhunt, UNO duels, and some of the most addictive online team games, we truly lived it up outside the classroom too. All in all, it's been a term to remember—full of moody weather, freshly baked goodies, and just the right amount of relaxation!

Magda



Room 6 with Ross and Fern

This term the students have again been offered math online through Math Pathways. This offers the students multiple entry points and alternative pathways for students who struggle with math. Math Pathways is a more inclusive and student-centered approach to math education.

As we move forward in our school year, we are excited to share the incredible journey our students have been on in their Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) classes. Our current focus has been a fascinating study of two historical areas: the Middle Ages and the history of the City of Darwin, NT. Here's a brief look at what the students have been learning and what's ahead for us!

History in the Middle Ages: A Journey Through Time

Our students have been diving deep into the rich history of the Middle Ages, spanning from the 5th to the late 15th century. From learning about knights and castles to the spread of empires and the rise of important cultural and political institutions, the class has been exploring what life was like during this transformative period in human history. Key topics include:

- The structure of medieval society and the feudal system.
- Life in a medieval village and how communities functioned.

Students have been engaging in interactive activities, including constructing timelines to visualize the events of this remarkable era. These activities not only bring history to life but also encourage teamwork and critical thinking.

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Room 6 with Ross and Fern (cont'd)

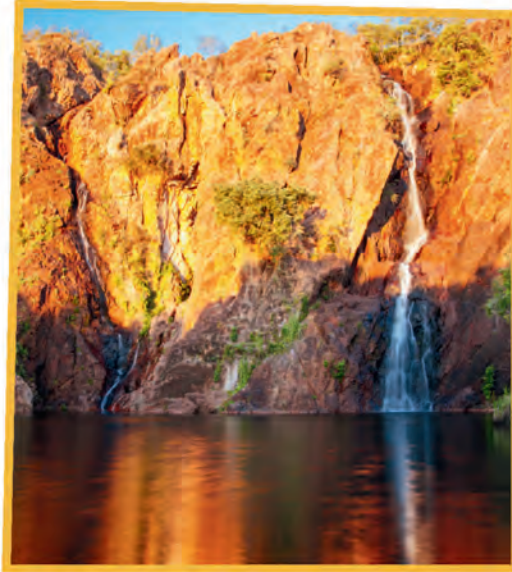
Exploring the History of Darwin, NT

Shifting from the ancient world to our own country, we've been focusing on the history of Darwin, the capital city of the Northern Territory. Darwin's story is one of resilience, growth, and multiculturalism. Through our lessons, students have been learning about:

- The early Indigenous history of the area, including the Larrakia people.
- The establishment of Darwin by European settlers and its development over time.
- Key events like the bombing of Darwin during World War II and Cyclone Tracy and the rebuilding efforts that followed.
- Darwin's role today as a vibrant, diverse hub in Australia's Top End.

Hoping the students of room six have a safe and enjoyable mid-year break.

Ross and Fern



Construction and Woodwork

Well this term has been very busy and productive to say the least! The growth and development of skills and knowledge within the workshop and out “onsite” has been extremely commendable. There have been so many great highlights of accomplishment within the projects completed, its hard to pick out the best pictures to display.

Korrabingal reserve was in need of a new bridge to aid the bush walkers on their travels through the beautiful landscape, the students completed preparation and assembly of components to create a strong sturdy bridge that will withstand the seasons ahead. The same group of students were involved in replacing a worn-out culvert bridge with the same sturdy design and can be seen outside of the com-ed building.

Students have also built several brilliant garden beds which can be seen around the Fairbridge grounds, these have been well received and can be viewed at the entrance next to reception. We have recently finished a prototype for replacement park benches for the walking trails and rest points around the Fairbridge precinct.

We have completed the first full beehive including frames which will be deployed at the end of term to house the Fairbridge Bees in a solid, comfortable house. Students were able to safely and quickly complete all components using Router templates and jigs developed so each component was uniform.

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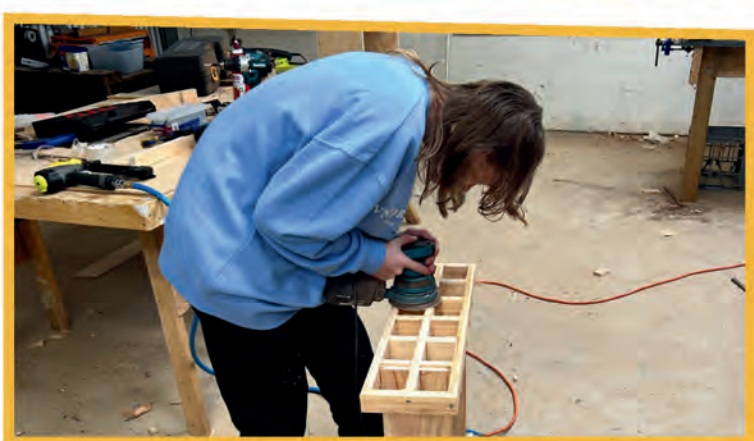


Construction and Woodwork (cont'd)

Keen woodworkers Cody and Angus have produced beautiful pieces utilising joinery equipment and good old Pinus radiata. Angus was so proud to finish his table which was delicate but strong, Cody was pretty pleased with the step stool he knocked out with ease. Students have recently started a project for the Sensory school of special needs, mesh boards for blind students to enhance their learning experience, they will hopefully be completed and handed over first week of term four.

We are excited to begin the latest project with the keen woodworkers who are also part of the reinvigorated music program here at Fairbridge. Electric guitars that are custom built to suit the tastes of each student which will be used to perform at the end of the year. Cajons are also under construction within the workshop for the percussionists in the crew, watch this space!

Ben



Rhode's Classroom

As we close out another bustling term, it's been a joy to return to school and reconnect with everyone. I'm genuinely excited about working with our senior students and supporting their academic and personal growth.

Shane

Term 3 in the Rhodes classroom has flown by, marked by an energetic pace and significant progress. We're thrilled to have Shane back at Fairbridge College, enriching our senior classes. With the support of two teachers and two SSO staff, students always have someone to turn to for guidance and support.

Helen

This term has brought several exciting updates. Expanding the Rhodes classroom and team has created a more dynamic and engaging learning environment. A big welcome to Ash who has joined us as an SSO who has already been able to find comfort in our class and begun supporting students on a daily basis.

In English, we've ventured into analysing short horror stories, which has led to stimulating discussions and sharpened our students' critical thinking skills. Our students have also shown remarkable dedication while preparing for their OLNA (Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment), demonstrating perseverance and commitment. Our other efforts have been focused on organising resources and strategies to ensure students complete their Certificates with success.

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Rhode's Classroom (cont'd)

Our extracurricular calendar has been vibrant this term, with activities that have enriched our school community. Highlights include ice skating, movie outings, a hike and picnic at Serpentine Falls, as well as Purple Day and R U OK Day. These events have been wonderful for fostering social connections and support among students. Inside the classroom, collaborative scavenger hunts have sparked friendly competition and teamwork.

In our weekly Bee class, students are diving into the fascinating world of bees, learning about their behavior and ecological importance. We've been crafting candles and wax food wraps from the wax harvested last term, and with spring's arrival, we're excited to check on our hive and assess the bees' winter progress and honey production. Fairbridge honey is now available for purchase at the Fairbridge Cafe.

Here's to celebrating our successes and eagerly anticipating the new opportunities and adventures that the next term will bring!



PC5 Lisa & Gail's Gaggle

It has been a busy term for PC5 with changes in teachers and new students coming into the classroom. The class has settled into a routine, working hard to hit the OLNA standards of Math and English.

The students have worked together to create a model and report project on Mount Vesuvius that will be displayed at the end of year exhibition. They used geography, abstract art, mapping and history research.

They decorated one of the classroom walls with a Gratitude Tree highlighting all the things they are grateful for this year and learned about Aristotle investigating virtues and morals.

Gail has worked with the students to do a lot of work around the school and the grounds. They have cleaned and organised the outdoor area of the classroom to make it useable during nice weather. The students have also cleaned out the small kitchen so they can have access to early morning toast when they get to school. They have organised a chill area for lunch and recess and they have done great work in the school garden planting lettuce, onion, beetroot and strawberries as well as sunflowers. We are looking forward to harvest time.

Now the students are all working together to increase their understanding and knowledge of numeracy and literacy while they investigate different political structures of the world. They are all getting ready to take on their Certificate work in their chosen area.

It was also lovely to have a day out with the class at Ten Pin Bowling to celebrate the good work they have achieved so far. The students were excellent and really got into the game.

We are looking forward to Term Four to continue the good work.

Lisa and Gail



Debbie and Gill's Newsletter

What a busy term we have had, filled with many highs and lows. Maddi left in week 4, leaving a huge space in the classroom to fill. I am very proud of the class as they have taken the adjustment well and adapted to myself (Debbie) stepping into the role. I am very lucky to step into a class that so engaged and dedicated to their education. We have even changed the layout of the room, which I know can be a challenge for many!

The class have had the opportunity to enjoy some incredible experiences. There was a trip to Murdoch University in South Perth. The class had the opportunity to learn about podcasting, which is part of the Creative Schools Project. Students were paired up and able to discuss any subject they chose. They were able to learn about the different equipment needed to create a pod cast and use that equipment.

We visited the animal care facility at the university, where we had a tour of the hospital, which included the equine and farm animal areas. Every Monday the class has spent time in the Comm Ed kitchen with Jan to produce some delicious treats. We've even had a day out to the bowling centre in Rockingham and a trip to Drakesbrook weir.

When we haven't been out and about, the students have been busy in the classroom writing TAFE applications and their resumes. There has been Purple Day which took a lot of planning and help from the class, creating a photo frame for the day. A lot of focus has also been put into preparing for their OLN numeracy assessment.

Overall, it has been a very productive term, even with the change over of teachers. Students should be proud of their academic and personal growth in Term 3, I know I am!

Debbie & Gill



Music 2024

The Music elective is back by overwhelming demand in 2024.

Many of the students that had a part in doing music previously were excited to see it return and the new students jumped on the band wagon and the momentum has started.

Setting up in a New Space

Ben Pearson, David Nolan and the students have set up a wall of sound with guitar amps, a PA system with an electronic Drumkit and keyboard. The Music Space is coming together, and students love it.

New Talent

We are discovering hidden talents amongst the students, and they are just starting to gain momentum, practicing hard in their own time at home and lunchtimes are usually filled with students Jamming out in the music space.

Next Term and Looking into the Future

A band is forming, they have been thinking of band names, working together on what songs they want to play and possibilities of writing their own songs too. It's great to see the students excited about music and their enthusiasm is infectious.

End of Year Graduation

With a late start to the music elective this year we hope to see the band perform at the graduation Ceremony at the end of the year. Ben Pearson and David Nolan will assist the students to put together a showcase. There is a lot of work to do and with their enthusiasm, it may happen.



Hospitality Program

Hospitality Program's Exciting Term 4: Christmas Lunch Competition and End-of-Year Celebration!

As we 'run' into Term 4, our Hospitality students are gearing up for an exciting and festive conclusion to the year! Following last term's successful introduction to our lower school cooking program—where students whipped up delicious cinnamon scrolls, muffins, sausage rolls, and cookies—we now set our sights on something even bigger.

This term, our students will compete to see which class will have the honor of cooking Christmas lunch for the entire school! The competition will highlight their growing skills and teamwork as they prepare a traditional Christmas lunch with all the trimmings. The winning class will take on the prestigious task of crafting a festive feast that we're sure will delight everyone.

But that's not all! To top off the year, we'll be wrapping things up with a grand celebration, including presents from Santa and an incredible party to send everyone off in the holiday spirit.

We can't wait to see who will rise to the challenge and make this Christmas one to remember for the whole school!

Hospitality Team



Well-being Team

The Wellbeing team have had a busy term T3... We have settled well into our new digs! We not only have our gorgeous therapy dog Gal who demands belly scratches and bacon. We now have resident Maggies and Parrots who visit us daily.

This term we have had "Wear it Purple Day" and "R U OK Day" running at Pinjarra. Both days were a huge success with AMAZING support from all our beautiful staff and all the students. We ran painting in the carpark, cupcake decorating, lawn games, painting of a picnic table amongst other things. The students spent the day outside creating new connections, engaging in supporting "Wear it Purple Day" which all helped to show that we are a safe and supportive space. A big Thank you to all who participated.

Term 4 brings about a Buzz...not only is the sun starting to shine bright, but we are also now planning for more opportunities to immerse ourselves in nature for increased wellbeing. Our wellbeing team have decided to practice mindfulness out amongst the trees for the morning debriefing. We also have upcoming Farm Adventures which provides much needed interventions for our students.

As Term 3 comes to an end, we encourage you all to take some time to reflect on your term. What went well for you? What is something you can take away from the learning in the last ten weeks? What is your next goal? Lastly...Self-care. What do you plan to do to increase your wellbeing over the holidays? We look forward to seeing you all after a much-needed break. Take Care.

Kate, Jayne, Bridget, and GAL.



Traineeships and Apprenticeships



We thank our friends at **Alcoa** who continue to sponsor several of our students under the Alcoa Partnership- the "Fairbridge Sustainable Employment and Life Outcomes Initiative". Without the support of Alcoa these paid apprenticeships just would not be possible.

Ashton, as always has been working very hard as part of the maintenance team and is willing to undertake any task that is required. Always hard working, friendly and a valuable member of the team. Away from Fairbridge Ashton continues his studies at TAFE as does himself, Fairbridge and ALCOA proud!

The newest member of the team Jarvis has settled in incredibly well and is now combining his CERT II Conservation and Ecosystem Management studies with hard work in the village. He can often be seen around the village putting his learning into practice and looking very at home. Already a real part of the team and the Alcoa/Fairbridge family. A great first term well done Jarvis!

Spotlight

This term we turn the spotlight on Brooklyn. Brooklyn has been working hard on a new decking, laying new pipework and generally supporting with the maintenance on our beloved cottages. From our youngest trainee to our eldest and most experienced apprentice. Brooklyn always works hard and is already contemplating his next steps away from Fairbridge. Well done Brooklyn!

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Traineeships and Apprenticeships (cont'd)

Where are they now?

Whilst we look to the future and creating a VET experience that really helps our young people and provide a grounding for future learning or employment, it is equally important to look at past successes. This term we invite Ashley Reilly to tell us – where they are now!



My name is Ashley Reilly, and I attended Fairbridge College for many years after facing challenges in mainstream schooling. During my time at Fairbridge, I felt valued and understood for who I was, with the staff dedicating significant time and care to each student. I completed several certifications there, earning about six Certificate II qualifications. Having these certifications at such a young age really helped jumpstart my career. Fast forward a few years, and I am now an Events Coordinator at Murray Engineering, where I continue to apply the skills and work ethic I developed during my educational journey.

Dan



Vocational Education Training with Dan

Wow! Another term has simply flown by. We have had a record number of students apply for VET DSS TAFE courses and we are so proud of everyone who has stepped up and shown an interest. It is so difficult to push ourselves out of our comfort zones and seek new challenges but the drive and ambition of our young people is always an inspiration.

VET DSS Courses

Whilst applications for the main courses have now closed, the application window for partial completion courses has just opened. Remember the main courses are extremely competitive so if you see a course on the partial completion list feel free to apply for one of these too!



**South
Metropolitan**

Here is a QR link to the course guide for 2025.



Applications for 2025 Education Support programs open 11 September 2024 and close 31 October 2024.

If you wish to discuss anything regarding VET DSS please contact our VET Coordinator Dan Fox in college or e-mail daniel.fox@fairbridge.asn.au

Careers Advise

Remember VET Coordinator Dan runs a careers advice session every Thursday morning please encourage students to speak to Dan if they wish to discuss anything VET related including work experience placements, Tafe courses, career pathways and even courses they would like to see college offer next year!

Dan



Attendance Stars

These students had attendance of 100%:

Rocco Carnuccio	Harmony Lockyer
Joshua Clifford	Jacob McIntyre
Taylan Cook	Donavan McMaster
Peyton Hall	Taylor Miles
Levi Herold	Charli Standen
Jarvis Hooper	



Important News

- **Student Attendance:** You are reminded that you should notify the College before 9am if your child is unable to attend school. You can either call the office or you can send an SMS with a notification. If you don't notify that your child won't be at school you will be sent an absentee SMS message. You should reply to this SMS to give the reason why your child is not at school. **Please keep the school up to date with any changes to your child's personal or medical details.**
- **Rules for Lunchtime Bus:** Students who are on a modified timetable have access to the bus that leaves the College at 12.30pm. This bus is NOT available to take students home without prior notification. If a student needs to leave early for a legitimate reason, the parent/Guardian can ring before 9.30 to make a request but it will also depend on the number of seats available they are limited. We can NOT guarantee a place on this bus so it must NOT be relied on to get students home early. Seatbelts **MUST** also be worn on all Fairbridge School Buses.
- **Immunisations:** The School-based Immunisation Program runs at Fairbridge College. Students will be able to get their immunisations in Term 4. This is usually for Year 7s and Year 10s, however, if they have missed any of their immunisations they will be offered a catch up. Year 10 students are offered the Meningococcal Immunisation. Year 7 students will be offered the HPV and Tetanus immunisations. Information and consent forms can be requested from the office or you can give consent via the website: **School-based immunisation program (healthywa.wa.gov.au)**. We encourage you to get your child immunised and make use of this free service.
- **Student Fees:** Payment options for school fees are available and the details are on your invoice. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to call the School office or our Fairbridge Finance Department on 9531 7920. Payments plans are available. Details of the 2025 Secondary Assistance Scheme will be sent out at the end of the year.

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