

# NEWSLETTER

18 June, 2010

Volume 12 Issue 10



## College Mission . . .

Building on a foundation of Christian values, the mission of Aitken College is to enable students to become informed and compassionate members of the wider community by inspiring academic achievement and creativity, nurturing self worth, encouraging environmental responsibility and committing to service with and for others.

## Term dates for 2010

Term 2	14 April	to	25 June
Term 3	19 July	to	17 September
Term 4	4 October	to	10 December

## Important Diary Dates for 2010

Fri	25 Jun	Term 2 concludes
Mon	19 Jul	Term 3 commences
Fri	17 Sep	Term 3 concludes
Mon	04 Oct	Term 4 commences
Mon	01 Nov	Mid Term Break
Tue	02 Nov	Melbourne Cup Day Holiday
Wed	24 Nov	Report Writing Day (student free)
Wed	08 Dec	Presentation Night
Fri	10 Dec	Term 4 concludes

Thought: "All things good to know are difficult to learn."  
Greek Proverb

## From the Deputy Principal

**Staff on leave:** As the end of semester break nears, we farewell several teachers who are going on leave. Mrs Lucy Miotello will be on maternity leave for the remainder of 2010; we wish her well at this exciting time for her family. Mrs Lyn Treadwell and Ms Barbara Wyatt will be on long service leave for Term 3 and we wish them both a relaxing and refreshing time during their well-deserved break.

During the absence of Ms Wyatt, Ms Neophytou will be looking after all of Prep to Year 5 as Head of School.

**On Track Data:** Each year the state government publishes destination data for the previous year's Year 12 students, using a telephone survey. The data for Aitken College shows the following:

- 103 students who completed Year 12 in 2009 took part in the survey
- 95% of students received a tertiary course offer
- 63% enrolled (or deferred) in a University course

- 24% enrolled in a TAFE course
- 8% accepted an apprenticeship or traineeship
- 4% were employed (and 1% looking for work)

We are again proud of our graduating students who, with many different interests and goals, have gained access to a broad range of courses and careers after completing Year 12 with excellent results.

*Mr Kim Forward  
Deputy Principal*

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

**BUILDING FUND:** Parents are reminded that contributions to the College's Building Fund can be claimed as a deduction on their income tax return. Contributions need to be made prior to 30 June 2010 in order to be claimed this financial year.

**TERM 3 FEES:** Term 3 fees will be mailed to parents during the week commencing Monday 21 June, and are due to be paid by Friday 23 July 2010 (the first Friday of term 3).

An administration fee of \$55 will be charged if fees are not paid by the due date.

Parents who paid the tuition fees in advance are reminded that all charges for books, excursions or other levies are also due on Friday 23 July 2010.

*Mr Petar Gajic - Finance Manager*

## Glenarthur School Notices

I have spent some time reading over a selection of reports. The majority of students well deserve their grades and commendation for their efforts. It is not too late for others to commence anew, determined to do their best and earn the education that is offered through your efforts, dear parents. Perhaps the children could write down three goals they wish to achieve in Semester Two and post these in a conspicuous place as a regular reminder.

Early in Term 3, Mr Weibel, Community and Educational Assistance officer of the Australian Taxation Office, will talk with Brookhill and Glenarthur students - another door into the realities of a working life opens.

A small number of Year 9 students have been invited to attend the annual career-oriented Girls/Boys Breakfast in July; permission notes will come home.

**Year 9 Glenarthur City Experience Program:** A detailed booklet will be given to Year 9 children regarding this inaugural event in September. You are most welcome to call either Mrs Vlahopoulos or Mr Bond for further details, but do wait for the booklet first.

**Advance notice:** Permission notes will come home with your child for the Glenarthur Social on Wednesday 13 October. Please complete and return promptly, as considerable planning time is required and the confirmation of venue booking depends upon definite student numbers, accompanied by the ticket cost. Details of the event will be in the permission form.

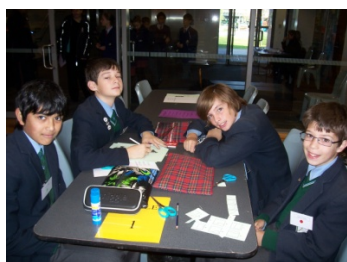
We look forward to meeting with you at the [five-minute] parent teacher interviews. A longer discussion is available by appointment with your child's homeroom or subject teacher; kindly contact the individual staff member at the beginning of Term 3.

We pray for our community a safe and restful holiday.  
God Bless

*Mr Shelton Bond & Mrs Elpis Vlahopoulos*  
*Head and Assistant Head of Glenarthur*

## Cumberland School Notices

Last week four Year 5 students represented Aitken College at the Mathematics Association's Year 5 Maths Games Day. Alex Hunter, Patrick Mantynen, Ryan Menzies and Reshan Wijayanake competed against students from 32 other schools in problem solving, automatic response and strategy games. The standard was very high and the boys did well. Brighton Grammar was the winning school this year. The Aitken team won a special prize on the day for some other puzzles that they solved. Each boy won 6 months access to an on-line Maths game, Cambridge HOTmaths.



Our House Spelling Competition was exciting. The results will appear in the next newsletter.

This year the School Captains have organised a Paint Your Classroom Bin competition. Students were invited to draw a design that they would like to see on their classroom rubbish bin. The prize is to paint the bin and this will take place next week or early next

term. The winners are: Danielle Padbury, Hannah Dimevski, Luka Glogovac, Monica-Jane Saade, Amanda Moore and Jaime Otene.

*Ms Barbara Wyatt*  
*Head of Cumberland*

## Fairview School Notices

**The gift of reading:** *Reading is a wonderful gift; it permits us to gain information for leisure, education, business and day to day purposes. As adults we model reading to children as well as the importance of this necessary skill. We encourage children to read for meaning so that they try to gain as much information as possible. In the Preparatory School we develop skills and reading strategies for the children to use in a variety of situations. Children actively participate in the home reading program and parents are encouraged to engage in their learning. Reading with your child every evening should be a very special time to share as a family.*

When you listen to your child read, these strategies are very useful:

- Before reading with your child, discuss the cover, title, the pictures and what the book may be about.
- While reading with your child, discuss the events that are occurring and what may happen next.
- After reading with your child, talk about the story and the pictures e.g. "What was your favourite page?"
- When your child encounters new words:

### **Pause**

- To give your child the time to work out the word

### **Prompt**

- Go to the beginning of the sentence and read to the difficult word
- Look or discuss the clues in the pictures or words
- Look at the first letter and talk about the chosen word "Does this word make sense?" or "Can you see that word in the picture?"
- Try to sound out the word
- If necessary tell your child the word
- It is recommended that you choose one or two strategies, not all of them for working out one unknown word

### **Praise**

- Your child for trying (even when errors are made).

Please ensure that home reading occurs at the same time after school and in a quiet place. Establishing a routine is crucial for developing consistent home reading habits.

The homeroom teacher will hear the children read during the week; they are not always hearing them read their home reading book, but a book from a guided reading activity. The children are reading a book they have not seen before and the teacher is assessing the skills and strategies they are using e.g. are they reading for meaning? The teacher gains an enormous amount of information from this process.

We try not to focus on the reading levels the children are currently reading at, but the skills they are establishing and utilising. There is also no rush for the children to change reading levels or even skip one. At such an early age, reading needs to be an enjoyable process for the children.

Your child brings home one reading book per day. It is not the quantity of books the children read which is important; rather, it is the quality of this experience and what they gain from this process. There is no need for more than one book per night. Children's reading skills progress through maturity and the development of reading skills and strategies experienced at school. We do not want reading to be a chore performed as a home task. This is a very exciting time so please enjoy these wonderful learning experiences with your child and family.

If you require any further information, please contact me.

*Ms Kerrie Neophytou  
Head of Fairview*

## Careers News

**Career News No. 10:** The tenth edition of Career News for 2010 has been posted on the College website. The following link will take you to the careers newsletter: <http://aitkencollege.edu.au/?id=237>.

Edition 10 contains information about school holiday programmes which will assist you to learn more about La Trobe, Monash and Melbourne universities, flying scholarships, introductory workshops in massage and myotherapy at RMIT, the Angliss Licence for Work, an aerospace industry night and more.

You are also welcome to contact Careers Staff in Room B21 or via email [careers@aitkencollege.edu.au](mailto:careers@aitkencollege.edu.au) or by telephone 9333 1866.

*Mrs Clare Borg and Ms Rae Gibbs  
Careers Advisers*

## Chaplain's Corner

**Jesus Christ Superstar - Female Disciples:** A female playing the role of Judas Iscariot, Matthew and Jude Thaddeus may sound like heresy to some, but to me it is a fair representation of our modern times. Whilst the Gospels don't celebrate the discipleship of women very loudly, they are present in the Scriptures and should be endorsed in our society where patriarchy is trying to be a thing of the past.

I attended the musical camp this year. When I watched the first full run through of act one, I was not only moved with pride, but I was overwhelmed by the theology that shone through our children. I was very impressed with the respect given to understanding individual characters within the play.

I fully support variety in interpretation when it is respectful of the Gospel message. When we are challenged to look at the story of Christ in a fresh light, we are invited anew to understand the salvation that Christ offered not just 2,000 years ago, but today, in our presence. May you be touched by God's grace

during the show. Tickets are now on sale now (I have mine), don't miss out!

*Rev Jeanne Beale  
Chaplain*

## Environmental Programs Report

**The Aitken College Working Bee:** A really big thanks to all the staff, students and families who helped out at the Working Bee held on 22 May. We got all the weeding of the wetlands done in record time. This gave us a chance to plant some more indigenous trees and grasses in the Science Garden. Thanks again.

If you missed out on the last Working Bee we will have another one later in the year, so make sure you keep reading the newsletter.

**Melbourne Water Youth Conference:** Six students from Year 8 to Year 11 were taken to the Melbourne Water Youth Conference on 3 and 4 June. They had a great time, especially seeing Faustina 'Fuzzy' Agolley, (from Video Hits), Claire Hooper (from Good News Week), Nick Riewoldt (from St Kilda FC) and singer Renee Cassar. We watched an aboriginal dance troupe and indigenous Hip Hop and learnt a few moves. Thursday night ended with a huge gala dinner. The second day was spent at the Melbourne Zoo with some behind the scenes tours.

**Tree Planting by Year 10 and 11 students:** Students will spend 17 and 18 June planting trees to help the environment. On Thursday 17 June students will be planting trees on a property in Wildwood. This farm has worked with Aitken College on revegetation projects in the past. They also help us take care of our goats during the school holidays.

On Friday 18 June students will be helping to revegetate a wildlife corridor in St. Andrews as a part of the bushfire regeneration program.

*Mr Duncan Sadler  
Director of Environmental Programs*

## Performing Arts News

Bookings have opened this week for the College Musical, Jesus Christ Superstar. Almost two hundred tickets have been sold in the first few days and if past productions are anything to go by, this show could sell out. Tickets are \$27.50 adult or \$22.00 Concession/Child plus 30c per ticket booking fee. There is a Family Ticket (2Ad/2Ch) available for \$88.80 which represents an \$11 saving on the full ticket price. Tickets can be purchased at [www.trybooking.com](http://www.trybooking.com)

We are on the look-out for an unusual prop for this year's show. A chair, similar to the one pictured is required for one scene in the show. If you can help us out, please contact me via the College office on 9333 1866 or via email [mcooper@aitkencollege.edu.au](mailto:mcooper@aitkencollege.edu.au). The colour and style is unimportant, it only needs to have a high back and swivel.



There is still room for advertising in this year's musical program. This is a wonderful way to support the musical and receive advertising for your business in return. There are three options: Logo Display (\$50), Quarter-Page (\$125) or Half-Page (\$200). This rate is for advertising submitted by Aitken families only. Please contact me as soon as possible if you or your boss might be interested. Advertising copy will be required by Friday 25 June and invoices will be sent out.

I encourage families to come in and have a look at the Year 7 and 8 Band concert which is taking place today from 3.30pm in the CPA. Students have been studying one of five instruments as part of their music classes; trumpet, saxophone, flute, clarinet and trombone. A number of groups, whole class and solo items will be presented.

The Year Three Strings program is an excellent way of introducing students to reading and playing music. All students in Year Three take part for one semester. This semester is 3H and the students will present a concert of their work this coming Wednesday from **3.30pm in the CPA.**

One of the biggest and most impressive music concerts for the year is the Senior Soloists Concert. Students who are involved in senior music classes or who might be taking private instrumental tuition are featured and every year there are some standouts uncovered. The concert is free of charge and will be held on Thursday, 24 June from 7.30pm in the CPA.

*Mr Michael Cooper  
Director of Performing Arts*



As part of Winter Season of Learning Hume City Council PRESENTS

### Circus Oz Workshops

Learn a range of circus, dance, character and drama skills from professional circus performers.

When: Wednesday 30 June  
Time: 10.00am - 12.00noon  
Where: Craigieburn Leisure Centre  
127-147 Craigieburn Road, Craigieburn  
Bookings required on 9308 2022

When: Monday 5 July  
Time: 10.00am - 12noon & 1.00pm – 3.00pm  
Where: Hume Global Learning Centre  
1093 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows  
Bookings required on 9356 6999  
Ages: 6 – 12 years

### Polyglot Puppets

Learn how to make puppets and run a puppet show.

When: Thursday 8 July  
Time: 10.00am – 3.00pm  
Where: Hume Global Learning Centre  
1093 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows  
Bookings: required on 9356 6999 (BYO lunch)  
Ages: 6 – 14 years

### Ambient Orchestras Music Workshop

Create your own original composition in a band environment.

When: Monday 28 June  
Time: 10.00am - 12noon  
Where: Homestead Community & Learning Centre  
30 Whitshire Drive, Roxburgh Park  
Bookings required on 9205 2200  
Ages: 6 – 12 years

All of the above workshops are accessible for children with and without disabilities and will be supervised by skilled facilitators. All activities are free.

## Baby Goats for Sale

Our College goats kidded at the end of April. We currently have 5 kids who will be looking for new homes near the start of Term 3. There are 3 wethers and 2 does available. All proceeds from the sale of the baby goats, will go towards purchasing farm supplies through Oxfam to support Agriculture in developing countries. If you would like more information please do not hesitate to contact Miss Claire Stipic at the College:

[cstipic@aitkencollege.edu.au](mailto:cstipic@aitkencollege.edu.au)

## FIRST AIDER

Are you trained in first aid and willing to be available if needed to look after the first aid room on any occasion when our regular staff are not available, or possibly to be on duty at a sports event? This is occasional casual paid work and a full orientation to the College's first aid procedures would be given.

If you wish to express interest, please telephone Miss Diana Cohn on 9333 1866 to make an appointment with the Deputy Principal.



**Rotary International  
District 9800**



**The Rotary Club of Tullamarine  
invites you to join them in the charter of the  
Interact Club of Aitken College**

**Monday 21 June  
6:30 for 7:00pm  
at the**

**Aitken College Chapel and Performing Arts Centre  
\$ 40 per person (includes finger food and soft drinks)  
\$36 to Aitken students and parents who pay via College accounts**

**Melway map 178 K5**

**RSVP: Wednesday 16 June, 2010**

**Contact: Barbara Wyatt 9333 1866**

**Payment on the night by cash or cheque only**

**Pre payment – complete form below**

Name: .....

No attending: .....

Total cost: .....

Contact: .....

Phone: .....

Credit card details: Visa, Mastercard (please circle)

Name on card: .....

Card number: .....

Expiry: ...../.....

Cheques to be made payable to Aitken College, PO Box 2018 Greenvale 3059  
Attention: Barbara Wyatt