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.

First Day Arrangements: Parents of students in P-9 will receive a letter with details of their child’s Homeroom teacher and classroom for this year.

- Year 12 students start with a Year 12 Conference Day at Moonee Valley Racecourse on Monday 4 February, 2013. Registration is at 8:15am.
- Prep to Year 7 students start on Monday 4 February. Year 7 students must report to the Lower Plaza by 8:30am, Years 1 to Year 6 go directly to their homerooms by 8:45am and Prep students commence at 9:30am (Monday and Tuesday).
- Students in Years 8 to 11 start on Tuesday 5 February and go to homerooms at 8:45am. Homeroom lists will be placed on notice boards.

Parent Information Evenings: Parents are expected to attend these important information evenings. School and home expectations will be discussed and parents will be provided with a curriculum overview from the homeroom teachers.

Students are not required to attend. All meetings will be held in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre commencing at 7:30pm. Please include the following dates in your diary:

- Years P-2 Monday 11 February 2013
- Years 3-5 Tuesday 12 February 2013
- Years 6-7 Thursday 7 February 2013
- Years 8-9 Wednesday 6 February 2013
- Years 10-11 Tuesday 5 February 2013
- Year 12 Wednesday 20 February 2013

College Calendar: The 2013 College Calendar for students and families can be accessed from the College website and the students’ new electronic diary, ‘My School Day’. This is a live calendar that will be continually updated when necessary.
2012 VCE Results: Congratulations to the Year 12 Class of 2012 who achieved excellent VCE results. 13% of the students gained an ATAR score greater than 90 and 32% gained an ATAR score greater than 80; these results are the best ever after continual improvement year by year.

Congratulations to Jordan Lilley our College Dux who gained an ATAR score of 98.50. Sixteen students achieved ATARs over 90; we also congratulate them.

Emily Budge (98.35)
Danyal Kurdas (95.55)
Blake Cooper (95.30)
Divya Kumar (94.60)
Patrick Hopper (94.55)
Luke Payne (94.00)
Kosta Kamaropoulos (93.90)
Lidiya Turkalj (93.75)
Thaadsha Sridharan (93.30)
Deborah Phillips (93.00)
Michael Lim (92.60)
Elise Joosten (91.45)
Shaun Prasad (90.40)
Bryson Clews (90.30)
Robert Gatt (90.25)

Students are eagerly awaiting the release of tertiary course offers. It is great to see the success achieved by students in both our VCE and VCAL programs which enable our young people to make decisions to follow different academic and “hands on” pathways.

New Staff: Welcome to the following new staff.
- Mr Ashley Penny (Head of Primary Curriculum)
- Ms Cristy Herron (Head of Environmental Programs)
- Ms Jacqueline Flood (Drama and Media)
- Mr Daniel Catoggio (Primary School)
- Mrs Anne Maher (Head of RVE Faculty)
- Mrs Vicky Loukas (Learning Centre)

We also welcome back from leave:
- Mrs Graziella Carta
- Mrs Linda Camilleri

College Website and Parent Portal: After extensive redesign, the new College website will be launched early this year; stay tuned for an announcement! The previous parent portal, eWorkspace, will be replaced by our new Community Portal with a number of new features; parent log-in details will be mailed out soon.

Student Diaries and IT Resources: Students with iPads (Years 7, 8 and 9) will use their new electronic online diary called ‘My School Day’ and will not have a paper diary. All other year levels will commence the year with paper diaries. Students will this year access the Elocker platform for their file management, class resources and submission of work.

Aitken College Foundation: The Aitken College Foundation accepts donations for building projects; contributions made to the fund are fully tax deductible. The normal recommended contribution for 2013 by parents is $200 per student.

Parents and Friends Association: Parents are encouraged to support the upcoming activities of the Parents and Friends Association; please see the fortnightly newsletter. Last years’ major project was the Aitken College Community Business Directory, which is accessible on the College website.

Parent Communication: A College newsletter is produced at the start and end of each term and fortnightly during term time. Please make sure you read the information it contains which includes news from each of the five schools and notices about upcoming events. Parents are notified by email when each newsletter is published. The newsletter can be found on the College website. www.aitkencollege.edu.au

Canteen: The Canteen will be open from the first day of school; a new canteen operator, Metro Canteens, has commenced in 2013. A menu is included with this newsletter and will also be made available on the College website. Note that the Junior menu applies to Years Prep to 6 only. A new feature for families is online ordering and payment which can be set up by following the instructions to be provided.

Uniform: Students are to wear summer uniform in Term 1. Please check that correct shoes and socks are being worn; College grey socks for boys and College white socks for girls. All boys should now be wearing the open-necked summer shirt without the tie in Terms 1 and 4. Girls’ dress length is to be below the kneecap and boys’ shorts must not be altered in length or cut. Please remember that the College has strict rules concerning piercings; hairstyles must be conservative and boys must be clean shaven. Students who are not attired and groomed correctly may not be permitted to attend classes.

House T-shirts: A reminder that students in Years 3 - 12 are required to wear a House coloured t-shirt with House name for all House events; Swimming and Athletics occur early in the year. The t-shirts can be ordered by phone from Schooltrenz on 9338 1334.

ID Cards and Photocopying / Printing / Internet: Students in Years 4, 7 and 10 will have ID photos taken and will soon be issued with a new ID card. Photocopying, printing and internet usage will be linked to the student’s ID card and students who exceed printing and download limits will be charged. Students are responsible for the security of their ID card and network log-in password. They must not allow others to use these; please discuss this with your child.

Aitken College
Greenvale 3059
www.aitkencollege.edu.au
Food Allergies and Anaphylaxis: A number of Aitken College students suffer anaphylactic / allergic reactions to some foods, especially but not limited to nuts. Please remember this when preparing your child’s lunch or providing snacks for school. Remind your children to never share their food with other students. Please consider possible food allergies when inviting your child’s friends to your home. If you plan to send birthday treats to school, please first consult with your child’s Homeroom teacher.

The College has an anaphylaxis management plan in place for each affected student. Enquiries should be directed to your child’s Homeroom teacher or Head of School. Further information about anaphylaxis can be found at www.allergyfacts.org.au.

Collection of Books and Stationery: Books and stationery orders must be collected from the Senior School building, Common Room 1 (CR1) at the College on Wednesday 23 January from 9:00am to 1:00pm and 2:00pm to 6:00pm.

Note that you may cancel book and stationery orders on this day if you have been able to obtain second hand copies of the correct edition of texts. You will be required to pay for the items on the day of collection if they have not been prepaid. Payments may be made by cash, cheque or credit card.

Please contact Landmark School Supplies on 9379 7900 if you have any queries related to booklists. Diaries will be distributed by Homeroom teachers during the first week of school. They will not be available on the book collection day.

Fees: Term 1 fees have been mailed and are due to be paid by Friday 8 February, 2013. An administration fee of $55 will be charged if fees are not paid by the due date. Parents who wish to take advantage of the 5% discount for paying the full year’s fees in advance are reminded that payment must be received by 31 January, 2013. If you have any queries in relation to school fees, please do not hesitate to contact the Finance Manager. Parents wishing to pay by monthly instalments must make an appointment with the Finance Manager before the start of Term 1.

Lunch Boxes and Drink Bottles: All students are strongly encouraged to bring a re-usable lunch box and drink bottle to school. This will help reduce the amount of litter created by single use packaging. Many lunch boxes will keep food clean and fresh without using any form of wrapping.

Student Mobile Phones: Families are reminded that students are responsible for the security of their mobile phones; the College will not take responsibility for loss, theft or damage. Students using phones during the day may have them confiscated by the Head of School. Parents are requested not to call their child’s mobile phone during school hours.

Music Tuition / Fee Arrangements: Invoices for students enrolled in instrumental lessons have been issued. Payment is required before lessons commence. Students will not be allocated lesson times unless payment is received by the start of Term 1, which is Monday 4 February, 2013. If you wish to enrol your child in lessons for Semester 1, please come in to Reception and pick up an enrolment form as soon as possible.

Before and After School Drop Off / Pick Up: Children are not permitted to arrive at school before 8:00am when supervision commences. Children are dismissed from school at 3:05pm (Prep to Year 5) and 3:15pm (Years 6 to 12). Teacher supervision is only scheduled for a short time after school. Children in Years Prep to 5 who are not collected by 3:30pm will be sent to Out of Hours School Care. Children in Years 6 and 7 who are not collected by 4:00pm will be sent to OHSC. OHSC is operated by Camp Australia who will charge an hourly fee. Students in Year 6 and above are permitted to work in the Library after school.

Voluntary Assistance: If you are able to volunteer to assist in the Library, please complete the reply slip provided and return it to Reception by the date shown. All such help is appreciated by your children.

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AITKEN COLLEGE
LIBRARY REPLY SLIP

(Please return to Mrs Kerr by 8 February 2013)

I am interested in joining/continuing on the Library Roster for 2013.

Name: ……………………………………………....

Phone: ……………………………………………....

Preferred day/s: ………………………………………...

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Aiiken College complies with the National Privacy Principles. The school has a Privacy Policy in conformity with the legislation and a copy is available from Reception.