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.

Important Diary Dates for 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>10 Mar</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>19 Mar</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews (Prep–12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>03 Apr</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews (Prep–12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>03 Apr</td>
<td>Term 1 concludes for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>04 Apr</td>
<td>Professional Learning Day (student free)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>22 Apr</td>
<td>Term 2 commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>25 Apr</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>09 Jun</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>17 Jun</td>
<td>Report Writing Day (student free)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>27 Jun</td>
<td>Term 2 concludes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>21 Jul</td>
<td>Term 3 commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>12 Aug</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews (Prep–12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu</td>
<td>21 Aug</td>
<td>Parent Teacher Interviews (Prep–12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>22 Aug</td>
<td>Professional Learning Day (student free)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>19 Sep</td>
<td>Term 3 concludes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>06 Oct</td>
<td>Term 4 commences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>03 Nov</td>
<td>Mid Term Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
<td>04 Nov</td>
<td>Melbourne Cup Day Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>21 Nov</td>
<td>Report Writing Day (student free)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>09 Dec</td>
<td>Presentation Night (Years 3 to 12)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>12 Dec</td>
<td>Term 4 concludes</td>
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Term dates for 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>3/4 February</td>
<td>3 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>22 April</td>
<td>27 June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>21 July</td>
<td>19 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>6 October</td>
<td>12 December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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From the Principal

Welcome back to students, staff and new families and returning students and families. The beginning of a school year is always a buzz with excitement as the Preps start school for the first time, Year 12 students come to the realization that this is their final year of school. For some Year 7 students it is a new school, and returning students catch up with friends and share stories of holidays.

At the parent information evenings I spoke on the topic of ‘Parenting from the Heart’. Some of the best things we can do for our children are to:

- Nurture their talents and experiences
- Give them unconditional love
- Grab teachable moments to share your insight and wisdom
- Assist them to handle conflict
- Model appropriate behaviours

The College places an importance on the academic aspect, but also on social and emotional wellbeing. To have our young people develop into great community citizens, happy and fulfilled, is the aim. As Aristotle said, “Educating the Mind without educating the Heart is no education at all.”

On the website you are able to read about the VCE and VCAL results. More importantly, however, is the data we received regarding destinations and pathways. After first round offers, 86% of students received their first, second or third round offer.
Over the holidays the following capital works projects were completed: upgrade in IT infrastructure, refurbishment of staff and student toilets in senior school, landscaping, addition of storage space and a mezzanine level in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre back stage area, gym floor resurfacing and road repairs. Many of you will have noticed the earthworks happening at the front of the school. These works have been undertaken to clean and tidy what was becoming a bit of an eyesore. On the master plan this area has been earmarked for a future oval and change rooms.

Mrs Josie Crisara
Principal

VALE – Miss Rachael Woodhams

Miss Rachael Woodhams (Class of 2012). On 30 January a service was held to celebrate the life of Rachael here in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre. A young life cut short through illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Woodhams family.

Aitken Alumni Function

The One Year Reunion of the Class of 2012 will be held on Friday, 21 February 2014. Refreshments provided from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.

Venue: Chapel and Performing Arts Centre Foyer, Aitken College

RSVP: 12/02/14 to admin@aitkencollege.edu.au

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 February 2014</td>
<td>Parents &amp; Friends Meeting at 7.00pm, upstairs in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 March 2014</td>
<td>Trivia Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 April 2014</td>
<td>Preloved uniform sale between 3.00pm – 6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 May 2014</td>
<td>Ladies Day High Tea (venue TBA)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Aitken College Parents & Friends Association

Parents & Friends Association

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new and current families to the 2014 academic year.

The role of the Parents & Friends Association is primarily to assist the school through fundraising to supply additional resources for our children. Our goal for the 2014 year, is to purchase a Basketball half court which is to be located in the vacant area adjacent to the main park. In order for this goal to become a reality, we will need to raise an additional $10,000, before the work can begin. In order to achieve this goal, we have decided to incorporate some new and fresh ideas, which will not only help us raise these funds, but will also assist in developing a greater sense of community within the College.

We are proud to announce that the first Parents & Friends Association fundraiser for 2014 will be a Trivia Night on Friday, 21 March at 7.00pm. This evening will be a great opportunity to meet some new people, have a few laughs and win some great prizes, all for the bargain price of $10 per ticket or $90 for a table of ten. Further information will be provided via a flyer distributed through your child’s homeroom teacher.

The Parents & Friends Association would also love to welcome new members for the 2014 year, so if you are new to the College or are a current family but never joined, please take this opportunity to do so. If you would like further information or want to sign up, please contact us at admin@aitkencollege.edu.au.

From the Deputy Principal

Immunisation: Year 7 and Year 10 girls and boys and Year 9 boys have immunisations commencing in Term 1. Please ensure a prompt return of the student cards. Aitken College has an excellent rate of immunisation; families are congratulated on their attention to this. Further information about school immunisation can be found at: http://www.health.vic.gov.au/immunisation/factsheets/immunisation-school-aged-children.htm

eSmart Schools: Aitken College is commencing the journey to gain accreditation as an eSmart school. The College has maintained a strong emphasis on cybersafety education for many years in the Life Skills curriculum, Wellbeing initiatives and within each of the five schools. eSmart accreditation will bring together our policies, procedures and education programs and acknowledge their standing amongst the best practice in Australian schools.

Aitken College Parents & Friends Association

18 February 2014 Parents & Friends Meeting at 7.00pm, upstairs in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre
21 March 2014 Trivia Night
3 April 2014 Preloved uniform sale between 3.00pm – 6.00pm
4 May 2014 Ladies Day High Tea (venue TBA)
First Aid: Mrs Jane Buch has retired after nine years of service to the College as one of our First Aid attendants. We wish Mrs Buch and her family well for the future. We welcome Mrs Bin Harvey to the College staff; she will be in the First Aid room on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Gail Sims is in attendance on Mondays to Wednesdays. Elsewhere in this newsletter is a summary of the College’s first aid procedures.

Mr Kim Forward
Deputy Principal

Maths Notice
Year 6, 7, 8 and 9 Students

An important message about calculators from Mr Cameron McGregor (Head of Mathematics) and Mr Steve Craven (Director of Studies)

Use of Calculators: Although they have a calculator app on their iPad, students in Year 6, Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 will need to use a scientific calculator when completing most assessment tasks in Mathematics this year. The reasons for this decision are:

- Students will also require a scientific calculator for several national assessment tasks such as NAPLAN and the Australian Mathematics Competition.
- Copies of the task cannot be messaged to other students or put onto a social media forum for other students to use.

The students will only need to use the calculator during assessment tasks (approximately once every five weeks); in normal classes they will use their iPad app as a calculator. There are a number of options regarding an appropriate scientific calculator to use; most will be satisfactory. Before purchasing a new calculator, students should check with their Mathematics teacher. The College is also able to provide a limited number of scientific calculators on short-term loan. Keep in mind that students in Year 9 may need to purchase a CAS calculator when they begin Year 10.

If you decide to purchase a calculator, some options are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Price (based on advertised price on Officeworks web site)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CASIO FX82AUPLUSII</td>
<td>$17.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Instruments TI-30XB Multi View</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insystem IN-82 sc</td>
<td>$9.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hewlett Packard HP 10s$</td>
<td>$14.76</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Brookhill School Notices

Year 12 Student Learning Conference: The year began for Brookhill on Monday in the Members area at Moonee Valley Racecourse with the inaugural Year 12 Student Learning Conference. At this full day conference, Year 12 students started the day listened to keynote speaker Mark Dobson. Mark is an internationally renowned high performance coach who has worked with elite athletes and was a founding member of New York City’s first academy for talented teenagers. His work with talented teenagers in New York was acknowledged by President Obama. Mark spoke to the students about seeking and adopting proven strategies for success. Students then participated in study skills workshops run by Elevate Education; these are the culmination of the series of workshops undertaken by all Brookhill students throughout Years 10, 11 and 12. They also had a seminar with College Counsellor, Ms Jill Johnson on mental wellbeing during Year 12 and a seminar with Mr McGregor and their Head of House on the academic side of Year 12. The conference finished off with a formal sit down dinner in the committee room, at which several of Aitken College’s high achieving past Year 12 students spoke to the current senior group about their experiences.

Year 12 Parent Information Evening: A reminder to all parents of Year 12 students that the Year 12 Parent Information Evening will be held at the College on Wednesday, 19 February in Common Room 1. This is an important night, where we will be discussing factors which can enhance or distract from a successful final year of schooling.

College Photos: Senior school College photos will be taken on Friday, 21 February. All students should be in full, correct summer uniform on this day. Boys must be clean shaven and all uniform and grooming expectations must be met for students to be photographed.

Mr David Murphy
Head of Brookhill

Glenarthur School Notices

It is with much pleasure that we welcome you as a Glenarthur parent for 2014. We share a collective responsibility to guide and nurture your child as he/she embarks upon another year of learning, as either a Year 8 or Year 9 student and so it is very important that our communication remains strong. This was one of the main messages I shared at the Parent Information evening on 6 February. After the opening remarks the Homeroom teachers then had the opportunity to introduce themselves and their expectations. If you were unable to attend this occasion but would like some of the information that was shared, please email either Mrs Vlahopoulos or myself or the Homeroom teacher directly.

Authorised and Printed by: Mrs Josie Crisara, Principal, Aitken College, 1010 Mickleham Road, Greenvale 3059
Phone: 9333 1866
www.aitkencollege.edu.au
Fax: 9333 4795
Next Monday at our first Chapel/Assembly for the year we will elect our School and House Captains for the year; further information about the investiture of the elected representatives and the training they will undertake will be provided in the next newsletter.

**College Photos will be taken on 14 and 21 February.** Photo-order envelopes will come home with your child. Please ensure your child returns the completed order with the correct payment amount, on the day of the photo. Family order envelopes will be available from the Heads of School and Reception.

The **Senior Years 8-12 House Swimming Carnival** is on Tuesday, 18 February. Do encourage your child to support their House; it is compulsory to wear the House colour t-shirt. A letter with further information will be sent home with your child very soon. Please sign and return the accompanying form.

We are very much looking forward to working closely with the Glenarthur students in 2014 and to getting to know you too as the year progresses. Please do not hesitate to contact us or your son/daughter’s Home Room teacher, as required.

**Dunhelen School Notices**

Welcome to all students and families who are new to Aitken in 2014 and welcome back to all of our existing students and families. Hope you all enjoyed a wonderful break and are refreshed and ready to go. I am sure 2014 will be an enjoyable and productive year.

It has already been a busy week in Dunhelen! We have begun to settle into Middle School, had ID photos taken and are now busily preparing for Year 7 camp next week! In addition, our Year 6 students have welcomed their Prep buddies to Aitken College.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Dunhelen’s team of teachers: Ms Christalla Koukoullides (7K); Mr Ben Lawless (7L); Mr Ben Prentice (7P and Assistant Head of School); Ms Brigitte Seivers (7S); Mr Tony Van Beek (7V); Mr Nigel Keegan (6K) and Mrs Stephanie Lindsay (6L).

I am sure that many of your children are still feeling a little anxious about the life in Dunhelen. Having spoken to lots of students already, I know many are nervous about time management and of course, homework! These concerns are normal and I encourage you to speak to your child about them. Over the course of the next few weeks, teachers will be working with students on these matters, giving them some tips and advice, which should help ease some of this anxiety. All new students may be extra anxious and again that is totally understandable, please let your child know that teachers are here to assist them in any way they can and they should feel free to speak to any of their teachers.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to keep the lines of communication between school and home open. If you have concerns about your child in a particular subject area, contact their subject teacher directly. If you have concerns of a pastoral nature, contact your child’s Homeroom teacher. If any other matters are of concern to you, please don’t hesitate to contact myself or the Assistant Head of Dunhelen, Mr Ben Prentice. It can be difficult to catch teachers during the school day and often email is a more convenient method of communication.

As some of you may be aware, Dunhelen has begun the process of leadership elections. If you think your child would be a good leader, I urge you to encourage them to nominate themselves for the position of School, House or even Class Captain. Nominations for School and House Captain close on Monday, 17 February. I wish all our candidates the very best of luck.

Once again a very warm welcome to all and I am looking forward to a wonderful year in Dunhelen.

**Cumberland School Notices**

Welcome to the 2014 academic school year. I am very much looking forward to working with you during the year. We warmly welcome the Year 2 students from 2013 and the new families into the Cumberland community.

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**Authorised and Printed by: Mrs Josie Crisara, Principal, Aitken College, 1010 Mickleham Road, Greenvale 3059**  
**Phone: 9333 1866**  
**www.aitkencollege.edu.au**  
**Fax: 9333 4795**
Cumberland staff are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3B</th>
<th>Mr Stephen Brewer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3C</td>
<td>Mr Daniel Catoggio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4R</td>
<td>Ms Ainslie Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4S</td>
<td>Mr Michael Slee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5H</td>
<td>Miss Jane Heasly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5MG</td>
<td>Mrs Michaela Di Paola and Mrs Georgina Spyrou</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Teacher Assistant | Mrs Renaye Meletis
Education Support  | Mrs Lynne Craven

Please take note of the following points:

- We request that the children bring to school a re-useable drink bottle and lunch box. We are also encouraging that the lunch box used eliminates the need for any plastic wrappers around food. This not only helps the environment but also the cleanliness of the College grounds.
- Each child is required to have a bottle of water at school.
- Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct footwear. This includes: flat black lace up leather shoes or leather pull up boots, no buckles or velcro. Students in Cumberland must wear flat black lace up shoes.
- Your child must bring their hat to school every day. Children without a hat will not be permitted to play outside or participate in their Physical Education class.
- It is also advised that your child brings a small tube/bottle of sun block. Please ensure that they have sun block on before they arrive to school.
- All school books and equipment should have been sent to school.
- Please ensure you check your child’s hair for head lice at regular intervals.
- It is also compulsory that all hair is tied back in a pony-tail at all times. If the hair is at a length which it can be tied back, it must be tied in a bottle green hair tie or ribbon.

**Teacher Appointments:** Parents are required to make appointments to meet with their child’s Homeroom teacher or the Head of School. This is to ensure that issues and queries are dealt with in a reasonable time frame.

**College Diary:** All children in Cumberland School will receive a College diary. This diary is for students to record any homework tasks and special events. Parents can use this as a means for communication between home and school. I encourage you and your child to read the first few pages as they provide you with a great deal of information about College procedures and policies.

**Working with Children Check:** The Victorian Government has introduced legislation affecting all adults who work with children. These adults are required to have what is called a Working with Children check (WWC). The WWC check is necessary for anyone acting as a volunteer. If you believe you will be working in a voluntary capacity e.g. as a classroom helper or parent helper with excursions, it is imperative that you have a current WWC check. Application forms for a WWC check can be obtained from your local Australia Post office. Before offers of voluntary assistance can be accepted, parents will be asked to provide the College with their WWC card.

**4S:** Students in 4S have participated in their first session of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Gardening program. The students really enjoyed the opportunity of working in the ‘kitchen’ space that we have created in order to facilitate this new and exciting program. Mr Slee and Ms Dennis will introduce the program in more detail during the Cumberland Information Evening next Tuesday.

I sincerely hope the start of the year is a happy one for your family.

**Fairview School Notices**

**Welcome:** The first day of school for our new students was a day full of many blessings for our College. It was a day of celebration and of course mixed emotions for our families. The preparation of children starting Prep spans over six months and the hard work of all of the parents and staff during this time contribute to a successful beginning to school life. Beginning school holds many components; excitement, apprehension, anxiety, laughter and tears and these are all fine. All members of our community are supported and it was wonderful to see our new families join our College community. We welcome all our families to the 2014 school year. We look forward to a very exciting and rewarding year.

The Preparatory School staff includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep F</th>
<th>Ms Judy Fieldew</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep K</td>
<td>Miss Maria Koullas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep T</td>
<td>Miss Georgia Thornycroft</td>
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<tr>
<td>One A</td>
<td>Mrs Anne Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Z</td>
<td>Ms Vera Zanko</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two M</td>
<td>Mrs Kellie Mahoney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two R</td>
<td>Mr Ron Rees</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Prep students on their first day of school with their families

Mr Ashley Penny
Head of Cumberland
**Information Evening:** The Preparatory School Information Evening is scheduled for Monday 10 February 2014 at 7.30pm in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre. The session will provide parents with the opportunity to meet their child’s homeroom teacher and discuss home and school expectations. It is crucial that parents attend, as it reinforces College procedures and ensures a smooth transition for the children.

**School Photographs:** School Photographs are scheduled for Friday 14 February 2014. Your child is required to wear their full Summer school uniform. If your child has Physical Education or PMP on this day, they can bring their sport shoes to school. **They must not wear their sport uniform to school on this day.** Family photograph envelopes are available from my office (F8) or Reception. They have been scheduled for lunchtime during the following times: Friday, 14 February – surnames from A to M. Friday, 21 February – surnames from N to Z. The older sibling will be required to collect their younger sibling from their homeroom and take them to the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre.

Please take note of the following points:

- We request that the children bring to school a re-useable drink bottle and lunch box. We are also encouraging that the lunch box used eliminates the need for any plastic wrappers around food.
- Each child is required to have a bottle of water at school.
- Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct footwear. This includes: flat black lace up leather shoes or leather pull up boots, no buckles or velcro. Pull up boots are only worn in the Preparatory School and children entering Year 3 must wear flat black lace up shoes.
- Your child must bring their hat to school everyday. Children without a hat will not be permitted to play outside or participate in their Physical Education class.
- It is also advised that your child bring a small tube/bottle of sun block. Please ensure that they have sun block on before they arrive to school.
- All school books and equipment should have been sent to school.
- Preparatory School children are not permitted to visit the canteen before school begins.
- It is also compulsory that all hair is tied back in a pony-tail at all times. If the hair is at a length, which it can be tied back, it must be tied in a bottle green hair tie or ribbon.
- Prep and Year 1 children are required to bring a spare change of underwear, socks and trackpants/shorts (blue or green) to school.

**Careers News**

**Career News 1:** The Career News is written to inform students (and their parents) of events and activities which may assist with planning a direction post secondary school. It is published to encourage students to think about their future, to assist them to make informed decisions and to provide help with their career and course research. For our Year 12 students in particular, it will be a very busy year academically and socially, but it must also be a year where time is set aside for thinking about the future. Career News is one way of prompting these thoughts. It is not just for Year 12 students. Students in Year 10 and Year 11 will also make big decisions about the subjects they will choose for the following year, and this in turn opens up or shuts down particular pathways. It is important that these decisions and choices are made thoughtfully and after conducting thorough career research. This newsletter will keep students up to date with events which may support and enhance your career research. The following link will take you to the careers newsletter: http://www.aitkencollege.edu.au/educational-programs/careers/careers-newsletter/

Do not forget that Ms Gibbs and Mrs Borg are available to help students with any questions they might have about careers, courses and pathways. Please come and see us in Room B21 at the Careers Centre or telephone 9333 1866 or email your concerns or queries to careers@aitkencollege.edu.au. Good luck to everyone for a happy and productive 2014.

**Mrs Clare Borg and Ms Rae Gibbs**

**Careers Advisers**

**Chaplain's Corner**

I would like to begin by welcoming all new families to Aitken College, I hope and pray that you will feel welcomed as a valuable and integral part of the fabric of this place in no time at all.

The Chaplaincy Department offers many opportunities for all families to make greater connections with the wider school community; some coming up this month are: **Prep parent morning teas** every Friday during Term 1, 8.45am - 10.30am. **Monthly Sunday worship**, the second Sunday of each month during school term, held in Common Room 1 at 10.30am (for a short time of worship and a shared morning tea, all welcome). **Kids ROC** (kids club - younger siblings welcome) runs once a month on a Wednesday evening (details will follow), once a semester we run either ‘Aitken Can Dance’ or ‘Aitken's Got Talent’ targeting students in Cumberland and above.

**For Parents:** We run the **Greenvale Community Choir** (recommencing Wednesday, 12 February at 7.30pm; contact Mr Chris Ward, friends and family welcome) and we hold **Listening Skills Seminars** also open to extended family and friends. As well as weekly chapels, there will be a variety of annual services: **Easter Services, Grief and Loss Service** in August, **Baptism/Confirmation Service** in November and **Carol Services. All times of worship at Aitken College are open to our whole community.**
Environmental Programs News

Welcome back for another exciting year! To get things into gear, each homeroom from Years 1-9 will be selecting Environment Monitors to represent their class in all that involves environmental programs and sustainability throughout the year. This is an exciting opportunity for students to become more involved in the things that make Aitken College a 5-Star Sustainable School. Stay tuned for a complete list of the Aitken Environment Monitors.

Another great opportunity to kick-start the school year is by coming along for the first Aitken Adventure of 2014! Melbourne Girls’ College will host their annual Zero Carbon, Pedal Powered Moonlight Cinema. Guests are invited to literally contribute their own energy to a family friendly outdoor movie event. All attendees will have the chance to pedal the energy needed to project the film, or even pedal for their espresso! Eco friendly food and drinks will be on sale or guests are welcome to BYO picnic gear. Tickets $15/$8 concession with prizes on offer for most energy generated! Gates open at 5.00pm on 21 February 2014. For more information, go to: http://www.slf.org.au/festival14/ pedal-powered-moonlight-cinema

Performing Arts News

Before launching into 2014, I would like to recognise two efforts from late last year.

**Aitken Songsters:** On Friday, 6 December, Aitken Songsters under the direction of Ms Beth Thomson entertained shoppers at Craigieburn Shopping Centre with Christmas Carols. We received wonderful feedback on their performance and on the way in which they represented the College.

**Award for Excellence:** On Saturday, 14 December, Year 9 student Matthew White was recognised with an Award for Excellence from the Music Theatre Guild of Victoria for his amazing piano skills during this year’s College Musical. The Guild judges saw more than one hundred productions around Victoria in 2013 and felt that Matthew’s efforts were worthy of a special mention. Congratulations to Matthew on being recognised with this award.

**Tommy:** Hitting the ground running as always, last night we held the information session for this year’s College Musical, Tommy. While our students will be too young to remember 1960s power-group, The Who, many parents will. This tale of a young boy’s journey from pain to triumph is the most electrifying evening of rock and roll ever to play in a theatre! Auditions will take place this coming week for this one of a kind musical. While not suitable for younger students, we hope our senior students and parents will be drawn to this classic rock-opera. Students who missed the information session are encouraged to see Mr Cooper as soon as possible to be a part of this memorable College experience.

**Middle School Play:** At the end of this month, students in Year 8 and Year 9 will receive information about the Middle School Play. This year’s play is called Skate by Australian playwright Debra Oswald (Stories in the Dark, Dags and TV’s Offspring). Inspired by true events, Skate is about a group of kids battling with their local council to get a skate park. When tragedy strikes, the battle grows into a struggle for acceptance and unity. Auditions will take place early in March and all students in Year 8 and 9 are welcome to be involved.

**Rachael Woodhams:** On 21 January this year, the Performing Arts College family were saddened by the passing of Rachael Woodhams. Rachael was diagnosed with brain tumours during Year 11 and battled on for more than two years. During her time at Aitken, Rachael was heavily involved in Performing Arts activities, as was her brother Johnathan, while her parents Pam and Stephen were integral members of our Friends of the Arts. Rachael was part of three College Musicals, a number of College Plays and took lessons in Music and Drama/Theatre Studies. She performed in numerous concerts and events throughout her time here. Rachael loved to sing and was a regular part of the program at the Performing Arts Captains’ Concert, an event which raises funds for a selected charity. In Rachael’s honour, this year’s concert will raise funds for The Royal Melbourne Hospital Neuroscience Foundation.

Please put Wednesday, 2 April in your diary. A gold coin donation is all it costs to enjoy the wonderful talents of our students and help a worthwhile cause. Donation envelopes will also be available for those who wish to make further contributions.

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Mr Michael Cooper
Director of Performing Arts
Aitken College Chartered Bus Service  
Expressions of Interest for 2014

There is the possibility of limited vacancies on the following Aitken College chartered services for Term 1, 2014. The current Oak Park and Essendon runs have been re-structured to cover more areas. The charter runs for 2014 will therefore be:

Airport West: Airport West, Gowanbrae, Tullamarine, Gladstone Park, Attwood  
Essendon: Essendon, Oak Park, Glenroy, Broadmeadows, Meadow Heights  
Roxburgh Park run: Roxburgh Park (which includes an area of South Craigieburn)  
Greenvale run: Greenvale  
Sunbury run: Sunbury via Bulla

If you are interested in using this service in 2014, please contact Diana Cohn at the College on 9333 1866.

Availability of Secondhand Textbooks for Secondary Schools

The Sustainable School Shop is Australia’s largest resource of second-hand textbooks for secondary schools and is used by many families and schools across Australia. All families can easily access these texts by registering on the Sustainable School Shop website: www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au, which is free.

Aitken College School Students Play at the 2014 Australian Open

Congratulations to Aitken College students who had an amazing day representing the school at the 2014 Australian Open. The players were selected due to their performances held at Greenvale Tennis club during 2013. Players played on the championship courts before the start of play entertaining the crowds.

DID YOU KNOW?

Tennis Hot Shots uses modified courts, low compression balls and smaller rackets to help kids to play and rally from their first experience. For more information about MLC Tennis Hotshots in the area call: 9333 6525 or email www.completetennis.com.au. Tatijana was also selected to toss the coin before the start of play on Day 3.

Pictured: Antonio, Nathan (Coach) and Josephine  
Pictured: Tatijana and Nathan (Coach)

OPEN DAY - Sunday, 16 February  
Greenvale Tennis Centre - 10.00am - 12.00pm  
Craigieburn Tennis Centre - 2.00pm - 4.00pm  
More Information call: 9333 6525
NOTICE TO PARENTS
FIRST AID ROOM

Listed below are some essential points about the First Aid room and procedures so that parents will be familiar with them.

1. It is a First Aid room only and is not meant to provide medical treatment for children.

2. Parents should not send children who are sick to school in the expectation that they will be treated by the First Aid Attendant and/or accommodated in the First Aid room.

3. The First Aid room has very limited space and is not able to accommodate students for the duration of the school day.

4. As is the case in a large number of other schools, children who are sick to the extent that they are not able to attend class must be taken home by their parents or by some other person who has been nominated by the parents (parents who are working might care to check their relevant Award, as they are probably entitled to “Carer’s Leave” in emergency situations like this).

5. Please note that School Policy when requiring you to pick up your child is that you speak with the First Aid Attendant only and not with your child.

6. It is the responsibility of parents to keep the school notified of any relevant medical information that pertains to their child.

7. Parents must provide accurate contact information (if they change jobs the school needs to be provided with changed phone numbers etc.) so that, in the event of an emergency, contact can be made immediately with you.

8. The College will not administer medication to students unless the College receives a letter outlining the child’s name, the medication, dosage, and time to be taken. The parent/guardian must sign the letter and record their name clearly (print). If the letter is not signed, the medication will not be administered. The medication must be given to the First Aid Attendant by the parent/guardian and must be in its original container with the original label. In particular, Panadol is only dispensed to students if permission has been given on the Medical Form and a named supply has been provided to the First Aid room.

9. Parents of children with Asthma or Anaphylaxis must inform the school of their child’s condition and complete a management plan as well as provide the appropriate medication.
Many families in the Aitken College community manage or own a business. As a fundraiser the Parents & Friends Association are compiling a Community Business Directory to provide a way in which we can support each other in buying local and helping your business.

The Business Directory will be updated for the 2014 school year and will appear on the College website in a searchable format and as a pdf document. All money raised will be used by the Parents & Friends Association to improve the environment, facilities and equipment of the College, to benefit our children.

Aitken families may purchase a space, promoting their business, in the Community Business Directory for $50.00. This is a very inexpensive way to advertise your business for a twelve month period. If you would like to participate in this exciting initiative, please complete the attached form and place it, along with your payment, in the Parents & Friends Association box at Reception as soon as possible.

Please support this fundraiser by completing the section below and return to Reception with your payment by 14 February 2014.

Yours sincerely

Siobhan Short
President
Aitken College Parents & Friends Association

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**AITKEN COLLEGE PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION**
**COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY 2014 - $50.00 PER SPACE**
*(Please complete and return with your payment via Reception by 14 February 2014)*

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- [ ] CASH $________
- [ ] CREDIT CARD: [ ] MasterCard [ ] Visa [ ] Amex
  - Card Number: ____________________________
  - Expiry Date: ____________________
  - Signature: ____________________________
  - Date: ___/___/2014

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Authorised and Printed by: Mrs Josie Crisara, Principal, Aitken College, 1010 Mickleham Road, Greenvale 3059
Phone: 9333 1866
Fax: 9333 4795
The role of the Parents & Friends is to assist the school through fundraising to supply additional resources for our children, and just as importantly to promote a sense of community for our families. We have a fantastic group of enthusiastic parents who take the time to meet on a regular basis throughout the year.

The Executive Committee for 2014 is as follows;

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Siobhan Short</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Belinda Klaric</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Amy Grady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Carolyn Cvek</td>
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As a reminder, here are a few things that the Committee, with your help, has provided to the school:
- April 2012: Mid Stage curtain in the CPA – Cost $7,850
- November 2012: Tree landscaping including replacement warranty and continued care purchased on behalf of families that donated a tree.
- September 2013: BBQ (inbuilt with outfitting of the required safety and regulatory permits) – Cost $9,900

We welcome new members, so, if you would like to join the Committee or become a volunteer please fill out this form and return it to us as soon as possible. If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact us at admin@aitkencollege.edu.au

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**PARENTS AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION – REGISTRATION**
(Please complete and return to admin@aitkencollege.edu.au or Reception)

What YEAR LEVEL is your child/children in? ______________________

Would you like to: □ Volunteer at events? or □ Join the Committee?

| Name: __________________________ | Email: __________________________ |
|________________________________|______________________________|
| Phone Number: ____________________|_______________________________|