

NEWSLETTER

20 March, 2015

Volume 17 Issue 4



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 2015

Thur	26 Mar	Parent Teacher Interviews (Prep-12)
Thur	26 Mar	Term 1 concludes for students
Fri	27 Mar	Professional Learning Day (student free)
Mon	13 Apr	Term 2 commences
Mon	08 Jun	Queen's Birthday Holiday
Tue	16 Jun	Report Writing Day (student free)
Fri	26 Jun	Term 2 concludes
Mon	20 Jul	Term 3 commences
Tue	11 Aug	Parent Teacher Interviews (Prep-12)
Thu	20 Aug	Parent Teacher Interviews (Prep-12)
Fri	21 Aug	Professional Learning Day (student free)
Fri	18 Sep	Term 3 concludes
Mon	05 Oct	Term 4 commences
Mon	02 Nov	Mid Term Break
Tue	03 Nov	Melbourne Cup Day Holiday
Fri	20 Nov	Report Writing Day (student free)
Mon	07 Dec	Presentation Night (Years 3 to 12)
Wed	09 Dec	Term 4 concludes

Term Dates for 2015

Term 1	2/3 February	to	26 March
Term 2	13 April	to	26 June
Term 3	20 July	to	18 September
Term 4	5 October	to	9 December

COLLEGE CLOSED

The College will be closed on Tuesday, 31 March as Jemena has advised that there will be a power outage in relation to works that need to be completed.

Thought: "Easter is the demonstration of God that life is essentially spiritual and timeless." Charles M Crowe

From the Principal

As the Easter season is upon us, we should remember just how much Jesus loves us. He spent time teaching us how to love one another no matter what. This can be difficult in times of turmoil. The passage from Corinthians perhaps best describes this love:

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs." (1 Corinthians 13)

The loving kindness that St Paul describes applies to the children we teach. It requires a willingness to support young people even at the cost of personal sacrifice, to wait patiently for the right moment to teach a lesson, to know how to lose in order to handle relationships and to have a capacity to forgive and give another chance. In many ways this is about developing resilience in our young people so that they can learn and move forward.

Blessings at this special time of the year. I pray students, staff and families have an enjoyable term break.

New Outdoor Smoking Bans Apply at all Victorian Schools: Although smoking on the school site has not generally been an issue, from Monday, 13 April 2015 (the beginning of Term 2) the new *Tobacco Amendment Act 2014* will come into force applying new smoking bans within school grounds and within four metres of school entrances. All Victorian schools will be required by law to be 'No Smoking' sites.

Officers from councils will be responsible for enforcing the bans and will take an education approach by making sure that people understand the new laws. However, an infringement penalty of \$147.00 could apply to those caught wilfully breaking the law.

*Mrs Josie Crisara
Principal*

Term 2 Tuition Fees

Parents are reminded that Term 2 tuition fees will be due on Friday, 17 April. Please contact the Accounts office if there are any queries. An administration fee of \$55.00 per term will be charged for late payments unless prior arrangements have been made with the Finance Manager. Statements for Term 2 have been issued. Note that parents can view their fees account online on the Aitken College website; click on Community Portal, then the Finance tab.

*Mr Petar Gajic
Finance Manager*

From the Deputy Principal

Parent-Teacher Interviews: Bookings for the second evening of Parent-Teacher interviews on Thursday, 26 March will close on Wednesday, 25 March. It has been good to see so many parents attending interviews; please take the time to speak with your children about the advice given and how they can improve their learning.

Winter Uniform: Term 2 is only a few weeks away; it is time to check students' winter uniforms - shirts, ties, girls' skirts (correct length) and boys' long pants. It is expected that all students will be in Winter uniform on the first day of Term 2, unless the weather is exceptionally warm, in which case summer uniform will be allowed if appropriate during the first two weeks only.

Parent Focus Group: Expressions of interest are sought from parents who would be willing to attend a focus group meeting to talk about students' semester reports; we are eager to hear parents' views on our reports and the information they provide. If you are interested, please email me at kforward@aitkencollege.edu.au.

Pedestrian Gate: For those students and parents who may use the pedestrian gate from the Providence estate; please remember that this gate is only unlocked between 8.00am and 9.00am and between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. It is not able to be opened at any other times. Parents wishing to attend Chapel or Assembly or students going home later than 4.00pm should come or go by vehicle.

*Mr Kim Forward
Deputy Principal*

Parents and Friends Association News

Community Business Directory: Thank you to all businesses that have advertised in our Community Business Directory over the past year. We are currently taking orders for spots for this year's directory which commenced in March. Please see the end of the newsletter for a complete business listing and registration form. If you have any queries regarding the Business Directory please email us at: admin@aitkencollege.edu.au.

Pre-loved Uniform Sale: This will be held on Thursday, 26 March in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre foyer from 2.30pm until 5.30pm. Come and pick up any spare uniform items you need to see the year through.

Hot Cross Buns: Thank you to the families who placed orders and for supporting this fundraiser. The Hot Cross Buns will be distributed to students on Wednesday, 25 March.

Parents & Friends would love to hear from you! We are planning our events for the remainder of the year and considering what to use our funds for, so if you have any questions, comments or ideas please email us at: admin@aitkencollege.edu.au or comment on our Facebook page.

*Mrs Siobhan Short
Aitken College Parents & Friends Association*

Brookhill School Notices

As we approach the end of Term 1, it is time for Brookhill students to look back on the year so far, take stock of what they have achieved and set themselves goals for the term ahead. In Term 1, the Senior School represented itself with distinction at the House Swimming Carnival. This was our first Brookhill only carnival and staff were very impressed with the co-operative and friendly atmosphere and positive interaction between staff and students.

On the academic side, all Brookhill students have participated in Study Skills seminars provided by Elevate Education. This program is now well established at Aitken College; staff and students are in agreement that the work done by the presenters from Elevate has been of great benefit to all participants. Ideas raised in these seminars will be followed up at school through the Life Skills and study class program as a part of the College's commitment to improving all aspects of academic performance.

Now is an important time for goal setting, as students still have plenty of time to take steps towards achieving their goals. I would like to take this opportunity to remind Year 11 and Year 12 students of the following advice contained in the Student Elevation seminar:

- To exist, a goal must be written down. You do not have to show anyone, but you must write it down.
- You are not likely to exceed your goals; whilst setting goals is the first step in achievement, setting them too low can limit your progress. Make sure your goals are realistic, but be ambitious: if you need an ATAR of 80 to get into your course, set your goal at 85 or 86 and work towards this.
- Once you set a goal, break it down by identifying the things you must achieve along the way. An overall goal should be broken down into sub-goals; each of these can be achieved through practical tasks and activities. An overall academic goal should be de-constructed to identify marks needed on each task; this, in turn, can become completion of specific homework tasks, meetings with teachers, identification and rectification of weak areas.

Physical Behaviour: At Assembly, I will be speaking to all Year 10 boys about their duty of care to others when engaging in physical behaviour. I regularly speak to Brookhill students about this important topic. Some points I emphasise are:

- Older students must be aware that they are bigger and stronger than they have ever been: physical behaviours that were acceptable in younger years now have the potential to cause damage to people or property.
- As young adults, they must learn to move through public spaces with some restraint: running and jumping in public or crowded areas is inappropriate.
- Boys, as they grow to maturity, must learn to exhibit restraint and care towards younger students and females in every interaction.

*Mr David Murphy
Head of Brookhill*

VCAL News

Last Friday, the VCAL students enjoyed an excursion to the 2015 Formula 1® Rolex Australian Grand Prix as part of the Community Engagement Program at Albert Park. The students enjoyed several attractions on the day. These included the **Industry and Innovation Precinct**, student seminars and workshops on individual success stories in the driving industry, career progression and pathways at the **Education Expo**, exhibitions which highlighted the link between education and the work place through various interactive event displays, as well as watching the Formula 1 practice race.



*Mrs Jenny Lilley
VCAL Co-ordinator*

Dunhelen School Notices

Congratulations to all the Dunhelen students. Their participation in the House Cross Country and the Fun Run was outstanding. It was wonderful to see all the students join in and donate to Disability and Sport Recreation. Well done!

This week the Year 9 students attended part one of a two part presentation by Smart Start. The program aims to introduce students to the world of finance and saving. It covers topics such as: getting your first job, budgeting and spending. Thank you to Mrs Vlahopoulos for organising this presentation.

Thank you to all the parents who attended Parent Teacher Interviews last week. It was lovely to meet some new faces and just as lovely to catch up with the parents we already know. If you could not make it that afternoon, just a reminder that there is another evening scheduled for interviews on Thursday, 26 March. Please book appointments online.

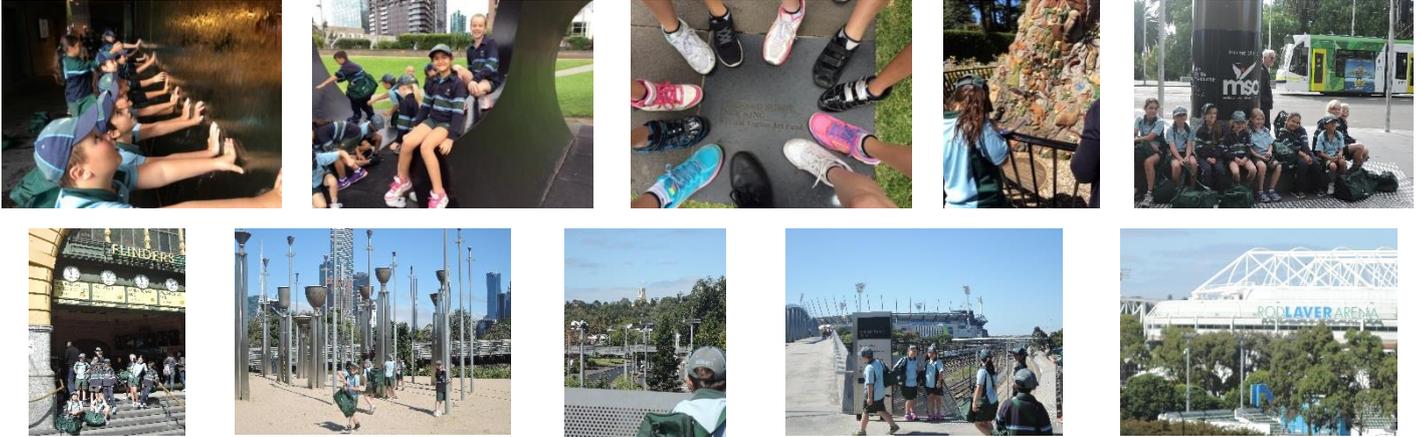
Next term students should be in their winter uniforms. Please take the next few weeks to ensure that skirts are the correct length and that pants and winter shirts still fit. Students will have had some growth since last year so it is very important to ensure that all uniform items are still fitting correctly. A reminder that the winter uniform also requires students to wear the Aitken College tie.

This is the last newsletter for Term 1, 2015. It has been a wonderful term and the students are to be congratulated on their hard work and dedication. Wishing all the Dunhelen students a relaxing and enjoyable break. Happy Easter to all!

*Mrs Francis Scuderi
Head of Dunhelen*

Cumberland School Notices

Year 3 Melbourne Excursion: The Year 3 students have been learning about Melbourne and the many iconic landmarks that exist in our wonderful city. To support their understanding, they embarked on their site walk excursion around the outskirts of Melbourne's City. This marked their very first excursion in Cumberland. We began at the National Gallery of Victoria and trekked to the Fitzroy Gardens, stopping at Flinders Street Station, Federation Square, Federation Bells and the MCG. The students were excited and energetic throughout the day; participating in many of the fun filled activities. With the extensive planning and organisation of our dedicated teachers, the day proved to be a great learning experience for our Year 3 students. A big thank you to all the parents who volunteered their time to help out and make the day a success!



In the week leading up to the excursion, the Year 3 children were fortunate to have a very special visitor in their classrooms Ms Diana Cohn, one of the administration team at Aitken College, spoke to the children about her Great Aunt Ola, who carved the Fairies Tree in the Fitzroy Gardens. It meant so much more when they saw the Fairies Tree on the day and we thank Ms Cohn for sharing the very personal history of a much loved Melbourne landmark.

Mr Daniel Catoggio (3C teacher) and Mr Michael Slee (3S teacher)

This term is quickly drawing to a close. Students and staff have enjoyed all aspects of this short but jam-packed term! In February, we welcomed the Year 3 students into the community and the return of the Year 6 students to Cumberland. The Year 3 students have settled in well and have recently enjoyed an excursion exploring some aspects of the City of Melbourne. The Year 3 teachers have added a detailed report. All year levels participated in open afternoons and picnics. Year 3 and 5 students have enjoyed a four week gymnastics program and the Year 4 students have participated in a swimming program. The student leaders were finalised and the Year 6 leaders enjoyed a leadership training afternoon at Sherwood Reception Centre with other College leaders. We held the House swimming carnival a few weeks ago and more recently held the House Cross Country. The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program (SAKG) has continued to be a highlight for our Year 4 chefs. Next Monday morning, starting at 10.00am, will be the annual Cumberland Easter Chapel Service in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre. Please join us if you are available. Thank you for many parents who have already attended the parent teacher interviews. These will continue on Thursday, 26 March between 3.30pm and 8.00pm.

On Monday, 13 April, starting from 9.00am and before the Cumberland Chapel and Assembly, I extend an invitation to parents to join me upstairs in the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre for a casual coffee and chat. This will provide us with a time to meet informally and for you to share feedback (hopefully all positive) on the year so far. I would like this to be a reoccurring event at the beginning of each term.

I wish the entire Cumberland Community an enjoyable and relaxing holiday period. Special thanks for the dedication and commitment to our staff who work so effortlessly to provide the best for your children. Happy Easter!

*Mr Ashley Penny
Head of Cumberland*

Fairview School Notices

Harmony, Love and Peace: *“If you were all alone in the universe with no one to talk to, no one with which to share the beauty of the stars, to laugh with, to touch, what would be your purpose in life? It is other life; it is love, which gives your life meaning. This is harmony. We must discover the joy of each other, the joy of challenge and the joy of growth.”* Mitsugi Saotome

I am very proud how our children share this beautiful gift. To share their joy and love with each other; they have harmony! This became very evident when they displayed their eagerness to share their treasured school community with their family members. During the Fairview Open sessions we were all very blessed to have many parents and grandparents visit the classrooms. The children were excited to share their work and school. The children's pride and confidence was evident as they engaged with their special visitors. Thank you for attending and taking the time to be part of our learning community.



Easter Service: Please be advised that the Easter Service for Prep to Year 2 students will be held on Monday, 23 March at 9.00am and will conclude by 9.50am. There will be no assembly on this day. Families are very welcome to attend this service and share this time with us. Parents must sign in at the Chapel and Performing Arts Centre counter, prior to entering the auditorium.

THRASS Parent Sessions: I would like to thank Mrs Adams (the Primary English Co-ordinator) and Homeroom teachers for their support and organisation of our very successful THRASS parent sessions. We are always eager to receive feedback; please email me on any evaluation you would like to provide or Email: aadams@aitkencollege.edu.au

As we near Holy week, may the love of our Lord bring you all peace and many blessings. Wishing you all a Happy Easter and safe holiday!

*Ms Kerrie Neophytou
Head of Fairview*

Careers News

Career News 3: This is now available and contains information about school holiday programs in Sport Development and Management at the University of Melbourne, Keeper for a Day and Vet for a Day at the zoos, Flight Academy Workshops at Essendon Airport, A Day at Melbourne, a new Young Alchemist Club at Monash, free VCE Biology and Chemistry lectures, studying Education at Monash and more. 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 us on 9333 1866 or email your concerns or queries to careers@aitkencollege.edu.au.

*Mrs Clare Borg and Ms Rae Gibbs
Careers Advisers*

Chaplain's Corner

Many of our Aitken College families and friends gathered for our monthly Sunday worship service on 15 March. This month was a 'Pet Blessing Service' followed by a picnic.

Our worship life here at Aitken College has recently been recognised by our Presbytery; the Presbytery of Port Phillip West, as a **'Faith Community'** of the Uniting Church in Australia! This is very affirming by the Presbytery, as it is recognising the ministry that we offer here at Aitken College offers a faith development component.

Next month on Sunday, **19 April**, our Sunday worship will reflect on the **Resurrection Light**, drawing on our own inner light and how we share God's love in our world. Worship at Aitken College is open for all to join in; feel free to bring along extended family and friends; all are welcome.

For our Easter Services season I offer you this blessing:

*May the feet of God walk with you,
and his hand hold you tight.
May the eye of God rest on you,
and his ear hear your cry.
May the smile of God be for you,
and his breath give you life.
May the Child of God grow in you,
and his love bring you home.*

© 1983 Words: Aub Podlich; Music: Robin Mann

*Rev Jeanne Beale
Chaplain*

Performing Arts News

Performing Arts Captains' Concert: The annual Performing Arts Captains' Concert will be held this Wednesday evening from 7.30pm in the Chapel and Performing Arts Auditorium. We will be raising funds for the Royal Melbourne Hospital Neuroscience Foundation in memory of Rachael Woodhams (past student). Our Performing Arts Captains, Jake Wehbeh and Alysha Maric, have put together a varied program of items featuring students from across the College. Bookings are not necessary; however, we ask for a gold coin donation on the night. Your gold coin will also put you into the draw for some door prizes. We hope you can join us.

VCE Theatre Studies Play: Tickets for this year's VCE Theatre Studies play go on sale following the school holidays on Sunday, 12 April. Fyodor Dostoyevsky's literary masterpiece, *Crime and Punishment*, tells the story of Raskolnikov (the murderer), Porfiry Petrovitch (the detective) and Sonia. This 'conversation on the nature of evil' is set in the mind of the murderer as he relives and explores the thoughts, ideas and feelings which led him to commit his horrible crime. The play becomes a psychological landscape which creates a thrilling journey through the mind of a killer and his search for redemption. There will be three performances running nightly 14 - 16 May with tickets (\$16.50 / \$11.00 or \$48.80 for groups) available at www.trybooking.com/GXGO.

Middle School Play: Students from Year 8 and Year 9 have begun rehearsals this week for the classic children's story, *Charlotte's Web*, by E.B. White. Congratulations to the seventeen students involved who are led by Talia Mutlu as Wilbur, Marestella Natividad as Fern and Jasmine Harrington as Charlotte. Already these students are creating a special experience for the whole family with this heart-warming story of the spider who saves the life of a pig. There will be two performances, 7.30pm on 28 May and 3.30pm on 29 May. All tickets are \$10.00 from www.trybooking.com/GSUZ from Monday, 27 April.

Mr Michael Cooper
Director of Performing Arts

Physical Education News

Division Swimming Carnival: Congratulations to all the swimmers who did a fantastic job at the Woodlands Secondary Swimming Carnival on Wednesday, 11 March at Sunbury Leisure Centre. Aitken College finished first overall with over 1,000 point win above Gladstone Park College and Roxburgh Secondary College.

39 students now go on to compete in the Northern Metropolitan Regionals in Greensborough on Tuesday, 24 March. Special mentions go to Bailey Reilly, Lachlan Johnson, Antonio Cavallo, Alicia Morgan and Joel Lomas for their outstanding multiple wins.

A huge thank you to Mrs Pocervina for all of her hard work organising and running the Aitken College Swim Team.

Mrs Natalie McNamara
Interschool Sports Co-ordinator

Aitken College Chartered Bus Services Term 2, 2015

There are limited vacancies on the following Aitken College chartered services for Term 2, 2015. The charter services are as follows. Further details and timetables are available on the website www.sunburybus.com.au.

Essendon / Airport West:	Essendon, Airport West, Tullamarine, Gladstone Park, Westmeadows, Attwood
Mickleham / Craigieburn:	Commences at Mount Ridley Road
Roxburgh Park:	Roxburgh Park and South Craigieburn
Strathmore / Greenvale:	Strathmore, Oak Park, Glenroy, Broadmeadows, Greenvale (lower loop)
Sunbury / Greenvale:	Sunbury via Greenvale (upper loop)

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

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY 2015 FUNDRAISER

email: admin@aitkencollege.edu.au

You still have time to purchase a space for 2015!

This is a very inexpensive way to advertise your business for a twelve month period. Aitken families (and friends) may purchase a space for \$50.00 to promote their business in the 2015 Community Business Directory. The proceeds from this fundraiser will be used by the Parents & Friends Association to improve the College environment, facilities and equipment, for the benefit of all our students.

To be part of this most valuable fundraiser, please complete the attached form and return with your payment to the Accounts office as soon as possible

Current bookings include:

ACCOUNTING & FINANCIAL SERVICES

Mortgage Choice

Mortgage Broker, Financial Planner and Insurance – we provide a free service for finding the best mortgage to suit your needs. We also provide a financial planning service and insurance.

Contact details: Chris Howitt
☎ 9333 4370 m: 0401 334 599
📧 E: chris.howitt@mortgagechoice.com.au

SBC Business Services Pty Ltd

With over 30-years' experience I can service all your taxation, accounting and business needs.

Contact details: Bernadette Crane, CPA
☎ 9308 1382 m: 0427 941 760
📧 E: sbcbusiness@iprimus.com.au

BUILDING SUPPLIES

Artistic Stile & Stone [ABN: 32 288 569 078]

Supplier of quality wall and floor tiles, stone and mosaics. Supplier of tiling materials and accessories.

Contact details: Lucy Costa
☎ m: 0430 293 255
📧 [coming soon and Facebook](#)
📧 E: info@artisticstileandstone.com.au

Pro Design Tiling Solutions [ABN: 32 288 569 078]

Covering all of Melbourne, we are a trusted and experienced tiling company which provides services for the following:

Porcelain Ceramic Tessellated Terracota Mosaic Stone (external and internal)
waterproofing screeding sealing; and caulking

We have all appropriate insurances for your peace of mind.

Contact details: Paul Costa
☎ m: 0407 571 641
📧 www.prodesigntiling.com.au and Facebook
📧 E: info@prodesigntiling.com.au

DANCE STUDIO

The Dance Room

The Dance Room offers classes in Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Hip Hop, Breakdance, Acrobatics and Singing. We have three locations - Tullamarine, Glenroy and West Brunswick. Frist class free.

Contact details: Marnie Petch
☎ 9338 2065 m: 0418 883 608
📧 www.the.danceroom.net E: marnienelson@bigpond.com

DENTAL

FirstBite Dental - Essendon

Welcome to FirstBite Dental – Essendon. You've just found one of the most comprehensive dentists in Essendon. As an accredited Dental Practice with ADA, FirstBite Dental offers complete cosmetic dentistry, general dentistry and orthodontic services.

Contact details: Aurora Hauth
☎ 9379 1893
📧 www.firstbite.com.au

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email: admin@aitkencollege.edu.au

HAIR & BEAUTY

Hair 4 Kids – Airport West

Hairdressing for babies, toddlers, primary and secondary school kids. A colourful salon where children can play PlayStation and watch DVD's whilst waiting. We at the salon also provide haircuts for families.

Contact details:

Con Hondrogiannis

☎ 9310 4696

📧 [Facebook- Hair4Kids – Airport West](#) E: hair4kidsairportwest@gmail.com

Perfect Pout Hair & Make-up

Almost 10-years in the Bridal industry – specialising in hair and airbrush make-up, which lasts up to 24-hours – tear and perspiration proof- and gives a flawless finish to the skin, making it perfect for HD photography.

Contact details:

Helen Marrero

☎ m: 0401 873 435

📧 E: hmirda@gmail.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

Julie's Fitness Studio

Personal trainer to improve your health and fitness in a very private studio with complete gymnasium – quality gym equipment, weight loss program and body toning. Pricing: \$30 per 1-hour session (group sessions also available).

Contact details:

Julie Theuma

☎ m: 0425 719 444

MUSIC LESSONS

Greenvale Music School

Music lessons for all ages and levels, in the following instruments: Piano, Violin, Guitar, Drums, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone and Singing.

Contact details:

Jenaye Lanser-Block

☎ m: 0401 497 612

📧 E: greenvalemusicschool@gmail.com

TUITION

Art Studio – Drawing and Painting

The Studio provides Drawing and Painting Tuition for students of all ages. After school classes are run by a qualified teacher in small groups with materials provided..

Contact details:

Silvia Parisi

☎ m: 0414 466 572

Hume Maths and English Tutoring

Year 4, 5 and 6 Maths and English tutoring. Available in Greenvale, Attwood, Westmeadows, Gladstone Park, Tullamarine and Craigieburn. For further details, please phone Yullia on 0405 380 267.

Contact details:

Yullia Beteramia

☎ m: 0405 380 267

📧 E: yulliabeteramia@yahoo.com

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Thank you to all the above service providers for submitting your applications.
We look forward to receiving many more from our College community.

Yours sincerely

Siothian Short

President - Aitken College Parents & Friends Association

