

2 June 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

National Reconciliation Week has been a time of listening, learning and celebrating culture. Our College commitment is to teach our students that Australian land always was and always will be Aboriginal land and we encourage each member of our community to be allies of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Our students have filled us with pride throughout this week. It was a wonderful surprise to see them so sensitively speak about what reconciliation means to them on the big screen at GMHBA Stadium, during the Sir Doug Nicholls Round. They warmed themselves around the firepit in the Yarning Circle as they shared time with friends, and they led the Commissioning of new FIRE Carriers during a spirit-filled Assembly on Tuesday. FIRE Carrier and First Nations students built new friendships and shared understandings of culture as they worked together to design images for the possum skin cloaks which will be worn during significant events of the future. Students cooked with native ingredients, they coloured the words of the Reconciliation Week competition, and they fiercely battled to win their class Kahoot. The sounds of First Nations musicians filled the schoolyard.



A very special opportunity was gifted to the College which enabled a small group of staff and students to attend the Give Where You Live Foundation 'Conversations That Matter' Lunch. The raw emotion of speakers including Simon Flagg from Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-Operative, Corrina Eccles, Traditional Owner, and Nova Peris, Olympian and past Federal Senator, filled us with sadness, disbelief and desperate hope that the referendum will result in a First Nations Voice being heard in Parliament. Conversations, sharing new insights, made it into family homes and we hope that these conversations will make a difference in the future that our young people will experience.



This week reminds us that hearing the truth can be hard, but it is a necessary step to inspire action to right past wrongs. As a Catholic community, we recognise that by raising awareness and knowledge of reconciliation, all people can Be a Voice for Generations. Through deep listening, connection with Country, sharing stories and having the courage to speak out for equity, fairness, and justice, we conclude Reconciliation Week by praying for a reconciled nation that assures the dignity of all and which celebrates our shared cultural identity with great pride.



Food Tech – Reconciliation Week



As part of Reconciliation Week, Food Technology classes across Years 8-10 have been incorporating indigenous ingredients into our recipes. The Year 8's cooked Lemon Myrtle Chicken wraps and the Year 9's Lemon Myrtle Cheesecake. While the Year 10's finished off the week cooking several different dishes to showcase the variety of uses of indigenous ingredients. Their menu included Native herbed Sausage Rolls with Tomato and Pepperberry relish, YoYo biscuits with Chocolate and Wattleseed icing and Lemon Myrtle icing and finally Lemon Myrtle scones. All the creations were delicious and enjoyed by the students and some lucky staff members.

Jacqui Huxtable and the Food Tech Foodies

Iona Pathways Network

This term, the Pathways Team is excited to be launching the Iona Pathways Network, a network that we hope will draw local businesses and organisations to support and provide experiences and knowledge to our students. We aim to build a resource our students can use and learn from as they progress into their senior years, by helping them explore potential pathways after school and introducing them to areas of work they didn't even know existed.

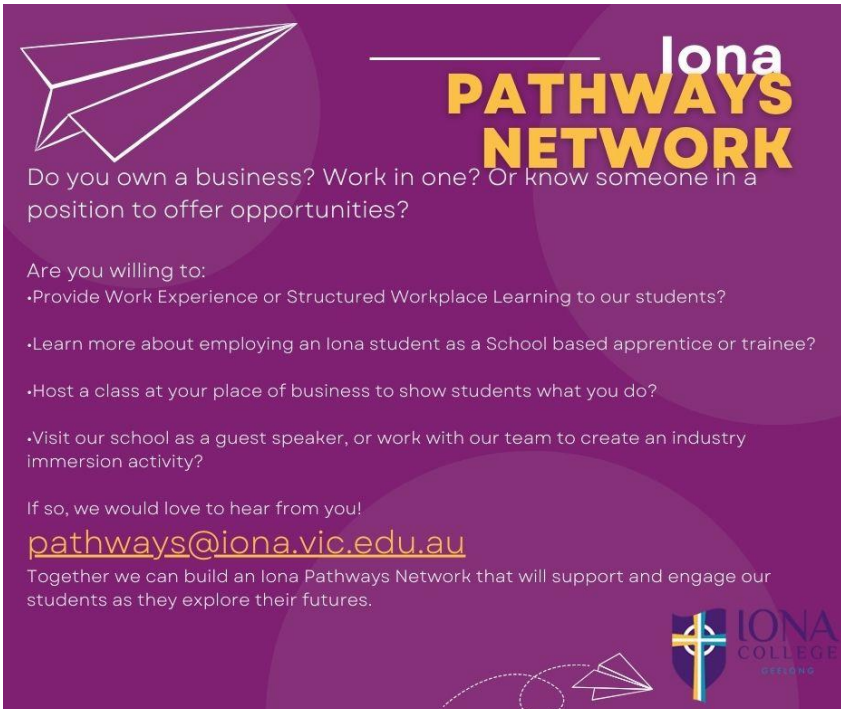
We know that when students can see real world outcomes in their learning, they are more inclined to engage and experience success. Work Experience, Structured Workplace Learning, School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships, Industry excursions and immersions are all brilliant ways that we can bring these real-world experiences to our students. They create opportunities and introduce students to new ideas!

Most schools have established links with businesses and industries through years of ongoing engagement. They have a database of contacts they can draw on as required. This is where we are different. Iona is still in its infancy... and therefore we are reaching out to you – our Iona College Community.

We are looking for a range of people and businesses to:

- Provide Work Experience or Structured Workplace Learning to our students,
- Learn more about employing an Iona student as a School-based Apprentice or Trainee,
- Host a class at your place of business to show students what you do,
- Visit our school as a guest speaker, or
- Work with our team to create an industry immersion activity

Can you help us in any of these areas? Or do you know someone who can? We would love to hear from you. If any of this has resonated with you and you would like to talk more about the Iona Pathways Network, please email pathways@iona.vic.edu.au



Iona
PATHWAYS
NETWORK

Do you own a business? Work in one? Or know someone in a position to offer opportunities?

Are you willing to:

- Provide Work Experience or Structured Workplace Learning to our students?
- Learn more about employing an Iona student as a School based apprentice or trainee?
- Host a class at your place of business to show students what you do?
- Visit our school as a guest speaker, or work with our team to create an industry immersion activity?

If so, we would love to hear from you!

pathways@iona.vic.edu.au

Together we can build an Iona Pathways Network that will support and engage our students as they explore their futures.



First Iona Duke of Edinburgh Award



At the end of Term 1 Ava Tadich received her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Ava is our first student to complete this award and worked significantly to complete all aspects needed. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an international global youth programme which challenges youth to dream big, engage in areas they may have not considered and endeavour to make a change in the world. Congratulations to Ava on this superb achievement. Ava is continuing her Duke of Ed journey towards her Silver Award.

School of Rock Tickets are now on Sale

2023 Combined Schools Production
Hosted by Sacred Heart College



We are very excited that tickets are now on sale for the Combined Schools Production. Be sure to your ticket [online now](#) so you are not disappointed.

Lunchtime Concert #2



It was wonderful to have 9 student performers involved in our 2nd Lunchtime Concert on Monday 29th May. Performers included Joseph Goodwin on drums, Ainsleigh Gray on vocals and a Year 10 band group. This group included Ashton Hageman, Star Lawson, Cody Hodgkinson Strahan, Cam Frame, Isabella Dunne, Kezia Berends and Thomas Asbell. A special thanks to Isabella Dunne for being our MC for the day and also to those students who came to be in the audience. Look out for our next Lunchtime Concert which is in Term 3 on the 24th of July. Sign up sheets are outside the Music Room.

Winter Soiree



On Thursday 31st August we are presenting our Winter Soiree. We have some wonderful performances planned and over 50 students involved. If your child is involved, you will receive an Operoo for their attendance and more details will come directly to them. We are pleased that as well as individual performances, we will have our Concert Band, String Ensemble and Choir perform.

[Seats can be booked online](#)

Tickets are free but we would like to confirm numbers for the audience set-up.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on music@iona.vic.edu.au

Jodie Townsend

Teacher / Music / Innovation Leader (Pedagogy & Instruction)

MACSSIS School Improvement Survey

Each year the Melbourne Archdiocese requests all schools under their governance to complete the MACSSIS school improvement survey. The MACSSIS school improvement survey allows students, staff and families to have their say and provide critical feedback to assist the college and Melbourne Archdiocese in future planning and growth. Please find the link to the [MACSSIS 2023 Letter of Informed Consent](#). I advise families to read the Informed Consent form and to contact the college if any further information is required.

Michael Hughes

MACSSIS Coordinator/ ICT & Resource Manager

Lights for Learning Incursion



On the afternoon of Tuesday 30th May, fifty Year 9 and 10 students participated in the Origin Energy 'Lights for Learning' incursion. In building a small solar powered light for remote PNG communities, students learnt about STEM, renewable energy and global citizenship. A written message of support will accompany the solar lights and connect the recipients with our Iona students.

Mr Patrick Hagan
Teacher

Year 9 Recreational Pursuits Bounce Excursion



As part of our Recreational Pursuits elective class our students researched recreational facilities in our local community. They conducted risk assessments, calculated cost and travel options and then pitched their research findings to the class as a possible excursion for us to pursue this semester. Thank you, Diesel, Josh, Angus and Charlie for your efforts in planning and preparing us for this excursion. We all had fun challenging ourselves at Bounce. We are looking forward to our next excursion.

Mrs Gina Oliver
Teacher / Student Medical Officer

Artists of the Week

This week's artists of the week are our Year 8 students.

Butterfly/Dragonfly Paintings

Students explored colour, composition, contrast and other fundamentals of art, using watercolours, pencils and markers to achieve their final art piece. We have included the artwork of the following students: Caitlin McIntyre, Isabelle Giglio, Rocco Robinson and Nora Murray.





Hooded Plover

Students have created their interpretation of a visual story, based on the theme of the Hooded Plover, an endangered species indigenous to this area.

You can see how varied the students' explorations are, we love seeing the final artworks displayed as a group, showing the different perspectives, interpretations and materials used.



Please be reminded that Monday 12 June is the King's Birthday public holiday.

Thanks for your support,

Damian and Kylie