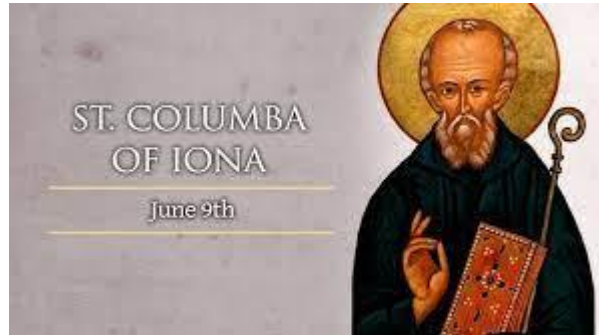


**9 June 2023**

Dear Parents and carers,



Today, we mark the feast day of our college patron, St Columba. Whilst as a school community, we will be officially celebrating St Columba Day at the end of Term 3, we acknowledge this important day associated with our College patron.

The word feast comes from the Latin *festes*, meaning 'joy' and symbolises a time of celebration, so on a Catholic feast day we remember and celebrate something or someone important to our faith. There are more than 10,000 officially canonised saints whom the Church celebrates throughout the year and June 9<sup>th</sup> is our saint, St Columba's feast day.

The story of St Columba dispels the myth that a saint's life is perfect. St Columba wasn't always a saint; he caused a bloody family feud leading to him fleeing his homeland in disgrace; he had some unusual ways, that we would challenge today, like banishing women and cows from Iona claiming, "where there is a cow there is a woman, and where there is a woman there is mischief"; and concerning he arranged the burying of his friend, Oran, who was alive, under the floor of the Abbey as he felt the building could not be complete without the finishing touch of a living person in the foundation.

Columba acted out of a strong sense of what was important, which to him was sharing the Gospels with others, but in living his life, he certainly needed forgiveness. He was courageous, persistent and showed leadership as he worked towards his goal. St Columba's story reminds us that our students and staff are imperfect, and they may not always get things right. Just like in St Columba's Day, it is by working together that our Iona community can address challenges and stay true to what we know is important.

Our prayer today is one of St Columba's:

*Be O Lord,  
a guiding star above me,  
a smooth path below me,  
a kindly shepherd behind me,  
and a bright flame before me;  
today, tonight and forever.  
Amen*

### A Place of Opportunity

A strong theme we often discuss at Iona is the number of wonderful opportunities we have as a school community. I often marvel at the many buses going in and out of Iona on numerous excursions, sporting pursuits, camps and experiences. Iona is a very 'busy' school community, and we are immensely proud of our students who are making the most of the opportunities that they have been afforded. I would also like to acknowledge the wonderful Iona staff who are always keen to support our students in their pursuit of these opportunities.

### Refugee Week

The theme for Refugee Week (18<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June) this year is '*Finding Freedom*' and this year we are invited to consider what it means to be free. To live without the fear of war, to have your basic human rights upheld, and to live in equality and without the fear of persecution are just some of the examples of what freedom can entail. Every day millions of people across the world embark on dangerous journeys for the sole purpose of finding safety and freedom. From Australia to nations across the globe, settling into a new environment after experiencing the perils of a refugee's journey can provide opportunities for the freedom to live, to love and to dream. In 2023, we seek a world where freedom is not something that is asked for but something that is a guaranteed way of life. We are reminded that, regardless of our differences, we all share a common humanity and deserve to be treated with dignity and love.

In the final two weeks of term, we will run a goods drive to support the [Geelong Settle Well program \(Catholic Care\)](#). This service supports refugee youth and mothers in the Geelong region to settle well and thrive in their new community by addressing challenges associated with resettlement.

We invite Iona students and their families to support this drive by donating from the following list of goods:

- Rice
- Oil
- Beans (not baked beans please as they are unsuitable for refugee families)
- Salt/Pepper
- Shampoo/Conditioner/Soap
- Deodorant/toothpaste/toothbrushes
- Toilet Paper/Sanitary Items
- Washing powder/dishwashing detergent

Each Community Group has been given a target to fill a shopping bag over the two-week collection period. Please consider donating at least one item as these contributions make a huge difference to the lives of refugee families in our local area. On behalf of these families, we say thank you.

# Helping Refugees

RE-SETTLEMENT SUPPORT FOR REFUGEE YOUTH & MOTHERS

## We are collecting:

- Rice
- Oil
- Beans (not baked beans)
- Salt/Pepper
- Shampoo/Conditioner/Soap
- Deodorant/toothpaste/toothbrushes
- Toilet Paper/Sanitary Items
- Washing powder/dishwashing detergent

## How to help:

Fill your Community Group bag with items from this list in the last two weeks of this term.

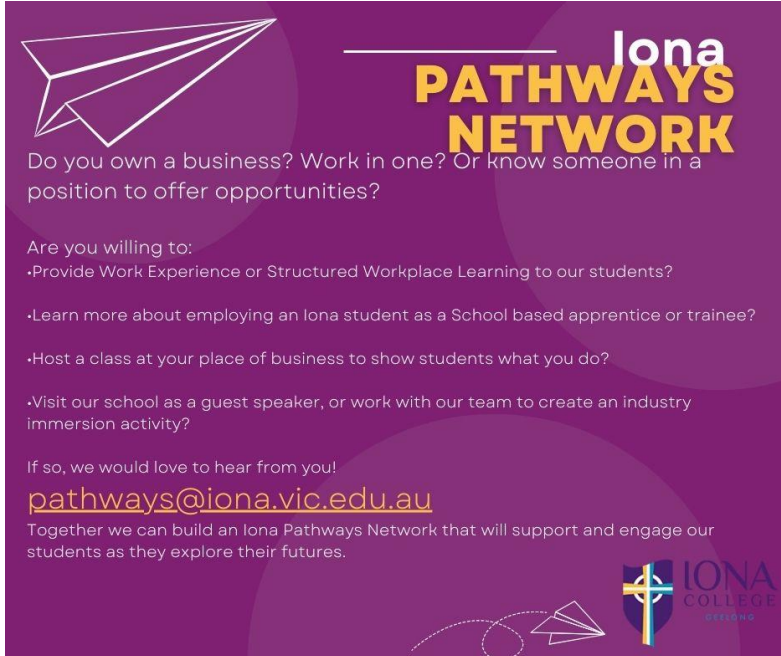
The goods will be given to a speaker who will attend our final-day assembly

## Resettling Refugees:

This service supports refugee youth and mothers in the Geelong region to settle well and thrive in their new community and addresses challenges associated with resettlement. They help teenagers and kids, connect with their school education to find pathways to further their education and gain confidence to achieve their aspirations. As well as increasing their sense of well-being and giving them the tools to deal with future issues and past trauma. They also help refugee mothers who have the additional challenge of supporting their children through school while navigating re-settlement. Catholic Care help with employment, financial support (food, bills) and other necessities through an emergency relief service.



## Iona Pathways Network



The flyer has a purple background. In the top left is a white paper airplane icon. To its right, the text 'Iona PATHWAYS NETWORK' is written in white and yellow. Below this, a question is posed: 'Do you own a business? Work in one? Or know someone in a position to offer opportunities?'. This is followed by a list of questions: '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?', and '•Visit our school as a guest speaker, or work with our team to create an industry immersion activity?'. Then it says 'If so, we would love to hear from you!' followed by the email address 'pathways@iona.vic.edu.au' in yellow. Below that, it says 'Together we can build an Iona Pathways Network that will support and engage our students as they explore their futures.' In the bottom right corner is the Iona College Geelong logo.

**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](mailto: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.

This term, the Pathways Team are 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](mailto:pathways@iona.vic.edu.au)*

#### Canteen Window Service Only – 16 June



Please note that the Canteen will be open for window service only during lunch on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of June. There will be no lunch orders and the canteen will be closed during recess.

#### Online Grooming – Resource for parents – Safe Bedrooms

Iona is a child safe school. We take child safety very seriously. We are here to support parents to ensure all of our students are safe from harm. The online space is a common frustration for families.

[The following website](#) has many wonderful resources and advice – this one, in particular, focuses on online grooming and what parents can do to recognise, react to and report issues. Safe Bedrooms is a suite of resources which equips parents and carers with the tools to lock predators out. Online grooming can happen to any child. **However, 97% of Australian parents and carers hadn't previously considered online grooming a threat.**

Through the series of videos and resources, parents and carers can learn about the warning signs of online grooming, how to protect your young person and what to do if you are concerned about a child. By becoming informed, you can keep your children safe online.

[Safe Bedrooms – 45 Seconds](#)  
[Safe Bedrooms - The Daniel Morcombe Foundation](#)

Kylie Power  
*Deputy Principal / Child Protection Officer*



### Does Your Young Person love Mathematics?



If your young person is in Years 7-9 and is interested in a challenging and fun Maths Project, please encourage them to email Ms Keating - [louise.keating@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:louise.keating@iona.vic.edu.au)!

The Melbourne University School of Mathematics and Statistics Research Competition gives students the opportunity to conduct mathematics research and solve mathematical problems. Students can work on their own, or in a team of 2 or 3, and there are prizes up for grabs!

Iona College will enter some teams in 2023. Students will have time at school to work on their projects together (or alone if they'd prefer). We will start our projects in Week 9 of this term – the competition ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July!

Expressions of interest should be in by next Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June! Looking forward to hearing from your young person 😊.

Louise Keating  
*Teacher / Numeracy Leader*

### Semester One Exams – Unit 1 and Year 10 Subjects

In Week 8 of Term Two, Year 10 students will sit semester-based exams in some of their subjects. The following subjects will hold exams

- Unit 1 Business Management
- Unit 1 Health and Human Development
- Unit 1 Art – Making and Exhibiting
- Year 10 Maths (Core and Pre-Methods)
- Year 10 Science (Core, Physical Science and Biological & Environmental Science)

For Semester One the exams will be conducted during the students' class time.

The aim of holding exams at Year 10 is to practise sitting formal assessment that spans content and core skills drawn from a full semester. This will help develop some of the skills in students to prepare them for senior studies. Teachers will work with students to prepare them for this new experience.

- It is advantageous in Year 10 to develop good study habits. Students need to balance study with their family and social and extra-curricular activities.
- As students begin to encounter more complex problems and develop the core skills required for senior studies, they need to revise on a regular basis to develop confidence and master core skills.
- Students at Year 10 should be completing the equivalent of 60 minutes of homework and/or study or 90 minutes if they are studying a VCE subject on each school night.

Exams for Year 9 students and further exams for Year 10 students will be held in Semester Two.

Please feel free to get in touch with Mr Steve Parker or Ms Anthea Sholl if you have any questions about exams.

### Iona Sports News

It's been a busy few weeks in Sport at Iona. Our Year 7 and 8 students are continuing their GISSA experiences with some competing against other schools in AFL, Soccer and Netball. Other students have chosen to spend their time at school on music, active pursuits, basketball and passive activities.

We've also had many students across all year levels heading out to compete in various sports and representing our College fantastically. Here are some highlights to acknowledge:

- GISSA Swimming at MSAC – Layla McInnes, Elliot Sullivan, and Charlie Parker all individually swimming well and hitting PBs.
- GISSA Track and Field Championships – a team of 76 athletes hit the track and did well across all events.
- GISSA AFL Intermediate Boys Championships – won three out of 4 games with Jack Nelson being named MVP.



- GISSA AFL Intermediate Girls Championships – won 1 out of 3 games with Siena Traficante being named MVP.





- GISSA AFL Junior Girls – made it to the semis and lost by a mere 5 points.
- GISSA Cross Country – first place in their age groups were Isaac Palmieri, Lila Tadich and Ava Tadich, with 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Jazz King and Tai Stewart.





- VIC Basketball Junior Boys and Girls – boys were unlucky but our girls' made finals winning all games on the day. The finals are next week in Melbourne.
- VIC Basketball Intermediate Boys – fought hard and represented Iona with pride on the day.



- VIC Basketball Intermediate Girls Final – not much success on the day but they put up a decent fight.
- Interschool Chess Tournament – a young team who showed great improvement and resilience throughout the day.



We wish our Junior girls' basketball team all the best in Wantirna South next Tuesday where they will compete in an attempt to win our very first State title!

### Artists of the Week

#### Junior School – Year 7

Students had the chance to brainstorm their favourite books from their childhood. Perhaps it was a book they had read to them every night or one they took with them everywhere. The process of recollecting their fond memories of childhood books and their characters were drawn in scenes, initially on paper, and then they moved to using Adobe Illustrator. They drew their linework and then mapped out how they would set their characters up in a scene which would be cut out of cardboard and etched using our laser-cutting machine.



**Brock de la Perrelle**



**Bridie Van der Heyden**



**Tahlia Casser**



**Billy Connor-Cabrie**

### **Year 10 from Cotton to Chenille**

The Students from Year 10 explored the design and construction process to come up with three designs of an interesting and unique Beanie. They were then required to choose a final design to complete. The Students had lots of fun and produced many different designs. Some of their designs can be found below:



**El Downing**



**Nalani Webber**



**Jess Hille**



**Leila Rees**



**Isabella Dunne**



**Star Lawson**

Thanks for your support,  
Damian and Kylie