

**19 May 2023**

Dear Parents and carers,

This week we had some exciting opportunities for our Year 7 and 9 students as they attended their annual camp at Phillip Island and Alexandra respectively. It was wonderful to witness the students enjoying the physical challenges associated with the adventure camps. As I said to one of our Year 7 camp groups before they left, camps can remain strong in the memories of our school days long after we progress to adulthood beyond secondary school. Thank you to the many staff who supported the students over the week. We especially acknowledge Mrs. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Mellor, Mr. Durran, and Mr. Walscott for their coordination of each camp experience.



As you may have seen reported in the media last week, two students from Whitefriars College in Donvale were hospitalised after suffering severe symptoms from vaping on school premises. The use of vapes or other similar products is a major health issue across the wider community, as well as here at Iona. This is in line with Australian statistics that indicate approximately one in three teenagers have engaged in vaping at some stage. Vapes or e-cigarettes produce several dangerous chemicals which health experts suggest can cause a range of health issues including lung, heart and other major organ damage, as well as seizures, fainting and injuries.

In response to this, we have developed a range of initiatives to address this issue with our students; this includes education for all students as part of our Wellbeing curriculum, along with punitive measures coupled with intensive education and reflection opportunities for those students found to have breached our school policy relating to vaping. This is in line with our commitment to providing a safe environment for all of our students here at the College.

Further to this, we have highlighted to all students the laws of Victoria relating to vaping. In Victoria, it is illegal for any person aged 18 or over to obtain, possess or use nicotine e-cigarettes, or e-cigarette cartridges containing nicotine, or nicotine liquids for use in a vaporiser, without a prescription. It is also illegal to sell e-cigarettes to, or buy e-cigarettes for, any person aged under 18 years whether or not the e-cigarettes contain nicotine. Whilst it is not unlawful for a person to possess or use e-cigarettes that do not contain nicotine, it is unlawful to use them on school premises or within four metres of a school entrance.

As a school, we will continue to work closely with our young people on this health issue, as well as communicate with parents/guardians relating to this matter. We encourage you to have conversations with your young person/people about the dangers associated with vaping and the possible repercussions of doing so.

For those wanting more information on this topic, [the following link](#) is to a great podcast from the Royal Children's Hospital.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding vaping or our stance on this as a College, please direct them to me, Deputy Principal Mrs. Kylie Power, Head of Student Wellbeing Mr. Ashley Mills, or a Year Level Wellbeing Leader. We thank you for your ongoing support.

### Cross Country

Throughout the fortnight, students have had the opportunity to compete in the Iona Cross Country here at the College. Students completed 2 laps of a circuit around the perimeter of the school ground, which was approximately 3km.

Congratulations to the following students who put in some fine performances on the day and were champions for their Year Level.

<b>Year 7 Male:</b>	Isaac Palmieri
<b>Year 7 Female:</b>	Lilli Bellears
<b>Year 8 Male:</b>	Jed McKenzie
<b>Year 8 Female:</b>	Lila Tadich
<b>Year 9 Male:</b>	Tai Stewart
<b>Year 9 Female:</b>	Jazz King
<b>Year 10 Male:</b>	Mitchell Penrice
<b>Year 10 Female:</b>	Ava Tadich

Success is not limited to our winners! Students who ran well will be invited to the GISSA Cross Country which will take place on the 31<sup>st</sup> May. Successful students will be notified within the next week.

We look forward to more opportunities this year in our GISSA competitions. Thank you to all students for their positive contributions so far.

Mr. Dean Henneman  
*Sport Leader (Internal/House)*

### Meet our College Nurse



Hi Iona Families, carers and students,

My name is Kate, and I am your new College Nurse. Whether it's administering first aid, managing medications or offering guidance on healthy lifestyle choices, I am looking forward to getting to know the students and being part of the Iona community. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any concerns regarding your student's health.

Kate Every - [Kate.Every@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:Kate.Every@iona.vic.edu.au)

### Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

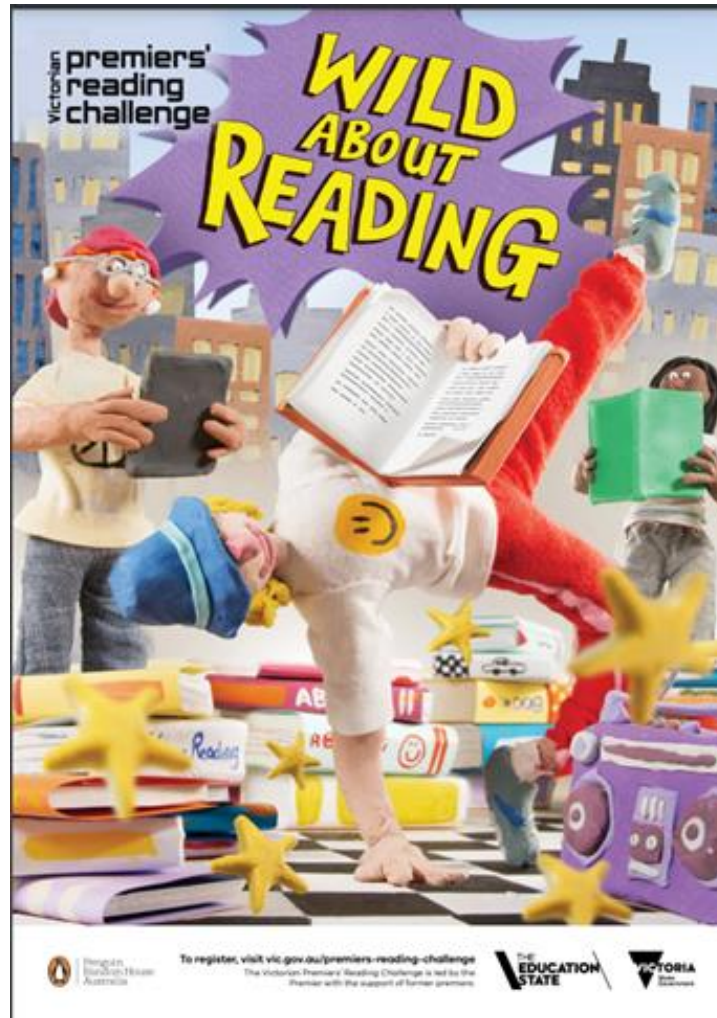
The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is now open and Iona College is excited to be participating. The Reading Challenge application that we have made for every Year 7 student offers a range of exciting features including:

- access to a library catalogue (including book images and blurbs)
- a modern user-friendly interface
- rewarding students with badges as challenge milestones are achieved
- the option for students to mark books as a favourite, give them a star rating or complete a book review

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 8 September 2023. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers. To read the Premier's letter to parents, view the booklist and for more information please visit the [Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge website](#).

All of our 2023 Year 7 students have been registered automatically by the College, however, if your young person is in Years 8, 9 or 10 and would like to be registered as a reader for Iona, please email their details to our Literacy Curriculum Coordinator, Kate McLaren [kate.mclaren@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:kate.mclaren@iona.vic.edu.au)



### Enhancements To Bus Tap-On Reporting

Over this past few weeks, we have been engaging with our bus students on the behaviours expected of them. This included a well-attended special assembly held last week by Mr. Mills in the Stadium where these expectations were clearly articulated to everyone in attendance. Mr. Mills has since made this presentation available to all bus students and their parents/guardians.

Students were reminded of the importance of continuing to use their ID cards or wristbands to tap on and off their allotted bus each trip – these being:

- We have a duty of care to know where our students are on a school day
- to ensure that buses are not overloaded; and
- to enable us to properly account for students in the event of an emergency and communicate effectively and efficiently with the parents/guardians of those students. The school bus crash in Eynesbury this week only serves to highlight the importance of this aspect.

Recent process and procedural changes undertaken in conjunction with McHarry's Buslines will now provide us with enhanced weekly reporting of student non-compliance to our bus regulations, including (but not limited to) students' ongoing failure to use ID cards or wristbands to properly tap on and off, and students boarding buses that they are not registered to take. As a way of helping to increase compliance with our processes, all bus students have been notified that there will now be consequences for ongoing non-compliance. Students who believe that their ID card is not working, or that it has been lost will be given the opportunity to have their card/wristband tested and/or replaced before further sanctions are applied and parents/guardians then notified.

We encourage all parents/guardians of bus travellers to use this opportunity to reinforce to your young people the importance of adhering to our bus regulations and to check if they have lost their ID card/wristband. From next week, parents/guardians can purchase a replacement ID card/wristband through the Online Shop – for more information, please find more information on this new process below under 'Update from ICT Regarding Purchases'.

### Seatbelts on Coastal IC Buses

In the wake of this week's tragic school bus crash at Eynesbury, we would like to remind students travelling on our coastal region buses of the importance of remaining seated and wearing the seatbelts that we commissioned the bus company to implement over the Summer break for you. Student safety is always at the forefront of our minds and seatbelts were introduced on these 6 buses to provide greater protection to students given that they travel along 100km zones. As a person who was involved and injured in a fatal bus crash as a student, I fully encourage students on these buses to 'own' their own safety, wear the seatbelts provided for them and not take the 'it won't happen to me' approach.

Mr. Carl Jones

*Accounts Receivable & Transport Coordinator*

## Launch of the Lunchtime Concert Series



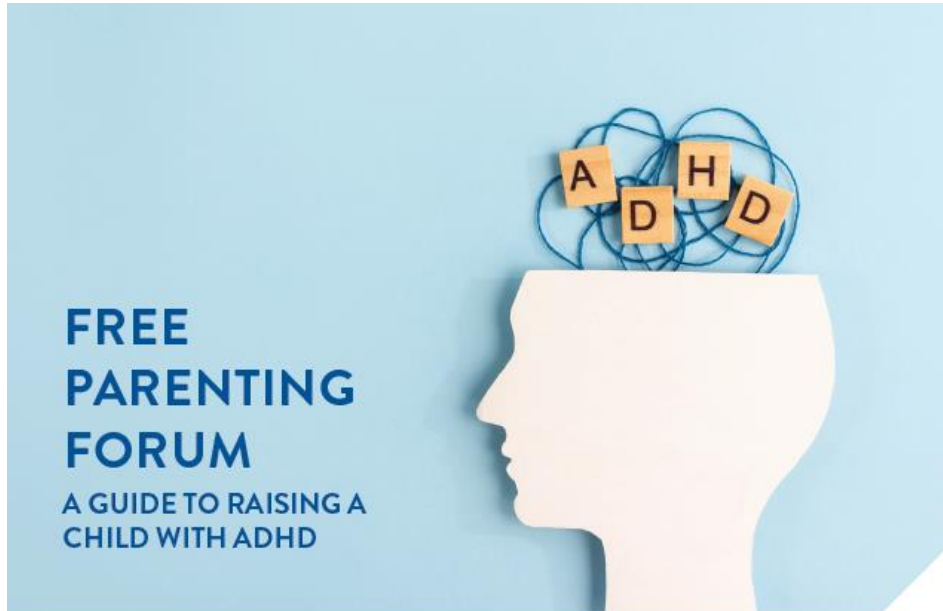
Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> of May we had our first Lunchtime Music Concert. Congratulations to Ainsleigh Gray (voice), Nalani Webber (voice) and Sam Powers (piano) who performed for us. I was really pleased to see the interest from the student community with many students coming along to support their peers.

Sign-up sheets are outside the Music Room and all students are welcome to participate. Get your musical groove on and join us.

Thank you again to our first performers, it was lovely to hear you play and sing with such confidence. Thank you also to our appreciative audience.

Ms. Jodie Townsend  
*Teacher / Music / Innovation Leader (Pedagogy & Instruction)*

A Guide to Raising a Child with ADHD Community Parenting Forum



**FREE  
PARENTING  
FORUM**

**A GUIDE TO RAISING A  
CHILD WITH ADHD**

There may be no psychological condition more controversial and provocative than ADHD. At one extreme, we see some people say it doesn't exist. Others say it's a result of poor parenting.

But for parents who are raising children with an ADHD diagnosis, their child's behaviour can seem like a wrecking ball.

In "A Parent's Guide to Raising a Child with ADHD", Dr Justin

Coulson will explore up-to-the-minute science on what ADHD is, why it occurs, and most importantly, what parents can do to create something at home that feels sane and balanced in an often chaotic climate. This presentation will:

- Explain what ADHD is, and is not.
- Unpack why ADHD is so controversial.
- Review science-supported strategies to help parents guide children with ADHD successfully.
- Provide practical solutions to help create willing participation in family life with a child with ADHD
- Offer family-strengthening tips to support parents, strengthen relationships, and build bonds.



**THURSDAY 8  
JUNE**

9.00am–10.30am

**VENUE**

OneHope Centre  
4–32 Province Boulevard,  
Highton

**BOOKINGS**

Scan the QR  
code



This is a free  
event but  
bookings are  
essential.

Please register for this event online [via the following link](#).

Sex, Consent and Staying Safe Community Parenting Forum



Dr Justin Coulson, one of Australia's leading parenting experts and father to six daughters, has put together a presentation designed specifically for parents of high school students.

How are we supposed to talk to our children – our teenagers – about consent, respect, alcohol and other drugs, staying safe, and all of the risks they face? Between us not knowing what to say, or when or how to say it, and our kids not willing to hear it, we're in a tough spot. But we have to have the conversations. We must. So where do we start?

In this session, you'll hear:

- What teenagers are getting up to in terms of alcohol, drugs, pornography, and sex.
- Why they think they know everything (and why it's so hard to teach them anything)
- Simple ways to have the conversations your teenager needs to have in a way that invites them to want to listen.

**WEDNESDAY 7  
JUNE**

7.30pm–9.00pm

**VENUE**

OneHope Centre  
4–32 Province Boulevard,  
Highton

**BOOKINGS**

Scan the QR  
code

This is a free  
event but  
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essential.



Please register for this event online [via the following link](#).

Reminder 'Adulthood 101' Workshop

All Year 9 and 10 parents and guardians are invited to an 'Adulthood 101' workshop presented by Batforce (Barwon Adolescent Task Force). This will be held in our new Resource Centre on Wednesday the 24th of May from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. No bookings are required.



# Adulthood 101

Iona College

Wednesday

24th May

6.00 - 7.30pm

**From birth we have 936 weeks before our Children turn 18, by the time they hit high school there are only around 260 weeks left!**

Year 9 and 10 come around very very quickly. This is a great time to sit and reflect on what skills we want our Children to have in their tool box as they continue to get ready to launch into Adulthood and begin to explore the steps from the school gate.

This workshop looks at:

- The importance of school family partnerships in the senior years
- How parents and carers can involve community in the raising of their Children.
- How they move from Little 'a' to Big 'A' and become independent people.
- Supporting the development of good decision making skills
- Healthy respectful relationship
- Help seeking
- Work readiness /psychologically safe workplaces (part time and full time)

This 90 minute session is a chance to come together & consider what may lay ahead. It will be interactive and a bit of fun.

Presenter Leigh Bartlett has delivered 100's of workshops to school communities, with a background in education, wellbeing & sports coaching she always presents from a place of 'Great Expectations'. She has also practiced the content on a few kids of her own.

Leigh truly believes that this is a great time to 'check in' & ensure our young people are well equipped for the adventure ahead.

*'We cannot be expected as Families to be able to answer every question, however, we can agree to go on the journey with them & support them while they find their feet & solutions.'*

## Iona Now Has an Equestrian Team!



We are excited to announce that Iona College now has an Equestrian team that will be competing in the Victorian Equestrian Interschool (VEIS) competitions throughout the year. Twelve keen equestrians from Years 7 to 10 have driven the move to form the Iona Equestrian team. Our first competitor, Abbie Marton from Year 8 competed last weekend at the Geelong Grammar Showjumping and Dressage Competition.

“We had an awesome weekend out at Geelong Grammar (Showjumping and Dressage Weekend) having some awesome clear rounds and a really amazing dressage with a really tricky crowd we just finished out of the top 6” Abbie Marton Year 8.

We look forward to future competitions throughout the year. Anyone keen to know more about or join the Iona Equestrian Team is encouraged to speak or email, Mrs Huxtable [Jacqueline.Huxtable@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:Jacqueline.Huxtable@iona.vic.edu.au)

### [Iona's Policies, Reports and Procedures Reminder](#)

Iona College features its policies, reports and procedures on the College website. We welcome you to spend some time familiarizing yourself with [our website](#) to know where these documents are listed. Here are some quick links to our policies, procedures and important information about our College:

- [Policies & Reports](#)
- [Child Safety Commitment](#)
- [Governance and the Iona College Advisory Council](#)
- [School Information](#)
- [Privacy and Complaints](#)

Please note that the Iona College [Annual Report for 2022](#) is now available online.

If you have any questions/queries relating to these documents, please contact Mrs. Andrea Walker our Risk & Compliance Officer at [compliance@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:compliance@iona.vic.edu.au).

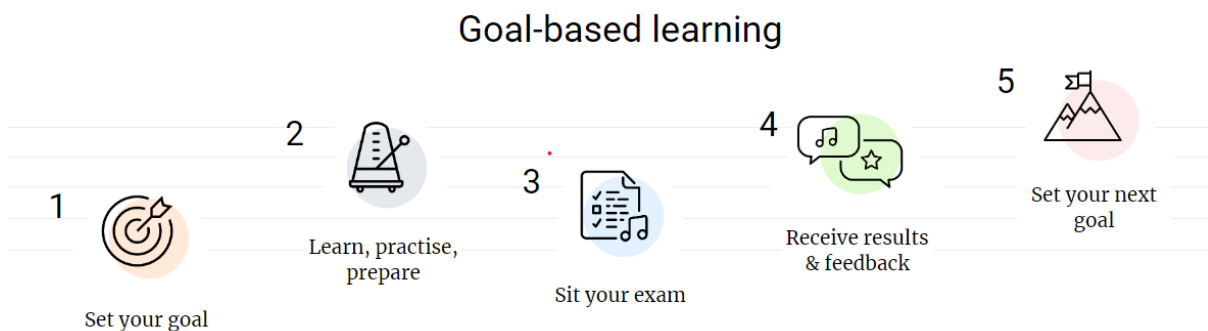
## Music Examinations – What are They?



The AMEB (Australian Music Education Board) is an institution that has been around for over a 100 years. Their examination system has developed and changed over the years, in particular in the last 10 years. Iona College is a registered school with the AMEB. Many parents may remember their AMEB experiences and while the essence of the ‘music exam’ as an assessed task has not changed, the format and options have changed significantly.

The AMEB examination system is well structured and provides great resources to students and teachers, is internationally recognised and uses highly skilled (and kind) examiners.

### What are the benefits of my child doing an examination?



Preparing for an examination requires a significant amount of planning and practice. This provides a motivating force for goals set by students.

1. Presenting for an examination challenges students to develop a broader range of skills on their instrument. Skills such as sight reading, specific techniques on their instrument, aural skills and general knowledge. It ensures that a child’s instrumental education is addressing elements that help with “overall music education”.
2. Provides a valuable performing experience. The examination itself and practice performances in the lead-up to the examination. As with any skill, performing needs to be done often for students to feel confident and comfortable.
3. Students receive personally written feedback from a highly qualified examiner in their instrumental area. This feedback will highlight areas of strengths and also give constructive ideas for future development.
4. Recognition of their achievement – all students who pass will receive a certificate. This certificate is a tangible reminder of a milestone achievement and a source of great pride.

The AMEB offer a large variety of examinations in speech, Drama, Media and Music. Some of the music examinations include:

*Repertoire – Students prepare pieces only for the examination*

*Comprehensive – Students prepare pieces, technical work, sight reading, aural tasks and general knowledge Theory – all students studying music can take these and these are done online. Ms T can help students with these up to Grade 2, after this private lessons would be needed for the time needed to cover all concepts.*

*P-Plate Piano – beginner piano students are non-graded but feedback is given.*

*Piano Debut – beginners on contemporary piano*

*Ensemble Performance & Band Grades – for orchestral players*

*Musical Theatre Singing*

*Piano for Leisure & Singing for Leisure – these focus on more contemporary repertoire, including a small amount of technical work and sight-reading OR aural tasks*

*Music Craft – aural and theoretical skills*

*Keys – contemporary piano/keyboard*

*Rock Programme – contemporary guitarists and drummers*

While examinations are not for all students some students do find they are motivating and like the way that they work progressively on their skills. Iona College will also be offering Internal Examinations which will offer another alternative for students and parents.

If you would like to explore the idea of your student working towards an examination, please email your teacher to discuss this. Examinations can take over 12 months to prepare for so planning, consistent practice and parental support are needed.

Ms. Jodie Townsend

Teacher / Music / Innovation Leader (Pedagogy & Instruction)

#### Update from ICT Regarding Purchases



When purchasing replacement ICT items such as ID Cards, wrist bands, chargers etc. The new process will now be completed through the College's online portal. <https://shop.iona.vic.edu.au>

A new category has been created called 'Student Equipment' Located under the Canteen Menu. Once the purchase has been made, ICT staff will be immediately notified of the purchase and have the new item ready for collection within 15 minutes. Students & parents/carers now have access to the Student Equipment online portal. Starting from Monday 22nd May, students will no longer be able to purchase items to be added to the College family fee account.

For further assistance please contact ICT support [Helpdesk@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:Helpdesk@iona.vic.edu.au)

### Artists of the Week

#### Junior School

Our Junior School Artists of the Week are the following Year 8 Students:

Ewan Sullivan, Geoff Charlesworth, Macy Cain and Charlotte Brereton.

After being inspired by the images shown to the class of people appropriating artworks during the lockdown, students needed to consider their own composition, materials and lighting. They were encouraged to work with friends and rope-in family members to create an interesting fun composition. Here are a few of our artist's interpretations:





**GEOFF CHARLESWORTH**

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**MACY CAIN**

ART APPROPRIATION  
OF Whistler's mother  
Anna McNeill Whistler.



**CHARLOTTE BRERETON**

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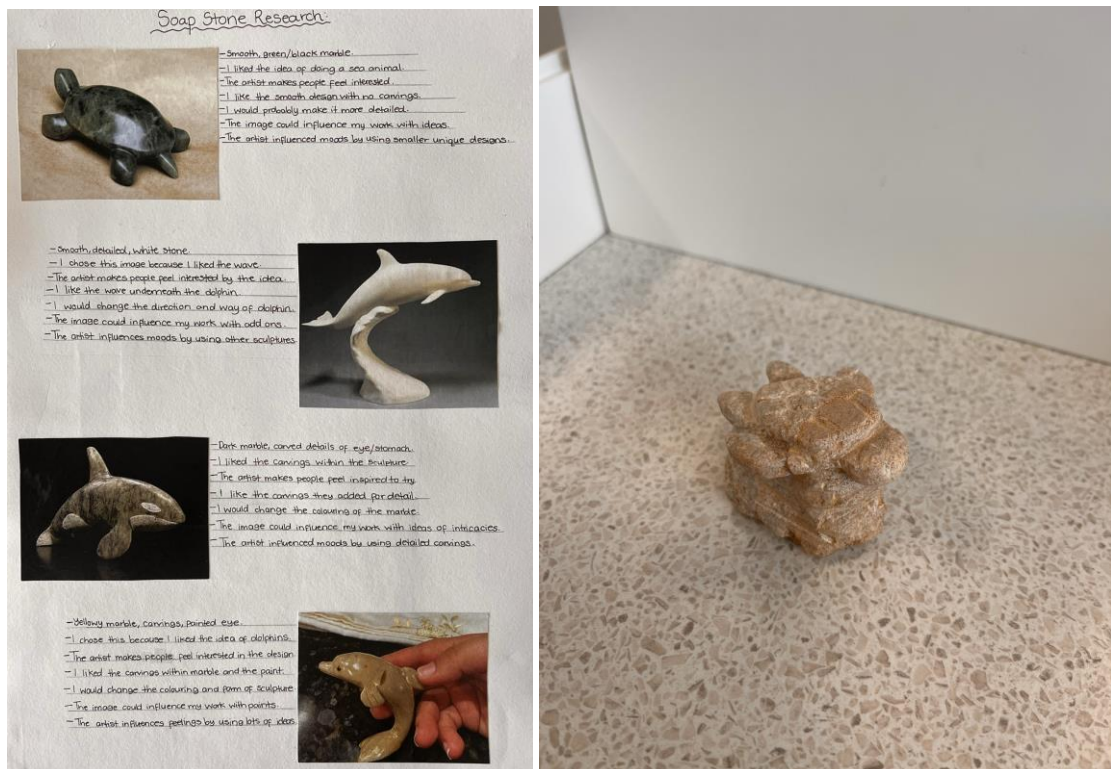
APPROPRIATION  
OF AMERICAN  
GOTHIC (1930)  
by Grant Wood



## Senior School

Our Senior School Artists of the Week are some of our Year 10 Visual Digital Art i-Create class who have completed their exploration in 3D Art, Soapstone sculpture. After sketching ideas in their Visual Diaries, working with the soapstone, carving, filing and sanding, the students have been able to produce some incredible sculptures with lots of detail.

### Ashley Morrison



**Ella Downing**



**Spencer Smith**



**Nazareth Parish- Position Vacant**

The Nazareth Parish is currently looking for a Liturgical & Sacramental Coordinator for the Nazareth Parish encompassing Grovedale, Torquay and Anglesea. For further information, including a Position Description, please email the Parish office, at [grovedale@cam.org.au](mailto:grovedale@cam.org.au).

### Invitation to Taize Pentecost Gathering

Please find an invitation below for a Taize gathering to celebrate Pentecost on Saturday 27th May at Santa Casa Queenscliff from 2.30 pm.



*An Invitation to people in  
the Bellarine Peninsula  
to come together for prayer and worship  
as we celebrate*

*Pentecost:  
God's Spirit in and among us*

*Where: Santa Casa  
33 Flinders Street Queenscliff  
Date: Sat May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 2.30pm  
followed by a cuppa at 3.30pm.*

*Please arrive a little earlier so we can  
begin on time and please also contact Lizzie  
to register on  
0418 194 261 or via  
[santacasa@ismapng.org.au](mailto:santacasa@ismapng.org.au)*

*Future gatherings in 2023:  
5<sup>th</sup> August, 7<sup>th</sup> October and 9<sup>th</sup> December.*

Thanks for your support,

Damian and Kylie