

**14 July 2023**

Dear Parents and carers,

We begin Term 3 acknowledging the generosity of our community which continues to grow in commitment to others.

We are pleased to share an email received from CatholicCare during the holidays which expresses the gratitude of local refugee families to our Iona families:

*“30 hampers were made for our clients with donations from Iona. The CatholicCare Victoria staff, who work directly with our refugees, were overwhelmed by the large donation and the quality of the items. Our staff began delivering the hampers on Tuesday to our clients, and many families were overwhelmed by the generosity. In particular, two large hampers were given to two of the largest families. They were very well received, especially being school holidays, the children were eager to see what was inside.”*

This term we focus on Leadership and encourage our students to explore ways that they can be leaders. We urge our students and staff to honour the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop, an incredible leader who established Australia’s first order of nuns, and who led the creation of schools, orphanages and refuges for women released from prison. She inspired a culture of giving by imploring people to “find happiness in making others happy”. Pope John Paul spoke of Sr Mary MacKillop’s courage in spreading the good news of Christ in cities and towns and the remote Australian outback; “In the vastness of the Australian continent, Blessed Mary MacKillop was not daunted by the great desert, the immense expanses of the outback, nor by the spiritual ‘wilderness’ which affected so many of her fellow citizens. With gentleness, courage and compassion, she was the herald of the good news among the isolated ‘battlers’ and the urban disadvantaged.”

Mary showed leadership, persistence and love for others as she dealt with many personal issues and obstacles. There is no doubt that doing something for others is a powerful way to bring about the Kingdom of God here on earth.

### Welcome

Along with welcoming several new students who are commencing with us this semester, we welcome our new staff members:

Jacqui Fenwick- teaching in the literacy space.  
Isabelle Dwyer- Humanities and Religious Education.  
Kelly Hunt- Learning Support Officer.  
Jedidaia Lelevaga- Learning Support Officer.

We look forward to getting to know our new students and staff over the remainder of the year.

### Combined Catholic Schools Musical

We were fortunate enough to attend the Combined Catholic Schools Musical production last night - “The Next Generation School of Rock -The Musical”. It was wonderful to see the many talented students from across our Catholic Secondary Colleges sharing their performing talents with us.

The shows are running over five days and have been sold out. Congratulations to our Iona students- Devi Berends, Kezia Berends, Isabel Campbell, Carter Dingle, Ainsleigh Gray, Emmy Hudson-Collins, Magdalena Jones and Paris Mahoney who were each amazing in the parts that they played. There is a huge commitment from students and families to be part of the combined musical and we congratulate all of them for their dedication.

### Indonesian Trip

At the end of last term and into the holidays, our inaugural Indonesian trip took place giving our students a wonderful language and cultural experience. Congratulations to all students for the positive way that they represented the College whilst away and to staff members Bu Haynes, Haintz, Jack and Hartup and Pak McKenzie for their efforts in facilitating and escorting the students on this experience.

### Maths Pathway at Iona College

If you have a Year 7 or 8 student at Iona College you would have heard them talk about 'Maths Pathway'. Maths Pathway is the program we have adopted in our mathematics classrooms here at Iona in the early years of secondary education. Maths Pathway is an individualised approach to learning – the program tailors mathematical tasks to each student's own level and delivers a course designed just for them, as well as provides detailed data on competency, effort and growth across the year. Maths Pathway is a holistic program with various components.

#### **During the Maths Pathway class your child may be:**

- Engaged in a 'Mini Lesson' with the classroom teacher and a small group of students
- Completing a whole class 'Rich Task', developing their problem-solving and mathematical reasoning skills
- Working on their individually assigned 'Modules', taking notes and completing set questions
- Receiving a 'Targeted Intervention' one-on-one from their teacher on a topic they need support in
- Testing themselves in a fortnightly 'Test' on topics they have covered
- Conversing with their teacher to review and set goals in a 'Check In'

We realise that this approach is different to a regular maths classroom. At Iona, we believe that Maths Pathway allows us to cater for each student as an individual, teach to students' abilities and needs, celebrate growth at every level and prepare them for the range of mathematical offerings we have at Year 9 and beyond.

During Term 3 at Iona College we will have a focus in our Year 7 and 8 mathematics classrooms on Measurement and Geometry – students will be working on these topics but at a variety of levels suited to them. Our whole class Rich Tasks will also encompass this theme.

We welcome any questions about our mathematics program and look forward to welcoming you to Iona College for an information session later in the Term. Please feel free to contact Louise Keating at the College at [louise.keating@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:louise.keating@iona.vic.edu.au) or by calling the main Iona Reception with any queries.

## Video games, online games and apps – Teenagers 12-18 years

### Keeping safe online – tips and Resources for Parents

Parents often find it difficult to know how safe games and apps are for their young person. For this age group, it's best to encourage [healthy gaming habits](#), rather than look for specific games or game features. Games that give your child a way to work with other people in a team are a good choice. You and your teen can also look for games that have positive messages about gender and race and promote respectful behaviour and attitudes.

**Avoid games that have an R18+ rating.** These games are designed for adults and often have a lot of violence, sexual content and drug use.

### Choosing video games, online games and gaming apps for teenagers

When you and your child are choosing video games, a good place to start is the [Australian Classification](#). Australian Classification gives video games a rating of G, PG, M, MA15+ or R18+. A game's rating is determined by the game's themes, violent content, nudity, sexual activity, language and drug use. The rating also takes into account how often this content appears, how much detail is shown, and how real it looks.

Note that the Australian Classification doesn't currently cover games for phones and tablets. But these games do have age recommendations, and you can set parental or family controls to limit downloadable content to an appropriate age level.

To work out whether a game is high quality, has recognised educational benefits, and is appropriate for your young person, you can also check:

- [Common Sense Media's game reviews](#) and
- [Common Sense Media's app reviews](#)
- [Children & Media Australia's app reviews](#)

Kylie Power

*Deputy Principal/Child Protection Officer*

### Rocking out During the Holidays

Congratulations to three of our students who are currently part of Tribe Music and performed with their bands at the Barwon Club during the holidays - Cody Hodgkinson Strahan (guitar), Jenna Goerke (keyboard) and Billy Connor-Cabrie (drums). It was fantastic to see our musicians representing us so well out in the community. We hope to see these three perform at one of our concerts in Term 3. Congratulations on your commitment to music-making!



### Year 9 Headspace Information Presentation

We trust this finds you well and importantly we hope that your young person has enjoyed some downtime with friends and family over the holidays. We are excited to offer families the opportunity to come onto campus and hear from presenters from Headspace. For those that do not know, Headspace is the National Youth Mental Health Foundation. They are strong supporters of the early intervention for mental health services for our 12-18-year-olds. Headspace will host a session regarding the mental health of our teenagers. This session will provide examples of ways that we can support our students with important methods to start these conversations. The evening will also include presentations from Kylie Power (our Deputy Principal) and other members of the Iona Wellbeing team. We will be discussing pathways and proactive ways in which we can all support our students through these challenging years by creating a connection between school and home. These presentations will occur on **Tuesday 25th from 5.30 pm – 7.30 pm** in the newly built Resource Centre. Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be served and as such would appreciate it if parents could [RSVP via this link](#). Please note if you have already completed this form you are not required to do so again.

We appreciate your ongoing support.

Craig Durran and Andy Walsgott  
*Year 9 Level Wellbeing Leader and Assistant Year 9 Wellbeing Leader*

### Mathematics Competition



At the end of Term 2, we were proud to present some award winners of the Kangaroo Sans Frontiers – the largest online mathematics competition in the world!

We give our congratulations to all participants for challenging themselves with this task and in addition, want to celebrate some special achievements:

**Credit recipients (top 50% of student results Australia wide):**

James Barry, Serena Caimano, William Cuttriss, Carter Dingle, Imogen Heffer, Josh Hill, Cleo Ivens, Finn Kelly, Annette Kizhakkebhag, Tiana Le, Jack Walsh, Griffin Taylor-Shaw, Ava Saw, Jett McAuley, Jed McKenzie, Logan Smith, Max Wallace, Thomas Asbell, Lily Dingle, Tyce Hodge, Gurleen Jaswal, Xavier Kapp, Edwin Kizhakkebhag



**Distinction recipients (top 15% of student results Australia wide):**

Saya Turnley, Lachlan Meighan

Well done to all our students who participated! If you were not here to accept your certificate at the end of Term 2, please see Ms Keating to collect it.

Early in August, we will be participating in the Australian Maths Competition. Any student who would like to attempt this competition is very welcome. Please speak to your maths teacher to indicate your interest.

Louise Keating  
*Teacher / Numeracy Leader*

**Indonesian Study Tour Adventures Update 2**

Throughout week 2 of the Indonesian Study Tour the students continued to embrace the language, culture and heat of Yogyakarta, Indonesia. On Thursday we started with a language lesson by the pool, followed by an Amazing Race down the popular street of Jalan Malioboro. Students solved puzzles, answered questions, had to buy clothes for the group on a budget and rode becaks. In the afternoon we went to Prambanan Temple had dinner with a picturesque view and watched the Ramayana Ballet. Friday called for a more relaxing start with options for bartering at the market, chilling at the mall or relaxing at the hotel in the morning. In the afternoon we learned how to cook the traditional Indonesian foods of nasi goreng, sate ayam and onde-onde in a restaurant with stunning rice field views. We enjoyed our creations for dinner together.



On Sunday we made the journey to Ubud, Bali. We had an eventful few days in the beautiful holiday destination. On Monday we explored Besakih temple. At the top, we enjoyed a refreshing coconut and tried out some fresh mangosteen and passionfruit. Afterwards, we had a buffet lunch with an outstanding view of Lake Batur. On Tuesday we ventured north to "Rumah Desa". There we assembled Hindu offerings to the Gods, got busy in the kitchen cooking Balinese dishes and learned dances in traditional dress. Each student received a unique necklace with a coin symbolising values such as harmony, serenity, happiness, wisdom or protection along with their names written in traditional Balinese Sanskrit. On Wednesday we visited Ubud market for souvenir shopping. Students boasted about their newfound bartering skills and enjoyed interacting with the locals.

We ventured into the Monkey Forest but it didn't last long with students (and staff) feeling a bit scared after a monkey stole our sunscreen. Nothing an afternoon dip in the pool didn't fix! The silver-making class was enjoyed by all on Thursday – many students chose to make something for a family member and others made something to remember the trip by. We said goodbye to Indonesia on Friday evening with an overnight flight which arrived in Melbourne at 4:30 am. We were exhausted but seeing our families at the airport was a very special reunion.

While the activities were fun and the culture spectacular, the highlight was the connections made with the local people. The Iona students were very popular in Indonesia!

Salam hangat (warm regards)

Bu Hailey, Pak Tom, Bu Jack, Bu Deb dan Bu Anna



### Music in Term 3

We are heading into what will be a busy term for our musicians. There are many performance opportunities for our students. Sign up sheets for concerts are outside the Music Room. We are asking that **students take responsibility for signing themselves up for these events**. We hope that by encouraging them to sign up themselves we are helping to build their organisational skills and take a proactive approach in their musical journey.

### What is on?

- Winter Soiree #2 – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August (bookings will open soon)



- Carmina Burana – combined choral concert on 31<sup>st</sup> of August (bookings will open soon)
- Spring Soiree – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September
- Columba Day Open Mic – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September (signing up for this event will be managed by the Year 10 Music Technology Performance class – more information to come)
- Lunchtime Concerts (Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September)

All concerts have a limit of ONE solo item per person and a 4 minute time limit. Keep a look out for our Year 10 Music Virtual Concert near the end of this term.

### Carmina Burana

It is not too late for any parents, family or friends to join the choir for this event. Rehearsals are after school on Thursday and the performance is on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August.

### Music Lessons

Just a reminder that students can check the Music Noticeboard for their lesson times. They are also able to see a class pass for their lesson in their SIMON timetable on the day of their music lesson.

Remember if your child is going to be absent, please let us know. As per the Terms and Conditions, 48 hours notice is needed for a lesson to not be charged.

While we try to look forward and navigate upcoming school activities this is not always possible, so we ask that students look ahead and help us by letting their teachers know if they have a school activity ahead of time.

Please as always, email [music@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:music@iona.vic.edu.au) with any queries, please note that this email address is not monitored every day. If your query is urgent, please email me directly [Jodie.townsend@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:Jodie.townsend@iona.vic.edu.au).

Jodie Townsend

*Teacher / Music / Innovation Leader (Pedagogy & Instruction)*



## Canteen Volunteers Wanted



Firstly, a **huge** thanks to those who are already volunteering in our canteen – we so appreciate and value your time and contributions.

We are still on the lookout for volunteers to assist in our popular canteen. If you are willing to give some time to volunteer in our buzzing canteen, please [complete this online form](#). Once you have completed the form, you will receive more information on how to become a volunteer. If you have already completed the form, no need to complete it again, please check your emails, including junk mail for further instructions from [compliance@iona.vic.edu.au](mailto:compliance@iona.vic.edu.au). A current Working With Children Check (Volunteer) is required.

### Congratulations

We congratulate staff members Maddie Thompson (and Sean) on the arrival of 'Henry Keith' Thompson on Saturday 24 June weighing 3.42 kg and Steve Parker (and Jo) on the arrival 'Siala Grace' Parker who was born on Monday 26 June weighing 3.165 kg.

Thanks for your support,

Damian and Kylie