

13 October 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

Prayer is a central part of our Catholic tradition as the practice deepens our relationship with God and connects us to the church community and the wider world. The ritual of prayer can be a source of calm and comfort in times of loss, hopelessness, worry, joy and profound discovery. Prayer unifies, heals, brings clarity and strengthens. It gives us a way to respond when we feel at a loss about what to do. Catholics are pretty good at saying "I'll say a prayer for you" and for good reason; prayer has the power to bring hope at times when hope is needed.

It seems that our world needs some prayers at the moment. We need some prayers for the people of Afghanistan who were rocked by an earthquake on Saturday. An earthquake where more than 2,000 people, mostly women and children, were killed. Reports suggest that the death toll was high after families rushed into their homes for shelter, thinking that they were being bombed again, to be met instead by a quaking, splitting earth that led to homes collapsing on those who merely wanted safety.

We need some prayers for the people of Ukraine where war has continued to rage, ravaging humanity and the environment, but quietened in the media as the world moves on.

We need more prayers for those desperately holding on and seeking peace on a new fierce battlefield that emerged this week when the militant group, Hamas, launched a surprise attack on Israel. The taking of hostages, considerable loss of life, threat to neighbouring countries, civilians in Gaza being denied essential supplies, such as food, water, fuel and medicine, and people fleeing for their lives; the reports of this war are horrific and prayers for peace are needed.

Closer to home, we need prayers to support the Australian community as we wake on Sunday morning. A defining moment has arrived with an invitation for Australians to determine whether our First Peoples will be recognised in the Constitution, whether they will have a Voice in decisions that impact them, and whether hurt will linger, be exacerbated, or be remedied. We pray that the outcome of the referendum will bring peace to our hearts and confidence to forge ahead with hope for reconciliation and a brighter future for all Australians.

In light of this current world and possibly a feeling of being powerless to help, perhaps we might find some solace in prayer, in a quiet moment, free from distraction so that we can speak to God. We could form words in our minds or speak words quietly from our hearts, simple words. We pray for peace. We pray for lives lost. We pray for families. We pray for an end to violence, oppression and hatred. We pray for justice and we pray for love. Amen

[Join us for a Democracy Sausage as we Feed Geelong](#)

We invite you to visit Iona tomorrow to cast your vote in the comfort of our Resource Centre. Our friendly Iona staff will be cooking Democracy Sausages and selling delicious treats, drinks and pre-loved books. Proceeds go to Feed Geelong which is focused on ensuring that nobody in the Geelong region goes hungry. We are actively supporting the Feed Geelong Lunch Money Challenge by feeding hungry voters and promoting donations through [this link](#) or via the QR code featured below. We thank our community for any contribution that can be made.



GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION

FEED GEE LONG 
APPEAL

16-22 October


DONATE TODAY!

GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE FOUNDATION | **FEED GEE LONG** 
APPEAL

#FeedGeelong
HELP MAKE SURE NOBODY IN OUR COMMUNITY GOES HUNGRY

Help make sure nobody in our community goes hungry

Appeal Partners:



Student Leadership Camp

Over the course of this week, our student leadership team attended a camp in Trafalgar. This was a great opportunity to work together on a vision for the future of Iona and also bond with each other through adventure challenges. Thank you to our student Leadership Coordinator, Mr Wood, as well as Mr Mills, Ms O'Callaghan and Ms Dobai for facilitating and supporting the students with this camp.

First Aid Update



I wanted to let our parents know that there has been a recent occurrence of gastroenteritis within our community. As it is highly contagious and can spread easily in schools, it's important to be proactive. Here are a few key messages:

Gastroenteritis is an inflammation of the stomach and intestines often caused by viral or bacterial infections. It leads to symptoms like diarrhoea, vomiting, stomach cramps and sometimes fever.

Prevention:

- Simple Handwashing and Good Hygiene -encourage proper handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds to reduce the risk of infection.
- Clean Surfaces - regularly disinfect common surfaces and objects, to minimize the spread of germs.

Return to school:

- If your child is experiencing symptoms of gastroenteritis, it's important to keep them at home to prevent spreading the illness to others and notify the College.
- Although your young person will typically feel better within a day, they will be contagious for a few days after. In accordance with the Department of Health, students should stay home from school or childcare for at **least 48 hours** after the last time they vomit or have diarrhoea.

Thank you for your assistance. [Better Health provides further information](#) on Gastroenteritis.

Kate

Iona and Timor-Leste – Donut Day Fundraiser

This week some selected RE classes attended a presentation by Margie Beck, former Deputy Director of Bacau Teachers College. Margie shared her experiences about the wonders and challenges of life in Timor-Leste, with a focus on education. The students identified Margie's character strengths of bravery, gratitude and hope.

Recently, Iona College has established a sister-school with St Estevao Years 10-12 in Viqueque. The students in the social justice portfolio have decided it is a wonderful opportunity to sell donuts to raise funds for classroom supplies at the school. Doughnuts will be handed out to the students who have preordered them during break 1 on Friday November 3rd.



DONUT DAY
For Timor Leste

FRIDAY 3rd November @ Break 1

Preorder doughnuts from 23rd October
until 31st October via canteen online.
\$2.50 a doughnut, \$1 goes to our Sister
School in Timor Leste.

Dietary options available (Vegan & GF)



Almost 50% of the people in Timor Leste live in
multi-dimensional poverty lacking adequate
health, education and standard of living.
A small donation can go a long way.

The cost of each donut is \$2.50 with \$1 from every donut sold going to our sister school. The donuts will be made available to purchase from October 23rd and close on Monday October 31st.

Melbourne University Brass Day



On Monday 8th October Elizabeth and Asher were fortunate to attend a workshop with the Melbourne University Conservatorium of Music – Brass faculty as part of the University's outreach program. Christian College hosted the event and brass players and staff were invited to attend. Students were taken through their "paces" with some warmup exercises, listened to a marvellous concert from the Melbourne University players, were able to ask questions about musical life at university and then lastly combine with these tertiary brass players/staff to perform a song together. The staff from Melbourne University are world class performers and to have the opportunity to play with them and their students was a great privilege. An excellent morning of music making for all. Thank you for Christian College and Melbourne University.

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



PSW Exclusive Shopping Days

PSW has arranged 'Exclusive' Shopping days for current and future Iona families in Iona's Resource Centre on the following dates:

Monday 23rd October 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Tuesday 24th October 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Thursday 26th October 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

This is the perfect opportunity for upcoming Year 7 2024 students to get their uniforms fitted. All fittings are by appointment only and have to be booked online – please head to PSW's website and click on 'Uniform Fitting – Book Appointment' scroll down and select 'Iona College Geelong'.



SPECIAL EVENT

YOU ARE INVITED TO

EXCLUSIVE

VIP SHOPPING DAYS

WITH PSW

AT IONA COLLEGE

APPOINTMENT ONLY	PAYMENT	DELIVERY
<small>PLEASE HEAD TO OUR PSW WEBSITE AND CLICK ON YOUR FITTING APPOINTMENTS UNDER THE SCHOOL NAME.</small>	<small>PORTABLE PAYMENT OPTIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE. NO CASH/BALDS.</small>	<small>NO GARMENTS WILL BE HANDED OVER ON THE DAY. ALL ORDERS WILL BE DELIVERED TO HOME BY SCHOOL IN JANUARY.</small>

IONA COLLEGE RESOURCE CENTRE
242 HORSESHOE BEND ROAD,
CHARLEMONT VIC 3217
(03) 5229 0004

SCHEDULED DATES: MONDAY 23RD OCTOBER, 8:30AM – 4:30PM
TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER, 8:30AM – 4:30PM
THURSDAY 26TH OCTOBER, 4:00PM – 8:00PM

VISIT PSW.COM.AU



242 Horseshoe Bend Road
Charlemont VIC 3217

p: 03 5229 0004
e: reception@iona.vic.edu.au
iona.vic.edu.au

Iona Meet the Team



The graphic features the Iona College Geelong logo in the top left corner. A large, light blue oval on the right side contains a portrait of Taylah Stevenson, a young woman with long dark hair, smiling. To the left of the oval, the text 'IONA MEET THE TEAM' is written in white on a dark blue rectangular background. Below this, 'TAYLAH STEVENSON' is written in white. Underneath her name, the word 'Teacher' is written in white inside a yellow rounded rectangle. At the bottom left of the graphic, the quote 'Gentle pressure, relentlessly pursued' is written in yellow.

Meet Taylah Stevenson, one of Iona's awesome teachers. Taylah is all about helping young people reach their potential and become outstanding contributors to society.

Taylah's favourite part of her job is building genuine relationships with our young people. She loves how honest teenagers are. As for footy, Taylah proudly supports Carlton. She's also a twin mom, so she knows a thing or two about juggling multiple roles. Taylah is also a pet parent to two adorable dogs, Lola and Frankie.

Taylah joined the Iona Team because of the workplace culture, which is all about supporting student and staff wellbeing – something she's passionate about. Her favourite part of working at Iona so far is having the opportunity to shape the school's culture. Being part of a new and developing school is a unique privilege.

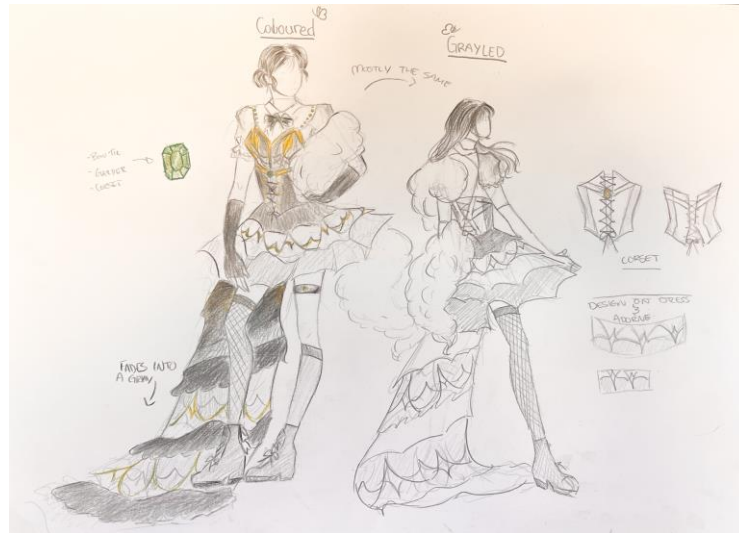
For our students, Taylah offers these lighthearted words of wisdom: "Gentle pressure, relentlessly pursued." It's a fun way to encourage persistence in pursuing their goals.

We're truly grateful for the daily dose of Taylah's positive energy, unwavering kindness and wholehearted dedication to our students at Iona!

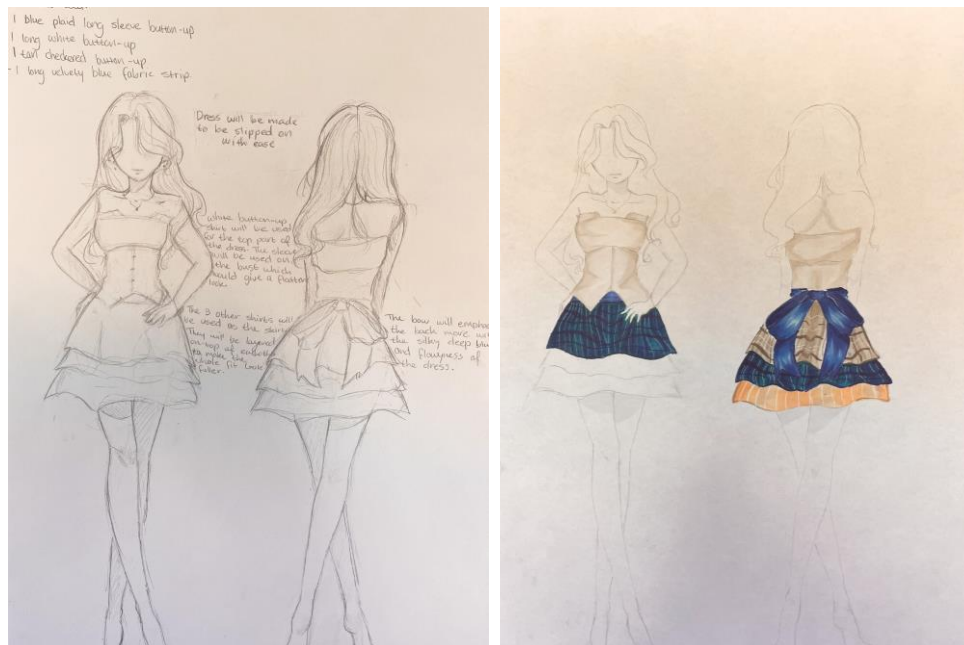
Art Department News

This week we are featuring some illustrations from Sandhra in Year 9 Textiles.

Sandhra worked on a design concept for her Met Gala design in grey lead pencil and coloured pencil:



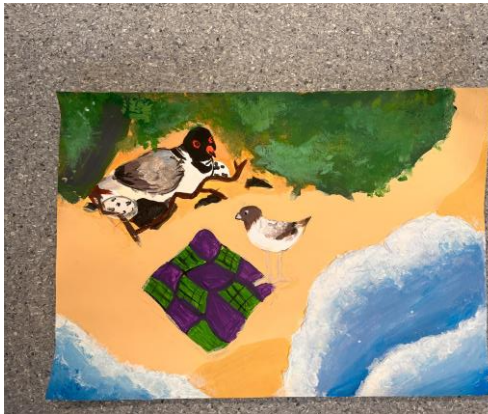
Sandhra also worked on an Upcycle design challenge – students repurposed a men’s shirt into another outfit. The sketches below feature her design concept including initial sketches and annotations in pencil, and her final concept in Copic markers:



Final Tote Bag Designs



Year 8 Hooded Plover



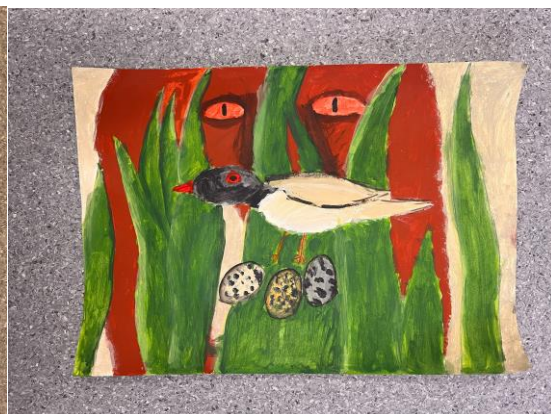
Asher Read



Darbi Webber



Alice Rittinger



Ethan Szymczak

Materials: Fineliner, markers and coloured pencils

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

Term 4 Dates to Remember

Cape York, Year 11 2024 Online Parent Information Session	Monday 16 October, 6 pm
Year 7 Online Parent Information Night	Tuesday 17 October, 6 pm
Lunchtime Concert	Monday 23 October
Combined Schools Solo Concert	Thursday 2 November, 6 pm
Mid-Term Break	Monday 6 November & Tuesday 7 November (Melbourne Cup)
VCE Information Evening for Parents and Students	Thursday 16 November – Resource Centre, 6 pm
Summer Soiree	Thursday 23 November – Iona Stadium, 6 pm
Lunchtime Concert	Monday 27 November
Carols@Iona	Wednesday 6 December – 6 pm
End of School Mass – Formal Uniform Day	Thursday 7 December
Final Day of Term 4	Thursday 7 December, 3:05 finish

Thanks for your support,

Damian and Kylie