

3 November 2023

Dear Parents and carers,

This week concludes the halfway mark of Term 4. Congratulations to all of the students who have been trying their best over these last five weeks. We look forward to working towards a strong finish to the year. There is often some pressure to complete assessment tasks at this time of year and it's important that students are not feeling overwhelmed keeping up with the workload assigned to them. In a few weeks' time, our Year 11 (2024) and Year 10 (2024) students who are studying senior VCE and Vocational subjects will undertake the aptly named 'Ignite' program that is designed to give a head start to next year's studies. Thank you to Mr Parker, the College Learning Leaders and the staff who will be facilitating this program for our senior students.

[2022 College Magazine](#)

We are delighted to publish our [2022 College Magazine](#). This is an important snapshot capturing our school over the year and a celebration of all that was achieved. Many thanks to Ms. Jodie Carter Blackhall for her hard work coordinating the publication and capturing the important moments in the life of the College.



[From the Wellbeing Team](#)

Promptness to Class and Community Group

Please note that we are working with our students to ensure they arrive to class and Community Group with all equipment, ready to learn and on time. Students will receive a non-flag for arriving late as a way of informing parents about this, as well as motivating students and holding them accountable.

Free 'Elevate Education' Webinars for Parents

To further prepare our year 10s for their upcoming VCE and Vocational Major pathways in 2024, our Year 10 Wellbeing Leaders (Lauren Flint and Luke Reynolds) have organised representatives of 'Elevate Education' to deliver high-impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing and exam preparation. As part of our partnership with them, Elevate has provided all members of our Iona community access to their 'Parent Support Series' webinars – please see below for more information. We're keen to hear what you take from it should you attend.

Title: How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress

When: Wednesday 8th November,

How do I register: [Click here to register for free](#)

In this webinar, Elevate will be showing parents:

- How to spot your child's stress symptoms early
- How to start a conversation about emotional wellbeing
- Techniques your child can use to self-manage stress

Please note information for future webinars which you can join for free includes:

- How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child; November 22, 6:30-7:30 pm (AEDT)
- How You Can Set Your Child Up for Success; December 6, 6:30-7:30 pm (AEDT)

Podcast Recommendations – ‘Finding Mastery’ with Michael Gervais

Each week, high performance psychologist Dr. Michael Gervais sits down with some of the greatest thinkers and doers in the world to unpack human potential, leadership, health, mindset and more. As a teacher and parent, I have found many a gold nugget in the numerous chats. [Last week's chat was with Dr. David Eagleman](#), a trailblazer in neuroscience. Dr. Michel and Dr. David explore ways to train your brain to unlock more joy and success in life, be more present and improve the ability to learn, all great traits to explore for us as parents, teachers and life-long learners.

We thank you all for your ongoing support and the privilege of working with your young person/people.

Ashley Mills (Head of Student Wellbeing) on behalf of myself and the Student Wellbeing Leaders—Justine Fitzpatrick, Greg Mellor, Nathan Pisani, Belinda Dezdjek, Craig Durran, Andy Walsgott, Lauren Flint, Luke Reynolds

Parent Education Session with Andy McNeilly



Limited tickets are now available for Andy McNeilly's Building Resilience Through Independence keynote on Thursday 16 November from 7:30 pm to 9 pm in Torquay. Get your ticket [online today](#) before they sell out. This program is great for parents of young people aged 10 - 15 years.

Booklist Information for 2024

The booklists for 2024 students are in the process of being finalised. These lists will be available before the end of the term. We understand that booklists are a large expense and as such, wanted families to know approximate costs in advance of these finalised lists.

Approximate costs are:

Year 8 - \$430

Year 9 - \$359 for Year 9 core subjects, there will be extra costs for elective subjects.

Year 10 - \$420.64 for Year 10 core subjects, there will be extra costs for elective subjects.

*Please note that for **ALL** Year 10 Mathematics/VCE Mathematics subjects other than 'Maths for Life', students will need a TI-Nspire CXII CAS calculator. We recommend that you buy directly from ABACUS [with the following order form](#) .*

'Maths for Life' students can retain their Calculator Casio Scientific FX-82AU Plus II 2E

Please see below, detailed information from our Numeracy Learning Leader Ms. Keating explaining this process.

Year 11 – costs for each student are dependent upon the types of VCE subjects that students study.

Text books can cost up to \$85, however, there are often second-hand books available and many text books are carried over into Year 12 studies.

Cost Saving Options

1. There are items for each year level that are retained from the previous year (please go through these with your young person and check what they already have).
2. Stationery – students will have some items that can be retained from the previous year. Stationery items can be less expensive when purchased from places such as Officeworks or Kmart, rather than the booklist. Other than a few specialist items most stationery, can be sourced in this way.
3. Items such as English and Literature reading texts and subject text books are often available second hand via platforms such as the Iona Parents Facebook page, or websites such as eBay and GumTree and the sites listed below.

Please note however that workbooks, where students have to write and respond to learning activities such as grammar books, are not suitable to be purchased second hand. When sourcing secondhand textbooks please make sure they are the edition that is listed on the booklist.

- [Second School Shop](#)
- [Sustainable School Shop](#)
- [The Cuckoo's Nest Geelong – Online Secondhand Book Store](#)

Jodie Townsend

Parents of Year 10-12 2024 (other than 'Maths for Life' students) – Compulsory Calculator



You will notice in the upcoming Booklist a calculator item: *TI-Nspire CX II CAS*. The booklist cost is \$269.95

This is a required item for all students in **Year 10 Mathematics Core, Year 10 Pre Mathematical Methods, and any VCE mathematics** studies. We understand this item is expensive, but it is a required item for continued Maths studies.

We suggest that rather than purchase from the Booklist, you purchase the calculator substantially discounted using the [following order form](#), for \$235.

Alternatively, you may also be able to purchase the calculator second hand from a Year 10 student who is not moving forward with studying mathematics in VCE or has completed mathematics at another school. This would need to be organised by yourself, and independently of Iona.

We want every student to have access to mathematics at our school and understand financial strain may have an impact. Any questions or concerns please contact Louise Keating via louise.keating@iona.vic.edu.au.

National Diabetes Month

November is National Diabetes Month and this week Iona was very proud of our students speaking at the diabetes forum to share their insights and experiences of their recent trip to Indonesia. They were interviewed by April Welsh, a race car driver with Type 1 diabetes and Diabetes Pediatrician – Chris Cooper. The evening aimed to inspire young people and families to believe that diabetes is not a barrier to achieving their dreams.

Educators Anna Haintz and Deb Hartup also ended up being part of the evening, sharing their perspectives on planning the Indonesian trip and their diabetes training.



We congratulate and are grateful to the students, families and the Indonesia team for their hard work and preparation which led to an amazing trip and wonderful experience for all involved.

Diabetes affects millions of people worldwide, and we thank our students Lily & Will for helping raise awareness during National Diabetes Month.

For more information please take a look at [Diabetes Australia](#).

Kate Every
College Nurse

2024 Indonesian Study Tour Information Session

On Monday the 13th of November, at 6 pm, Indonesian staff will be holding an information session for the 2024 Indonesian study tour participants and their parents/carers. The session will run for approximately one hour and will be held in the Iona College Resource Centre. If you are unable to make it in person, a Teams link will be sent out closer to the information session. If you have any questions regarding the information session, please email Bu Haynes hailey.haynes@iona.vic.edu.au or Bu Haintz at anna.haintz@iona.vic.edu.au

Terima kasih (thank you).

Diwali Festival at Deakin

2023 Deakin University Diwali Festival



This is a free, family-friendly community event with:

- ▶ cultural performances
- ▶ DJ
- ▶ food and market stalls
- ▶ free activities and henna art
- ▶ rangoli artwork display
- ▶ and a spectacular fireworks display!



Friday 17 November 2023, 6pm – 9pm,
Waurin Ponds Campus



Free Entry, register now:
deakin.edu.au/diwali



Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B

Sports News



This week three Iona teams headed to the GISSA Gaelic Football Tournament. It was a successful day all around and the students enjoyed a full day competing against other local secondary schools. Our Inter Boys and Girls teams both ended the day in third position, while our Junior Boys took out first place in overtime in the Grand final! Best players on the day were awarded to Isaac Franklin, Talia Kalaitzidis and Ryder Young. Well done to all who competed!

In other sports news, in Round One of our Senior cricket season, our boys won in a close match against Christian College Geelong in Ceres.

The Future of School Buses

Iona recently received a visit from McHarry's Buslines to give staff and students the opportunity to see and experience first-hand the future of bus travel in an increasingly environmentally conscious world - a 100% electric bus with zero tailpipe emissions. Hundreds of enthusiastic students took the opportunity to be driven around the campus and experience what was a very smooth and almost silent ride.

McHarry's have this bus on loan for two weeks as part of an evaluation and trial process, so it may be another couple of years before we (hopefully) see them in operation.



Art Department News

Year 8 Art Highlights

Illustrations of the Hooded Plover from students in Year 8.

Materials: Fineliner, markers, paints, paint mediums 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 to this area.



Eliza O'Brien



Ellie Jane



Isabel Campbell



Magdalena Jones



Milan Vattakkattu



Morgaine Brooker



Serena Caimano

Dates to Remember

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

Mid Term Break

A reminder that this Monday the 6th of November is the designated midterm break for students and Tuesday the 7th is the Melbourne Cup holiday. The College will be closed on these two days. We wish everybody a well-earned rest.

Damian and Ashley