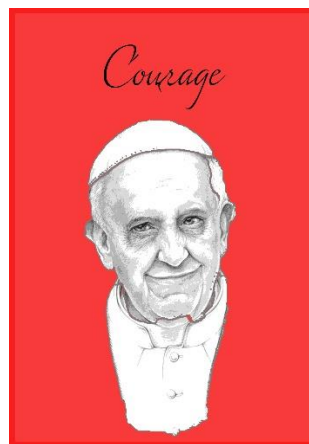


18 April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term we focus on *Courage*, as exemplified by Pope Francis and other people who inspire us. It is fitting with this focus that we begin the term with an assembly to commemorate the sacrifice of those who have served our country during times of war and peace. We are humbled by the sacrifice and courage of those in the past and the present. Our Defence Forces continue to attract personnel who are willing to protect and preserve life for Australians and for others across the world, and we are immensely grateful. Today was an important time for our community to reflect on courage and sacrifice and give thanks to those who serve. Next Thursday, students will not attend school as ANZAC Day will be commemorated across Australia. We encourage families to attend a service in their local community.



It takes courage to try something new, do something unexpected and overcome a fear of failure or ridicule. Our motto “Learning to change the world” gives aspiration to our learning journey so that we appropriately challenge students to engage with new ideas and experiences which draw on their reserves of courage and build confidence to try without knowing the outcome. At Iona, we shy away from the word ‘failure’ as we know that learning happens through making attempts, seeing outcomes and making adjustments. With support, we don’t fail, we grow to new understandings of ourselves and the world around us.

Our school culture has an impact on our ability to be courageous; we respectfully challenge those who ridicule, and we praise those who are brave enough to try. We are immensely proud of our students who show courage in many ways including speaking at assembly, volunteering, standing up for others, showing independence from friends, learning new skills or putting up their hand in class to answer a question. This term we encourage our young people to learn a little more about themselves and their capabilities by acting with courage. A reminder of our term focus is on display in our Resource Centre.

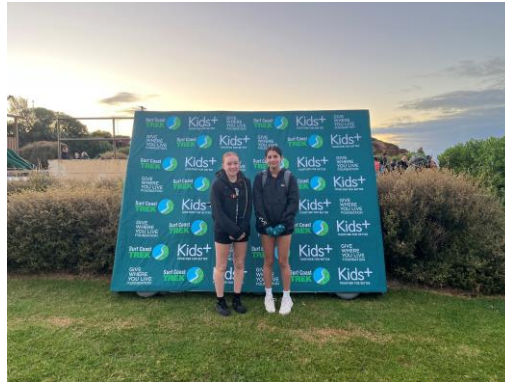
At today's assembly, Mr Durran also emphasised to our student community the areas where we can direct our efforts towards improvement, whether it's exhibiting positive behaviours, wearing our school uniform with pride, or treating each other with respect. As our college grows, we continue to work on what it means to be a student at Iona and the responsibilities that we have to contribute to the establishment of a positive environment for all.



This month, Layla McInnes of Year 10, has shown courage, determination and compassion as she has worked towards her goal of swimming 90 kilometres for the organisation, ‘Laps for Life’. Layla’s commitment to this goal is to raise awareness and funds to support improved mental health awareness. Well done, Layla, on your advocacy for a cause that is close to your heart and which makes a difference in the lives of others.



During the holidays two Year 9 students, Darbi Webber and Julia Jordan also displayed determination by walking 40km at the Surf Coast Trek to raise funds for Kids + and give where you live. Congratulations on the achievement and all the hard work that went into accomplishing this.



Our thanks to Iona students and staff who participated in the Community Connection program, hosted by St Joseph's College, during the school holidays. The generosity of these volunteers, alongside others from across the Geelong Catholic Secondary Colleges, enabled a day of fun activity for children who are supported by Cultura as they and their families settle in the Geelong region. Spending time with others strengthens relationships and our sense of humanity through the gesture of friendship and shared experience. We are proud that members of our school community have the courage to interact with new people in new environments, and through this, provide a wonderful day for local children. This one-day program will be next held at St Ignatius College during the mid-year holidays; a call for volunteers will go out later this term and we encourage students to become involved by signing up.

A big thank you to the following staff members Dean Millard and Olivia McGrane, as well as the following students Josie Leonard, Annie Leonard, Evie McNamara, Nora Murray, Stella Rose, Leo Newby, Bethany Harper, Amelia Murdoch for dedicating their time to serve others.





Nazareth Parish Mass

A reminder that this Sunday at 9 am, Nazareth Parish will celebrate Mass in the Resource Centre. All are welcome!

Cross Country



Yesterday, we were fortunate that the rain held off, allowing us to enjoy a fantastic stretch of cross country. The atmosphere was filled with team spirit and fun as our runners gave their all on the course. Most importantly, everyone had a great time while doing so. Iona has fostered a culture that encourages physical activity and cheers from the sidelines.

A big thank you to our Sports Department, Mr. Mitch Herbison, and Mrs. Ally Lofts for organising such a successful and smooth-running event. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Year 12, 2025 Information Night



Attention all parents and carers of Year 12 students for 2025:

You and your young people are invited to a 'Year 12 Information Night'. This event is a valuable opportunity for our future Year 12s to learn about subject selection and pathway opportunities. Attendance is highly encouraged by you and your person. Please note that this event will not be livestreamed or recorded, but the PowerPoint presentation will be shared with parents/carers who are unable to attend the evening.

Details:

Date: Monday, April 29th

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Venue: Iona College Resource Centre

To register your interest in attending, [please complete the following online form](#). We look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Melissa Gould
Deputy Principal, Learning

Digital Tattoo Parent Evening

Does this sound familiar?

If the Young People in your world are:

- Using online platforms
- Gaming with friends
- Using chat /messenger functions
- Keen to have their own youtube channels
- Asking for personal devices & eager to access more online platforms



This session is for you!

DIGITAL TATTOO

Supporting Children as we introduce them to the world via the internet, social media/chat platforms and gaming is very much a conversation about relationships not the tech itself.

This workshop is for:

- parents and carers of primary aged students
- aims to complement information delivered by Vic Police and e-safety

Digital Tattoo focuses on how:

- Young People interact with each other
- parents and carers can create ongoing conversations that mirror their unique family values
- we can support Young People as they grow in their online worlds
- families can create meaningful conversations about their families online footprints

Thursday: 6.00-8.00pm
2 MAY 2024



Iona College



www.batforce.org.au



All Year 7 and 8 parents/carers are invited to come and hear Leigh Bartlett from Batforce share the latest information on:

- How the digital world intersects with families
- Strategies for conversations about digital footprints
- How to support your young person as they navigate the digital world
- Exploring where young people exist online
- Young people looking out for mates
- Online relationships

When: Thursday 2nd May

Time: 6 pm – 7:30 pm

Where: Resource Centre, Iona College

To register for the event, [please complete the following online form](#). Please note that this session is for parents/carers only and is not intended for our students.

Canteen News



Exciting news, now that the days are chillier – soup is back! Next week's soup of the week is Creamy potato & leek (vegetarian & gluten-free).

Here's the updated menu for next week:

Daily Specials:

- **Monday:** Pasta Day - Spinach and ricotta cannelloni (vegetarian)
- **Tuesday:** Japanese Special - Miso chicken on rice (Gluten Free)
- **Wednesday:** No online lunch orders and no special of the day.
- **Thursday:** ANZAC Day (No lunch service)
- **Friday:** Burger Day - Big Iona burger, 2 beef patties, burger sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles on a sesame seed bun.

Iona Chess Club

Our infamous Iona Chess Club is back! We welcome any interested students – if you are new to chess and want to give it a go, or you are an experienced player - and everyone in between. There will be opportunities to learn and also to play competitive matches.

Chess Club will be on each Thursday lunchtime this term in the Resource Centre. We look forward to welcoming you all!

Mr Tom Chalkley & Ms Lou Keating
Iona Chess Gurus

Free Parenting Workshop



Read the Play

PARENTING YOUNG MINDS

Enhance your understanding of youth mental health and emotional wellbeing, including how to support your children, with insights from renowned child psychologist and Read the Play patron, Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg.

Monday 29 April, 6pm - 8pm

Sunday 5 May, 2pm - 4pm

Presented By:

APCO Foundation
Fund for a Cause

Event Partner

WorkSafe

For further information and to register your place at one of the free sessions go to:
www.readtheplay.org.au



Read the Play is looking forward to hosting the "Parenting Young Minds" workshops in Geelong. There are 2 dates to choose from and they are excited to once again have our Read the Play Patron, Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg as the key note speaker.

[Please register via the following link.](#)

St Bernard's Church Annual Book Fair

Join the St. Bernard's Church Annual Book Fair on Sunday, May 5th, at the Clairvaux School Hall on Reynolds Rd. in Belmont from 8 am to 2 pm.

Browse through a vast selection of quality pre-loved books, including fiction, non-fiction, and children's books, jigsaw puzzles, board games, DVDs, and CDs, and visit the Scrumptious Scone Stall.

Art Department News

Using the Met Gala as inspiration, Year 9 Textile students were required to design a garment worthy of a runway show or the 2024 Met Gala. After researching previous Met Gala events, students sketched their designs/ideas using colour, tone, texture, shape, form, line and refined them into 1 final design. Their final design involved full colour costumes using textas, watercolour, fabric, paper, sequins and other multimedia. Take a look at a sample of the wonderful designs:





Term 2 Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Monday 15 April	Staff Professional Learning Student Free Day
Tuesday 16 April	Term 2 Commences for Students
Wednesday 17 April	Year 7 - 11 Cross Country
Thursday 18 April	ANZAC Day Commemoration Service - Formal Uniform
Thursday 25 April	ANZAC Day Public Holiday
Monday 29 April	Year 12 2025 Information Night - 6 pm Resource Centre
Thursday 2 May	Batforce Parent Session
Monday 6 May	Year 11 2025 Information Night - 6 pm Resource Centre
Thursday 9 May	Music Soiree
Monday 13 May - Wednesday 15 May	Year 7 Camp 1 - Phillip Island
Wednesday 15 May - Friday 17 May	Year 7 Camp 2 - Phillip Island
Monday 20 May	Year 12 2025 Selections Due in
Friday 24 May	Year 11 2025 Selections Due in
Monday 27 May	Year 10 2025 Information Night - 6 pm Resource Centre
Monday 27 May - Wednesday 29 May	Year 8 Camp 1 - Lake Dewar
Wednesday 29 May - Friday 31 May	Year 8 Camp 2 - Lake Dewar
Monday 10 June	King's Birthday Public Holiday
Tuesday 11 June	Year 10 2025 Selections Due in
Wednesday 12 June	Year 9 2025 Information Night - 6 pm Resource Centre
Friday 14 June	VCE Unit 1 Ends
Saturday 15 June - Sunday 23 June	Year 10 Central Australia Experience
Monday 17 June	VCE Unit 2 Commences
Tuesday 18 June	General Achievement Test (GAT) VCE Unit 3 and 4 Students
Tuesday 18 June	Year 7 Immunisations
Friday 21 June - Wednesday 3 July	Year 10 Indonesian Language Study Tour
Friday 28 June	Year 9 2025 Selections Due in
Friday 28 June	Term 2 Concludes - 2:05 pm
Monday 15 July	Staff Professional Learning Student Free Day
Tuesday 16 July	Term 3 Commences for Students

ANZAC Day Holiday

A reminder that next Thursday 25 April is a public holiday for all students in commemoration of ANZAC day, Friday 26 April is a normal school day.

Please note, that due to the short week next week, there will be no newsletter next week.

Thanks for your support.

Damian, Kylie and Melissa