

27 June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

On the first Sunday of July each year, the Catholic Church in Australia observes 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday'. On this day we gather as one to honour and celebrate the rich cultural heritage and contributions of our First Nations Peoples to our Catholic Church. The theme for this year is '*Keep the Fire Burning – Strong in Faith*', and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC) has produced resources to support the celebration of this important day. You [can view these resources here](#).

The Gospel reading for 7th July, from Mark 6:1-6, tells the story of Jesus returning to His hometown, only to be met with scepticism and disbelief. Despite His teachings and miracles, those who knew Him best failed to recognise His divine wisdom and power. This passage resonates deeply with the experiences of First Australians, who have often found their voices unheard and their contributions not embraced.

The recent Voice referendum highlighted the ongoing journey toward recognition and reconciliation. While the outcome was not what many hoped for, it strengthened the resolve and commitment of Australians to work together for a better Australia for everyone. Like Jesus, who persevered in His mission despite the obstacles, we continue to remain committed to our Culture, our Land, our Church, and our communities with unwavering hope and determination.

By taking time to pray this Sunday and sharing this opportunity with our community, we hope to deepen understanding and appreciation of the diverse cultures and histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. As Pope Francis reminds us, we are called to be a Church that goes forth, embracing all cultures and peoples. Let us open our hearts to the wisdom and spirituality of our First Nations Peoples, recognizing the presence of Christ in our stories and traditions. May the celebration of 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Sunday' be a moment of grace, healing, and transformation for all of us.

NAIDOC Week



This year's theme '**Keep the fire burning! Blak, loud and proud**' celebrates the unyielding spirit of our First Nations communities and invites all to stand in solidarity, amplifying the voices that have long been silenced.

The fire represents the enduring strength and vitality of Indigenous cultures, passed down through generations despite the challenges faced. It is a symbol of connection to the land, to each other, and to the rich tapestry of traditions that define Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As we honour this flame, we kindle the sparks of pride and unity, igniting a renewed commitment to acknowledging, preserving, and sharing the cultural heritage that enriches our nation.

"Blak, Loud and Proud" encapsulates the unapologetic celebration of Indigenous identity, empowering First Nations peoples to stand tall in their heritage and assert their place in the modern world. This theme calls for a reclamation of narratives, an amplification of voices, and an unwavering commitment to justice and equality. It invites all Australians to listen, learn, and engage in meaningful dialogue, fostering a society where the wisdom and contributions of Indigenous peoples are fully valued and respected.

Through our collective efforts, we can forge a future where the stories, traditions, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are cherished and celebrated, enriching the fabric of the nation with the oldest living culture in the world.

The following celebrations will occur in the Geelong region during NAIDOC Week:

- Monday 8th July - Wathaurong NAIDOC Flag raising at Morgan Street, North Geelong – 11 am- 2 pm
- Sunday 14th July - Mob Fun Run - Balyang Sanctuary – 10 am

The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria also warmly invites members of our community to two important liturgical celebrations that will mark the start and end of NAIDOC week:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Mass
7th July 2024, 11 am
St Patrick's Cathedral, 1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne

and

NAIDOC Week Mass
Sunday 14th July, 11 am
St Francis' Church, 326 Lonsdale St, Melbourne

[Refugee Week Food Drive for 'The Welcome Place'](#)



Thanks to Year 7 and 8 families who have already contributed a pantry item to the Refugee Food Drive. We will continue to gather goods until the end of this term, so please consider dropping a donation into your young person's school bag and having them take it along to Community Group. Our donations will provide some relief for the Refugee families who access the Food Bank and the other services provided by The Welcome Place

Consent Labs Online Parent and Carers Session Resource Pack

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the online Consent Labs session. We believe that education like this is essential for our community, and we were grateful to host Consent Labs for a parent session following the student session earlier in the term.

We received fantastic feedback about the session and are looking forward to hosting more events like these in the future.

One comment from the night was:

"The information was so valuable and really helped me to understand how I could start a conversation with my children in a safe, neutral and respectful space. I would change my 'awkward' response at the start to 'comfortable.' That's a big shift in 2 hours. Great presenters doing a great job explaining the importance of consent across so many areas."

For those who were unable to attend, [here is a helpful resource pack developed by Consent Labs](#). If you attended the evening and would like to provide feedback, [here is the online feedback form](#).

Ms Kylie Power
Deputy Principal Wellbeing

Central Australia 2024 – A Student Reflection

Adelaide – We slept in bunk houses in a caravan park that was right on the beach, some people went and watched the sunset from the shore. The caravan park had a really cool playground, everyone was tired, so we didn't do much.

Coober Pedy – Most of the students were confused by the surroundings since there weren't any houses and minimal shops, but then we found out about the underground life of the residents. We were shown the amazing mines and watched a demonstration about how to mine opals and polish them. We fortunately got to stay in the underground dug out which was an amazing experience that we all enjoyed.

Alice Springs – We were up at 4:30 am the next morning to make our way to Alice Springs. A favourite part of the Alice Springs stop was the pool and its incredible waterslide, but outside of the camp, we got to experience the beautiful scenery at Standley Chasm where we learnt how to cook kangaroo tail and got to paint our own boomerangs. We went to Alice Springs School of the Air and the Royal Flying Doctors Service and learnt about their mission to give education and health care to those in remote Australia. On the first night, Rex from Alice Springs Reptile Park told us all about different types of snakes and lizards and gave us the opportunity to hold these super interesting animals.

Kings Canyon – At Kings Canyon there was a stunning sunset viewing area with the Canyon in the background. We stayed at the Discovery Parks campsite and saw some dingoes, which scared some of us, but not others. We hiked the rim of Kings Canyon, enjoying the incredible views, and had a lot of fun climbing. We also had the privilege of going to a Cultural Centre where we explored various stations to learn about Aboriginal Culture, including traditional food, hunting weapons, art, and bush medicine. We loved touching the witchetty grubs which felt like marshmallow. It really deepened our appreciation for the cultural heritage of our country.



Uluru – The last two days were dedicated to learning and travelling around ‘The Rock’. It was an amazing experience to learn about the stories of Uluru and also experience the wonders of The Rock. We also went to Kata Tjuta, meaning ‘many heads’, and we got to hike and look at beautiful sacred scenery through the Valley of the Winds.



This trip brought us many cool experiences and new friendships and also taught us so much about the incredible Culture of Indigenous Australia. We are very thankful for this trip, and we will never forget the unbelievable memories we made.

Amy Litaize, Ashlyn Hart, Ariella Chappell, Finley Wright and Tobie Stanley
Year 10 Students

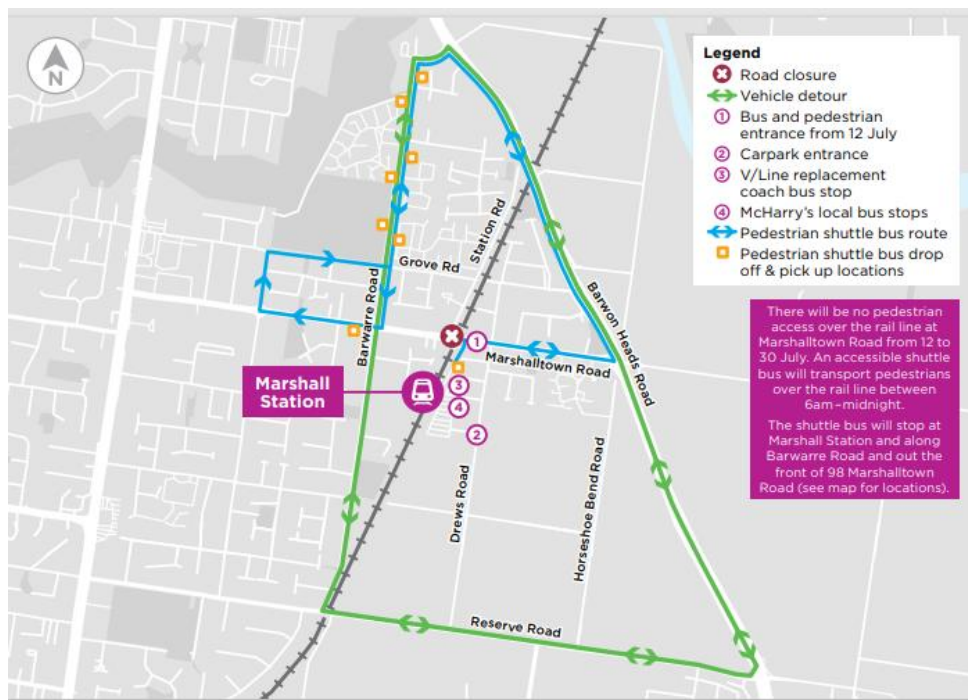
Temporary Closure of Marshalltown Rd Level Crossing – July 12 to July 30

To safely duplicate the track at Marshall Station and realign the road, the Marshalltown Road level crossing will be closed from 12 to 30 July.

There will be no pedestrian access during this time, however, a free pedestrian shuttle bus will transport students from one side of the level crossing to the other. Anyone travelling on the shuttle bus should allow an additional 10-20 minutes travel time. Please see the below vehicle and pedestrian detour map for more information.

Due to the scale of disruption to vehicle movements in the area, the increased congestion and potential delays to bus routes transporting students to and from school, we recommend that school staff, parents and carers plan your journey ahead of time using this map.

NB: As the Marshalltown Road bus stops will not be accessible over this period, alternative measures for affected Bus 15 students are being put in place and will be communicated to these students and parents/carers separately. This will prevent the need for affected students to have to use the abovementioned 'free pedestrian shuttle bus'.



Mr Carl Jones
Accounts Receivable & Transport Coordinator

String Festival



As part of a collaboration between secondary school leaders in Geelong the Inaugural String Festival took place on Thursday 20th June. Six of our local schools joined together to provide our students with a 'large' string ensemble experience. Christian College, Kardinia International College, Sacred Heart College, St Ignatius College, Clonard College and our own string students made up a group of 68 string players. We were privileged to have Martin De Marte (Christian College) and Michael O'Donnell (Iona) to lead our students through 3 pieces. After rehearsing together for a short time students presented a small concert to parents. Thank you to staff from other schools who made this possible, thank you to Christian College for hosting and a big thank you to both of our conductors who led our students with passion. Lastly congratulations and thank you to the students who represented Iona - Freya, Nellie, Molly, Kirby, Helaina, Willow, Lucinda and Bao.

Ms Jodie Townsend
Head of Performing Arts

Science and Engineering Challenge

On Thursday the 20th June, 23 students from Years 9 and 10 participated in the Science and Engineering Challenge, held at Deakin University in Waurin Ponds. The challenge, run by the University of Newcastle, aims to engage secondary students in STEM based challenges, to encourage problem-solving thinking.



The challenges that students participated in included bridge building, aeroplane construction, building earthquake proof housing, creation of electricity networks and more.

STEM is the fastest growing industry in the world, with many STEM based positions currently unfilled due to a lack of trained professionals in this field. This presents a wonderful opportunity for the young people of today and in particular our future graduates of Iona College. Jobs in this field are not only abundant, but they are also highly paid and offer a great deal of diversity.



Students wanting to work in the STEM field should speak with their teachers to find out more about what Iona College offers for students interested in this pathway.

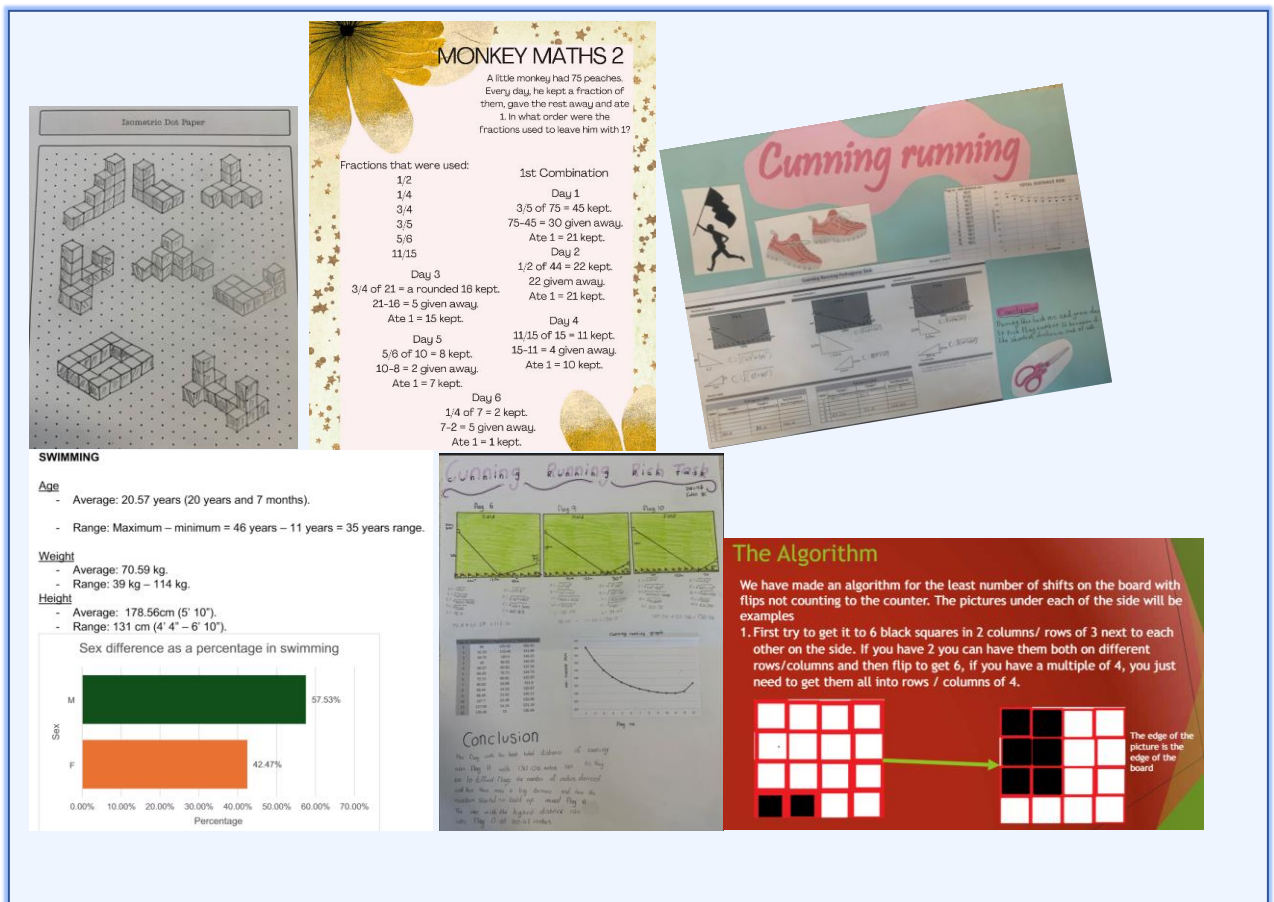
Jason d'Offay
Teacher

Maths @ Iona

Well, here we are, at the end of Term 2! What a busy term for mathematics – lots of challenges and lots of learning!

Very well done to all our mathematics students who showed bravery and resilience in challenging themselves as part of our Exam Week. We could see the effort you made in collating your notes and studying to the best of your ability. We are proud of you all.

A well-deserved break is upon us! From 2 pm Friday please enjoy **17.79 days** of relaxation before you are back at 9 am Tuesday 16th July for Term 3. That's **427 hours** of freedom from the school schedule! Think about what you can do with the **25,620 minutes** before you come through the Iona gates ready for Semester 2! I hope you all make every one of the **1,537,200 seconds** count! Sending our best Iona wishes for some excitement and some rest over the holidays – and if these calculations are incorrect please forgive me – it has been a long term for students but also teachers!



MONKEY MATHS 2
A little monkey had 75 peaches. Every day, he kept a fraction of them, gave the rest away and ate 1. In what order were the fractions used to leave him with 1?

Fractions that were used:
1/2
1/4
3/4
3/5
5/6
11/15

Day 3
3/4 of 21 = a rounded 18 kept.
21-18 = 5 given away.
Ate 1 = 15 kept.

Day 5
5/6 of 10 = 8 kept.
10-8 = 2 given away.
Ate 1 = 7 kept.

Day 6
1/4 of 7 = 2 kept.
7-2 = 5 given away.
Ate 1 = 1 kept.

Cunning running

The Algorithm
We have made an algorithm for the least number of shifts on the board with flips not counting to the counter. The pictures under each of the side will be examples
1. First try to get it to 6 black squares in 2 columns/ rows of 3 next to each other on the side. If you have 2 you can have them both on different rows/columns and then flip to get 6, if you have a multiple of 4, you just need to get them all into rows / columns of 4.

Sex difference as a percentage in swimming

Sex	Percentage
M	57.53%
F	42.47%

Ms Lou Keating
Learning Area Leader (Maths & Numeracy)

Pathways Press at Iona

Welcome to the June 28 edition of the Iona Pathways Press

This edition can be found [here](#)

In this edition you will find information about:

- **How to subscribe to the newsfeed.**
- **Dates to Diarise in Term School Holidays and Term 3**
- **See all VICTORIAN [OPEN DAYS 2024](#) dates**
- **Job seeking sites**
- **Apprenticeship and Traineeship opportunities**
- **Federation Walk and Talk tours**
- **SAE Create for a Day Holiday workshops**
- **High School Medical Experience in Cambodia**
- **Free University Degrees for Victorians studying High School Teaching**
- **Career as a Firefighter**
- **VU News**
 - **Bachelor of Dermal Sciences**
 - **The VU Block Model**
 - **VU Guaranteed**



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To contact the Pathways team please email pathways@iona.vic.edu.au

The Pathways Team

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	Year 7 & 8 Digital Tattoo Information Parent Session
Monday 6 May	Year 11 2025 Information Night - 6 pm
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 Online
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
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
Monday 24 June	Consent Lab Parent & Carers Online Workshop
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

Term 3 Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Monday 15 July	Staff Professional Learning Student Free Day
Tuesday 16 July	Term 3 Commences for Students
Thursday 25 July - Saturday 27 July	Combined Schools Musical
Thursday 1 August	Winter Soiree
Tuesday 6 August	Year 10 Immunisations
Friday 30 August	Staff Professional Development Student Free Day
Thursday 5 September	Student Progress Meetings
Tuesday 10 September	Parent/Carer Sleep Connection Workshop
Wednesday 11 September	Student Progress Meetings
Thursday 12 September	Combined Schools Choral Concert (Saint Ignatius College)
Friday 20 September	Columba Day
Friday 20 September	Term 3 Concludes - 2:05 pm
Monday 7 October	Staff Professional Learning Student Free Day
Tuesday 8 October	Term 4 Commences for Students

If you would like to download a printable version of the schedule above, [please access it here](#). This link will be updated each week in the newsletter as new events are added to the calendar.

A reminder that tomorrow is the final day of term and school will conclude at 2:05 pm. We look forward to welcoming our students back on Tuesday, 16th July.

Please note that the Admin Office will close at 2:30 pm tomorrow, the last day of term. During the holidays, the office will be open from 9 am to 3 pm in the first week and closed during the second week.

Thanks for your support.

Damian, Kylie and Melissa