

15 August 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,



Today is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was Jesus' mother. Mary was special as she was chosen by God to be the human mother of his son. Because she was so special and believed to be free of sin, at the end of her life she was assumed, 'taken up', body and soul, into heaven. Communities around the world celebrate this day; in some places, processions take place where crowds follow a statue of Mary being processed around their local neighbourhoods; in many places, prayers are said to Mary; and, traditionally, Catholics attend Mass to join in the ritual of prayer focused on Mary. The observances of this day, all honour Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Catholics around the world today will pray this traditional prayer:

*Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God
pray for us sinners,
now, and at the hour of our death.
Amen*

Mission Mannya

Early in the year, our staff and students were impressed to hear Dr Conor McDonald speak with compassion and generosity about providing health care to the people of Southern Uganda. In 2023, Dr Conor co-founded Mission Mannya, a not-for-profit organisation which sees Australian doctors providing support, supplies and funding for medical outreach programs in isolated communities in rural Uganda. Since meeting Dr Conor and hearing his story, we have been in awe of him and Mission Mannya for their efforts to enhance the health of our Ugandan friends, including those in the area of Kabuta-Kiruuli, where St Mary's Primary School is located. We encourage members of our community to become familiar with the wonderful initiative, [Mission Mannya](#).

We are really pleased to inform our community that Mission Mannya is now registered as a charity with the ACNC, and they have been granted DGR status by the ATO, which means donations are tax-deductible. Please consider making a donation to their work which quite simply is life-changing and life-saving. A link for donations can be found on the website. All money raised goes directly to on the ground costs, with common costs shown here:

\$4 AUD = Medical assessment, testing and treatment for 1 patient

\$7 AUD = Local medical officer's daily wage for 12hr shift

\$50 AUD = Dental assessment and treatment for 5 people (i.e extractions, coronitis, gingivitis)

\$300 AUD = Wage of 4 nutritionists for 10 days

\$600 AUD = Surgical and anaesthetic cost for 15 operations

As our students “learn to change the world”, we encourage them to identify and ‘follow’ positive role models such as Dr Conor and other young Australians who are selfless in their giving to others.



The graphic features a group of diverse young people in dark blue polo shirts sitting in front of a brick building. A circular logo with the text 'MISSION MANNYA' is overlaid on the top left. Below the group, the text 'MISSION MANNYA' is written in large white letters. Underneath that, it says 'A GRASSROOTS CHARITY PROVIDING FREE HEALTHCARE TO VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS IN SOUTHERN UGANDA'. At the bottom, there is a photo of a group of people in front of a building with a 'MISSION MANNYA' banner. Two QR codes are positioned on either side of this photo, with the text 'VISIT OUR WEBSITE' and 'DONATE NOW' below them.

MISSION MANNYA

MISSION MANNYA

A GRASSROOTS CHARITY PROVIDING FREE HEALTHCARE TO VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS IN SOUTHERN UGANDA

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

DONATE NOW

Nazareth Parish Mass

All are welcome to come along to Mass this Sunday in the Resource Centre. It begins at 9 am, with light refreshments to follow. It is a lovely celebration for families and friends of the College and our local parish.

Supporting Local Community



They say a picture tells a thousand words, but this one doesn't really! This image shows the collection of socks, gloves, beanies and towels donated by Year 7 and Year 9 families to support the homeless in our local area. The photo doesn't show the scale of these boxes, which are packed, ready for delivery to Samaritan House and Lazarus Community Centre. We can assure you they are very large! Thank you to all of our generous donors – your donation of goods make a difference to everyday life for members of our Geelong community. The conversations had while sourcing donations builds awareness of a vulnerable community, the need to care for them and simple ways to do so. To our parents and carers, we thank you for the positive role modelling that you provide for your young people and for supporting this social justice effort.

Mackillop Services Leadership and Justice Day



On Friday the 9th of August, a group of the Iona Year 9 Leadership committee travelled to Sacred Heart College to learn with other Geelong schools about social justice with the help of Mackillop Family Services. Joined by St Joseph's College, Clonard College, Sacred Heart, and St Ignatius, we had the honour of receiving presentations and participating in activities set up by the Mackillop Family and their team. Some activities consisted of a Privilege Walk and discovering the tricks and talents of therapy dogs.

Across the day, we learnt a lot about what Mackillop Family Services offers and what their team aspire to do. It is their goal to make sure every child is placed in the right, loving home and to make sure they are nurtured and have a sense of belonging and cultural identity. We learnt about their history and the foster care system during our time with them.

We were also able to learn about Sacred Heart's origins as an orphanage, St Catherines. It is inspiring to see how far the community has come while still celebrating the traditional aspects that make the Geelong Catholic community so strong today.

The Iona Year 9 Leadership Committee are very grateful to be included on this day and learn all about social justice, and we look forward to taking ideas and knowledge from that experience into our own school and workshopping them in leadership meetings.

Chloe Farrar
Year 9 Student

Upcoming Closure of Horseshoe Bend & Boundary Rd's Intersection

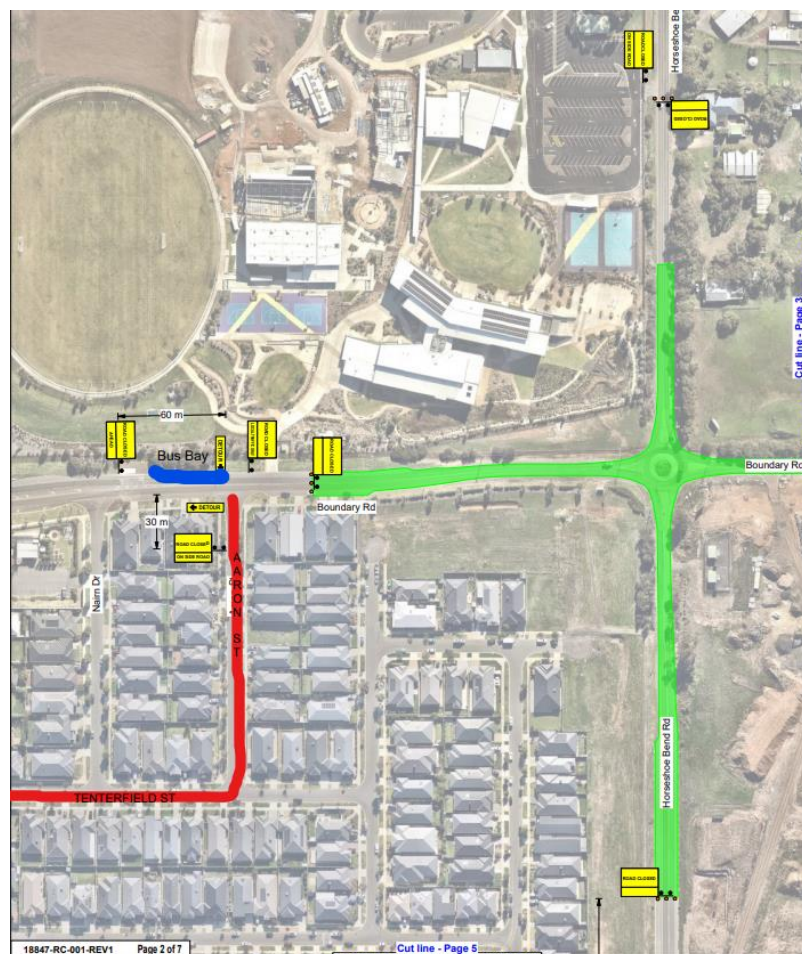
We remind all parents, carers and students that reconstruction of the Horseshoe Bend & Boundary Rd intersection commences this **Monday, August 19** and is scheduled to end on January 27 (2025). Road detours will be in place and may lead to additional travel time of up to 15 – 20 minutes.

Vehicle Access to Iona College - during this reconstruction period, vehicle access will only be possible through our Horseshoe Bend Rd entrance. Parents/carers driving into this entrance are required to proceed straight ahead to the Visitor Carpark area – i.e. please do not turn left into the staff car park and main bus bay area.

Pedestrian Access to Iona College – Student pedestrian access will be available at both our Boundary Rd and Horseshoe Bend Rd entrances. Pedestrian access for parents/carers will be available through our Horseshoe Bend Rd entrance only (to accommodate sign-in at the Main Reception).

The below map of this intersection and the immediate Iona College and Ashbury Estate areas shows the following important features over this reconstruction period:

- GREEN** – the surrounding closed sections of Boundary Rd and Horseshoe Bend Rd.
- BLUE** – the extension of the current 1 bay bus parking area to 3 bays (see below).
- RED** - No Parking areas between 8.00 am – 9.30 am and 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm (see below).



Extension of Bus Bay Area and Changes to Bus Arrival / Departure Points – Boundary Rd

Due to these construction works, half (9) of our buses will be detoured to drop off and pick up students at school on Boundary Road – this (extended) 3 bay bus zone is marked in **blue** on the below map.

Parents/carers seeking to drop off or pick up their young ones by car on Boundary Rd, please ensure that you DO NOT park in this bus zone.

In the afternoon, these 9 buses will depart in waves of 3 (as follows) and importantly for students all departure times remain unchanged to what they currently are (as they will for the remainder of the buses still departing from the main bus bay area from within the school).

<u>3.12 pm</u>	<u>3.16 pm</u>	<u>3.20 pm</u>
#4 (Jan Juc)	#8 (Torquay / Ocean Acres)	#17 (Waurm Ponds)
#5 (Highton)	#11 (Torquay / Highlander)	#18 (Mt Duneed)
#6 (Torquay / Lochard)	#12 (North Torquay)	#19 (Torquay Extra)

NO PARKING AREAS – Aaron St & Tenterfield St (Ashbury Estate)

From 19/8 through to the end of this school year, Boundary Rd school bus routes will be required to depart and be diverted down Aaron St and then right into Tenterfield St (before either a left or right into Ashbury Blvd).

To enable our buses to get down these (two) narrow streets, signage is being erected advising that 'NO PARKING' restrictions will apply on the sections of Aaron St & Tenterfield St marked in **red** (below) between 8.00 am – 9.30 am and again between 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm.

We ask that parents/carers completely avoid these two streets when dropping off or picking up their young ones during these NO PARKING times and to also (in general) be respectful of residents living in Ashbury Estate over this reconstruction period.

Additional Closure of Horseshoe Bend Rd Between Warralily Blvd and Burvilles Rd

In addition to the closure of the Horseshoe Bend & Boundary Rd intersection, parents/carers should also be aware that signage is now in place advising of the closure of Horseshoe Bend Rd between Warralily Blvd and Burvilles Rd over the same period (i.e. from August 19 through to January 27).

Hopefully, this will result in the completion and linking up of footpaths along Horseshoe Bend Rd between Boundary Rd and Warralily Blvd.

Please remain patient, take care and drive safely over this reconstruction period.

Kind Regards,

Carl Jones

Accounts Receivable & Transport Coordinator

Year 9 Update

This term in Year 9 our focus is on Social Justice. This fits in nicely with the school Term 3 theme of Leadership. Student volunteers in Year 9 attended the not-for-profit charity, 'Our Village', formerly known as 'Geelong Mums'. Our Village's vision is to, "share more, waste less, every child thrives" with a purpose to "rehome essentials to give kids the best start in life."



The focus of the volunteer group was to sort and pack clothing, organise books and toys, and prepare special toiletry packs for mums and babies.

The student volunteers walked away with a sense of community, pride and achievement of helping someone in need. The students were asked to reflect on their experience, noting their highlights and learnings, they had the following to say:

That all 16 of us going today put in 32 hours of volunteer work.

The impact we have by simply sorting clothes and toys can change some people's lives.

I learnt that Our Village is a not-for-profit organization helping tons of mothers, fathers, grandparents and more importantly gives them the things they need for their kids or grandkids like clothes, shoes, toys and etc.

Our Village important in our community because it helps struggling families by providing essential baby and kids' items. By donating and distributing these items, they ensure that everyone, regardless of their financial situation, has access to the things they need.

This volunteering made me grateful for what I have in my life, and it made me feel happy that vulnerable people are receiving the essential items they need.

To enable more Year 9 students to get involved and to share the 'Our Village' love, they will be invited to clean donated shoes at school to then return to Our Village. Not only are shoes an essential item on cold winter days, but they can be thought of as a 'freedom ticket' enabling children to leave their homes and go to the park, appointments, the supermarket, school etc. Volunteers and workers at Our Village were delighted at Iona's offer to clean the shoes. They stated that often they don't have the time to get to the shoes so our efforts will help them immensely.

The students will be invited to clean the shoes, in small groups at a time, during Wellbeing over the next three weeks. Another group of Year 9 students will volunteer and return the cleaned shoes at the end of the month.

Music Department News

Musical Updates

The Music Department has been very busy over the past few weeks. Here is a small update.

Winter Soiree

I would like to congratulate all of our performers for what was an intimate and supportive concert in a different venue. Due to The Stadium being out of action, we had this concert set up in our Drama Room, which was a lovely change.

Thank you to the following students who made this night such a success; Elizabeth and Sam for opening the night with a beautiful two-part version of the Iona College School Prayer and performing themselves, Ayla and Magdalena performing a guitar duet, Vincent with his version of "Toxicity" on the drum kit, Ainsleigh for presenting us with another 'moment' from a musical, Nora for such a creative drum solo, Jimmy and Annie for their first performance at Iona, and Amelia for ending our concert with a stunning rendition of "Part of Your World". Such a growing pool of talent and passionate musicians we have.

Thank you also to all the parents who continue to support their young musical person as they build on their skills and contribute to developing the Iona College Musical ethos.

Belmont High School “Battle of Bands”

Belmont High School very kindly asked us to join them at their “Battle of the Bands” because one of our students is working with them in the VET Music Performance programme. We were able to send two bands along to this night to gain important performance practice and also enable them to see what their peers are working on. Each band will receive feedback from the judges on their performances which will help them focus their skill development going forward.

Congratulations to students in one of our junior bands Mason, Zoe, Alfie, Bohdi, Ashley and Lara. Playing in your first ‘gig’ outside of Iona was a challenge and one which you all managed with aplomb. Congratulations also to four of our Year 11s – Ashton, Peri, Star and Cameron. Great to see Iona so ‘musically’ presented in the wider Geelong community.



What is coming up? *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

You would have all noticed that we announced that as hosts of the 2025 Combined Catholic Schools Production, we will be presenting *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. This colourful and engaging musical will surely hold a role for many who are interested.

Audition dates will soon be confirmed but will occur in the first few weeks of Term 4. Please keep an eye out for more information.

Maybe you might be on the lookout for a “Golden Ticket” in 2025?



Choral Collective – 12th September St Ignatius College

This concert was meant to be at Iona but due to The Stadium renovations we have had to ‘relocate’ and our thanks to St Ignatius College who has kindly offered their venue. Choirs from Sacred Heart, St Josephs, Clonard, St Ignatius and Christian College will join us at this event for a celebration of choral music. If your young person is involved do not forget to [book your ticket on the following link](#).

Ensemble Showcase – 21st November

Our Ensemble Showcase, which was meant to be on the 22nd of August, has been rescheduled to the 21st of November and should be in our newly finished Stadium. All of our ensembles will be performing at this event so it should be a 'big' musical celebration. If you young person is in an ensemble put this in your calendar as a "not to miss" event. Bookings for tickets are [on the following link](#).

Carols@Iona – Tuesday 3rd December

After the success of our Carols@Iona in 2024 we will be hosting this event again. Pop this in your diaries as a night for families and friends to celebrate. More details to come.

AMEB Exams

We have had quite a few students enrol this year for the November/December Australian Music Examination Board exams. Students often work for 12-14 months on the repertoire for these exams so we are looking forward to supporting them as they approach this milestone.

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact music@iona.vic.edu.au

Jodie Townsend
Head of Performing Arts

Iona Pathways Press

The August 16th edition of the Iona Pathways Press can be found [here](#).

In this edition you will find information about:

- **Dates to Diarise in Term 3**
- **Exciting new Work Experience opportunities**
- **Career in Veterinary Nursing**
- **Launch of New Engineering Facilities at Deakin University's Burwood Campus**
- **News from Monash University**
 - **New Courses for 2025**
 - **New Double Degree Courses with Psychology for 2025**
 - **Bachelor of Business Administration**
- **Environmental Science Degrees in Victoria in 2024**
- **Snapshot of the University of Adelaide in 2024**



Find & Subscribe to the Pathways Press Newsfeed.

For Students: Visit the College Career website, click on 'for students' choose Newsfeed and subscribe: [Iona College Geelong \(ionacareers.com\)](https://ionacollegegeelong.com.au/ionacareers.com)

For Parents: Visit the College Career website, click on 'for parents' choose Newsfeed and subscribe: [Iona College Geelong \(ionacarers.com\)](https://ionacollegegeelong.com.au/ionacarers.com)

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

GISSA News

Term 3 GISSA and Wednesday activities have well and truly kicked off! The first three weeks have consisted of training for GISSA sports before heading out for our first friendly competition last week against other local schools.

Competition sports include Basketball, Badminton, Gaelic Football and Table Tennis, while in house school activities include Golf (rotations of Par 3, driving range and frisbee golf), Footy Codes, Dance, Fitness and Art.

We are thrilled to see how our students are embracing both the opportunities and challenges they are presented each week and we have loved seeing the growth each term.





A big congratulations to Year 7 student Patrick McCaughley who has been selected to represent Australia next month at the World Street Skate Games 2024 in Italy! Paddy will be competing alongside the world's best skateboarders to gain world ranking points along with his older brother Leo. Well done Paddy on working so hard at your sport and we wish you all the best in Italy in September.

Early Departure from School

We understand that you will occasionally need to collect your young person for appointments or early departures, and we ask that you please follow these steps to ensure a smooth process:

1. **Parent Notified:** For any known appointments or early departures, please enter the details:
 - Via PAM – <https://pam.iona.vic.edu.au> (preferred method before 12 pm)
 - Via email – attendance@iona.vic.edu.au
 - Via SMS – 0461 457 311
2. **Park in the Visitor Carpark:** When you arrive, please use the designated visitor car park and phone Reception on 5229 0004 and advise us of your arrival. You are also welcome to attend the Main Reception in person.

For more information on how to report early departures, late arrivals and appointments please take a look at this handy [how to guide](#).

Please inform us if someone other than a parent will be picking up your young person from school.

Your cooperation helps us maintain a safe environment for all our students. Thank you!

Resource Centre News

We are excited to be hosting our first author visit on Friday, August 16th. Author Danielle Binks will be here to run some workshops with the Year 7's about her novel, **The Year the Maps Changed**, which they are currently studying in English. During lunchtime, all students are invited to attend her "Building Blocks of Storytelling" workshop. If your young person would like to attend they can register [here](#).



The poster features a central photograph of author Danielle Binks, a woman with blonde curly hair wearing a blue and white patterned top. To the right of the photo, the text reads "Author visit" in a pink cursive font, followed by "DANIELLE BINKS" in a white box with a purple background. Below this, a paragraph of text describes her works and the event. At the bottom left, three book covers are displayed: "The Year the Maps Changed", "The Monster of Her Age", and "Six Summers of Tash and Leopold". On the bottom right, the event details are listed: "FRIDAY AUGUST 16TH 12.50PM" and "RESOURCE CENTRE". The entire poster is framed with a purple border and a pink and white striped scalloped edge.

Author visit
DANIELLE BINKS

Meet the author of *The Year the Maps Changed*, *Begin, End, Begin: A #LoveOzYA Anthology*, *Monster of Her Age* and the soon to be released *Six Summers of Tash and Leopold*. Join Danielle during Break 2 for her "Building Blocks of Storytelling" workshop.

**FRIDAY
AUGUST
16TH
12.50PM**

RESOURCE CENTRE

Reminder Upcoming Staff Professional Development Student Free Day



A reminder that Friday, 30th August, is a Staff Professional Development Day, and therefore, a student-free day. Please note that the Iona Admin office will be closed as all staff will be engaged in professional learning activities.

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.

Thanks for your support.

Damian, Kylie and Melissa