

29 August 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We extend our best wishes to all of the fathers and father figures who care for and shape the lives of our young people. We wish our families peace, happiness and courage as they reflect on this special day, which for some is full of celebration, but for others, sadness. On this Father's Day weekend, we pray to the Patron Saint of Fathers, St Joseph,

Heavenly Father, you give us a model of fatherhood in St. Joseph, who protected and loved Mary and Jesus. He responded quickly and faithfully to your promptings. We give you thanks for our fathers and for the protection and love they give to us. Grant them the same courage and perseverance you gave to St. Joseph when he faced adversity and uncertainty. Like him, may they live with humility and faithfulness, and be a source of joy and a pillar of strength for their families. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



This Friday, our young people take time away from the school routine so that our College staff can do the same. Our staff still attend school but rather than attending to regular duties, they come together to learn and grow as a community. On this occasion, the learning is not about the curriculum or wellbeing programs, but it is about growing in faith understanding and strengthening the community. Our theme for 2024 is Catholic school mission and Social Justice, with staff reflecting on why our Catholic school community responds to the call to be socially just. A keynote address from Asylum Seeker advocate, Sr Brigid Arthur, will begin the day, with subsequent sessions to focus on our commitments to St Mary's Primary School in Uganda and First Nations people. We will welcome representatives from across the range of Social Justice agencies that our College supports, and our staff will discover more about community needs that warrant a response of support and care.

As our staff consider the part that they play in the mission of the Church, we look to Pope Francis who speaks of our need for connection and our sense of responsibility to each other, hearing,

"No one can face life in isolation... We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead... Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all."

We also look towards the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Preferential Option for the Poor which emphasises the needs of the most vulnerable and calls members of society to consider how their decisions and the systems and structures of society impact the most vulnerable. Understanding that being in solidarity with the poor and encountering the poor as fellow humans rather than from a position of superiority, recognises the inherent human dignity of all children of God and enables society to grow in humanity. We are challenged as employees in Catholic schools to change any perception about the poor and marginalised being a burden, and we accept opportunities to understand more about our obligation to others in our global family. Through taking time to further our understanding, we are motivated to show compassion, justice and mercy to our brothers and sisters, near and far, rich and poor.

We look forward to our Staff Formation Day and building our capacity to be part of a human family that acts for social justice. We wish our students a restful day on Friday and look forward to seeing them next week.

[Join Our Canteen Volunteer Team!](#)



Are you looking for a way to give back to our College community while meeting new people and having fun? Our College canteen needs enthusiastic volunteers, and we would love for you to join us!

Why Volunteer at the Canteen?

Make a Difference: Your help ensures our students have access to nutritious and delicious meals and snacks.

Build Community: Meet other parents, teachers and staff members.

Flexible Hours: Whether you can spare an hour a week or a few days a month, your time is valuable to us.

Gain Experience: Volunteering is a great way to develop new skills.

Who Can Volunteer?

Anyone with a little time to spare! Parents, grandparents, retirees and community members are all welcome.

What Will You Do?

- Assist with serving.
- Clean and organise the canteen.
- Ensure a positive and friendly environment for our students.

How to Sign Up

If you are interested in volunteering, please express your interest through the following link [Canteen Expression of interest](#). Thank you for considering this opportunity to support our College and students. We look forward to welcoming you to our canteen team!

Seasonal Illness Reminders



As we move through the seasonal changes, we've noticed an increase in illness within the school community. To help keep everyone healthy and minimise the spread of sickness, we kindly ask that you keep your child at home if they are feeling unwell.

Signs of illness to watch for include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Headache

Resting at home will not only help your child recover more quickly but also protect others from becoming ill. We appreciate your support in keeping our school environment safe and healthy for all.

Kate Every
College Nurse

Student Progress Meetings



A reminder that you will have received an app notification via SIMONeverywhere last week announcing that bookings are now open for the first round of Student Progress Meetings on Thursday, 5th September. Bookings will close on the 4th of September at 4 pm.

Bookings for the second round of Student Progress Meetings on Wednesday, 11th September will open on 6th September and close on the 10th of September at 4 pm.

Bayleaf Kitchen

This term in RE the Year 7s are focusing on the theme of "Our Human Family". They are focusing on local organisations that assist the community with a focus on the Catholic Social Teaching Principles of Human Dignity, the Common Good and Preferential Option for the Poor. 7H has chosen to support and raise awareness of Bay Leaf Community Kitchen. Violet and Grace from 7H have put together this information flyer attached to help raise awareness in the Iona community.

Bayleafkitchen

By Violet & Grace



How are we helping them ?

7H is helping Bayleaf Community kitchen by providing resources for them and their clients. Some things we are donating/giving are colouring books, puzzles, food jars, making slices and desserts and much more.

What do they do?

Bay leaf community kitchen has a van going around and supplying food for the less fortunate. They support the community by providing nutritious meals and hampers that families can drop past their building and pick up a meal for them and their family.



How can you help them ?

You or your family and friends can help Bayleaf Community Kitchen by simply donating a small amount of money, helping prepare food, or making small hampers to give to them.

About them

Location: 24 Moorabool St, Geelong 3220

Phone number: 0419528495

Email: bayleafcommunitykitchen@gmail.com

Columba Day – Colourful Fancy Dress



As we gear up for Columba Day, anticipation is building for what promises to be an exciting event. We imagine that students have already started thinking about their colourful fancy dress outfits, and we can't wait to see the creativity on display.

Popular activities like the staff dunk tank and the staff vs. students footy match will be back! Details about the day, including food trucks and other exciting events will be shared in the coming weeks.

Iona Pathways Press

The August 30th 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
- News from RMIT University
 - RMIT Student for a Day
 - Bachelor of Cyber Security at RMIT
- New Courses on Offer at ACU
- News from Deakin University
 - Campus Tours – September Holidays
 - New International Studies in the Associate Degree of Arts
- Victoria Police School Leavers Career Expo
- Games Design Courses in Victoria in 2024
- Snapshot of The University of Otago (NZ) 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)

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

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



Our amazing Resource Centre team [has put together a short film](#) showcasing all the activities from this year's Book Week. We're fortunate to have a passionate team dedicated to keeping our Resource Centre stocked with the latest books and resources. A big thank you to everyone who ensured the week was celebrated!

Sleep Connection Parent/Carer In-person Event

We encourage our parents and carer community to attend the upcoming Sleep Connection Workshop led by sleep expert Lisa Maltman. The link between sleep and overall wellbeing is truly remarkable. This workshop will provide valuable tools to help you support your young person in developing healthy sleep habits—an essential skill for their future. We hope to see our community at this important event!

Here's a bit more about Lisa Maltman:

Lisa has extensive experience working with over 100 schools across Australia.

She is a sought-after speaker at key Australian mental health and wellbeing conferences. Through The Sleep Connection, she offers a comprehensive approach to sleep education, providing pathways to professional help when needed. She collaborates with specialists from SleepShack, which delivers clinically proven online sleep programs for pre-teens and teenagers, and the Woolcock Paediatric and Adolescent Sleep Clinic, part of the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research in Sydney, a world leader in sleep and breathing research.

We hope to see our community at this upcoming event!



 **CLONARD COLLEGE**
GEE LONG

 **IONA COLLEGE**
GEE LONG

THE SLEEP CONNECTION

Parent Workshop

Join Us for an Insightful Presentation by Renowned Sleep Expert Lisa Maltman. Discover the critical role quality sleep plays in your young person's overall health, learning and emotional wellbeing.

What to Expect:
Valuable Insights: Understand the science behind sleep and its impact on your young person's development.
Practical Strategies: Learn tips and techniques to improve your young person's sleep habits.
Interactive Discussion: Ask questions and discuss your concerns with an expert.

TUESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER
6 PM - 7 PM
Iona College Resource Centre
242 Horseshoe Bend Road, Charlemont
Parking in Staff Car Park

JOIN US- RSVP TODAY



Key Contacts
Iona College: Kylie Power, Deputy Principal Wellbeing
Clonard College: Tania Anticev, School Improvement Leader Wellbeing

CLICK HERE TO RSVP 

242 Horseshoe Bend Road
Charlemont VIC 3217

p: 03 5229 0004

e: reception@iona.vic.edu.au

iona.vic.edu.au

A Reminder of the Closure of Horseshoe Bend & Boundary Rd's Intersection

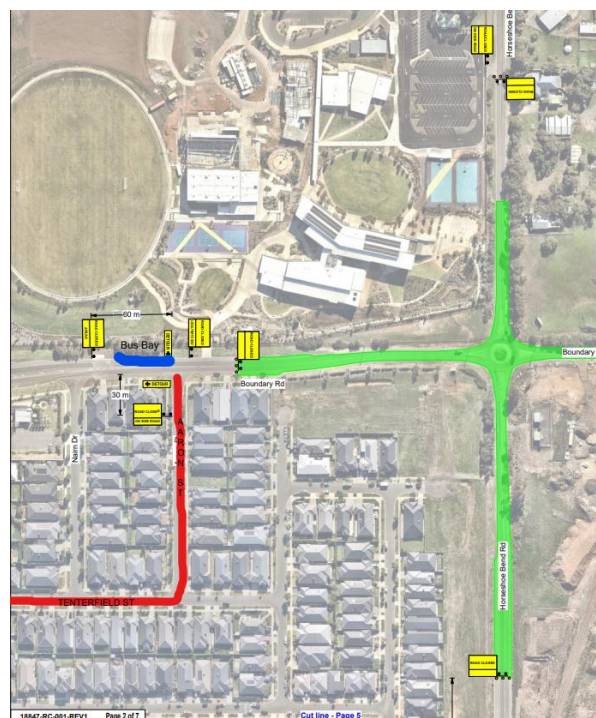
We remind all parents, carers and students that reconstruction of the Horseshoe Bend & Boundary Rd intersection commenced on Monday, August 19 and is scheduled to end on January 27 (2025). Road detours will be in place and may lead to additional travel time of up to 15 – 20 minutes.

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).

3.12 pm

#4 (Jan Juc)

#5 (Highton)

#6 (Torquay / Lochard)

3.16 pm

#8 (Torquay / Ocean Acres)

#11 (Torquay / Highlander)

#12 (North Torquay)

3.20 pm

#17 (Waurm Ponds)

#18 (Mt Duneed)

#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 Warrailiy 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 Warrailiy Blvd and Burvilles Rd in the near future.

Carl Jones

Accounts Receivable & Transport Coordinator

Reminder Upcoming Staff Professional Development Student Free Day



A reminder that tomorrow, 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
Tuesday 24 September	VCE Unit 4 Practice Exams
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