

26 February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week is our second edition of our Key Dates and Important Information update.

As communicated earlier, and based on feedback received in last year's survey, we are trialling a revised newsletter format this term. A full newsletter will now be shared every second week on Thursday afternoon, with shorter updates provided in the alternate weeks.

Our next full newsletter will be distributed each alternate week.

[School Photo Catch-Up, Sibling Photos & Year 12 Cohort Photo](#)

The following photographs will be taken tomorrow, **Friday 27 February** (located in the **Drama Room**, unless otherwise stated):

1. **Year 12 Group Photo** – taken on Central Plaza
2. **Year 12 Student Leaders**
3. **Sibling Photos**
4. Students absent on the original photo day
5. Students requested to have their photo re-taken

Students having their photograph taken are required to wear **full formal uniform**. Items not in line with the College uniform policy will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. Please note that coloured hair is not in keeping with College uniform expectations.

Period 1	Year 12 Group Photo Year 12 Student Leaders Year 11 Sibling photos, absent students and resits	Central Plaza Central Plaza Drama Room
Period 2	Year 10 Sibling Photos, absent students and resits	Drama Room
Period 3	Year 12 Sibling Photos, absent students and resits	Drama Room
Period 4	Year 9 & 8 Sibling Photos, absent students and resits	Drama Room

If a student is unable to have their photograph taken on the scheduled school photo day or catch-up day, families may arrange a session directly with Arthur Reed Photography. In this case, a parent or guardian will need to contact Arthur Reed to book an appointment at their head office.

Thank you for your support in ensuring students are dressed appropriately for the occasion.

Unit 3 and Unit 4 Student Progress Meetings



Date: Tuesday, 10 March
Time: 3.30 - 5.30 pm
Venue: Glowrey Centre of Excellence

These meetings are for all Unit 3 students, including Year 12 students and Year 10 and 11 students undertaking a Unit 3 subject as part of their accelerated program.

Year 12 Parent/Carer Engagement Forum



Date: Tuesday, 10 March
Time: 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm
Venue: Francis Centre

At the conclusion of the Student Progress Meetings, Damian McKew and the College Leadership Team will host an open forum in the **Resource Centre (Francis Centre)** from **5.45 pm**. Families are warmly encouraged to attend and raise any questions they may have.

Easter Fundraising



Our Iona Annual Easter Egg Raffle has begun! This is a wonderful opportunity to help raise money for the feeding program at St Mary's Primary School in Uganda, a way we can ensure the St Mary's student receive a meal and a good education. It's easy to take part! Families are invited to donate easter eggs for the raffle, students will receive raffle tickets to sell, and all funds raised will go straight to the St Mary's feeding program! At the end of this term, the raffle will be drawn, and winners will receive beautiful easter hampers made up from the donated eggs. This is a cause close to our hearts at Iona. If you would like to make a direct contribution to support the children and staff at St Mary's Primary School, donations can be made via the following link: [St Mary's Feeding Program](#).

All Easter egg donations and sold raffle tickets can be dropped off at the main reception by Tuesday, 31 March 2026.

Year 7 Applications & Tour and Information Sessions – Reminder



A reminder of the upcoming dates for our Tour and Information Sessions:

- Monday 16 March – 4.15 pm to 5.45 pm
- Tuesday 17 March – 11.00 am to 12.30 pm
- Wednesday 18 March – 9.00 am to 10.30 am
- Wednesday 18 March – 4.15 pm to 5.45 pm
- Thursday 19 March – 9.00 am to 10.30 am

Bookings for these sessions can be [made online via the following link](#).

Swimming Carnival – Monday 2 March



Our annual Swimming Carnival will be held this **Monday, 2 March 2026**, at Kardinia Aquatic Centre.

This is a compulsory event for students in Years 7–9. There will be no on-site supervision for students who do not attend. Students without parent/guardian consent must remain at home.

Arrival & Transport

Students are to attend school as usual for Community Group before travelling by McHarry's Bus Lines to and from the venue. All students must remain at the carnival for its duration and will return to school for presentations before normal dismissal. Phones will not be taken to the venue. Families are warmly invited to attend (entry via Park Crescent). A reminder to families to please refrain from taking photographs, as this is a public venue.

Events & Participation

The day will include 50m events, relays, diving and novelty activities. Students are encouraged to participate in at least two events. Only students able to swim 50 metres unassisted may compete in main pool events (please indicate this in the consent form).

Uniform & Requirements

Students must wear their Iona sports uniform and may incorporate House colours (no denim). Please bring sunscreen and a hat, and ensure all items are clearly named.

The carnival will run approximately **10.00 am – 1.30 pm**.

Parent consent and swimming ability details must be completed for students to attend.

Iona Pathways Press



This week's edition of the Careers and Pathways team's Pathways press is [available via the following link](#).

Term 1 Formal Uniform Days



Please note the following upcoming formal uniform dates. These do **not** apply to all students, so we ask families to carefully note the year levels and requirements for each day:

- **Friday 27 February** – Year 12 Photo (**Year 12 students only**)
- **Friday 27 February** – School photo catch-up day and sibling photos (formal uniform required for students being photographed only)
- **Thursday 2 April** – Whole School Assembly

Thank you for your support in ensuring students are in the correct uniform on the relevant dates.

Term 1 2026 Dates to Remember

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.

Date	Event
Thursday 18 December - Tuesday 20 January	Iona College Admin Office Closed for Christmas Break
Wednesday 21 January	Iona College Admin Office Opens
Thursday 29 January	Term 1 Commences for Year 7, Year 12 and All New Students to the College (Formal Uniform for Year 7s and all New Students to Iona)
Friday 30 January	Years 8-11 Commence
Tuesday 10 February	School Photo Day (Formal Uniform)
Tuesday 10 February	Yr 11 & 12 VCE Parent Information Evening (6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Iona College Stadium)
Wednesday 11 February	Whole School Mass (Formal Uniform)
Tuesday 17 February	Year 7 Parent/Carer Welcome Evening (6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Iona College Stadium)
Thursday 19 February	Whole School Assembly - 2025 VCE & VOC Major High Achievers Awards and 2026 Leaders Induction (Formal Uniform)
Wednesday 25 February	Year 7 Maths Parent/Carer Information Night (6:00 pm - 7:00 pm)
Friday 27 February	Year 12 Group Photo (Formal Uniform for Year 12s)
Friday 27 February	School Photo Catch-Up Day and Sibling Photography Formal uniform required for all students being photographed.
Monday 2 March	Swimming Carnival
Monday 9 March	Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 10 March	Units 3 Student Progress Meeting (Glowrey Centre of Excellence, On-site)
Tuesday 10 March	Year 12 Parent/Carer Engagement Forum (Francis Centre, 5.45 pm - 6.45 pm)
Wednesday 11 March	Teen Mental Health Matters Webinar with Dr Sarah Barker (Online)
Wednesday 11 March	Summer Soiree (6:00 pm - 7:30 pm, Iona College Stadium)
Monday 16 March	Open Day - Tour and Information Session (4:15 - 5:45)
Tuesday 17 March	Open Day - Tour and Information Session (11:00 - 12:30)
Wednesday 18 March	Open Day - Tour and Information Session (9:00 - 10:30)
Wednesday 18 March	Open Day - Tour and Information Session (4:15 - 5:45)
Thursday 19 March	Open Day - Tour and Information Session (9:00 - 10:30)
Thursday 19 March	Student Progress Meetings (Onsite)
Friday 20 March	Staff Professional Development Student Free Day
Tuesday 24 March	Student Progress Meeting (Online)
Thursday 2 April	End of Term Assembly (Formal Uniform)
Thursday 2 April	Term 1 Concludes (2:05 pm)
Monday 20 April	Staff Professional Development Student Free Day
Monday 20 April	Practice GAT (all VCE and VCE VM unit 3/4 students or similar)
Tuesday 21 April	Term 2 Commences

Thanks for your support.

Damian, Kylie and Melissa