

13 August 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is always encouraging to reflect on the many ways our students bring the Gospel to life in our community. This week has provided several wonderful reminders of the compassion, service and connection that are at the heart of our Catholic identity.

Making a Difference

We have seen outstanding work from our Year 7 and Year 10 students as they embrace opportunities to *Make a Difference* in the lives of others and put the Golden Rule into action: *"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."* Through volunteering initiatives both within the College and in the wider community, our students are demonstrating genuine care and concern for those around them. Their actions are powerful examples of our young people living out the values of Catholic Social Teaching, particularly the dignity of the human person, the common good and a preferential option for the vulnerable. We are proud of the way our students are using their gifts and voices to make a positive impact.

This spirit of service extends across the College. Our VCE VM students are currently preparing for a Bake Sale on Thursday 21 August, with all funds raised supporting St Mary's School in Uganda. This initiative is a wonderful opportunity for students to make a tangible difference in the lives of others while strengthening our connection with a wider global community. We encourage families to support this worthy cause and help our students continue living out our call to service and solidarity.

CLOGS Ball Raises \$22,723 for Local Charities

We are delighted to announce that the recent Year 12 College Leaders of the Geelong Catholic Secondary Schools (CLOGS) Ball raised an incredible \$22,723.16 for two local charities, Feed Me Geelong and Strong Brother Strong Sister. Each charity will receive \$11,361.58, supporting their important work in our local community.

We are incredibly proud of the College Leaders from Iona, Sacred Heart, St Joseph's, St Ignatius and Clonard who dedicated so much time and effort to bringing this fundraiser together. We also want to thank our community who supported the event and helped make this contribution possible. The charities will be invited to a presentation morning tea in the coming weeks.

Celebrating Relationships

This week we received positive feedback following our *Time and Space Community Connections Evening* for students and their mums, grandmothers, carers and other special women in their lives. The evening provided a valuable opportunity to pause amidst the busyness of daily life, spend quality time together and acknowledge the important role these women play in supporting and guiding our young people.

Thank you to all who attended and helped make the evening such a special occasion. It was a wonderful reminder of the strength of our College community and the importance of nurturing meaningful relationships.



Growing in our Catholic Identity

As a staff, we remain committed to continually deepening our understanding of our Catholic mission and identity. At our upcoming Staff Formation Day on Tuesday 25 August, we will have the privilege of welcoming speakers from the Mary Glowrey Museum and the Mary MacKillop Centre.

Through their presentations, staff will learn more about two of our College patrons, Mary Glowrey and Saint Mary MacKillop, whose lives of faith, courage, service and leadership continue to inspire our community today. We look forward to exploring how their examples can further enrich our work with young people and strengthen our shared commitment to Gospel values. A reminder that this is a student free day and there will be no classes running.

Celebrating Performance

Tonight, Thursday 13 August, our talented music students will take to the stage for this term's Ensemble Showcase. This event provides students with the opportunity to showcase their hard work, creativity and musical growth in front of family and friends. We thank our music staff for their dedication and wish all performers a successful and enjoyable evening.

Excitement continues to build for our 2026 school production, *Two Weeks with the Queen*, which will be presented on 28 and 29 August. Students and staff have been working tirelessly through rehearsals, and the enthusiasm and talent on display promise a fantastic show. If you have not yet purchased your tickets, we encourage you to do so soon and support our students as they bring this story to life on stage.

Looking ahead, our VCE Music Recital will take place on 16 September. For many of our senior music students, this recital represents the culmination of years of learning, practice and performance throughout their secondary school journey. As they prepare for this significant milestone, we wish them every success and thank them for the contribution they have made to the rich musical life of Iona College.

Staying Connected

Finally, a reminder to all families to make use of your complimentary subscription to **Australian Catholics Magazine**. As an Iona College family, this resource provides wonderful insights, stories and reflections from across Catholic education and the broader Church community, helping us stay connected with faith, learning and contemporary issues.

To get access:

Visit: <https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/>

Select Education Hub, then click Login and use:

Email: parents@iona.vic.edu.au

Password: acparents

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Iona College community. May we continue to be inspired by the example of Christ as we strive to make a difference in the lives of others each day.

Don't forget to register for the very special upcoming online Parent Workshop on 19 August featuring The Most Rev Stephen Wang – free to families of Melbourne Archdiocese schools - details below:

MOST REV STEPHEN WANG PARENT WORKSHOP

**WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST 2026
AT 7:00PM**



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



A Special Invitation for Parents

Parents across our MACS schools and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are invited to a unique opportunity to hear from Fr Stephen Wang, visiting all the way from Rome. Join us as he explores the inspiring topic:

Accompaniment and Conversion: Walking with Our Children Toward Christ.

Come and be encouraged and inspired in your journey of faith and parenting.

Online Link to Join: <https://shorturl.at/02j66>

Meeting ID: 482 438 471 206 0

Passcode: bw6cm35P

Or Scan QR Code to Join

SYCAMORE



First Nations Cultural Experience

Iona College's First Nations students recently embarked on a rich cultural excursion that blended connection to Country, creativity and community. The day offered students the chance to deepen their understanding of local landscapes and native flora while directly experiencing being and learning on Country. Finally, students were led creatively with a hands-on activity by artist Lauren Barton. The group began their journey at the Point Addis Cultural Walk, a stunning coastal site known for its deep cultural significance. Guided by Lisa, students were introduced to native flora that has long played an important role in local Indigenous knowledge systems. Lisa shared uses of plants and insights into how flora connects to identity, healing and Country. This walk encouraged students to observe the land with fresh eyes, recognising the textures, scents, uses and shapes of plants that have sustained communities for thousands of years.



After the walk, students travelled to Bellbrae Clay for a hands-on creative session with local artist Lauren Barton. Lauren guided the group through the process of shaping and forming clay, encouraging each student to explore their own style and cultural expression. The studio buzzed with focus and laughter as students crafted bowls, mugs, figures, and abstract forms, each piece reflecting personal meaning. These clay artworks will be fired and returned to the students, giving them a lasting keepsake from the day. The excursion offered more than activities; it created space for cultural pride, shared learning, and community building. Experiences such as these play an important role in strengthening our students' understanding of First Nations culture whilst building strong community relationships between our students. We thank Lisa and Lauren Barton for sharing their expertise and passion and for making such a memorable experience for our students.



Nick Haintz
Assistant Head of Catholic Identity (First Nations)

Term 3 Student Progress Meetings - Reminder

Bookings are now open for this term's student progress meetings.

Monday 24 August – Onsite at Iona College, 3.30 – 6.30 pm

Bookings via PAM: Open Wednesday 12 August and close at 4.30 pm on Friday 21 August.

Tuesday 1 September – Online, 3.30 – 6.30 pm

Bookings via PAM (please note the new closing time): Open from Wednesday 12 August and close at 4.30 pm on Friday 28 August.

Please take the opportunity to contact your child's teachers on one of these dates so we can all continue to make 2026 a positive year of learning and growth.

Marion McCasker
Pedagogy and Curriculum Leader – Reporting and Assessment

Year 7 Immunisations Reminder

On Thursday, 27 August 2026, Barwon Health Immunisation Service will visit Iona College to administer the following free immunisations to Year 7 students:

- **HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccine** – 1 injection
- **Boostrix (Diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough booster)** – 1 injection

Please complete the online consent form via the following link:

<https://geelong.book.vitavo.com.au/school/IonaCollegeGeelong-rolbFS>

Your information will be provided to the Barwon Health Immunisation Service. If you do not wish for your details to be provided, please email medical@iona.vic.edu.au before Tuesday 21 July. Please ensure that students wear their sports uniform on the day.

Kate Every
College Nurse

Year 7 Grandparent/Special Person Morning Tea – Please RSVP



A reminder to our Year 7 families to please **RSVP for our inaugural Year 7 Grandparent/Special Person Morning Tea**. The RSVP link can be found in the initial email invitation.

Date: Tuesday 8 September

Venue: Iona College Stadium

Time: Please refer to your email invitation for your allocated time.

This special event will provide our Year 7 students with the opportunity to welcome a grandparent or special person into our Iona community and share part of their Iona experience.

Iona Pathways Press



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

Child Safe Standard 4 - Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing.

As Catholic educators, we have a moral, mission-driven and legal responsibility to uphold and actively promote the wellbeing and safety of every student entrusted in our care. Our commitment to the protection of students ensures they have agency and voice about all matters that impact their safety. Our Catholic communities ensure systems, processes, policies and cultures encourage and respect the voices of young people.

This newsletter series provides an overview of what **Child Safe Standard 4** is, how it is designed to help keep young people safe and what Iona, governed by Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS), is doing to prioritise and achieve this.

Overview of Child Safe Standard 4:

To be aligned, Iona must support the following:

- Families participate in decisions affecting their child
- Iona engages and openly communicates with families and the community about its child safe approach and relevant information is accessible.
- Families and communities have a say in the development and review of Iona policies
- Families, carers and the community are informed about Iona's operations and governance.

What does this look like at Iona?

- Keeping families informed: We provide parents, carers and the community with regular updates about child safety and wellbeing so everyone knows what is being done to keep young people safe and so parents and carers can continue the conversation at home.
- Inviting parent, carer and community involvement: We create varied opportunities for families, carers and community members to participate in surveys, forums or school events that focus on child safety and wellbeing, and seek their feedback. The annual MACSSIS survey will be arriving shortly - this is a great opportunity to participate.
- Working together: We build trust and open communication with families, carers and the wider community. We ensure families, carers and members of the community have access to a variety of communication channels e.g. weekly news, social media and internal communications.
- Welcoming different perspectives: We are always open and welcoming of ideas that help keep children safe. We create varied ways for people to provide us with their feedback and share their ideas. We also actively seek to go beyond the school gate to meet families and the wider community at different places of learning, so we are all walking together.

Want to know more?

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how we're supporting child safety, please get in touch.

More information on the Child Safe Standards can be found via the Commission for Children and Young People (CCYP) website - [CCYP | Child Safe Standards](#)

Check out these additional resources below to learn more:

The Australian Institute of Family Studies (AFIS): Parents' Involvement in their Children's Education Community Engagement - [Parents' involvement in their children's education | Australian Institute of Family Studies](#)

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL): Strengthening Parent Engagement to Improve Student Outcomes - [Strengthening parent engagement to improve student outcomes](#)

Kylie Power
Deputy Principal Wellbeing & Child Protection Officer

[Iona College Magazine – The Yarning](#)

A reminder to our Iona community that our annual College Magazine is available to read online:

[The Yarning 2022](#)

[The Yarning 2023](#)

[The Yarning 2024](#)

We hope you enjoy looking back on the wonderful stories, achievements and memories from across our Iona community.

[Iona College Inaugural Play](#)

Tickets for our inaugural College Play, Two Weeks With The Queen, are selling fast. A limited number of tickets are still available. Tickets can be booked online [via the following link](#).



Year 10 Hospitality Excursion

Over the past fortnight, our Year 10 Hospitality students have been developing their barista skills through hands-on training at The Gordon. Students learned the fundamentals of coffee making, including operating espresso machines, texturing milk and preparing a range of café-style beverages. This valuable industry experience has helped students build confidence, develop practical hospitality skills and gain insight into career pathways within the hospitality sector. Well done to all students for their enthusiasm and commitment throughout the program!



Rebecca Evans
Teacher

Year 12 VCE Trial Examinations and Revision

Year 12 Unit 4 Trial Examinations will take place at Iona College from **Monday 21 September to Thursday 24 September 2026**, with the **English Trial Examination taking place in Term 3 on Tuesday 15 September**. All students undertaking end-of-year VCAA examinations are expected to attend their scheduled Trial Examinations.

2026 Unit 4 Trial Examination Timetable

Term 3 Holidays | Monday 21 - Thursday 24 September 2026

MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER	TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER	WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER	THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER
9:00 - 10:45 am General Mathematics 1 Stadium	9:00 - 11:15 am Legal Studies Stadium	9:00 - 11:15 am Applied Computing Stadium	9:00 - 11:15 am Mathematical Methods 2 Stadium
9:00 - 10:15 am Mathematical Methods 1 Stadium	9:00 - 11:15 am Outdoor Education Stadium	9:00 - 11:15 am Literature Stadium	9:00 - 10:45 am General Mathematics 2 Stadium
12:00 - 2:45 pm Chemistry Stadium	9:00 - 10:45 am Art Making & Exhibiting Stadium	9:00 - 11:15 am Physical Education Stadium	12:00 - 2:45 pm Physics Stadium
12:00 - 2:15 pm Health & Human Development Stadium	9:00 - 10:45 am Product Design & Technologies Stadium	9:00 - 10:15 am Specialist Mathematics 1 Stadium	12:00 - 2:15 pm Geography Stadium
12:00 - 2:15 pm History Revolutions Stadium	9:00 - 10:15 am Music Contemporary Performance GB401	12:00 - 2:45 pm Biology Stadium	12:00 - 2:15 pm Psychology Stadium
12:00 - 2:15 pm Spanish GA405	12:00 - 2:15 pm Accounting Stadium	12:00 - 2:15 pm Business Management Stadium	12:00 - 2:15 pm Economics Stadium
12:00 - 2:15 pm German GB405	12:00 - 2:15 pm Environmental Science Stadium	12:00 - 2:15 pm Specialist Mathematics 2 Stadium	12:00 - 1:45 pm Food Studies Stadium
12:00 - 1:15 pm Music Repertoire Performance GB401	12:00 - 2:15 pm Indonesian GB401		
	12:00 - 1:45 pm Visual Communication Design Stadium		
BEFORE EVERY EXAM	BETWEEN EXAMS	CLASHES / SPECIAL PROVISIONS	
Arrive 15 minutes early. Sign in at GA401 and leave your phone in the locked boxes.	Bring your own lunch/refreshments and remain in GA401-402.	Individual arrangements will be emailed separately by Kate McLaren or VCE Administration - Kate Lee.	

The Trial Examinations provide students with an important opportunity to experience examination conditions, practise time management and identify areas for final revision ahead of the VCAA examinations. **Class revision will be the primary focus of all Year 12 classes throughout late Term 3 and in the weeks leading up to the VCAA examinations in Term 4.** Students will be supported through targeted revision and preparation within their regular classes. [Please view the following document](#) that outlines the Trial Timetable as well as the VCE September Holiday Revision Lectures, both held locally and in Melbourne.

Students may also wish to take advantage of **additional revision opportunities** offered by external providers, including revision lectures held locally and in Melbourne. These opportunities are entirely optional, and many involve a fee. Students and families are encouraged to consider these opportunities only if they are appropriate for the student and fit within their individual study plans, time and family circumstances.

Students should also ensure they are familiar with the [VCAA 2026 VCE Exams Navigator](#), including examination rules and approved materials and equipment for each subject. The Navigator is available through the VCAA website, and students can also access a copy through the VCE Office.

Columba Day 2027



A reminder that the Iona community will celebrate Columba Day on the final day of Term 3, Friday 18 September.

Students are invited to wear their House colours, including House-themed fancy dress if they wish. Students participating in the Staff vs. Students Footy Game should bring sports attire to change into.

Students can look forward to a day of activities including House Music, games, the Dunk Tank, disco, 3v3 basketball knockout, volleyball/pickleball, quiet activities in the Resource Centre, and the much-loved Staff vs. Students Footy Game.

Food Trucks & Iona Canteen

Students may continue to use their Iona Student ID card to purchase food from the Iona Canteen. Smoothies can be preordered.

Our Iona Canteen will have the following available:

- **Sausage Rolls** – \$4.00
- **Toasties**
 - Cheese – \$3.50
 - Ham & Cheese or Cheese & Tomato – \$4.00
 - Ham, Cheese & Tomato – \$4.50
- **Smoothies**
 - Small – \$3.50
 - Large – \$5.00
 - Flavours:
 - Honey
 - Banana,
 - Mango Delight,
 - Tropical Delight,
 - Tropical Dream
 - It's All Berry

A range of food trucks will also be available on the day, including:

- Pizza
- Dumplings
- Mexican
- Twisto
- Churros
- Bao/Pho
- Burgers

Food truck purchases can be made using cash or EFTPOS/debit card.

Please refer to the menus below for available items. **Please note that prices are subject to change.**

COLUMBA DAY MENU

CHUBBY BAO

BAO 1 for \$8, 3 for \$22

Pho Fried Chicken, cucumber, chilli & fresh herbs Crunch Fried Chicken, slaw, Chubby mayo Beaufort Pork belly, pickles, cucumber & peanut (DFO, GFO)

Beast Beef brisket, kimchi, radish, gochujang mayo & spring onion (DFO, GFO)

Sailor Furikake prawn, charcoal buns, slaw, pickles & yuzu aioli Forest Mixed mushroom, water chestnut, cabbage, carrot, garlic, spring onion & peanut (DF, VG, GFO)

Nightshade Eggplant, slaw, Szechuan glaze (DF, VG)

SIDES

Fried chicken \$25
Signature fried chicken with Chubby sauce

Pulled beef fries, \$25
kimchi, spring onion & gochujang mayo

Plain chips. \$8/12

COMBOS Meal for One \$32
Choice of 3 baos, 1 side & 1 drink

Kid's Bao Bun Meal \$20
Crunchy bao bun & chips

Kid's fried chicken Meal \$20
Fried chicken & chips

EXTRAS/ DRINKS

Chubby sauce \$2
Gochujang mayo \$2

Soft Drink \$4
Water \$4

TWISTED TEMPTATIONS

Twisted Potato \$12.00
One twisted potato and one drink

Twisted Combo \$14.00

Feed for Two \$25.00
Two twisted potatoes and two donuts

Twisted Mega Deal \$30.00

Soft Drink (Sugar Free) \$4.00

Water \$4.00

Hot Jam Donut \$3.00

GYPSY LUNCHBOX

Kids Cheese Burger \$14.00
Angus beef, American cheddar, Westmont pickles, onion, and ketchup.

Angus Beef & Bacon Burger \$17.00
Angus beef, American cheddar, Lettuce, tomato, onion, Westmont pickles, house burger sauce.

Southern-fried Chicken Burger \$17.00
Southern-fried chicken, American cheddar, house slaw, chilli mayo.

Side Fries \$6.00

Tray Fries \$15.00

Loaded Fries (Bacon, cheese, sauce) \$17.00

Soft drink \$4.00

Churros Yummy Donuts

Cinnamon Sugar	\$7.00
Icing Sugar	\$7.00
Chocolate Drizzled	\$8.00
Caramel Drizzled	\$8.00
Nutella Drizzled	\$9.00
Jam Filled	\$9.00

PERLA MEXICAN

TACOS..2/\$16
Beef, Chicken or Black bean soft tacos with pico de gallo, pickled onion & salsa verde

NACHOS.. \$16
Corn Chips, melted cheese, salsa, guacamole, sour cream, pickled onion, jalapeno, coriander

FRIES..\$10
Fries w/ Perla salt seasoning

LOADED FRIES..\$16
Fries w/ melted cheese, meat or beans, lime crema, pickled onion & coriander

PIZZA PARTY MAN

Garlic \$15.00
Garlic, cheese & Oregano

Margherita \$20.00
Tomato & Mozzarella

Vegetarian \$22.00
Tomato, Mozzarella, Mushroom, Onions, Olives

Hawaiian \$22.00
Tomato, Mozzarella, Ham & Pineapple

Salami \$25.00
Tomato, Mozzarella, Salami

Mushroom \$22.00
Tomato, Mozzarella, Mushroom

Melbournian \$25.00
Tomato, Mozzarella, Salami, Pesto

BBQ M/Lovers \$25.00
Tomato, Mozzarella, Ham, Onion, Salami, BBQ Sauce

Frankie \$25.00
tomato, Mozzarella, Prosciutto, Rocket, Parmesan Cheese

Nutella \$15.00
Nutella, Icing Sugar

LIL DUMPLING VAN

4 Pieces w free sauce \$10.00

8 Pieces w free sauce \$18.00

Steamed Bun \$6.00

Regular Chips \$8.00

Dumpling Options:

- Pork
- Chicken
- Beef
- Vegetable/ Vegan

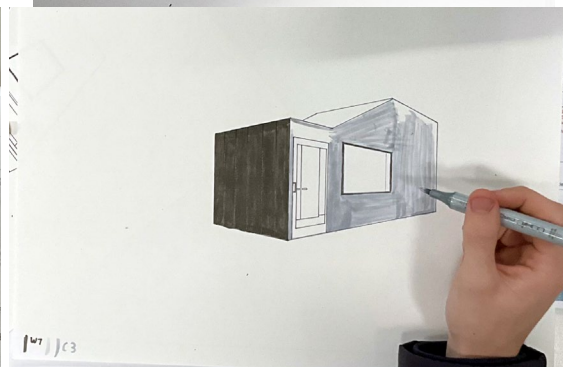
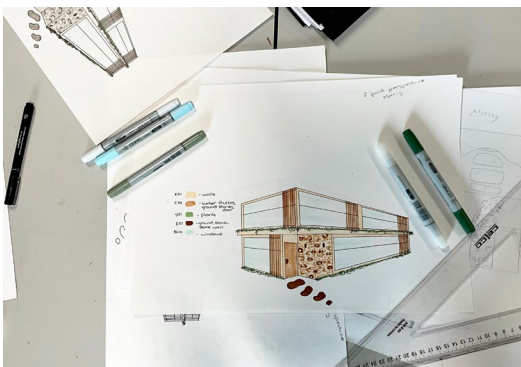
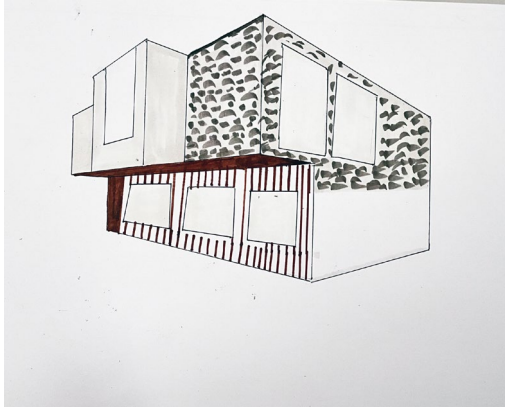
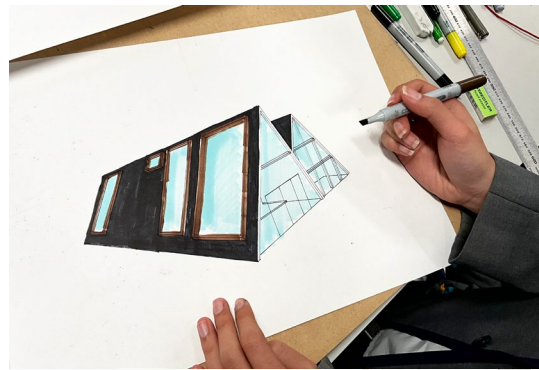
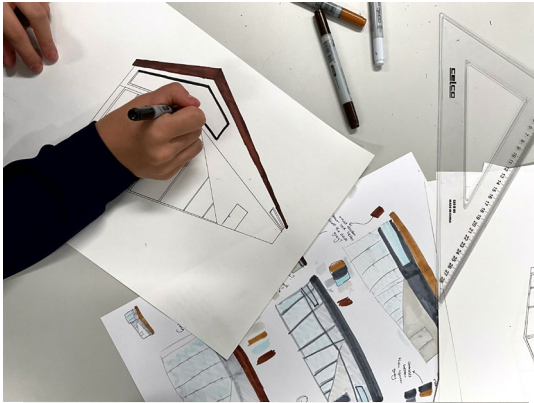
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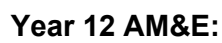
Sausage Roll	\$4.00
Toasties	
Cheese	\$3.50
Ham and Cheese, Cheese and Tomato	\$4.00
Ham, Cheese and Tomato	\$4.50
Smoothies	\$3.50 (S), \$5.00 (L)
1. Honey Banana	
2. Mago Delight	
3. Tropical Delight	
4. Tropical Dream	
5. Its all berry	

Art Department News

Year 11 VCD:

Year 11 VCD students were tasked with developing a two-point perspective drawing of a compact tiny house designed to address affordable housing needs. Their designs considered essential living spaces, including a utilities area, kitchen/living space, and sleeping area, while incorporating innovative space-saving furniture solutions for low-income workers and families.

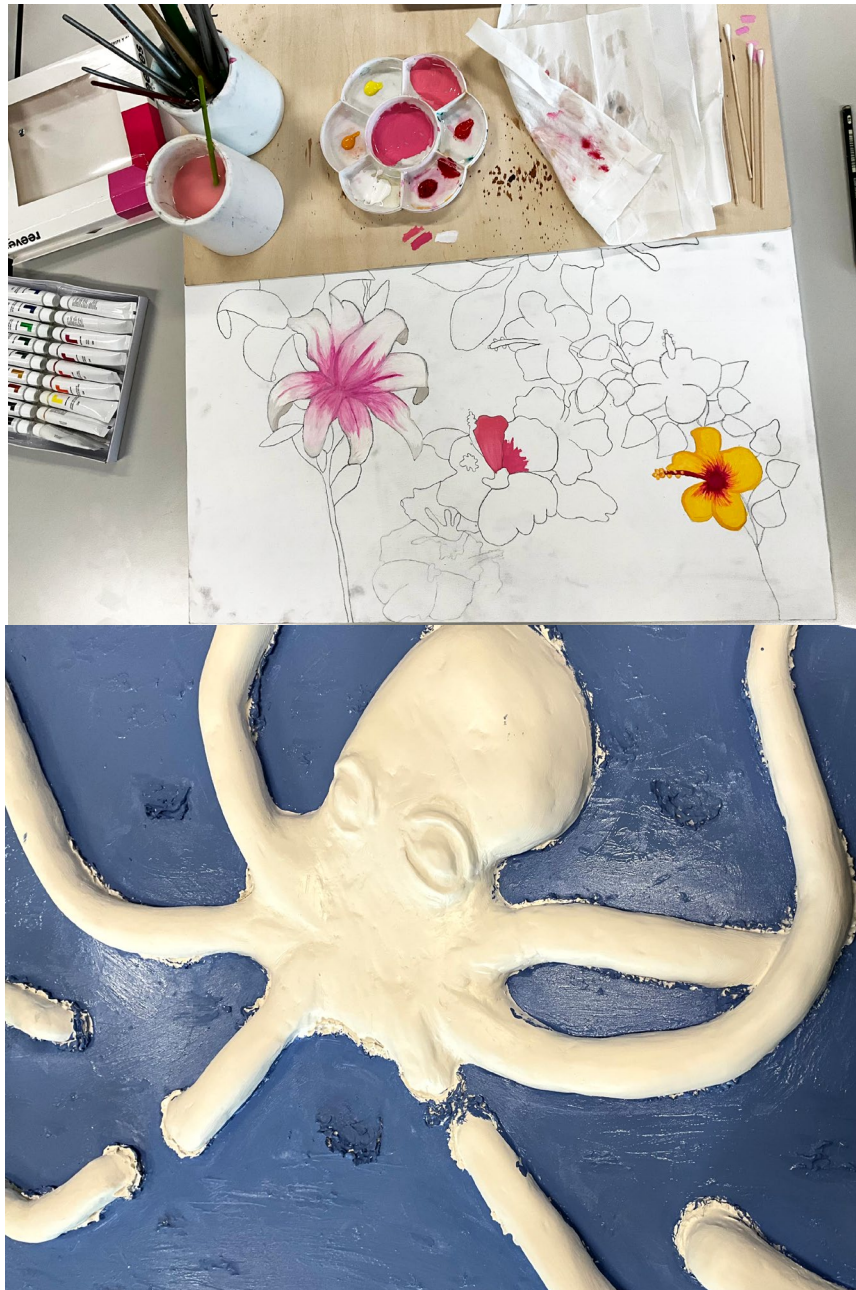




A young person with long brown hair, wearing a purple hoodie, is sitting at a desk in an art studio, painting a portrait of a character with blue hair and a green swirl on a canvas. A computer monitor is visible in the background.









Term 3 Dates to Remember

Date	Event
Saturday 20 June - Thursday 2 July	Indonesian Study Trip
Monday 22 June - Tuesday 30 June	Central Australia Immersion
Friday 26 June	Term 2 Concludes (2:05 pm)
Thursday 2 July	Community Connections Day
Friday 4 July - Friday 10 July	Admin Office Closed for Holidays
Monday 13 July	Student Free Day (Staff Professional Development)
Tuesday 14 July	Term 3 Starts
Wednesday 22 July	Unit 4 Student Progress Meetings (Onsite, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm)
Thursday 30 July	July Soiree (6 pm - 8 pm)
Tuesday 11 August	Time and Space Evening, Year 7 Students and Mother Figures (Iona College Stadium, 6 pm - 8 pm)
Wednesday 12 August	Consent Labs Parent/ Carer Night (Online, 6 pm - 7 pm)
Thursday 13 August	Ensemble Showcase (Iona College Stadium, 6 pm)
Monday 24 August	Student Progress Meeting (Onsite, 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm)
Thursday 27 August	Year 7 Immunisations
Tuesday 25 August	Student Free Day (Staff Professional Development)
Friday 28 August	School Play Evening Performance (Plat Form Art, 6 pm - 8 pm)
Tuesday 8 September	Year 7 Grandparent/Special Person Morning Tea, Iona College (View Email for Allocated Time)
Tuesday 1 September	Student Progress Meetings (Online, 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm)
Saturday 12 September - Wednesday 23 September	Timor-Leste Immersion
Tuesday 15 September	VCE English Trial Exam
Wednesday 16 September	VCE Recital Drama Room
Thursday 17 September	Whole School Mass (Formal Uniform)
Friday 18 September	Columba Day
Friday 18 September	Term 3 Concludes (2:05 pm)
Monday 21 September - Thursday 24 September	VCE Unit 3&4 Trial Exams
Friday 25 September	Grand Final Public Holiday
Friday 25 September - Friday 2 October	Admin Office Closed for Holidays
Monday 5 October	Term 4 Commences

A printable version of the Dates to Remember [is available online](#). Please note this is regularly updated as new events are added and changes are made.

A reminder that Tuesday 25 August is a Student free day for staff professional development. Please mark this date in your calendars.

Thanks for your support.

Damian, Kylie and Melissa