



Calendar

19 Feb	Gresford Vacy Soccer Gala Day 4-6
23 Feb	Scripture begins
9 Mar	P&C AGM & Meeting
23 Mar	Small Schools Athletics Carnival
1 April	Last day of term

COVID Guidelines

We thank everyone for once again adhering to the COVID guidelines which have been set in place by the DoE. A reminder that from last week no parents are allowed to enter the school site to drop off or pick up students. Friendly faces will be around the front of the school to greet students in the mornings and offer support if needed. Parents may only enter the grounds after registering at the office, for specific appointments and canteen duties.

A reminder also that students must not attend school if they are unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms including fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, loss of taste, and loss of smell. Students need to be symptom free and a negative COVID-19 test result must be received and sighted by the school prior to their return to school. Students who do not undertake a COVID-19 test are not permitted to return to school for a 10 day period and they must be symptom free for at least 3 days prior to their return.

Students who have seasonal allergic rhinitis or another condition that presents similarly to flu-like symptoms are still required to get tested for COVID-19 and return a negative test result. Where their symptoms continue beyond 10 days, students should provide documentation from their GP confirming their symptoms are typical for their condition.

Please follow the link below to find out the latest advice and guidelines for our return to school: <https://bit.ly/3sA4a4k> #FirstDay2021

Student Emergency Detail Reports

Emergency detail reports have been sent home with you child / ren today. Check and make any changes and return to school so we can update our records.

Car Park

With an increase in students and cars in the carpark we would like to remind parents of a few expectations we have to keep our students and community safe.

- Please remember to reverse park cars in the parking space in front of the school. This ensures that all students are safe, can be easily seen and provides more car parking space for everyone.
- Students cannot cross the road without an adult and must be picked up from the gate in the afternoon. Staff will not let students out the gate without an adult.
- In the morning, please park your car and walk your child across the road. As of late we have noticed quite a few 'drop off on the road' and run incidents. We would appreciate parents not doing this please.



Small Schools' Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to everyone who attended the Small Schools Swimming Carnival last week. You, as always, are to be commended for your sportsmanship values, manners and excellent behaviour. It makes me so happy to be principal of this amazing little school! Thank you to all parents who were cheering in the crowd, it was so great to be almost back to normal, interacting with you all as we should. Congratulations to Sierra for being 10 year age champion.



School Contribution Fee

All families in NSW public schools are asked to make a contribution to the ongoing costs associated with providing a quality education. Unlike some schools, Iona Public School does not have text book fees and provides writing booklets, exercise books, worksheets and access to subscribed Internet-based literacy programs such as Spelling City and Ziptales.

Accordingly, we ask you to make a small contribution of \$20 to cover the cost of folders, photocopy paper, exercise book and computer consumables. Our Creative and Practical Arts contribution is \$40 (\$10 per term) This year we have subscribed to Sound Waves, Mathletics, iMaths, Think Mentals and Reading Eggs. These will be used weekly in class and can be accessed from home. The cost of covering the licence fees are Kinder (\$70) and Yrs1-6 (\$85).

The voluntary contribution fee is \$50. This can be paid, either in instalments or a lump sum, in cash at the office or using our online payment system which is available through our website, using the \$ make a payment button. <http://www.ionap.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Athletics Carnival – Tuesday 23 March 2021

This year we will be running the Small Schools Athletics Carnival on Tuesday 23 March at the Vi Barnett Field, Raymond Terrace. This provides a great opportunity for our P&C to fundraise for the school by running the canteen. We will need helpers to serve and cook in the canteen on the day. It would be much appreciated if you are able to offer some time to support this event. Please see Mrs Mahony in the office if you are able to help – you only need to give 1/2hr or so of your time.

Daily Attendance

Everyone has a role supporting positive school attendance. Regular attendance helps students to:

- develop a sense of belonging;
- develop and maintain friendships;
- be more engaged at school;
- progress with their learning;
- be more aware of career and life options.

Every day and minute counts. Missing just one day a fortnight can amount to four weeks of lost learning over a year. Over their school life, this can equal one year of missed learning.

This year we are encouraging students to also be on time for the school day to reduce our partial absences. Being at school when it starts at 9am helps foster positive attendance habits by helping students learn the importance of punctuality and routine, allows them to participate, hear daily notices at assemblies and be ready for learning and reduces disruption to learning.

To encourage students to be on time all students go into a draw daily. If their name gets drawn at 9am, and they are inside the school gates, they receive an Attendance Matters card. When students receive two cards they can exchange them for a prize! Only those who are seated in seats, inside the school gates are eligible for the draw.

CLASSROOM NEWS

K

Our first two full weeks of Kindergarten were a great success! By the end of the week we certainly do see some very tired faces. The 'Buddies' are doing a wonderful job at adjusting to our daily routine.

Last week, our news topic was 'About Me' and it has been wonderful listening and learning all about each other! Our news topic this week (4) is free choice, students can bring in something from home or teach the class how to do something.

During Sport and Fitness we are learning many different ways our bodies can move, such as, the crab crawl, bear walk, frog jump and side gallop. During Athletics, we have been focussing on our running technique.

To stay on the topic of 'About Me' this week, during Visual Arts, the students engaged in crepe paper painting and drew their self-portrait. Check out their amazing results!



Melissa Bird

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to...



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

education.nsw.gov.au



1/2/3

It's been a busy few weeks setting up our new classroom routines.

We have been enjoying our morning PE and have learnt to play a few new games. Here are the students enjoying a game that works on their underarm throwing skills called Snakes Alive.



Students had a lot of fun creating artworks with their fingers based on the landscapes by Monet. They were dubious at first to use their fingers as the brush, but really got into by the end, we will be finishing these artworks this week.



The news topic this week (week 4) is free choice, students can bring an item in to show the class or recount/retell about an exciting outing or activity. The news topic for next week (week 5) is to read a poem to the class, this could be their favourite poem or maybe one they have made-up for themselves.

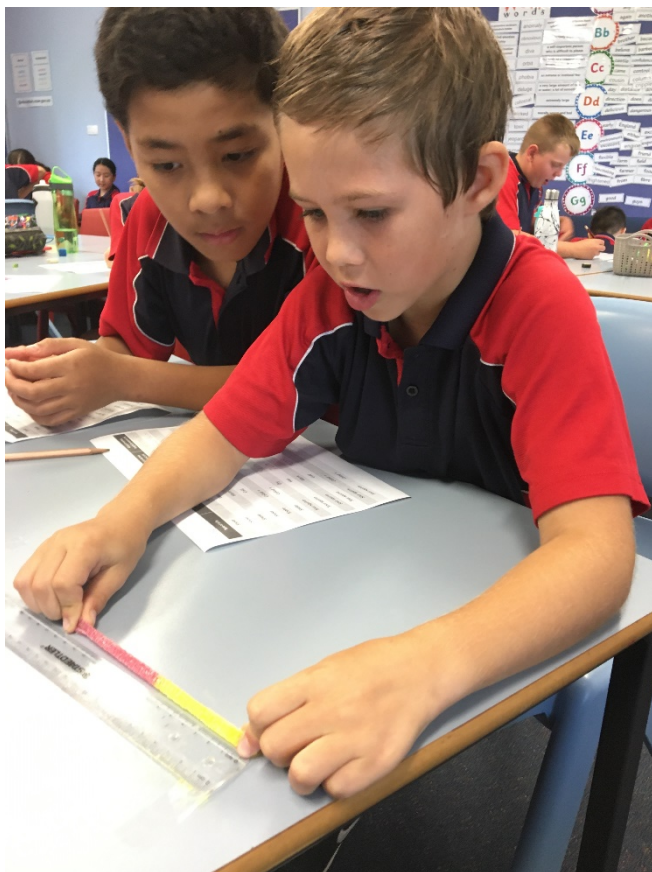
Crunch and Sip is an important part of our morning routine, if your child is bringing cut up fruit, please ensure it is in a container that can be removed from their lunchbox, as lunch boxes take up a lot of desk space that we need for our learning.

Jade Hoytink and Alysha Tully

4/5/6

I am extremely excited by the way the Years 4-6 students have settled into the new school year, with a genuine focus on learning new skills and producing quality work of which they can be proud. In the past fortnight, the students have completed some amazing street art and consolidated mathematical concepts with fun hands-on challenges. They continue to improve their persuasive writing skills and this will continue as the term progresses. Congratulations to our Peer Support leaders, including the Year 5 students who are stepping up to ensure group sizes are kept small. They successfully conducted their first sessions last Tuesday and will continue with activities about friendship for the term.

Ms Hartigan



Music Lessons- Expression of Interest

Music lessons with Ms Bithrey begin this Wednesday. Any questions regarding lessons need to be directed at Ms Bithery please.

Class Meetings

Tuesday, February 13: Year 4-6 with Ms Hartigan between 3.30pm and 4pm.

Soccer Gala Day

Students from Years 4-6 will be pulling on their soccer boots on Friday to participate in a fun gala day at Gresford Sporting Complex. The day is being organised by Gresford Vacy Football Club and will include students from several other schools. The aim of the day is on fun and participation. Students will travel to the event by bus, leaving school at 9.15am and returning just before 3pm. Students must wear sports uniform (including hats) and bring sunscreen, fruit, lunch, recess, snacks and plenty of water. Soccer boots are optional. Those who have shinguards are asked to bring them along. Shinguards will be provided to all other students. Long socks are always helpful, to help keep shinguards in place. Parents are welcome to attend as spectators.

Farewell

On Friday afternoon we farewelled sisters Sharleigh and Kaylyn. Sharleigh, one of our outstanding school leaders, and Kaylyn who is in Year 3, have made a valuable contribution to the Iona Public School community over the past year. We wish them all the best as they embark on their amazing travelling adventures around Australia.



New leadership team

With Sharleigh leaving for her epic adventures, there has been a change to the school's student leadership team. As per the school's leadership policy, elected Student Representative Council president Taylor moves up to fill the vacant captain's position alongside our other captain, Eliza, and Grace steps into the SRC president's role. Congratulations girls. We have every confidence that you will lead our school with commitment and pride.



Canteen

A reminder that canteen starts tomorrow and that all orders need to be in the green mailbox in the canteen area by Monday morning please. If you are interested in helping in the canteen please complete the note sent home last week and return to the school ASAP.

Don't forget that icees are also sold Monday-Thursday for 20 cents and Yr6 sell their ice blocks on Fridays for \$2 each.

P&C AGM

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our last AGM on Tuesday 9 February due to not getting a quorum. We will now postpone our AGM until Tuesday 9 March at 3:30pm. Please come along and support our wonderful school.

Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the Iona Public School Parents and Citizens Association will be held on Tuesday 9 March, 2021 at 3.30pm in the school library. In accordance with the Federation of Parents and Citizens' Association guidelines the following will apply:

The officer positions determined at the AGM, according to both Standard and Prescribed Constitution are: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. All positions will be declared vacant. Please consider nominating for one of these positions.

The P&C will also be discussing the organisation of the Athletics Carnival at this meeting.

A poster titled 'Nutrition Snippet' with the main message 'DRINK WATER.' It features three images of water bottles: a white one, a clear one with a slice of cucumber, and a clear one with a slice of lemon. The text says 'Water is the best choice for kids. Try it fresh or frozen or with added slices of cucumber.' At the bottom, it includes the website 'healthylunchbox.com.au' and the 'Cancer Council Healthy Lunch Box' logo.

Nutrition Snippet

DRINK WATER.

Water is the best choice for kids.

Try it fresh or frozen or with added slices of cucumber.

healthylunchbox.com.au

Cancer Council
Healthy Lunch Box

Positive Behaviour For Learning (PBL)

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) is a whole-school approach to proactive, school-wide behaviour management. It is research and evidence-based practices and strategies for all students to increase academic performance, improve safety, decrease problem behaviour and establish a positive and inclusive environment. This fortnight's lesson is focussed on the value of respect - 'I move safely and quietly in all areas.'

Professional Learning

This year all teachers will be participating in a variety of Professional Learning opportunities. Last week, all teachers visited Largs PS in the afternoon to recap the SoundWaves spelling program and on Wednesday 24 February Ms Hartigan, Ms Tully, Mrs Hoitink and Mrs Bird will continue their PL with the University of Sydney STEM Teacher Enrichment Academy. Mrs Leary and Ms Tully will also be completing PL on a Literacy program on March 8 and 9.

Student Health

Have your child's health needs changed over the school break? It is important that the school has up-to-date information about student health needs. Allergies and other medical conditions that need to be managed by the school. Please contact the school if you need to update our school records.



Theo turned 5 on 3 January
Sarah turned 6 on 9 January
Maddison turned 7 on 9 January
Robert turned 5 on 10 January
Cooper turned 10 on 11 January
Ryan turned 11 on 27 January
Scarlett turned 9 on 8 February
Maisie turned 5 on 12 February
Arjun turned 11 today, 15 February

Awards Week 3

Merit Awards were presented in:-

Kindergarten

Maisie for always using beautiful manners

Stella for always being engaged in classroom activities

1 - 3

Theresa for her focused independent writing

Adharsh for her improvement with her reading skills

4 - 6

Ben Andrei for his effort to consistently produce quality work

Aliyah for displaying a pleasing attitude towards her learning

Library Award

Olive for providing good predictions during library activities

Anaston for providing good predictions during library activities

Caleb M for providing good predictions during library activities

Peer Nominated Award

Sadie for always helping friends in the playground

Teacher Nominated Award

Harry H for helping and supporting the Kindergarten students

Environmental Award

Zoe for picking up ice cups in the playground

Health and Safety

Duke H for always wearing a hat in the playground

Sports Award

Sophie F for keeping the sports shed clean

Whole School PBL

Eleanor for listening to other's point of view

Uniform Order

Term 1 uniform order form is attached to this week's newsletter. Orders need to be returned to school no later than 1 March.

IONA PUBLIC SCHOOL - UNIFORM ORDER 2021

CODE	ITEM	Colour (circle)	SIZE	SIZE	PRICE	QUANTITY
52205	Short sleeve sky polo	Sky blue	3-16		\$12.50	
5220LS	Long sleeve sky polo	Sky blue	3-16		\$14.00	
3886BP	Box pleat Short	Navy	4-16		\$22.00	
G386SK	Skort	Navy	4-16		\$17.00	
4310SL	Track pant	Navy Red	3-16		\$17.00	
5270ZS	Rugby short	Navy	3-16		\$12.50	
5310JK	Jacket fleecy zip	Navy Red	3-16		\$20.00	
5310LR	Jacket hood Fleecy zip	Navy Red	3-16		\$26.00	
5880JK	Polar fleece Jacket	Navy Red	4-16		\$22.00	
5880VE	Polar fleece Vest	Navy Red	4-16		\$16.00	
5963DC	Dry Jacket lined in polar fleece	Navy Red	4-16		\$35.00	
PSW	Box Pleated Tunic	Navy	4-10		\$50.00	
TOTAL	-	-	-		\$	

HATS, SPORT SHIRTS, SHORT & SKORTS MAY BE PURCHASED FROM THE OFFICE.

CASH , CHQ (PAYABLE TO IONA PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C) OR

DIRECT DEPOSIT – BSB 062 813 Account Number 0090 4129 Ref (name)

CHILDS NAME:

ORDERS AND PAYMENT DUE 1 MARCH 2021