



IONA PRESENTATION

PRIMARY SCHOOL MOSMAN PARK

NEWSLETTER

24 FEBRUARY 2017



IONA PRESENTATION PRIMARY SCHOOL MOSMAN PARK

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OUR MISSION

Iona Presentation Primary School, as a loving community, seeks to educate each child within a framework of Catholic values in an atmosphere of trust, openness and truth



NANO NAGLE

The lantern she carried through the darkness in the streets and lanes of Cork became a symbol for the poor of God's love, touching and transforming the harshness of their lives and offering hope. Today that lantern has become the symbol of the mission of the Presentation Sisters around the world.

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Students

One of the most enjoyable aspects of holidays is looking forward to them, and for children, the prospect of the Christmas holidays offered a large amount of enjoyment. So here we are at the other end of those holidays, wondering whatever happened to them. Fortunately, coming back to school is a little like coming to a 'home away from home' as we reunite our family with the broader family of the school community.

American journalist, Helen Rowland described home as 'any four walls that enclose the right person'. A frequently cited one-line saying, describes school as 'a building that has four walls, with tomorrow inside'. Both descriptions have more than the four walls as a common element; each suggests that what's inside the walls is the real essence of what makes a home or school – that is, it's people.

All schools are a community of persons. All schools have a primary function to educate children. What then, makes Iona different to other schools in the area?

We believe that Iona Primary is a true community of persons. It may borrow good administration models and practices from secular schools but it is not merely a business that produces an educational product.

At Iona, we endeavour to provide opportunities for students to explore, reflect and integrate a Christian understanding of nature, self, society and God to manifest this in their life through

behaviours based on love, care and forgiveness.

Our Catholic school wants to assist each of our students to develop a strong, positive self-concept by providing a continually friendly, supportive environment based on respect for the person and sensitivity to individual differences. It wants to provide its students and parents with the experience of a Christian community at work and play.

Though parents are the prime educators of their children, the education of a child is not the sole responsibility of the parent or the school; it is a happy and informed combination of both. So, it is vital that parents are one with the school as it endeavours to foster each students' growth in personal relationship with Christ.

This, it strives to do by the teaching of Catholic truths and the introduction of students to the Sacraments within the experience of their Christian community.

One of the exciting things about a school is that its 'life' never grows old; it undergoes a transfusion or replenishment of youthful innocence at the beginning of each year.

We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to a spirit of generosity and goodwill prevailing at our school throughout the year, so that the Catholic education that occurs here is truly an expression of the mission of Jesus to His church. May the special character of our Christian community be of benefit to the broader community around us.



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Let us pray for God's protection.

O God, whose love never fails, keep us from danger and provide for all our needs.

*Through Christ our Lord
Amen*

COMING UP...

1 March
P & F Meeting Treacey Hall 7pm

2 March
Sacrament Registration 4-5pm
Star of the Sea Cottesloe

3 March
Year 6 Assembly 8.50am
Treacey Hall

6 March
Labour Day Holiday

7 March
Pupil Free Day Professional Development for Teachers

9 March
Year 3 Mass

10 March
Faction Swimming Carnival

11 March
Sacrament Enrolment Mass

School Routines

We would like to congratulate all the students for their efforts over the week. It was pleasing to see the children return to school procedures and formalities with such ease.

The participation and reverence displayed by the students at our Leader's Mass highlighted this transition and was most commendable. It was also wonderful to see a large number of parents in attendance.

This representation is tremendous as it is vital that our children see the importance that mum and dad place on our liturgical celebrations. There is no doubt that the students appreciate having their parents in attendance whenever possible.

Community Spirit

Our Waterslide event on Friday was another great success for our Parent and Friend association. It was wonderful to see so many people in attendance, enjoying one another's company in the relaxed atmosphere of our school oval.

We are very appreciative to the P&F for organising and coordinating the evening. Well done to all involved and many thanks.

Lent

During Lent we prepare for the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Lent means spring, and we celebrate it in memory of the forty days Jesus spent alone praying in the desert. Lent should be seen as the season of 'springtime' - the season of growth and of new life.

During Lent we frequently hear the call to pray, to fast and to give.

It is a time for strengthening our faith, a time to reflect on who we are and where we are going. It is a time for quietness and prayer, a time of penance and meditation, a time to become aware of our strengths and weaknesses.

Lent is a time to reflect on how and what we are challenged by, and how we can continue to grow in faith. We try to share more with others and live simply so that others can simply live. If we really think about the Easter story and recall what God did for us and the suffering that His Son endured, then the penance we do or 'changes' we make to our lives this Lent will not be all that difficult.

Lent has many traditions. During the Mass we do not sing the 'Gloria' or the lively 'Alleluia'. We notice the purple colour in our churches. Purple is the symbolic colour used in some churches throughout Lent, for drapes and altar frontals. Purple is used for two reasons: firstly because it is associated with mourning and suffering and secondly because purple is the colour associated with royalty and celebrates Christ's resurrection and sovereignty.

Our Lenten journey starts next Wednesday with Ash Wednesday. Our Mass commences at 10.00am. All are invited to join us on our journey.

Families In Need of Our Prayers

The love and prayers of our whole school community are with our families who are experiencing difficulties at this time. We pray that the Holy Spirit provides both comfort and strength to all families in need.

P&F Meeting

There will be a P&F Meeting on **Wednesday 1 March at 7.00pm**. One of the agenda items of the meeting will be to discuss the playground equipment. All parents are most welcome to come along.

Dogs in the Grounds

A number of parents have notified us that their children are either afraid of dogs or have allergies to animal fur and have requested that dogs not be allowed in the school grounds.

In the best interests of the children, it would be appreciated if parents/carers could leave their dogs outside the school gates when collecting or dropping off children.

God bless

Jennifer Anderson
Principal

Lent is here again

We are almost at the end of Ordinary Time, as next Wednesday marks beginning of the Season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. We have been celebrating the Sundays and Weeks of Ordinary Time since January 10 this year (after the conclusion of the Christmas season in the Liturgical calendar).

During Lent, there are three aspects in our lives that we give greater attention to: prayer, fasting (abstinence) and almsgiving. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days where we as Catholics abstain from eating meat. We also fast on these days, so that we have only one full meal, and 1 or 2 small snacks to sustain us through the day. Sometimes people look on the aforementioned aspects as burdens or restrictions on their lives. Yet they can be a great help to us in our lives.

During Lent, there are several opportunities to pray more. We can attend the Stations of the Cross in our parish. We can pray a decade of the rosary as a family, with a different person taking turns each day. We could spend some time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in our school chapel. Nano Nagle followed this practice every day (something to keep in mind as part our Presentation heritage and charism). Most importantly, in addition to attending Mass on Sundays in our parish communities, we might attend a weekday Mass where possible during Lent.

In terms of fasting, fasting doesn't mean not eating at all. It is also not restricted to fasting from food. We may give up an activity that we like doing, or reduce the amount of television we watch, time spent surfing on the internet, or checking up on various social media accounts. The purpose of "fasting" is to empty ourselves and our lives of the things that distract us from God. We can use the time we "fast" to pray more or do something for others. (The Sourcebook: Liturgy Training Publications).

Finally, with regards to almsgiving, we have our Project Compassion boxes. Project Compassion will be launched this weekend in all parishes across the Archdiocese. Project Compassion is one way we can show almsgiving during Lent. There are many others as well.

Wishing you a very prayerful Lenten Season.

Mr Alessio Loiacono
Liturgy Coordinator

**SAVE THE DATES
YEAR 4/5/6 MUSICAL
Only 19 weeks to go!**

Mrs Scott, Mrs Charles and Mr Perica have all started preparations for this year's musical event being held in term 3. The students have begun learning the songs for the musical with Mr Perica and Mrs Scott and many students are already excited about being a part of this musical journey and experience.

As all students in years 4, 5 & 6 are involved, please save the following dates in your diaries as it will be required for year 4, 5, & 6 students to attend all rehearsals and of course the performance!

Tech Rehearsal 1
Tuesday 1st August at St Hilda's PAC
4.30-6.30pm

Tech & Dress Rehearsal 2
Wednesday 2nd August at St Hilda's PAC
4.30-6.30pm

Performance Evening
Friday 4th August St Hilda's PAC
6.30-9.00pm

We will keep you posted regarding the event and soon we will be asking for assistance with various aspects of staging a musical such as costuming. In the meantime, enquiries can be directed to Rachel Scott, Lynda Charles or Marisa Perica.

Homework Club

We require a parent helper at each of the homework club sessions. The sessions are Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

The role of parent helper is to assist the teacher and students and college student volunteers. If you would like further information or to volunteer your time please email Annemarie.wyatt@internode.on.net

Thank you for helping the Iona Homework Club. We appreciate your time.



February 24th, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Based on parental feedback, and the overwhelming student interest in the Iona PS Maker Monday program this year, we are introducing several important changes, which will take effect next week.

Maker Monday After School Program for Years 4-6

From Monday, February 27th, the after-school program will operate for students from Years 4-6 only, with a maximum of 20 participants. Interested families are asked to register their children using our new TryBooking page at <http://bit.ly/makermonday2017>.

Younger brothers and sisters of participating students are still welcome to join us in the library after school; however, their dedicated challenge time will move to our new Maker Monday lunchtime program. On Monday afternoons, they can help decorate our LEGO wall, and explore the wonderful selection of books on offer in our library.

The after-school program runs from 3:20-4PM on Monday afternoons. Supervised student pick up will be from the front gate (by the admin building); however, parents are most welcome to come a little earlier and pick their children up from the library. Parents/carers who pick up directly from the library will need to sign out their child using the sign out sheet.

Please note:

There will be no afterschool sessions on March 6th (Labour Day), March 13th, and April 3rd.

****NEW** Maker Monday Lunchtime Program for Years 2-4**

We are introducing a new dedicated "Maker Monday" lunchtime program for students in Years 2-4. This new lunchtime program will operate as an extension of the Library Train and will allow us to better cater to the specific needs of our younger makers and tinkers, especially as they learn how to use our new LEGO WeDO 2.0 robots. No booking is required.

We are delighted to see the incredible interest in our 2017 Maker Monday program, and by introducing these changes, we will be able to better support and extend your children's interests in making, coding, and robotics this year. If you have any questions, please contact me via email at graffin.michael@cathednet.wa.edu.au.

Kind regards,
Michael Graffin
Makerspace & Robotics Teacher

ACADEMIC RESULTS IONA YEAR 12 CLASS OF 2016 *at a glance...*

Iona was one of sixteen schools in WA and one of five schools in the Catholic school system to achieve

100% WACE graduation

TOP 20

The median ATAR for the Class of 2016 was 86.7 – this put Iona 17th in the state of 185 schools

SCSA High Performing Courses

- ☑ English ☑ Modern History
- ☑ Media Production and Analysis
- ☑ Politics and Law
- ☑ Religion and Life ☑ Visual Arts

Other High Performing Subjects include

- ☑ Drama ☑ French ☑ Music

Certificates of Excellence

- in: ☑ English ☑ Visual Arts

Iona – top Catholic School

- in: ☑ Media Production and Analysis ☑ Materials Design and Technology ☑ Visual Arts

63 Certificates of Distinction or Merit

ACCESS LEARNING PATHWAY ACHIEVEMENTS

Only school in the state to have

100% of Access Learning

(VET) students achieve a Certificate III and higher qualification as well as their WACE

15 Students achieved **two Certificate qualifications** (Cert III)

All 44 students obtained a **Certificate IV qualification**



2018 SCHOLARSHIPS NOW OPEN

Iona Presentation College is delighted to offer Academic and Music Scholarships to girls entering Years 7 & 10 in 2018.

Applications close
Saturday 4 March 2017

Enrol online at
www.iona.wa.edu.au/scholarships



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