



Iona Presentation Primary School
Buckland Avenue, Mosman Park, Western Australia 6012
(08) 9286 9100 | www.ionaps.com | admin@ionaps.wa.edu.au

September 24 2015

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Students

We come to the end of another term, and if I were a racing type, I'd say we are on the 'run home' towards the long summer break. For me, the term has just flown by with numerous events planned within the school – from Cocktail Parties to Open Nights to Strategic Planning – the community has pulled together to make each event a success. As the Acting Principal of Iona, I have discovered how multi-faceted the position of Principal of a Catholic School actually is. I 'tip my hat' to Christine, who has done such a wonderful job as Principal and look forward to her return in 2016 to continue the development of the school.

It is appropriate at this time to thank a number of people for their efforts and contributions over the past 10 weeks. It is important to recognise the efforts and dedication of the Iona staff. The teachers and ancillary staff of this school are most professional in their approach to the development of the students within their care and the promotion of the school as a whole.

I would like to recognise and thank the parents who have helped coach and manage the various sporting teams over the winter months. We thank these parents for their assistance, commitment and generosity. Parents have also offered their valuable time this term to help out as reading mums/dads, working in classrooms, attending meetings and helping in the organisation of different school celebrations. The list goes on. A special thank you to the class representatives who are the go-between between the class teacher, P&F and parents. Thank you all for your efforts.

Finally, to the students. Congratulations on a great term's work. Enjoy your two week break and we look forward to you all returning with renewed enthusiasm and work ethic as the countdown to Christmas truly begins.

Strategic Planning

As a follow-up to the Strategic Planning Community meeting that was held a few weeks ago, a working party will be formed to examine the data generated from the meetings and to provide a direction for the leadership team. The working party will consist of around 5 parents and 5 staff members (this, of course, will be reliant on volunteers). The meetings have been scheduled for:

Thursday 22 October at 3.30 – 4.30pm and
Thursday 29 October at 3.30 – 4.30 pm

A letter will go out asking for parents who are willing to commit to both meetings in the first week of Term 4.

OptiMinds

Congratulations to the girls involved in the OptiMind teams who spent the weekend competing in the State finals. The Social Science and Language/Literature teams made it through to the Nationals. The Science/Engineering team, although not getting through, did a great job. Congratulations to all the teams and well done, Ms Neesham.

Planning for 2016

Teachers will be starting to look at classes for 2016 early in Term 4. The current class teachers have the initial responsibility of splitting the classes for the following year. The class teachers know the children best and have seen how the students interact with others, both in the classroom and playground. The teachers consider the social groups of each child and take these into account when determining class composition. This is achieved in collaboration with the other year level teacher. Teachers divide classes into two even groups, considering the learning abilities of each particular child and the class as a whole.

These new classes are then studied by the Leadership Team who may make alterations if necessary. As parents can appreciate, a lot of time and effort goes into the development of class lists. Teachers have been deliberating on the needs of each child for some time and always try to consider what is best for them. Children may be separated from

 follow us on twitter @IonaPrimary

friends from year to year, but the opportunity to form new social relationships is always exciting. If a parent has a **legitimate** concern regarding their child's placement in 2016, they are encouraged to discuss this with the class teacher or Principal.

Children will have a transition day in the last few weeks of Term 4 where they will get to meet their new teachers. Once the classes have been made public, there can be no swapping of classes. Please be aware that staffing is never static. We look forward to some fresh changes in 2016.

End of Day Pickup

The end of day pickup from school seems to be causing some problems for parents and teachers, particularly those who use the Buckland Avenue exit point. As parents will be aware, Buckland Avenue is a drop-off and pick-up zone **ONLY** between the hours of 3.00 – 4.00pm. This means that parents/carers are to park in the designated bays and not to leave their vehicles to collect a child. The pickup in the afternoon is further complicated by the buses arriving from 3.30pm onwards.

We ask that parents using Buckland Avenue are mindful of holding up traffic. Please **do not** park in the car bays and leave your vehicle. Please move forward as cars exit the pick-up bays. If your child is continually late, it may be a better option to use the pick-up point outside the hall where there are bays to park so traffic will not be held up.

To alleviate some of this congestion we would like to implement a visor system for parents who regularly pick-up their child in one of the three allocated pick-up areas. This would involve placing a sign with the child's surname on the sun visor to help us to quickly identify which child is required to be picked up. Ideally, this will help move the car line faster.

We will be happy to produce the first sign free for families. There would need to be a small charge for any additional signs. Otherwise, families are free to produce their own signs. These signs can be attached using a variety of methods, blue tack, bull dog clips and large rubber bands will all hold the signs securely in place. All we need is your name on the car visor.

Please don't assume we know your car or face as different people may be on duty who do not recognise you and many of our parent's cars look similar. We are hoping that this process helps facilitate the picking up of children at the end of the day.

If you would like us to produce a sign for you, please fill out the form below and return to school.

Families Leaving

Families with children from Kindergarten to Year 5 who are leaving Iona Presentation Primary at the end of 2015 are kindly asked to inform the office **in writing** as soon as possible. This allows the school to plan for next year's classes and enrolments. It would be appreciated if the families with boys in Year 3 would also inform us in writing of the intended schools as it facilitates transfers.

May God bless your week

Jennifer Anderson
Principal (Acting)

IONA PRESENTATION PRIMARY CAR VISOR SIGN

We would like to assist the school by using a car visor sign. Please supply us with a sign with our surname.

_____ (Surname)

Class: _____ Child's Name: _____

Important Dates

Term 4 2015			
12 Oct	Term begins - Students	24 Oct	Disco at College
15 Oct	FPS/OptiMinds - Brisbane Global Handwashing Day – PP Year 5/6 STEM Incursion	26 Oct	Board Meeting
16 Oct	Yr 5 Town of Mosman visit 1.45pm	27 Oct	Grandparents Morning Tea -Kindy
20 Oct	Photo Day	28 Oct	Yr 3 Sci-Tech Incursion P&F – 3.30pm
21 Oct	Photo Day	29 Oct	Yrs 1 and 2 Drama Dress Rehearsal Interschool Carnival Year 5 Strategic Planning Workshop 3.30 -.4.30pm
22 Oct	Junior House Carnival Strategic Planning Workshop 3.30 – 4.30pm	30 Oct	Yr 5 Assembly Yr 4 Sci-Tech Incursion Volunteer’s Morning Tea (After Assembly)
23 Oct	Senior House Carnival		
TERM 4 COMMENCES MONDAY 12 OCTOBER PLEASE REMEMBER – SUMMER UNIFORM TERM 4			

Prayer

A Blessing for the School Holidays

Sustaining God, caretaker of life, you are always present.

You live in us.

Watch over our students during the break,
and keep us safe in your watchful gaze.

Bless our school community
as we celebrate our holidays.

We make this prayer through Jesus our guardian.

Amen.

Other

HELP NEEDED

A refugee family from Kenya, who have very recently been through great trauma, are in need of a bookcase/cupboard (in which to store their belongings) and a double bed or sofa-bed.

If anyone has either of these items (or knows of someone who does) and has no need for them anymore - instead of putting them in a "verge pick-up" or on "Gumtree"- could you please contact :

Deb O'Sullivan - 0412 367 083

DISCLAIMER

Advertisements published in the Newsletter, or flyers sent home via the school, are a community service only. Iona Presentation Primary School does not particularly promote or recommend these services. Parents/Carers need to make their own security/safety checks if necessary at their own discretion.