



## **Calendar**

5 December	P & C Meeting 8.15am Swimming
6 December	Presentation Morning 9:30am
14 December	Class Presentation
15 December	Class Party and last day for students
18 & 19 Dec	SDD – Staff only
Term 1 - 2024	
30 & 31 Jan	SDD – Staff only
1 February	Kindergarten to Year 6 return

## **Thank you, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year**

As this is our last newsletter for 2023. The staff would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to Iona PS this year. Without our parent and community support we cannot possibly provide the students with the many wonderful opportunities they currently receive – thank you!



We would also like to say farewell to the following families: the Barrett's, the Bird's, the Hick's, the Huckstadt's, the Mogg's and the Parker's. We thank you for all that you have contributed to Iona and wish you all the very best during the next stage of your educational journey with your children.

School returns for all students on Thursday 1 February 2024. Tuesday and Wednesday 30 & 31 January are Staff Development Days without students onsite.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday!

## **Morning Tea**

Iona Public School and the P & C would like to invite all families to attend a morning tea after Presentation Day on Wednesday 6 December, please bring a plate to share (no nuts).

## **Year 6 Day Out**

On Friday, Year 6 students will have their Year 6 fun day. Along with Mrs Bird and Mr Tarry students will be participating in activities at Toboggan Hill Park, Nelson Bay.

## **Class Structures 2024**

Unfortunately, our numbers are bordering on two or three classes at this present time. Until numbers are stable, we are unable to let you know which classes your children will be in for 2024. We apologise but want to make sure we get this right before letting our community know.

## **School Captains 2024**

Our Year 5 students spoke extremely well, presenting themselves as excellent School Leaders for next year. Each Year 5 student will be a School Leader, with the various roles to be discussed by the end of term. Congratulations to the following students who were elected to their roles for 2024:

School Captains: Elliot and Max  
Student Council President: Marcus  
Student Leader: Thomas  
Congratulations to these students, it's such a great achievement.

### **P&C Meeting**

The next P&C meeting will be held on Tuesday 5 December at 8:15am in the library. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Our 2024 AGM will be on Tuesday 6 February at 8:15am in the library. Please come along and support our wonderful school. We would love to see new faces at our meetings. If you have a spare hour, join us and see what P&C all is about! P&C membership is only \$2!

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Iona Public School Parents and Citizens Association will be held on Tuesday 6 February 2024 at 8.15pm 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.

### **Working Bee- Thank you!**

I wish to extend a big THANK YOU to all parents and community members who generously offered their assistance, braving both wet and hot/humid weather. Your dedication to tasks such as weeding, mulching, and planting has contributed to our little school looking great! Thank you for your invaluable support!

### **Spring Fair**

We are delighted to announce that the Spring Fair was a tremendous success! The senior students demonstrated exceptional planning, organisation, setup, and management of their stalls. As always, the Iona PS community rallied together to support the event, resulting in an enjoyable day with a significant crowd gathering around the wetting-the-teachers stall. I am sure Mrs. Bird, Mr. Burgess, and Mr. Tarry were thankful for the hot weather on that day! Year 6 successfully raised a total of \$350 to contribute towards their end-of-year gift, the new flagpole. Well done to everyone involved!

### **Mini EV Challenge**

Congratulations to our Iona Mini EV Team. Lainey, Ben Andrei, Sierra, Phoebe and Elliot represented our school beautifully at Newcastle TAFE on Wednesday. Our team managed to take out 1st place in the straight sprint race and 1st place in the oval sprint race. This was a huge accomplishment competing against 60 vehicles. Not only did they win but they were awarded the Design, Innovation, Entrepreneur Prize for best design and most interesting component. A special thank you to Mr Gliddon for guiding and helping our team.

### **Library and Home Reading Books**

Thank you to everyone who has returned library books to school. We still have a number outstanding. If you discover any at home during the holidays, please drop them back into the school office as soon as possible.

### **End of Year Reports**

Reports will go home Thursday 14 December with student quality work booklets.

If you would like to discuss your child's report with their class teacher, please email them to make an appointment.

### **Colour Explosion**

It was wonderful that so many of our parents and staff also participated in the fun at our Colour Explosion afternoon raising \$500 to support our Wellbeing Programs in 2024.

Thank you to our school community for once again supporting our students.



### **2024 Year 3-6 Camp-Reminder**

We know that some parents and students are just getting over camp from last week, which by all accounts was just amazing, but we just wanted to give you early notice that 3-6 camp next year will be from 22-24 May, at Great Aussie Bush Camp.

### **Community Feedback Survey 2023-Reminder**

Your feedback is immensely valuable to our planning and focus for the upcoming school year as we work to create the best learning environment for our students. Thank you for your participation!

The link will be posted via Sentral for Parents or click the link:

<https://s.surveyplanet.com/co4bsx52>

Or scan the QR code:



### **End of Year Presentations - Reminder**

This year's Presentation Ceremony will be held on Wednesday 6 December at 9:30am at the Woodville School of Arts Hall.

The class award Presentation Assembly will commence at 9.30am on Thursday 14 December under the COLA.

All parents/carers/cheer squads are welcome to attend both presentations.

### **Friday 15 December 2023 – Last day of Term 4-Reminder**

Students will finish school on Friday 15 December 2023. All school-based staff will be participating in an additional School Development Day on Monday 18 and Tuesday 19 December 2023. There will be no supervision for children on these days.

### **End of Year Class Party-Reminder**

Party day will be held on the last day for students, Friday 15 December 2023. This will be held at school. The cost will be \$9.00 each.

Please complete the tear off slip at the end of the newsletter and return with payment by Friday 8 December. Unfortunately, late orders cannot be accepted after this date. Additionally, please let us know if your child has an allergy or will be bringing their own lunch. We are so happy we can celebrate such a big year.

## **AWARDS WEEK 8**

### **Merit Awards**

#### **K/1**

**Isla** for consistently producing quality work in Mathematics

**Oliver** for always contributing to classroom discussion

#### **2/3**

**Lara** for working hard to improve her understanding of place value in numbers up to 5-digits

**Emma** for working hard to improve her understanding of place value in numbers up to 5-digits

#### **4-6**

**Anne** for consistent positive attitude in class

**Layla** for creating an amazing Hybrid text

### **Health & Safety**

**Imogen** for always being safe on hard surfaces

### **Sport**

**Oliver** for trying his best at soccer star

### **Environmental**

**Sierra** ensuring our school is neat and tidy

### **Peer Nominated Citizenship**

**Thomas** for sportsmanship and caring for others

### **PBL**

**Georgie** for accepting others for who they are and encouraging her peers

**Owen** for demonstrating a growth mindset and continuing to learn

**Lucy** for listening and following instructions promptly

**Sophie** for "I have a go and participate"

**Thomas** for Learning from mistakes

**Cooper** for Being polite to everyone



## Home reading

**50 nights** - Riley

**75 nights** - Riley, Keziah, Ivy

**100 nights** – Keziah, Ivy

**125 nights** - Ivy

**150 nights** – Harley

**175 nights** – Lara, Harley

**200 nights** – Lara, Robert, Thomas



Marcus will turn 11 on 11 December

Stella will turn 8 on 17 December

Lexi will turn 9 on 23 December

Ivy will turn 9 on 23 December

Georgie will turn 6 on 23 December

Ben Andrei will turn 12 on 27 December

Phoebe will turn 10 on 27 December

## Hamper -Reminder

P & C has once again provided a collection basket for contributions to our “Christmas Hamper” which is presented to the Salvation Army each year. The basket will be placed in the entry foyer of the office area where it will be convenient to receive your most welcome donation.

## Class News

### **K/1**

Week 8 has come and gone in a flash! Despite the end of year fast approaching, I am happy to report the hard work has continued in the K-1 classroom. In English we have been learning about perspective, and different opinions, reading the story ‘Hey, Little Ant’. In Mathematics we finished off our unit looking at patterns, with students finding patterns within number charts. ‘Christmas cheer’ has well and truly crept into the classroom over the last week. We have a special visitor, ‘Bob’ the Elf, who decorated our room,

and has been up to all sorts of mischief this week. We have also been rehearsing for our special class item that will be performed on presentation. Over the final two weeks we will complete our Christmas crafts which the kids are very excited about. Not long to go now!!

### **2/3**

Well this term flew by didn't it? In the blink of an eye! It has been another couple of great weeks in 2/3. We've been working on sentence structure in writing, using cause and effect sentences for persuasive texts. I am very proud to say that I handed out 12 home reading certificates at assembly last week. Well done to the wonderful Dolphins who are reading every day to not only improve their reading but also for enjoyment! In math we have been looking at multiplication and division. Year 3 have been investigating inverse operations and Year 2 have been looking at word problems involving multiplication. Both grades have had a more in depth look at place value, stating how many thousands, hundreds and tens are in 4-digit numbers.

On Friday afternoon, we celebrated with a games afternoon as part of our PBL initiative. Everyone had a great afternoon playing board games, painting, drawing and building with friends.





## 4-6

There you have it! We are approaching the end of another amazing and action-packed school year. All students in the G.O.A.T.S should be very proud of their achievements this year. It has been a privilege to watch them grow throughout the year. To the Year 6 students leaving us this year. I am so proud of the young adults that you are starting to become. You have all grown so much since I started with you in Year 4 and I feel blessed to teach you in your last years of Primary School. I hope your future is bright as you continue your learning journey. All the best Mr Tarry.

It seems like yesterday we were starting our school year together. Congratulations to each and every one of you for completing another fantastic year. Thank you to all of 4/5/6 for a wonderful year, I have been lucky enough to get to know you all and for some of you, learn a bit more about you.

A special mention to Year 6, good luck next year! I wish you all the best.

Remember, be the best version of you and let them see you sparkle and shine! You are all amazing and so capable. Always remember to drop in and see us and we would love to hear from you!

Have a lovely holiday, Ms Tully.

Just a reminder as we approach the end of the year. We will start to send home completed books. If parents could pack a shopping bag of sorts to place books in that bag instead of their school bag that would be greatly appreciated.

**Hunter Kids Paterson**  
**Vacation Care Booking Form**  
 December 2023 – January 2024



Booking forms available from the school office

## Nutrition Snippet

### TUNA PILAF

Serves: 6 Prep time: 10 mins Cooking time: 30 mins

#### Ingredients

1¼ cup basmati or long grain white rice  
 1 tbsp olive oil  
 1 brown onion, diced  
 1 tsp mild curry powder  
 2½ cups salt reduced stock  
 1 cup frozen carrots, peas & corn mix  
 1 x 425g tin tuna in springwater, drained  
 2 tomatoes, diced  
 Juice of 1 lemon  
 1/3 cup fresh parsley, chopped



#### Method

**Step 1:** Rinse rice under cold water until water runs clear. Drain and set aside.

**Step 2:** Heat the olive oil in a large pan over medium heat. Add the onion and curry powder and cook until soft. Add the rice and cook, stirring, for 1 minute.

**Step 3:** Add the stock, cover and simmer over low for 7 minutes or until the stock is nearly absorbed.

**Step 4:** Stir through the carrots, peas and corn. Cover and cook for 3 minutes.

**Step 5:** Flake the tuna into large pieces. Add to the rice with the tomatoes, lemon juice and parsley. Stir carefully until just combined.

For this recipe and more visit:  
[healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au)



## KICK OFF ADVENTURES AT YOUR LOCAL CLUB

Build confidence and skills for life – our club is the perfect place for kids to have fun, make friends and get active.

- Affordable registration costs
- All ages, genders & skill levels welcome
- Skilled coaches make learning fun



New 'Come and try' sessions start **February 2024**, so follow us on socials @tenambitsharkafc or join our pre-season Whatsapp group.



**JOIN US THIS YEAR AS WE CELEBRATE 50 YEARS IN THE COMMUNITY!**