



Iona Public School

Responsibility Respect Excellence

Learning Together in Harmony

Newsletter

Term 4 Week 3

Calendar

Term 4 2025

16 Oct-4 Dec	Well-I-Am Program – Girls Years 4-6 every Thursday
24 Oct-12 Dec	Swimming every Friday
31 Oct	Grandparents Morning Tea & Assembly 3-6
4 Nov	P&C Meeting 8.15am
11 Nov	Bake Sale
12, 19, 26 Nov	Kindergarten orientation
19 Nov	1-2 League Tag Day
20 Nov	Colour Run
21 Nov	Assembly K-2
3 Dec	Fair Day
11 Dec	Presentation Day
18 Dec	School Presentation & Party Day

We've had an exciting couple of weeks with a range of activities underway! Swimming lessons have begun, the Year 4-6 Well-I-Am wellbeing program has launched, K-2 Sports Day was a fantastic event, and everyone looked sharp in their school uniforms for last Thursday's school photos.

This week, I will be attending the NSWPPA Conference from Tuesday to Friday for professional learning, with the theme 'Together We Move Forward.' During my absence, Mrs Bird will be acting as relieving principal. Over the coming weeks, our staff and I will also be engaged in several professional development opportunities, including sessions with our Community of Practice, Clarity Explicit Teaching,

External Validation, Principal Network days, the AERO phonics program, and website upgrades. This Friday we welcome our grandparents to our school to an assembly and morning tea. For me, my grandparents always made my world a little softer, a little kinder and a little warmer. We do hope you come and join us.

Warm regards,
Rachel Leary

Grandparents Day

We extend a warm invitation to all families to join us in celebrating the wonderful people in our lives – our Grandparents! This Friday 31 October, we invite you to attend an assembly commencing at 10.45am beneath the COLA, followed by a morning tea. Morning tea will be provided for guests only; students will bring their normal lunch.



Kindergarten Orientation 2026

Kindergarten Orientation is an important stepping stone for our future students. It helps us to get to know them a little better and helps them to prepare for an exciting year ahead. Orientation runs over three different dates in November of this year. We encourage students to attend all three sessions. Times for all three sessions are 8:15am - 12pm. Students will require a packed lunch, including fruit break and a hat.

Session 1 - Wednesday 12 November 2025
Session 2 - Wednesday 19 November 2025
Session 3 - Wednesday 26 November 2025. Parents and caregivers information session and morning tea from 11am in the library.

49 30 1415
iona-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



(02) 49301415



Iona-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au



860 Paterson Road Woodville NSW 2321



<https://iona-p.schools.nsw.edu.au>

Tamworth ISHE



Congratulations to Clementine, Georgie, Sophie, and Phoebe for competing at the Tamworth Inter-Schools Horse Extravaganza (ISHE)!

Clem rode her horse Ebony in multiple events, earning 7th place in the 3-phase Working Horse Challenge. Phoebe placed 8th in primary dressage 1.2 and 1.3 and also earned ribbons in show horse events, including 3rd in Hunter Pony and 5th in educated Hunter Pony. Georgie rode her pony Wave in different sporting events, winning ribbons in all five categories.

The girls worked hard training their horses and enjoyed the event with friends. They're already excited for next year!

K-2 Sports Day – Harrison

We had an awesome day at the K-2 Sports Day at Bolwarra Public School last Monday.

Our K/1/2 students had an amazing time taking part in 22 fun activities, all while mixing in and making friends with students from other schools.

Despite the heat, our athletes show great spirit and enthusiasm all day! A big thank you to Bolwarra PS for hosting us!



Student emergency contact details

Forms were sent home with students last week, please check, make any changes and return to school by 3 November.

Book Club - Reminder

Orders are due back by Wednesday 29 October.

Crazy hair day

Last week, students had a wonderful time participating in Crazy Hair Day! They raised funds to support the Year 6 gift, which will be presented to the school at the end of the year.



P&C Meeting

Our next P&C meeting will be Tuesday 4 November at 8:15am in the library. Please come along and support our wonderful school.



Alex turned 6 on 17 October
Willow turned 7 on 21 October
Jasper turned 7 on 25 October

Class News

K-1

This term in writing, we have begun exploring the engaging book *The Good Egg* by Jory John. As we read, students are learning to use noun groups in their writing to retell events and describe character traits more thoughtfully.

In Maths, Kindergarten students have started investigating 2D shapes, comparing sizes to describe which shapes are larger or smaller, while Year 1 have been revising skip counting by fives to help solve multiplication word problems.

It promises to be a busy and exciting Term 4, with everyone full of energy and ready to finish the school year on a strong note!

Mr Burgess

2-3

So far term in literacy, students have explored how culture, traditions, and histories are shared through stories, focusing on Nian, the Chinese New Year Dragon and Scaly-Tail Possum and Echidna. They have enjoyed creating and fine-tuning their own narratives using helpful feedback.

In mathematics, students have been diving into probability through fun games. Year 2 have been busy mastering multiplication and area, while Year 3 have been putting their position skills to the test—figuring out exactly where things belong (no treasure maps required!), along with sharpening their place value and rounding abilities.

Mrs Leary

4-6

In English, students have been investigating genre and exploring how different text types are structured and written. This week, they had a go at writing a genre statement based on our focus text *Deadly Science: Wild Weather*. We'll continue to build on this by identifying the text and language features that make each genre unique.

In Mathematics, both Stage 2 and Stage 3 students are developing their understanding of multiplicative strategies to strengthen their skills in both multiplication and division.

Finally, we'd like to take a moment to wish all our Grandparents and loved ones a very Happy Grandparents Day! Thank you for the love, wisdom and support you bring to our school community.

Mrs Bird

Lunchtime Craft

Craft started first day back in Term 4. The students made colourful paddle pop monsters to scare the bravest of people, then on Thursday they decided to make paddle pop monsters to protect the growing plants in our beautiful garden.





Week 2 we decided to bring out the musical side of the students and make harmonicas. Only using paddle pop sticks, paper, matchsticks and elastic bands we were able to make low- and high-pitched sounds that could blend to make a wonderful orchestra.



Mrs Gibbs



Good for kids
good for life



Seasonal Fruit and Veg

Choosing seasonal fruit and veg for your kids lunchbox can help keep costs low. Look out for regular specials on in season produce.

Spring is here and summer is just around the corner! Why not try some of our favourite seasonal fruit and veg options below.

Spring

Vegetables:

Asparagus, avocados, beetroot, broccoli, brussel sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, cucumbers, eggplant, mushrooms, peas, pumpkins, spinach, squash.

Fruit:

Bananas, cherries, lychees, mangoes, mulberries, oranges, papaya, pineapple, watermelon, rockmelon.

Summer

Vegetables:

Asparagus, avocados, beans, beetroot, capsicums, carrots, celery, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, snow peas, squash, tomatoes, zucchinis, broccoli, cauliflower, spinach.

Fruit:

Apricots, bananas, berries, grapes, melon, watermelon, lychees, mangoes, passionfruit, cherries, nectarines, oranges, plums, peaches



Source: <https://www.swapit.net.au>



Hunter New England
Local Health District

@HNELHD-GoodForKids@health.nsw.gov.au
<https://goodforkids.nsw.gov.au>

Good for Kids acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land that we live and work on as the first people of this country. and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Monty's Colour Fun Run – 20 November 2025!

Remember to create a profile page at www.myprofilepage.com.au and share your profile to family & friends to receive online donations.

Mix and Match prizes or send the donations to one of the causes available – The Great Barrier Reef Foundation, Carbon Neutral, OzHarvest, The Smith Family and Dolly's Dream.

Become a Fundraising Monstar and receive a Monty Handball by completing all your online virtual badges! Can you receive them all?

Dear Mum and Dad,

I have the best animal for our family, it's an axolotl! I think this will be the best animal for our family because you don't have to by shampoo for it.

Firstly, I think we get an axolotl because it is so cute, and it eats worms such as earthworms and blackworms. This would save the family money because I can find them in my back yard and in lush caves.

Secondly, unlike dogs and cats they don't shed hair and then there won't be hair all over the place! Also, mum and dad, you won't have to spend money on shampoo like you do for our dogs.

Thirdly, it can teach us responsibility of looking after pets and taking care of pets. I will feed it clean its housing and make sure it has water.

Surely now mum and dad you must agree that an axolotl is the best animal for our family!

From Ava

Dear mum and dad,

I have done my research, and I have found the perfect pet for our family it ROCKS!!!

First, a pet rock will not eat, run and sleep. This means a pet rocks are a carefree pet.

Secondly, a pet will not bark, bite and scratch. This means a pet rock will not hurt you.

Finally, a pet rock lives for infinite years this means a pet rock will not die.

Surely you agree a pet rock is the best pet.

From Caleb

WHY I NEED A CAPYBARA

Dear mum,

I have found the perfect pet for our house, and it is a capybara. I believe that we must get a capybara because they are so cute.

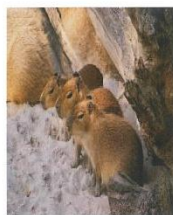
Firstly, they love to float around in water all day on their backs. So, it would be so cool and entertaining.

Secondly, they would be the best pet because everyone loves them, and I could take it to school and make everyone happy because their adorable. And they can make me relax during class. They have verry sharp claws, but capybaras don't want to fight so they won't hurt anyone at school either.

Another reason why it would be the best pet is that they eat their own poo for nutrition, so we won't need to clean its poo up. They also eat greens, so they would eat all our leftovers rather than throwing them in the bin.

That's why you must buy me a capybara I mean who doesn't like them!

From Oliver



Dear Mum and Dad,

I have the perfect pet for us and it's a crocodile.

Firstly, the crocodiles' strong jaws are absolutely the best because it's our own guard dog so you two don't have to get a guard dog and you can find them in the wild.

Secondly, the crocodiles' diets are birds and fish. They could live in the dam and eat the food from it. This means you don't have to buy any food, unlike our horses!

Lastly, I believe that bringing a crocodile is better then Brandy because Brandy is crazy and the crocodile will be quiet and won't bark like him.

Surely, you two will think the crocodile is the perfect pet.

From Ari

School Planner 2025

Term 4	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
October	1	School development day for all schools Newsletter 13	Term 4 begins for students in all schools 14	15	Well-I-AM Program 16	17	18	19
October	2	Gala Day Bolwarra PS K-2 20	Crazy Hair Day 21	22	School Photos Well-I-AM Program 23	Swimming 24	25	26
October / November	3	Newsletter 27	28	29	Well-I-AM Program 30	Swimming Grandparent Day Assembly @ 10:45 3 - 6 31	1	2
November	4	3	P&C Meeting 4	5	Well-I-AM Program 6	Swimming 7	8	9
November	5	Newsletter 10	Bake Sale 11	Kindergarten Orientation 12	Well-I-AM Program 13	Swimming 14	15	16
November	6	17	18	Kindergarten Orientation League Tag 1-2 19	Colour Run Well-I-AM Program 20	Swimming Assembly @ 9:15 21	22	23
November	7	Newsletter 24	25	Kindergarten Orientation 26	Well-I-AM Program 27	Swimming 28	29	30
December	8	1	2	Fair Day 3	Well-I-AM Program 4	Swimming 5	6	7
December	9	Newsletter 8	9	10	Presentation Day 11	Swimming 12	13	14
December	10	Year 6 Day Out 15	16	18	School Presentation Party Day 18	Last day of Term 4 Out of uniform day 19	20	21



School development days

The dates are determined by the department. Always check with your local school as dates may change. Parents and carers should not send their children to school on school development days education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/calendars/school-development-days



Scan me for key dates

Help your child get the most out of their school year and to explore our resources, education.nsw.gov.au/calendars



Student access to NSWEduChat

Information for parents and carers

NSWEduChat is a generative artificial intelligence tool owned and designed by the NSW Department of Education. It is designed to be safe, educational, secure and private.

Student access to NSWEduChat

Students in Year 5 to Year 12 will gain access to NSWEduChat in Term 4, 2025.

Safety of students using NSWEduChat

NSWEduChat data is secured. All data stays within the department. This means that students can input their work and personal identifying information safely into NSWEduChat.

Educational design of NSWEduChat

NSWEduChat does not simply provide the full answers to questions. It responds to students by asking open-ended questions. This encourages students to explore and share their thoughts and reasoning.

NSWEduChat only uses text. This means it cannot produce media such as pictures, video or music.

Using NSWEduChat for help with homework and assessment tasks

If schools advise that NSWEduChat can be used for homework or assessments, students should notify their teachers if they have used NSWEduChat in completing tasks. This includes using NSWEduChat for tasks such as, but not limited to, summarising study notes, definition of key terms or structuring text. Schools should communicate the ways in which students can reasonably notify their teachers.

Access to NSWEduChat at home

Students can access NSWEduChat at home through:

- the student portal at <https://portal.education.nsw.gov.au/>
- directly via chat.education.nsw.gov.au

Students will need to log in using their NSW Department of Education login. Only the student who logged in should use NSWEduChat.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this tool, please contact the principal.



For more information and access to the NSWEduChat parental privacy notice, visit: [Student use of NSWEduChat](#).

