Staff Training Courses on Thursdays
Commencing Week 2, (Thursday, 23rd July) all staff at Iona have been enrolled in a series of training and development courses. The courses are at Rutherford, and we need to arrive there by 3:45 pm. This means that it is imperative that all students are picked up from school right on time at 3:15 pm on Thursdays. (The courses are every second Thursday, ie Weeks 2, 4, 6 and 8, but to avoid confusion, I am asking parents to pick up students right on time every Thursday.) If this is a problem for you, could you please make arrangements with another parent to take your child home with them on these days?

Private Transport Payment
Transport for NSW has been reviewing PVC subsidy claims for accuracy because it has introduced a new computer system and this has caused a delay.
This has also deferred for a short time, the attendance days collection process for all schools. These actions will, we understand, lead to a delay of several weeks compared to the usual processing time.

Clean Up Prior to Tree Day
On Friday, 24th July, we are planting flowers in the garden which Cate Coren very kindly fertilised and prepared for us during the holidays. In conjunction with this, Ms Tully is planting a range of medicinal herbs/plants in the pots near the lattice area beside the carpark. Kim Proctor, as a member of the environmental committee, has agreed to come in on Tuesday, 21st July at 9:15 am to clean out the pots and remove the creeper which is blocking the airflow through the lattice under the building. If anyone is available to help on Tuesday, please come along with your gardening gloves and some small gardening tools (ours have not yet been replaced).

Earn and Learn
This program run by Woolies supermarkets allows schools to use stickers collected by their community to acquire free school resources. From Wednesday, 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, 2015 when you shop at Woolworths, you can collect Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers from the checkout operator and place them on a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet (available at school or at the supermarket). There’ll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every $10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards.) Once completed, simply place the Sticker Sheet in the Collection Box, either at school or at your local Woolworths.

Musica Viva
All students attended their first Musica Viva concert at Woodville Hall yesterday, with an outstanding performance presented by The
Sousaphonics. These professional musicians provided an outstanding and highly engaging music experience for our students. Thank you for supporting us in providing these opportunities for the students.

**Netball Team**

Our senior mixed netball team play in a gala day at Singleton today, ably supported by Mrs Mahony and Mrs Melisa Smith, who has again volunteered to coach our team, despite no longer having any children attending our school. The team played five games with the following results:

- **Game 1** – Won 14 - 4.
- **Game 2** – Won 9 – 2.
- **Game 3** – Lost 6 – 4.
- **Game 4** – Won 8 – 5.
- **Game 5** – Mrs Mahony said the opposition were “too scared to turn up”.

All students behaved beautifully and had a great time. Thank you to the parents who helped transport students to Singleton, to Mrs Mahony and to Mrs Smith.

**Pyjama Day**

Our school leaders have organised a Year 6 fundraising day for tomorrow. Students may come to school in pyjamas and dressing gown if they choose to, but must pay a gold coin ‘fine’, which will go to Stewart House as a donation. Any students who do not wish to wear their pyjamas should wear their sports uniform, as Friday is Sport Day this term. Students who wear their pyjamas may wish to wear their sports clothes under their pyjamas so they can dress safely and appropriately during sport.

**Softball Training**

We have registered two different softball teams this term: the senior girls team and a second mixed senior team to play in a gala day. Any students interested in being in one or both teams can participate in training sessions on Tuesday afternoons at 3:15, starting in Week 2 on Tuesday, 21st July. Di Barrymore has again volunteered her time to coach our students and will be running each Tuesday training session. The students who will play in the teams will be chosen from the group who train with Di.

**Public Speaking**

On the last Thursday of Term 2, Asher and Gabby participated in the Multicultural Public Speaking competition at Rutherford Public School. Both students spoke extremely well, with Asher being Highly Commended and Gabby winning the Stage 3 competition. Congratulations to both of these talented Stage 3 speakers. We are proud of both of them. Gabby will now compete in the regional final at Lambton Public School on Thursday, 27th August.

**Zone Athletics**

The Zone carnival will be held on Friday, 31st July at Fred Harvey Oval, Woodberry. The following students have qualified for Zone either in individual events or as part of a relay team: Marni D, Lily C, Lachlan, Oscar, Kimberley, Mike, Amy, Georgia, Asher, Zoe, Tilly, Kyan, Tom, Seth D, Riley, Hillary, Fang-Chi, Grace, Sophie D, Connor, Jesse. These students have been given a spreadsheet showing which events they have been entered in, or the relay team they are in. Could parents of these students please sign the permission slip attached for your child/ren to attend.

**Combined Recorder Practice**

Mrs Tuyl has organised a combined recorder practice at Gillieston Heights public school on Wednesday, 22 July to allow the Opera House recorder group, who are performing at Maitland High School at the Education Week presentation night, to rehearse together.

Mrs Gale will transport the students to and from Gillieston Heights PS on Wednesday morning, leaving school at 9:15 am. Students involved were given a note including the permission slip today. Could you please sign the note and return it to school as soon as possible?
Our netballers at Singleton this morning.

**Zone Athletics Carnival Permission**

My child/ren................................................................. has/have permission to attend the Zone Athletics Carnival at Fred Harvey Oval at Woodberry on Friday, 31st July. I understand that I will need to arrange transport for my child to and from the oval.

Signed: .................................................................