

Welcome to our #2 edition - March 2024

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## The Iona School Monthly Newsletter



### A message from the Chair of College..

Spring is here at last, with new life breaking through everywhere we look. This is mirrored in the children with new capacities being born.

Our outdoor classroom, (the land) comes into its own at this time of the year and we'll all be making the most of our unique resource.

The two recent fundraising events were enthusiastically taken hold of by the children. I was absolutely blown away by their efforts in the 'World Water Day' sponsored walk. Their energy and determination were admirable.

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community of the school.

We sang together and the idea was born to start an Iona Adult Choir!

I'm happy to facilitate this beginning and propose a meet and sing together on the first Friday back, the 26th April at 3.35pm, on the green, weather permitting, or in the cafe. If you are able to join, please ensure your child is suitably supervised.

I look forward to seeing lots of you there.

Happy Easter!

Rob Strafford  
Chair of College

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### **A message from the Trustees...**

Trustee of Iona School, Nottingham.

We are currently looking for new Trustees to join our committed team.

Skills which are sought include those relating to Human Resources, Health and Safety, Improvements to buildings, Education and Community links.

We are looking for passionate, committed people who are willing to work as a team. Those who can be objective and work with integrity, supporting the management team in school whilst being able to be a 'critical friend' in an 'eyes on, hands off' capacity.

The time involved will be a minimum of termly or 6 monthly meetings associated with the particular role. Other ad-hoc meetings may be appropriate. There is also a termly meeting for all trustees to attend.

Please note that current parents of the school are not permitted on the trustee body (but very welcome to join 'Friends of Iona')

If you feel you can offer any of the above to our team, please contact current trustee [louiselipman@theionaschool.org.uk](mailto:louiselipman@theionaschool.org.uk)

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Friends of Iona is a self-selected group of people who support Iona school. You are welcome to join us!

It includes current parents, alumni parents, staff and trustees.

Our aim is to contribute in a way that enhances the school and wider community of Iona. There are many ways to help and the Friends of Iona is like a hub for all the ways to help. As the Friends of Iona include staff and trustees, the heart of our purpose is to remove any barriers encountered by allowing a venue for decisions to be made and for the flow of information to travel with more ease between all involved. Any contribution, however minor, is welcome and highly valued, so please don't hold back!

We meet at least termly, at 3.30pm in the school cafe. The following meeting dates are:

9th May 2024  
11th July 2024  
10th October 2024  
30th January 2025

You are welcome to come along. If you would like to get in touch, you can contact one of the trustees, [louiselipman@theionaschool.org.uk](mailto:louiselipman@theionaschool.org.uk) or one of the teachers, Mr Early, [dan@theionaschool.org.uk](mailto:dan@theionaschool.org.uk)

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**"The healthy social life is found,  
when, in the mirror of each human  
soul, the whole community finds its  
reflection. And when, in the  
community, the virtue of each one is  
living" – Rudolf Steiner**

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### **School Insights...**

We continue to welcome new families into our community. Through the use of social media, a clear marketing campaign, advertising on local buses and monthly open mornings, we are beginning to have enquiries most days.

We are moving forward to continue to build pupil numbers and ensure Iona

Your continued support, sharing social media posts when possible and word of mouth helps us tremendously.

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### **New Staff Members...**

'Hello Iona Family,

**This past term has seen two new members of staff join the team at Iona. We have Chantell Walker, who joins T/1**

My name is Chantell Walker and I am thrilled to join the Iona community as a Teaching Assistant in T/1. I have previously connected with Iona as the school business manager and feel privileged to be back, this time with the children.

I thought I would let you all know a little of my background. I have worked within the early years for 17 years. During this time, I have worked with many families and children, I also managed early years settings and then progressed to inspecting provision such as private day nurseries, childminders and after school clubs.

I have a deep desire to support the next generation to thrive and look forward to growing and learning with the children and my fellow colleagues.

I look forward to meeting you all at festivals and school events.

### **And our new SENDCo Andrea O'Grady**

I am qualified SENCO and have been working in mainstream primary as a qualified teacher for over 10 years. My background and passion is for Early Years and I am very much looking forward to starting my Steiner anthroposophical journey.

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Kindergarten



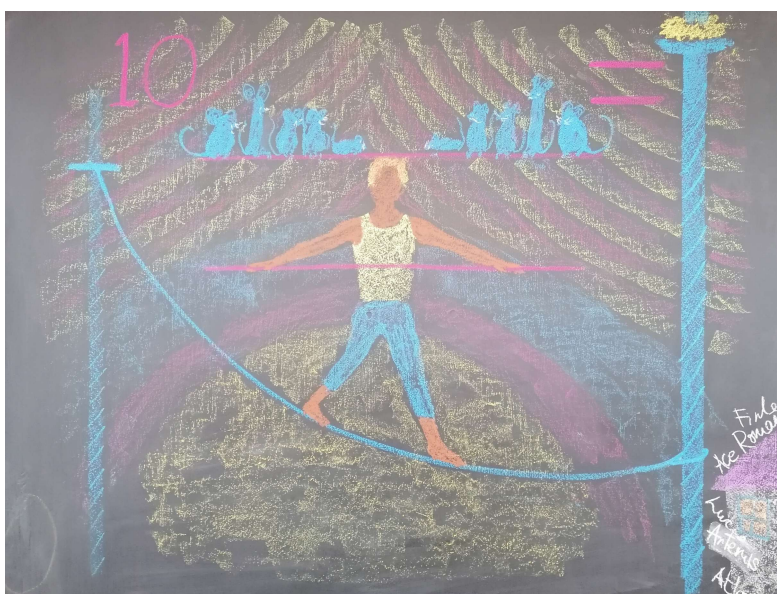
The Kindergarten children have been overjoyed to see the outside space coming to life. They have spotted emerging flowers, budding trees and insects with delight. I think everyone will agree that, seeing the first flowers in Spring, fills us all with hope and joy for the rest of the year.

Inside, we have been eagerly awaiting the grass seeds in our spring garden coming to life. Every morning the spring gardens were given the childrens' attention, watering and admiring them, with comments from the little, patient observers, such as, 'Have my seeds grown yet?'. Soon some of the gardens were showing their brightest greens, while some were still feeling rather sleepy. The emerging green shoots were welcomed with shouts of glee from the small gardeners ' my seeds have grown!'.

And what would a garden be without some animals living in it? Busy little hands have been wrapping and cutting, making a little fluffy pom-pom chick to make a garden their new home.

Julia, Michelle, Amy, Robin and Maya

## CLASS 171





### A Message from Mr Trafford...

It seems like a long time since we welcomed the Sunshine children into the class. It was only January. I'm pleased to say that they have slotted in beautifully and have been full of enthusiasm for all they've received.

This term has flown by and we've been busy laying the foundations for all their learning.

The realm of numbers and their qualities have been explored. In the latest number block the children were introduced to some of the characters living in a circus. They've met the family of mice who find themselves becoming part of the tightrope walker's act. This helped introduce the concept of the equals sign.

In the next number block they will meet more characters in the circus stories that help introduce the four processes.

In literacy they've met most of the letters and more recently the vowels. Once again these are introduced through stories that anchor the letters in the pictures.

They wrote their first sentence just as we broke up for Easter.

Mr Trafford

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# CLASS 2/3







### A Message from Mr Early...

Class 2/3 have been very busy this term. We began with learning about the stories from the Old Testament, painting the days of creation and developing our writing as we learned more about these stories.

After this we have been using our bodies in practical ways. First by learning about ancient methods of measurement, using different parts of the body. The children

teamwork to measure out a kilometre from school (which conveniently ended near a play park!).

After half-term we began learning about shelters and housebuilding. We created a class den on the land using a variety of building techniques and also explored different building materials by creating our own models of shelters. We finished this Main Lesson with a class to trip to Avoncroft Museum of Historical Buildings, a fantastic site full of buildings throughout the ages, which the children had the opportunity to explore and discuss in detail. Practical workshops included clay brickmaking and wattle and daub.

Lantern making for Lunar New Year, planting up and populating our lantern garden, dressing up for World Book Day, games in the gym for Red Nose Day, a sharing feast for Clean Monday and a sponsored walk for World Water Day...we have been busy!

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter Break!

Mr Early

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## CLASS 4/5





Class 4/5 have done some wonderful work this term. We enjoyed learning the stories the Gods, Goddesses and heroes of Indian Mythology, finding interesting comparisons with our Norse Myths and stories from the Old Testament.

In our circle time, we have enjoyed learning some Indian songs using percussion such as the dhol, cabasa, crotales and tambour. We have developed our ability to follow notation and to keep different rhythms.

Next, we returned to our learning about Fractions, revisiting challenging concepts such as equivalent fractions, multiplying and dividing with fractions using stories and games.

After half term, we explored the signs of Spring on the land and began to explore our Botany topic, as the Earth began to breathe out. We investigated what elements plants need to grow and learnt about the different parts of plants and what they do.

For World Book Day, we prepared book review presentations and dressed up as characters from the books. It was a joy to share hot chocolate, cakes and swap books together.

We have begun learning about the history and geography of Nottingham through stories of the early people who settled here and what resources attracted them. We have learnt about how the Saxon and Norman areas of the town developed and changed through time. We walked to town and experienced some of the places we talked about, which really challenged our resilience.

Another highlight was celebrating the Greek Orthodox festival of Clean Monday. We shared wonderful mezzo on the land, made and flew kites together.

Well done Class 4/5 for all of your efforts. We are so proud of all the progress you are making and of all of the brilliant things you have achieved.

From Mrs Findlay and Mr Maskrey



## The Big Water Walk

All the classes turned out last Friday in the breezy sunshine to attempt a challenge - one that faces the children at the Beseka School in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia on a regular basis - to walk up to 5 kms to access clean water.

Not knowing what to expect, the children tallied each completed lap of our playground that they either walked or skipped (each lap being approximately 150 metres).

There was a wonderful atmosphere of laughter and chatter as their tally charts grew and Charlie from class 5 reached the 5km mark with time to spare! Sure enough by the end, there were pupils from each class making that mark too. Nevertheless, regardless of number of tallied laps every child had a personal best and every single lap counted towards the raising of money for this very worthwhile cause.

Some children took turns carrying baskets of water, just like the children of the Beseka School would do, adding to the experience of knowing how it feels to walk such a long way, to turn on a tap for clean water - and to appreciate how very lucky we are.

Thank you and well done to all pupils for making this such a memorable and charitable event ❤️

Julie Wyer

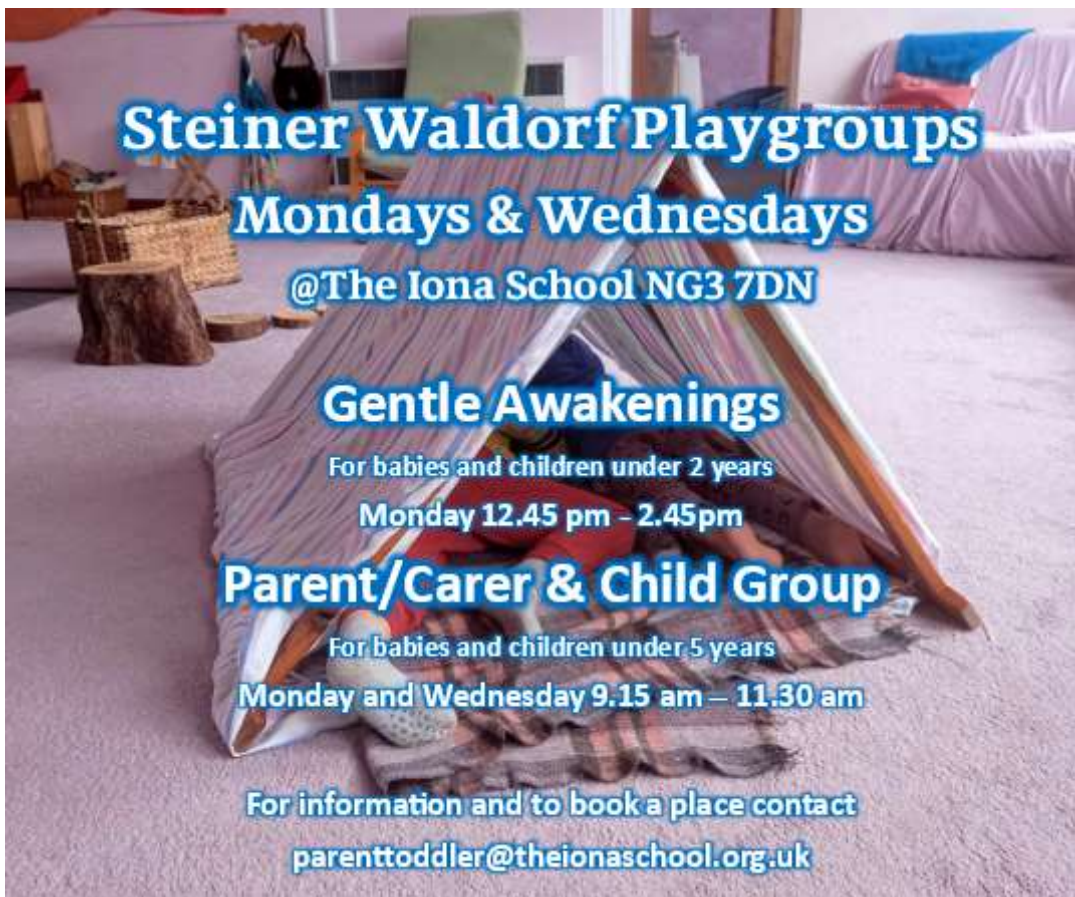
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## Parent and Child Group

Our groups have a strong connection to the Kindergarten, there are currently several

transition. The rhythm and songs of the groups overlap those of Kindergarten, creating a familiar environment for new children.

Nicola



**Steiner Waldorf Playgroups**  
**Mondays & Wednesdays**  
**@The Iona School NG3 7DN**

**Gentle Awakenings**  
For babies and children under 2 years  
Monday 12.45 pm – 2.45pm

**Parent/Carer & Child Group**  
For babies and children under 5 years  
Monday and Wednesday 9.15 am – 11.30 am

For information and to book a place contact  
[parenttoddler@theionaschool.org.uk](mailto:parenttoddler@theionaschool.org.uk)

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### Dates for the Diary

Please note the important dates that are coming up in the next half-term:

May Festival - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

Bank Holiday (school closed) - Monday 6th May 2024

Friends of Iona Meeting - Thursday 9th May 2024

The Big Spring Clean - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Break Up for Half Term – Friday 24th May 2024

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A further way to support our school is to join the Iona Club Lottery:

To be sent to **your own bank.**

Please instigate the following  
STANDING ORDER which  
remain in force until cancelled by  
me in writing

To- Bank PLC  
Account name-  
Bank sort code-  
Account number-  
Bank address-

**Please pay :**  
**Unity Trust**  
**Nine Brindleyplace,**  
**Birmingham, B1 2HB**  
Account name Iona Club  
Sort Code 60-83-01  
Account number 20367749

The sum of £5 monthly  
commencing on / / 202  
and thereafter until further notice  
Name  
Address  
Postcode

Signed.....

Print.....

Date.....

#### Application to join the 'Iona Club' (Part A)

**TO: The Iona Club Treasurer**

I wish to apply for one unit in the 'Iona Club' at £60 per unit per annum. I have sent Standing Order to my bank (PART B) (monthly payment of £5 per month)

I confirm that I have read the rules of the Iona Club and agree to abide by them.

Name

Signed

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Please circle as appropriate Alumni/Parent/Staff/other (please specify)

Please hand in or send PART A to:

**The Treasurer**  
**The Iona Club**  
c/o  
The Iona School reception  
310 Swanton Dale  
Nottingham  
NG3 7DN

Nottingham  
NG37DN

T. (0115) 9415295  
E. [admin@theionaschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@theionaschool.org.uk)  
[www.theionaschool.org.uk](http://www.theionaschool.org.uk)

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Registered with Nottingham City  
Council under the Gambling act  
2005. Registered No. 3438

**WALDORF STEINER EDUCATION IN  
NOTTINGHAM, EAST MIDLANDS**



## JOIN THE IONA CLUB LOTTERY AND SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

[WWW.THEIONASCHOOL.ORG.UK](http://WWW.THEIONASCHOOL.ORG.UK)

REGISTERED COMPANY: NO. 01911659

REGISTERED CHARITY: NO. 516999

**Why not join today? It couldn't be easier.** Just complete the simple application form and return it to the address shown. Remember to indicate when you wish to start - you can join any time. As soon as your membership details have been processed you will be allocated your membership number and you will go straight into the next draw.

**Your questions answered...**

**What is The Iona Club?** The Iona Club is a private lottery organised by the friends of Iona school.

**Why should I join the Iona Club?** It is a great way to raise funds for the benefit of Iona school; in particular

- For a sustainable restoration of the school buildings
- To assist community supported places
- To support children who may otherwise be prevented from participating in the school activities.

It pays out cash prizes via monthly prize draws. Approximately 50% of all monies collected go into the prize fund. Prizes will be drawn 12 times a year. Two of these draws (June and December) will be super draws.

**What are the prizes?** The prizes are worked out as a percentage of income. The monthly standard draws will be made up of 30% of that month's income with 20% of the income being carried forward to the super draws

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize will take 15%
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize will take 10%
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize will take 5%

The super draw prize fund will be made up of 50% of that month's income plus up to five month's carried forward prize money as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> prize will take 50%
- 2<sup>nd</sup> prize will take 30%
- 3<sup>rd</sup> prize will take 20%

**Remember... the greater the number of participants the bigger the prizes!**

**How does it work?** You buy a number that is exclusive to you. Every month a prize draw takes place where the winning number is randomly selected by an electronic number generator.

**How much does it cost?** Each number costs £60 per year payable by standing order of £5 monthly in advance. The standing order monies must be received by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month of the draw to be eligible. Please do NOT send cash or cheques.

**Who can join?** Membership is open to all. Including: parents and grandparents of current and past students, staff and retired staff, Old Ionians and trustees. All members must be aged 18 or over and may only have one subscription.

**How do I join and pay?** Simply fill out the Iona Club application form and the standing order mandate. Detach the Standing Order Part B and send this part to your own Bank. Hand in or send Part A to the Treasurer Iona Club, the Iona School.

**Do I need to remember my number?** No. A list of numbers and members will be stored on the Iona School database.

**Can I witness the prize draw?** Yes.

**Where and when are the prize draws?** The prize draws will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of each month or the first working day thereafter at Iona School. Please check the Iona School website for draw dates.

**How do I know if I have won?** Winners will be notified by email and the number announced on the website [www.theionaschool.org.uk](http://www.theionaschool.org.uk). Prizes will be paid by check and sent to the address supplied on your application form.

**How can I cancel my Iona Club membership?** Members may leave the Iona Club at any time giving three months' notice in writing. No subscription monies will be returned and the member's draw number will continue to be drawn until the subscription expires.

**Where can I see a copy of the Iona Club rules?** A full set of the rules are available from the Iona School website.

**Any further questions?** If you have any questions, please ask a member of the lottery team or email [lottery@theionaschool.org.uk](mailto:lottery@theionaschool.org.uk)



**Update your own email address...**

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change of email separately, as the e-newsletter list is entirely separate from our school database. Please remember these **newsletters are a key component of our direct communication with school parents**. If you are no longer an active part of our school community, you can unsubscribe below.

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If you would like to support the school by making a donation, please click on the below button which will take you to our pay pal account. All donations are greatly appreciated and help the school in many ways. Thank you!

**Donate Now**



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