Dear Parent/s

Welcome to week 5 of the school term. Where has all the time gone??

Thank you to all those parents and staff members who attended the AGM last week, it was an excellent turn out and I am sure everybody got a lot from it.

The School Board is elected by the parents to represent the school community in administering the school’s financial management and pastoral care as well as policy direction, maintenance, planning and evaluation.

The membership of the 2011 School Board is:

Chairperson Justine Fogden
Vice-Chairperson Sean Drake
Principal Jason Mittiga
Treasurer Andrew Edwards
Secretary Danielle Stasinowsky
Members: Julia Dansie
          Tim Kassulke
          Steven Inglis
          Kerrie-Anne Hughes
          Steve Nitschke
          Gemma Fitzpatrick

Welcome to our two newest members Gemma Fitzpatrick and Steve Inglis. They both have a lot to offer and are excellent additions to our School Board.

A major part of the AGM was the strategic planning session we had for continuous school improvement. Enclosed in the newsletter is a A4 sheet for you to fill out and return in the next two weeks. We would like to hear open and honest feedback on the following two questions.

What do we do well as a school at St Albert’s?
What do we need to improve on?
This will be divided into 4 areas:
- Religious
- Community
- Administration/Finances
- Education

Please complete the form attached.

**MARDI GRAS**

Well, what a day on Saturday at the Loxton Mardi Gras.
It was absolutely fantastic to see so many children, teachers, parents and grandparents dressed up in their Disney outfits.
For a school our size, we bat well above our average and this is just another example of how we represent ourselves in the community.
Every teacher was present and we had 65 children participating out of 90!!!!!

The lead up work that went into making this day such a success falls solely on Joanne Hondow and her dad Neil Thiele. Neil did an amazing job building the pirate ship and I am sure you would agree how fabulous this looked on the day. Neil is an amazing man and very giving of his time and I am sure you would join me in thanking him for his generosity and helping out St Albert’s to once again win the best float of the Mardi Gras.

I would also like to congratulate Claire Dalzell, who won the Mardi Gras Senior Ambassador. Claire is a very active member of the community being involved in Country Women's League, community drama and dance lessons and organising a young family as well as coordinating and running our Little Albees Playgroup each Thursday. Well done Claire, a worthy winner and a fantastic effort in your support to the Loxton community.

Finally a big congratulations to Junior Ambassador entrant and St. Albert's student, Aiden Formby. Aiden has been involved in Mardi Gras fundraising for two years, a huge effort and a very worthy Ambassador entrant. Well done Aiden!

**FAMILY MASS**

This Sunday we have a Family Mass at 11am and we are in charge of the readings and music. We are going to be singing to the music of Andrew Chinn who performed at St Albert’s last Thursday. We would love to have as many children present as possible.

Please fill in the tear off form at the back of the newsletter if you can attend.

**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

On Friday we are participating in Clean up Australia Day around the streets of Loxton. As a school we feel it is important to care for the environment and we will do this by contributing to making the streets cleaner, safer and more attractive environment.
Children will be provided with gloves and they are free to bring their own from home as well.

**NEW ZEALAND TRAGEDY**

Finally I would like to end my section of the newsletter with a prayer for the people of Christchurch in New Zealand.

*Comfort Your family in Christchurch in their loss and sorrow.*

*Be their refuge and strength, Lord and lift them from the depths of grief into the peace and light of your presence.*

*We commend those who lost their lives to the loving embrace of God and pray that they may enter now the love that never ends.*

*Console and strengthen those who loved them and will not see them living again in this world.*

*Inspire those who are working so hard, and with such care, to rescue those still trapped and beginning the long journey of rebuilding shattered lives and broken communities.*

*May we always be secure in Your protection and serve You with grateful hearts.*
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

Amen

Jason Mittiga
Principal

Best Float......

Wow! Congratulations St. Albert's School - Best Mardi Gras Float two years in a row!

We couldn’t have done it without the help of Neil Thiele. What an amazing float? Although he enjoyed making the float, a lot of time, effort and resources went into the making of the pirate ship and I can’t thank him enough.

Also thank you so much to Helen Drake and her painting helpers Lily Hansen, Shelly Westbrook and Karen Inglis. Thank you for lending your time to make the float look so great.

I would also like to thank my mum and grandma for their help on the day and for lots of errands gathering props and costumes for me beforehand.

To all the students, parents and siblings who participated on the day. You all looked fantastic and did St. Albert’s proud.

Thankyou so much everyone who was involved in any way with this year’s St. Albert’s Mardi Gras float.

Also congratulations to the Ambassador entrants, those who participated and those who won their respective areas.

Joanne Hondow
Mardi Gras Float Coordinator.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.......  

SAPSASA Swimming

Congratulations to Zane, Melody, April and Suzie who have all been selected in the Riverland SAPSASA Swimming team to compete in Adelaide later this term. The four students were selected based on their fantastic performances at the Riverland carnival last Friday.

A big thankyou to Michelle, Misty, Tina and Cathie for their assistance with timekeeping and supervision on the day.

Sports Day

If you are interested in helping out as a challenge group leader or sprint official on Sports Day (April 8th) could you please come and see me or leave a message at the school office. I will need a number of volunteers to ensure that the carnival runs smoothly so please consider taking on one of these jobs. They are both very easy and allow you to watch your child compete from an excellent viewpoint.

Catholic Schools Swimming Carnival

The Catholic Schools’ Swimming Carnival is back on the radar, after we were granted a late entry for Thursday the 24th of March. The carnival will take place from 10:00-1:00 at the Magill Swimming Centre. Further details will be provided in upcoming newsletters.
4-6 Camp

I made contact with the Coordinator of Wildside Outdoors yesterday and he assured me that all water activities will be safe for students.

I also asked about mozzies and he said that there are no more than normal but encouraged students to bring their own repellent. We will purchase some sprays that plug into power points to help make sleeping conditions in the dorms as pleasant as possible.

The camp is going to be great fun for all students.

A reminder that students need to be at school by 7:45am on Wednesday as the bus will be departing at 8:00am sharp! We will be returning to school at approximately 3:00pm on Friday, March 11.

Students need to bring a packed lunch on Wednesday, which should be separate from their main luggage bag.

Thankyou for the speed in which you returned the permission and medical forms. It was much appreciated.

Nippy’s Gift

Congratulations to the Year 7 students and their parents who worked on the Nippy’s Van on Saturday night. They raised approximately $815 which will go towards subsidising the cost of the Canberra trip. A big thanks to all who worked on the van, to those parents who assisted in the organisation on the night and to those students who helped recycle bottles and cans. A big thanks also to Tim Kassulke and also Nippy’s, who donated the drinks.

Brad Williams
P.E. Coordinator.

Class News…….

YEARS 4/5 CLASS
This term in Genre writing our class is focussing on Persuasive Writing.

In weeks 3 and 4 we wrote a letter to our parents persuading them to move to our place of choice.

TASK: “The Move
Your family is moving and wants your opinion on where to buy a new home. Should it be in a neighbourhood, in a city or on a farm in the country? Where would you like to live? Write a letter to your family persuading them to choose a home in the place you want to live. Give at least 2 reasons why you want to move there.”

Please read some of our examples that have been included in this newsletter.

Karen Cash
Years 4/5 Class teacher

Birthdays…..

MARCH 2011
4th – Tia Drake - 8
11th – Isaac Edwards – 7
14th – Thomas Alm – 9
14th – Zara Nicholson – 11
15th – Suzie Stivahtaris - 13
16th – Melody Pfeiler - 11
21st – Declan Morgan – 7
22nd – Arron Nitschke – 9
28th – Riley Stasinowsky - 9

Uniform Shop……

OPEN: Friday afternoons - 2pm – 3pm.

Regards
Jenny Hicks
Uniform Shop Manager - T: 85845898
Scholastic Book Club.

Booklets have been sent home with your child today. If you wish to place an order, please have it into school by NO LATER than Monday 7th March. Remember the visa payment option via the Scholastic site. This saves your child bringing cash into school.

*NEWSFLASH* Last year we received $712 worth of new resources for our school through your support with Scholastic Book Club.

Books are a wonderful gift to give children and a great way of encouraging reading to your child.

Thanks for your support again in 2011.
Dionne Kassulke
Book Club Coordinator.

Newsletter distribution.

As the weekly newsletter is now available on the School’s website – www.stalbert.catholic.edu.au, please complete the return notice with this newsletter to advise the school if you still wish to have a hard copy sent home or your copy emailed.

Playgroup.....

Little Albees Playgroup
Every Thursday from 9am-10:30am
At St Alberts school.
Playgroup is open to all public with children ages Birth – 5yrs.

Claire Dalzell
Playgroup Coordinator.

Canteen.....

ST. PATRICK’S DAY
Thursday 17th March.
Food to buy!! Order form with newsletter!

CANTEEN ROSTER (Family name)
Helpers required 9:45 am until 1:15pm.

MARCH
4th – Dansie
11th – Davis
18th – De Been

Remember to put an ‘L’ or ‘R’ beside food ordered for recess or lunch.

Have a great week,
Kind Regards,
Julie Graetz

Community Notice.......

LOXTON NORTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
FIRST TRAINING & 2011 REGISTRATION
For all U11, U13 and U15 players.
Commencing Tuesday 8th March at 4:30pm.
At the Loxton North Oval.
Free BBQ to follow for players and families

ALSO

Junior Footy Club Committee meeting
In the Clubrooms
Commencing 6:00pm
All interested players and parents wishing to join our Family Orientated Club and our Committee ARE MOST WELCOME
For further information, please contact Penny Hartley (Secretary LNJFC) on 85846639.
Community Notices

COMMUNITY NOTICES

QUIZ NIGHT

Tuesday 8th March
Berri Town Hall

❖ $10 per person.
❖ Starting 7:00pm.
❖ Prizes and loads of fun
❖ Soft drink for sale.
❖ BYO alcohol and nibbles for your table.

For Glossop High School Continental.
For more information please ring Carina on 0414841693.

Community Notices

LOXTON JUNIOR NETBALL CLUB

Junior Netball caters for Primary School students who are 8 years old or turn 8 by December 31st, 2011, and are interested in learning and playing the game of Netball.

To enable the committee to organise teams, allocate coaches and team managers, please collect a registration form from the school office and return to school by Friday 18th March.

First three trainings will be at the Loxton Netball Courts from 4pm to 5pm Wednesday 30th March, 6th April and 13th April. These trainings assist the committee in organising teams of equal strength, therefore it is essential that ALL players that have registered attend.

Any enquiries, please contact: Nicolle Jachman on 8584991/0427872258 or Misty Pfeiler 85845695/0414363253.

WORK WANTED

- Babysitting.
- Windows washed
- General inside the house or out in the yard jobs.
Police check and references available.
Call or text 0423707813.
Natalie Davis.
Return Notices

ST. PATRICK’S DAY CANTEEN ORDER

Student’s name……………………………………………
Class:.................. Amount of order $.................

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tick for order</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cup cakes with green icing</td>
<td></td>
<td>50 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Green jelly with a frog</td>
<td></td>
<td>70 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lime fizzie drink -with lemonade</td>
<td></td>
<td>80 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lime smoothy - with ice cream</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name……………………………………..Class............

Return Notices

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cup cakes with green icing</td>
<td></td>
<td>50 cents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Green jelly with a frog</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Name……………………………………..Class............

FAMILY MASS RETURN NOTICE

My child/ren …………………………………………………
will be attending the Family Mass this Sunday 6th March at 11:00am.

.................................................  ...........................................
Parent/care provider's signature.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Please advise your family's favoured newsletter distribution:

[ ] Hard copy (black and white).
[ ] Email, as per address below:

.................................................  ...........................................
Family name……………………………………..