From the Principal………..

Dear Parent/s

Well week one has been and gone and the children and teachers all survived the first week. Term calendars went out on Friday and you should all be up to date with the happenings in term 1.

FAMILY FUN DAY

Next Sunday the 19th February we have our Family Fun day at the Loxton pool. It will commence at 3pm, with a free bbq being served at 5pm. Please complete the form at the back of the newsletter to let us know how many people in your family will be attending.

All you need to bring is a salad to share and your drinks (no glass / glass bottles)

AWAD

Our major fundraiser for the year is our Auction with A Difference and once again this promises to be a very big night in August. We will announce the date in a few weeks. The theme this year is *‘Beauty and the Geek’*!

WHAT’S THE BUZZ

On Monday 20th February we have a pupil free day as all of the Catholic Schools in the Riverland are participating in a Social Skills program called *‘What’s the Buzz’*.

*What’s the Buzz?’ is a new, contemporary social skills enrichment program designed to teach Australian primary aged children how to think and relate socially. It is for ALL children - especially those who for a “variety of reasons” struggle to build friendships, problem-solve and fit-in socially. It targets everyday themes; how to greet, make and keep friends, fit in, read one’s own emotions, read the feelings of others, deal with competition and cope with worry, frustration and disappointment more constructively.

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**Mass Times & Parish Diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 11 Feb</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15 Feb</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 19 Feb</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22 Feb</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 26 Feb</td>
<td>6:00 pm (changed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 3 March</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 10 March</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 18 March</td>
<td>11:00am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Diary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7th Feb</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 19th Feb</td>
<td>Family Fun Day at pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 20th Feb</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 22nd Feb</td>
<td>Ash Wednesday Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 25th Feb</td>
<td>Mardi Gras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 28th Feb</td>
<td>AGM School Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 9th March</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day – Staff retreat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 12th March</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2012 BUSINESS ADVERTISING SPACE

If you would like to sponsor our newsletter for a term, please email your interest to -

info@stalbert.catholic.edu.au.
PARENT WORKSHOP – ‘WHAT’S THE BUZZ?’

I am driving the bus to Renmark on February 20th for the ‘What’s the Buzz?’ parent workshop, departing St Albert’s at 6:15pm for all interested parents. This is an excellent opportunity to listen to a quality speaker and learn how you can help your children develop better relationships socially. If you would like to attend, please complete the form at the back of the newsletter and return in the office box.

Our first P&F meeting is on Thursday 23rd February, 7pm.

SCHOOL BOARD AGM

Our AGM is rapidly approaching and we have our meeting on February 28th at 7pm. We have two vacancies and these people may wish to apply again. If you would be interested in applying to be on the School Board please come in and see me to obtain a form.

HEALTHY FOOD

Last week I spoke about the importance of the children having healthy ‘brain food’ at 10:00am each day. Well done to those parents who are providing their children with healthy options. Breakfast is another area I would like to stress the importance of.

The following are key reasons why breakfast should be made a priority for every child:

- **Breakfast equals better behavior.** Children who skip breakfast are more tired, irritable, or restless by late morning. These symptoms lead to aggressive behavior that causes children to get in trouble in school. Children who regularly eat a morning meal have more energy, are less likely to exhibit aggressive behavior, and have a better attitude toward school.

- **Breakfast leads to higher test scores**
  A study published in 1998 in the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine showed significantly higher math test scores after children ate breakfast. This and other research has clearly shown that children who consistently eat breakfast test higher in most academic areas.

  **Eating breakfast leads to better class attendance**
  Children who eat breakfast are absent from school fewer days. They also spend less time in the sick room complaining of stomach pains. Ironic as it may be, children who claim they don’t eat breakfast due to a lack of time in the morning are actually unpunctual more often than those who take time for a morning meal.

  **More nutritious intake by eating breakfast**
  Breakfast eaters generally meet vitamin and mineral requirements for prevention of deficiencies. They consume more fiber, vitamin C, calcium and folic acid. Unfortunately, children who miss breakfast do not make up for lost nutrients later in the day.

  **Eating breakfast helps weight control**
  Eating breakfast helps to establish a normal eating pattern. Eating regular meals and snacks is a key to maintaining a healthy weight throughout life. Increasing childhood obesity is in part attributed to the disappearance of normal eating patterns in many of today’s households.

We would like to include a section in our weekly newsletter for healthy eating ideas, eg. for breakfast, lunches, recess and snacks after school prior to the evening meal. If you have a healthy recipe you would like to share, please email a copy to school.

SUNSMART

All children need to wear hats every day this term and will not be permitted to play outside without a hat.

No Hat, No Play!
AWARDS

Well done to the year 3/4 class on assembly last week.
The awards for the Assembly were:
Reception: Peter Siro
1/2: Bianca Stasinowsky
3/4: Tom Nitschke/ Eleni Fogden
5/6: Taelah Watkins/ Steven Dansie
6/7: Isabella Edwards/ Zac Miller

Principal’s Awards: Anthony Adams
Caleb Benn

SCHOOL CAPTAINS

I am pleased to announce that are School Captains for 2012 are:
Captains: Zane Lueth and Keely Lyons
Vice Captains: Charlie Stivahtaris and Alizah Fogden

Well done to all of the year 7 students who tried out and presented their speeches in front of the staff. We should all be very proud of the quality of children we have here at St Albert’s. The future of Australia is in good shape.

Have a great week
Jason Mittiga
Principal St Albert’s Catholic School

RE news......

Sacrament dates for 2012 at St Albert’s

Dear Parents,
I recently met with Father Steve to discuss dates for the Sacraments in 2012. Please put these important dates into your diary so that you can organize families to visit and special people to invite.

Year 2 First Reconciliation:
Wednesday 24th October 6:00pm OLOR
(St Albert’s & OLOR, Berri students will also meet in Berri for a combined Retreat Day on Tuesday 16th October).

Year 3: First Holy Communion:
Sunday June 24th 11 am Mass in Loxton
(OLOR & St Albert’s, Loxton students will also meet in Berri for a combined Retreat Day on Tuesday 12th June).

LEADERS AT ST ALBERT’S

I am pleased to announce that all the SRC and School captains have been finalized and will all be presented with their badges at Mass on Wednesday.

Congratulations to the following students:
Reception: Elleannah Aggeletos, Jack Bertram
1/2: Ryan Bertram, Peta Nicholson
3/4 Brodie Milich, Maddison Watkins
5/6 Kaylee Vowles, Jai Drake
6/7 Isabella Edwards, Henry Rogers
Year 3 First Reconciliation:
(for those Year 3 students receiving their First Communion this year)
Tuesday 6th March 6pm St Albert’s Church.

Year 7: Confirmation:
Sunday July 22nd 8.30am Mass OLOR

St Albert’s School will not have Confirmation for our students this year. They will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation each year in Yr 7 now instead of Yr 6 as we have had in the past few years; our Year 7 students have already been confirmed.

As you may be aware, Bishop Greg O’Kelly is currently consulting with leaders and parishioners from the Parishes and schools in the Riverland in order to listen to the needs of our communities. We are being asked about ways in which we can work together to deepen our faith and continue to build a Church that is relevant, prayerful and responsive to the needs and challenges of our families, communities and the world. By combining our parishes of Loxton and Berri for the Sacraments, we are preparing for a ‘new direction’ that we are rapidly heading towards. I realize that it may appear a little daunting to begin, but over time we may find that it helps build community and deepens our faith. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

May God bless you and your family,
Raelene Edwards
(Assistant Principal in Religious Identity & Mission)

Music......

This Friday and Saturday I will be attending a Conference in Adelaide to learn the songs in this year’s Riverland Primary Schools’ Music Festival.

The Festival will be held at the end of Term 2 on Tuesday the 26th of June at the Chaffey Theatre in Renmark. The Festival is open to everyone in years 5,6 and 7 and is a fantastic music experience for all involved.

The Festival also promotes individual and group talent through Assisting Artists and now Foyer performers. There will be auditions for any students who play an instrument, sing or dance who would like to try out for one of these places.

Yours Musically
Karen Cash
Music Coordinator

Physical Education......

FOOTBALL CLINIC
Adelaide Crows will be holding a clinic
When: Thursday 16th February
Where: At the Berri Football Club grounds.
Cost: Free.
Ages: Strictly 5-13 years.
Time: 4:30 pm to 5:30pm.
The Crowmania Caravan will be at the clinic with some great specials.
Please come and see me if you would like an entry form. Forms need to be returned by 9th February, 2012.
DATES:
SAPSASA swimming carnival - Friday 24th February at the Loxton Pool.
SAPSASA athletics, football and netball carnivals this term.
Twilight St Albert’s Sports Day is Friday, March 30th.

Brad Williams
Physical Education Coordinator.

Playgroup – Little Albees......

Come & join us at Little Albees Playgroup
A place for children & parents to come along & enjoy playing in a social,
safe and fun atmosphere.

Each session includes
craft, free play, shared fruit and story time.
Each term also includes a fun filled excursion
out of the school and a cookery session.
Thursdays 9am-10:30am
Commencing 9th Feb 2012
For more information
contact Claire Dalzell on 0407716105

Birthdays....

Best wishes to the following students who celebrated their Birthday in January...

3rd – Zoe Hughes - 7
5th – Maddison Munchenberg – 5
16th – Carlee Nitschke - 11
19th – Erin Hughes – 10
19th – Jai Drake - 11

Birthdays in FEBRUARY....

3rd – Hayden Nitschke - 12
3rd – Cooper Morgan – 6
3rd – Amalia Polymiadis - 11
6th – Blake Davis - 6
9th – Tess Hansen – 5
12th – Josslin Siro -7
12th – Laura Alm – 8
12th – Yolanda Holland – 10
19th – Mia Fitzpatrick - 11
20th – Lanie Doecke - 6
22nd – Tom Gready – 5
25th – Tiarna Inglis – 9
26th – Jesse May - 12
28th – Kaitlin Francis – 7

Happy Birthday!

Community Notices.......

Does your child want to learn guitar in 2012?

The Music Shop has a tutor who teaches guitar at your school every week during school hours. We currently have a few spots available.

For more information and/or to enrol, please telephone:

The Music Shop on 8584 4675

Uniform Shop.......

SHOP OPENING TIMES
Friday 2:45 – 3:15 pm

The Uniform shop will be closed Weeks 3, 4 and 5 of term 1. Please take time this week to check your child/ren’s uniform requirements and have your orders in to me Monday Week 2 (February 6th).

Skirts and new Sports shirts are now in stock.
Jenny Hicks
Uniform Coordinator. (After Hours: 85845898)
Canteen......

OPEN MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS
for recess and lunch orders.

PRICE LIST attached.

CANTEEN ROSTER (Family name)
February 10th – Natalie Davis
February 17th – Alm
February 24th – Benn
March 2nd – Bertram
March 8th – Dansie (Thursday)
March 9th – Pupil Free Day.

TO CELEBRATE
ST. PATRICK’S DAY
For recess only
Friday March 16th
Green cordial – 50 cents.
Green jelly cups – 80 cents
Green spiders - $1.20
Buy over the counter – all year levels.

Julie Graetz
Canteen Manager

Community Notice.......

JUNIOR MARDI GRAS AMBASSADOR
FUNDRAISER FOR - THOMAS ALM
BBQ Lunch At St Alberts
Wednesday February 15th
Order form attached.

MILO IN CRICKET
Cricket program for reception to year 2 Students.
Flyers available from school office.
Every registered child receives an in2CRICKET Pack including bat, ball, t-shirt, bucket hat, backpack and some other goodies. To find out more details about your nearest Centre and to register for this season log on to www.in2cricket.com.au and type in your post code.

LOXTON CALISTHENICS
REGISTRATION
For ages 4–18years
Wednesday, February 15th, 5–6pm
Loxton Toyworld
Calisthenics is a combination of gymnastics, dance, marching and apparatus (rods and clubs)
For more information contact
Leanne 0409 841 375

$10 Gift Voucher for all new BankSA Accounts
For the start of Term 1, BankSA is offering all students who open a new Incentive Saver Account via the School a $10 Gift Voucher, which will be deposited into your child’s account once opened.
All children under 13 years who open an account with BankSA will also receive a Digger the Wombat Money Box, LittleSavers Calculator, LittleSavers Library Bag and a School Bank Wallet. LittleSavers is BankSA’s special saving club for kids and it’s all about having fun and learning how to save! Take a look at the LittleSavers website littlesavers.com.au
This offer is available until 30 March 2012 and is for new customers only. For more details or to collect a BankSA Application Pack, please call into the school office or local Bank.

Term dates.......

Term 1 30/01/2012 - 05/04/2012
Term 2 23/04/2012 - 29/06/2012
Term 3 16/07/2012 - 21/09/2012
Term 4 08/10/2012 - 14/12/2012
Good Friday – 6th April.

VALENTINE’S CUP CAKE DAY
Tuesday 14th February.
Cup cakes will be for sale over the counter in the Canteen servery at recess time and, if there are any left over, also at lunch time.
All classes!
$1.50 EACH – Muffin size!

YEAR 7 CANBERRA TRIP FUNDRAISER

St. Valentine
from the office……

1. The following 2012 forms are to be returned by this Friday please (if you haven’t already done so):
   - Permission form for travel on St Albert’s bus
   - Permission form to photograph.
   - Swimming form
   - Emergency Form
   - Buzz Book details and permission form.
   - Payment Plan
   - School Card applications (if applicable).

2. We have been advised there are cases of head lice in the Loxton district. Please take time to check your children’s hair and if you do find lice/and or eggs, please treat hair before your child/ren return to school. Please ask your local chemist for the appropriate treatment and advise them if your child has sensitive scalp. Thankyou.

Return Notices……

LOXTON MARDI GRAS
Saturday 25th February

will be participating in the Mardi Gras parade.

PARENT WORKSHOP
– ‘WHAT’S THE BUZZ?’
FEBRUARY 20TH
DEPARTING ST ALBERTS 6:15pm

I/We will be attending:

FAMILY FUN DAY
SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY - FROM 3PM/BBQ 5PM

Our family will be attending:

For catering purposes:

Adults primary age children

BBQ LUNCH
Wednesday February 15th
For Thomas Alm
Junior Mardi Gras Ambassador

☐ Sausage in Bread $1.00 each
☐ Nangari Burger $2.00
☐ Orange Fruit Juice $1.50
☐ Orange mango fruit Juice $1.50
☐ Apple Blackcurrant fruit Juice $1.50
☐ Apple Juice $1.50

Total $...

Name: Class:

BBQ LUNCH
Wednesday February 15th
For Thomas Alm
Junior Mardi Gras Ambassador

☐ Sausage in Bread $1.00 each
☐ Nangari Burger $2.00
☐ Orange Fruit Juice $1.50
☐ Orange mango fruit Juice $1.50
☐ Apple Blackcurrant fruit Juice $1.50
☐ Apple Juice $1.50

Total $...

Name: Class:

Please return orders with money by Monday 13 February.