From the Principal

Dear Parents/caregivers

Thank you to everybody who really got into the spirit of the Mardi Gras a few weeks ago. It was a brilliant day and once again our children were the ones that benefitted. I think we are lucky to have parents and teachers who give up their time to make St Albert’s the best place to be.

I would like to personally thank our new teacher Alex Tilley for all of her work with the costumes and float design and her off side Helen Drake who once again made the float special for the children and the talk of the Mardi Gras.

Winning best themed float was a good reward for all the hard work and creativity that went into making this a memorable day for our students and families.
CAPTAINS

This year we have taken a different approach to the school captains as we feel need to specialize the areas of the captains.

In 2013 we will have 2 captains for the following: Sport, Environment, Well-Being, Community and Music. Over the coming weeks I will get the captains to outline what their role is in within our school.

I am pleased to announce the Captains for 2013 and they are:

Sport: Carlee Nitschke and Shyla Lange
Environmental: Jonty Davis, Zac Miller
Well Being: Isabella Edwards, Elissa Unferdorben
Community: Liam Wormald, Amalia Polymiadis
Music: Taelah Watkins

SRC

The SRC were also announced last Friday and it is good to see so many leaders in and around our school.

Reception: Zoe Formby and Jacob Hardbottle
Year 1/2: Charlotte Sampson and Jack Oates
Year 3/4: Bianca Stasinowsky (Year 3)
Declan Morgan/ Ocea Kassulke (shared role Year 4)
Year 5/6: Tia Drake and Thomas Alm

SPORTSDAY

Sports day is not far away on Wednesday 27th March at 5pm.
Children are to meet us at the Loxton oval at 4:30pm. Enclosed in this newsletter is a Sports Day program and a list of the colours your children are in.

Children are not to come to school on the Wednesday as it will be a long day and they will need to rest up before the big event.

If you have any concerns with this please give me a ring or come in and see me.

PUPIL FREE DAY

Just a reminder we have our first pupil free day next Friday 15th March. The staff will be taking part in a First Aid refresher course with the staff from OLOR Berri.

The other 3 pupil free days for 2013 are: 7th June, 16th August and 29th November.

CAMP AND SLEEPOVER

Tomorrow the Year 4-6 students embark on their adventure to West Beach for their school camp. It is an action packed camp and I look forward to seeing the children Thursday and Friday.

The Year 3’s will have their sleepover on Friday night the school.

Once again, we are lucky that so many teachers are prepared to give up their time to provide your children with these wonderful experiences. It would be nice if you acknowledged these staff members and thanked them on their return as it is a 24hr a day job on camp and sleepovers and it goes above and beyond their role descriptions and duties.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

HOW DOES OUR P&F RUN?

The P & F at St Albert’s is a fun and social committee, I chair the discussion, Jenny Hicks takes the minutes, and Jenny Ling manages the finances. There is no pressure to take on an “executive” position.

The Parents and Friends is a group of people who get together to discuss fundraising, what is needed around the school; be it shade, computers, paving, air conditioners, outdoor tables and anything else regarding the wellbeing or education of your children.

With the annual Auction fast approaching we would love it if people could take a small step forward and offer their help in any way they can, be it big or small. Very soon a form will be going home asking people to nominate where they would like to offer assistance, please don’t disregard this as every little bit helps.
The same people who step forward every year are not going to be here forever, so take advantage and learn from them while they are here.

Join in with the group and get to know some of the people outside of your child's class. Laughter and jokes are guaranteed at our "meetings".

Each of the classes is still looking for a parent representative. All this means is, people can approach a familiar face to ask general questions, and not take up valuable morning preparation time from the teachers.

THIS IS A STORY ABOUT FOUR PEOPLE……..

Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.
There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it.
Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it.
Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody’s job.
Everybody thought Anybody could do it, But Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn’t do it.
It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody, When Nobody did what Anybody could have.

By being involved you can make a difference to the education of your child, finding time to make a difference is the key.

R.E. News….

3rd Week of Lent Year C
This week we look at God’s mercy.
We come to God as single people aware of our weaknesses and the weaknesses in the world around us. Yet, despite our weaknesses, our broken promises, our lack of effort, God is always ready to show his love and compassion for us. His mercy is always open to us. All we need is the willingness to turn to him and ask for help. One way to break out of our own selfishness is to help others in need. This not only brings happiness to others but it also brings happiness to us as we share our life with others.

Family activities

Last Sunday’s Gospel reading about the fig tree that did not bear fruit (Luke 13:1-9) can speak to us in many ways.

As we look at the tree we are reminded that it can be covered with green leaves, have beautiful flowers and bear fruit. At other times it can lose its leaves and appear to be dead. If it is watered and nurtured it can come to life again and be covered in leaves, flowers and fruit.

In our lives there are times when all is going well and we give joy to others. We are ready to help other people and support them in their needs. At other times we are like the bare lifeless tree with not much joy and life in us. These are the times when we especially need to be watered and nourished through prayer and the love and care of those around us.

Remember to book in your calendars
Saturday August 3rd
School Auction
7:00pm.
Theme: “Keen on Green”

Have a great week
Jason Mittiga
Principal St Albert’s Catholic School
During these last weeks of Lent, as a family you may like to talk about the ways we can bear fruit. Some helpful activities to do as a family may include:

Drawing a tree and placing it on a wall. Each time you make an effort to grow, write what you did (on the shape of a fruit) and place it on your tree to show it bearing fruit.

Each day (maybe at meal time) have members of the family make a chain loop and write something on it they have done during the day to make another person happy. Family members join loops together to form a chain. Hang the chain around your walls and watch how long it grows by Easter?

**Yr 7 Class Mass**

On Thursday March 7th (at 9.00am in St Albert’s Church) our Yr 7’s will be helping us to celebrate Mass. Everyone is welcome! Please join us!

God Bless,

Raelene Edwards, Raelene Edwards, Raelene Edwards, Raelene Edwards,
Assistant Principal

**Religious Identity & Mission**

**Years 4 – 6 Camp…**

On Wednesday of this week the Year 4-6 students will set off for our camp to West Beach. We have many fantastic activities planned including a tour of the Port Power training facilities, led by Russell Ebert, participating in an aquatics program at West Lakes and going to the Beach House.

We will be returning to school at approximately 4:00pm on Friday.

A reminder to parents to pack any medication required and to make sure it is clearly labeled. If you have any questions or queries please come and see me at school or alternatively, I can be contacted on 0438040226.

Brad Williams
Coordinator.

**News from Pastoral Support Worker……**

**PROJECT COMPASSION FUNDRAISER**

The Mini Vinnies are holding a “Fun Stalls and Disco Day” to raise money for Project Compassion. This will take place during the lunch break on Tuesday, 12th March.

The Stalls will be:-
Spider Drink Stall; Honey/Chocolate Crackle Stall; Guess the Lollies Competition; Lucky Paddle Pop Stick Competition; as well as a Disco in the Hall.

Each stall will cost 50 cents except the Spider Drink which will cost $1.00. Entrance into the Disco will be 50 cents.

The Mini Vinnies are hoping all the students will take part in this fun day.

**REFLECTION:**

Here’s to the kids who are different;
The kids who don’t always get A’s.
The kids who are twice the size of their peers,
Or who have noses that go on for days.

Here’s to the kids who are different;
The kids who are just out of step,
The kids they all tease,
Who have cuts on their knees,
And whose sneakers are constantly wet.

Here’s to the kids who are different;
The kids with a mischievous streak,
For when they have grown,
As history has shown,
It’s their differences that make them unique.

GAIL PAGE
PASTORAL SUPPORT WORKER
Ph. 0448859009
MINI VINNIES GROUP

Chairperson: Kaylee Vowles
Deputy Chairperson: Zac Miller
Treasurer: Jai Drake
Secretary: Shyla Lange
Photographers: Ryley Hammerstein and Declan Size
Members: Declan Marcinkowski, Hayden Nitschke, Taelah Watkins and Liam Wormald.

Community Notices....

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE & BBQ LUNCH
Sunday 24th February 2013
Loxton Lutheran School
12:30pm BBQ Lunch.
Meat provided but please bring a salad or sweet to share.
1:30pm Thanksgiving Service.

MISSING FROM CHURCH
Complete set of 'One Voice' CDs – Needed urgently.
Thankyou
Barbara DeMichelis

Sport......

SAPSASA Softball
Congratulations to Jonty Davis who has been selected in the Riverland Boys’ Team that will compete later in the term in Adelaide. It is the first time that the Riverland has taken a boys’ team to Adelaide and we certainly wish Jonty all the best.

SPORTS DAY
It is nearly that time of the year when Caffrey, Murphy, Specht and Horan battle against each other at SPORTS DAY.

Sports Day is once again being staged at the Loxton Oval and commences at 5:00pm.
We hope to be finished by 7:15pm with a bbq tea to follow.

I have invited past students to help again as Challenge Group Leaders which should enable parents to watch their children participate in events.

Just a reminder that students are encouraged to wear clothes that are the same colour of their team. For those that can not remember, Specht are Gold, Caffrey are Red, Murphy are Green and Horan are Blue. If you can not find a shirt in the required colour you may use face paint, hair spray or some other product to help identify the team your child is in.

At the back of the newsletter is a copy of the program which includes the names of the Captains and Vice-Captains, as well as which team your child is in.

We have had a great turn-out over the last couple of years and would encourage as many parents, grandparents and friends to come and support the children on this fantastic night.

Brad Williams
Physical Education Teacher.

Canteen......

RECESS AND LUNCH – Mondays

Special Food Days will be advised via the newsletter.

Change to Menu: Apple and Blackcurrant juices are now only available in the small (250ml) size @ $1.50.

Help:
If anyone is able to help me in the Canteen from 10:00am until 1:00pm on Mondays, I would really appreciate your assistance. I have included a return notice with this newsletter.

Many thanks to those parents who have helped so far this term.

Julie Graetz
Canteen Manager
Birthdays….

MARCH
7th – Harrison Seiboth – 6
10th – Stephen Adams - 12
11th – Isaac Edwards – 9
14th – Thomas Alm - 11
15th – Raamah Size – 6
19th – Marc-Antoni Perre – 6
21st – Declan Morgan – 9
22nd – Arron Nitschke - 11
24th – Jenna Vowles – 7
28th – Riley Stasinowsky – 11

Uniform Shop…….

WINTER UNIFORM
Attached is an order form, uniform list and a price list for your Winter uniform orders.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR ORDERS IN PRIOR TO 15TH MARCH. THERE IS LIMITED STOCK HELD AT SCHOOL AND ADDITIONAL ORDERS MAY TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS.

The Uniform Shop will be open Fridays from 2:15 until 3:00 pm.

Due to my commitment assisting teachers and students in the classrooms I am not available for uniform sales at other times. Please send me an email jennyh@stalbert.catholic.edu.au or leave a message at the school office for orders if you are unable to come in Fridays from 2:15 to 3:00pm.

Uniforms are to be paid for prior to collection. Thankyou.

Jenny Hicks
Uniform Coordinator.

From the office….

Email address:
Please check your records and note that our School’s generic email is: info@stalbert.catholic.edu.au (previously: info@stalbert.pp.catholic.edu.au)

Bus travel to/from school:
Please note the St Albert’s bus will not be available for travel to/from school 6th to 8th March, i.e. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday due to being used for years 4 to 6 School camp.

Government Assistance
If you think you may be eligible for School Card assistance, please either email or telephone the school for an application to be sent home. You will need to have these forms completed and back to the school office by Friday 8th March.

Community Notices….

2013 Riverland Youth Theatre Program
Renmark Drama Workshops,
Renmark Institute every Tuesday at 4-6pm
Renmark Dance Workshops,
Renmark Institute every Wednesday at 4-5pm
Loxton Dance Workshops 1&2,
Loxton Primary School every Monday at 4-5pm and 5-6pm
NEW WORKSHOPS THIS YEAR-
Waikerie Drama Workshops,
Waikerie Institute every Thursday at 4-6pm
&
Renmark Drumming Workshops,
Renmark Institute every Wednesday at 5-6pm
Come along and bring your friends!
Wear loose comfortable clothing, enclosed footwear & bring a water bottle.
For more info please contact RYT on 8586 3437 or email admin@ryt.org.au

CORE VALUE GROUP TRAINING
Saturdays 10:00am
Loxton Oval (by skatepark)
To book, call Leonie Lawson on 0408846392.
Community Notices….

LITTLE TOWN EASTER 2013
PONTIUS
Friday 29th March (Good Friday)
Saturday 30th March – 3pm & 7:30pm
Friday 5th April – 7:30pm
Saturday 6th April – 7:30pm
Sunday 7th April – 3pm.
Loxton Lutheran Peace Hall.
$6 adults, $3 children Under 16, $15 Family.
Bookings: Loxton Visitor Centre 85848071.

Return Notice - Sports Day

P&F BBQ
Helpers are required on the 27th of March for
manning the BBQ and food/drink stall.
This year we are trialing the use of tokens/tickets
instead of money to try and reduce the
congestion around the food stall.
Help will be required for cooking the BBQ,
manning the token booth and serving the food.
Please write your name in the area and time slot
where you would like to help and return the slip
to the school office.

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Community Notices….

ROWING
The Renmark Rowing Club is hosting a Quiz Night
at the Renmark Hotel on April 12, to raise money
for its boat insurance and clubhouse maintenance.
Magic 931’s Morning After Crew, Hayley Ramsay
and Elliott Lovejoy are hosting the night of fun in
the hotel’s function room from 7.30pm.
Test your general knowledge, music, sport,
entertainment, history and hand-eye co-
ordination skills, with stacks of prizes up for grabs.
Cost: $10 per head with a light supper supplied
and drinks available at the hotel bar. Payment
must be made to secure your booking, so get in
fast!
For more information or to book contact Caitlin
on 0431 282 229.

Return Notice - Canteen….

If you can help in the Canteen on any (or many)
of the days below, please write your name in the
space provided and return the notice to the school
office.
Volunteers are needed on Mondays from 10:00am
until 1:00pm. Thankyou.

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