Dear Parents/ Caregivers

Often called the ‘Birthday of the Church’, Pentecost is one of our most ancient feasts. On the first Pentecost Sunday, the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and they were granted the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those gifts helped them to preach the Gospel to all nations. On that first Pentecost Sunday, over 3,000 people were converted and baptized. The absence of Christ’s physical presence to us due to his fulfilment of Scripture by his death and resurrection, Jesus has left us the sacraments through which the Holy Spirit conveys the grace of God in a physical and tangible way. Pentecost marks the beginning of this new, sacramental era in which we live today.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK
If Catholic Education Week is premised by ‘living life in all its fullness’ then surely it was there for all to see last week! The response from our community was nothing short of extraordinary. We collected over 30 blankets for the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal and raised in excess of $400 for the Caritas Australia Nepalese Earthquake Appeal. On the Wednesday all four Riverland Catholic Schools gathered at OLOR to celebrate Mass and enjoy each other’s company. Staff spoke of the ease at which students seemed to mix and the patience they exhibited when waiting in line to jump on a castle, wonder at a ball, marvel at the balloon making skills of a clown or put some paint on a face. They spoke of the belly laughs and covert photographs taken when the Principals challenged themselves (and their physical health!) to a race to the death on the jumping castle obstacle course. It was the Riverland community at its finest.

RESPECT • HONESTY • TRUST • PRIDE • SUPPORT
Finally, on the Friday we marked the Year of the Family by celebrating Grandparent / Grandfriend Day. For me, this was a shining example of everything we value in our community – love, respect, pride and family. I saw that uncontrollable excitement as a child welcomed their special loved one into the school. I saw that loved returned three-fold as Grandchildren and Grandfolks spent time together learning and exploring. I saw generations of St Albert’s families return to share stories and was humbled to see them extend a hand of welcome and friendship to those who were new. My thanks to our staff, to family & friends and to our students who worked so tirelessly to ensure the success of the day; I look forward to many more.

Please see a photo collage attached to this e-newletter which captures the many experiences of Catholic Education Week, 2015.

ENROLMENT POLICY
Last week, I circulated a letter outlining an amendment to the enrolment policy of the four Riverland Catholic Schools. The amendment granted a trial exemption from the ‘Same First Day’ policy. Essentially, this means St Albert’s will offer a second intake at the commencement of Term 3 and will be available to children who are 5 years old on or before the start of Term 3 or who are 4 years old and turn 5 years old on or before October 31st of that school year. It is important for our families to understand this exemption is not simply a ‘grab for enrolments’. The context of each family, the recommendation of both the classroom teacher and the local service provider (Kindergarten, for example), will help determine the best education outcome for each applicant. If you are considering this option for your child - or know of another family who might – please contact me at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

PUPIL FREE DAYS
This Friday, all DECD are closed owing to staff training and development. It was suggested to me that St Albert’s should align itself with DECD pupil free days. I appreciate this makes a lot of sense and there are many advantages for families and for schools. Unfortunately, on this occasion, we were unable to do so as the presenters we had booked for our staff day at the start of term were not available this Friday. Please be assured that we will try, wherever possible, to align our pupil free days with DECD as we plan into the second semester and also into 2016.

OUR PARENTS AND OUR FRIENDS
Following extensive feedback from the Junior Primary Precinct development, we will look at some modified concept designs at our meeting tonight. Our Pirate-themed Auction With A Difference is also edging closer so lots to discuss there, too. An agenda was circulated yesterday; I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. We gather in the staffroom from 7pm.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR TERM TWO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 4</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, June 5</td>
<td>Combined Catholic School’s Sports Day (SANTOS)</td>
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<td>Monday, June 8</td>
<td>Queen’s Birthday – Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Tuesday, June 9</td>
<td>Board meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 11</td>
<td>Diocesan Leader’s Conference, Whyalla</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, June 12</td>
<td>Year 2/3 Assembly</td>
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<td>Diocesan Leader’s Conference, Whyalla</td>
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Sincerely

Brett Czechowski
Principal
FIRST COMMUNION CANDIDATES
On Sunday June 14, during Sunday Mass at 9:00am the following children will celebrate their First Communion.
St Albert’s School candidates are:

Elleanah Aggeletos
Zoe Formby
Maddison Munchenberg
Nicole Rogerson
Francesco Perre
Marc-Antoni Perre
Harrison Seiboth
Raamah Size
Axel Edwards

They will celebrate their First Communion with four friends from Our Lady of the River Parish:

Harry Lipman
Caicee Lehmann
Jessica Ridley
Hayden Rosenzweig

Instead of using the expression “It’s only human” for some lapse of standards, we can now pray to become more fully human. For only when we are conformed to the humanity of Jesus are we truly human. If we are fully conformed to Christ we cannot be petty, cruel, spiteful, malicious – or anything else that reduces the stature of that humanity. We may even be willing to give up our own lives for others. May we honour, revere and love the sacrament that builds up our humanity by conforming us more and more to the body of Christ.

Blessed be the door that opened on the Lord’s supper. Blessed be the room that sheltered these friends in the final hour. Blessed be the innkeeper who made the room ready. Blessed be the bread and the wine which they shared. Blessed be the ears that heard, the lips that ate and drank, the hearts that struggled to understand. Blessed be all who continue to share in this meal of grace. Blessed be the doors of our churches. Amen.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

QUIZ NIGHT

When: June 13
Venue: Loxton North Football Club
Time: Eyes down at 7:30pm
Cost: $5 per person
BYO nibbles
Great prizes for adults and children.
Continuous raffle.
Please book your table ASAP
Major fundraiser for
LOXTON NORTH JUNIOR FOOTBALL

LITTLE ALBEE’S PLAYGROUP

THURSDAYS - 9:00am – 11:00am.

Just a reminder that we have a Facebook page called Little Albees Playgroup which is a great way for me to communicate with everyone.

Joanne Hondow
Playgroup Coordinator

BUS TRAVEL

NO BUSES - FRIDAY 5 JUNE
No buses will be available to transport students to/from St Albert’s school on this day.
The Government buses will not be running as all Government schools in Loxton have a student free day.
The St Albert’s bus will be used to transport students to the Combined Catholic Schools’ Athletics Day at Santos Stadium in Adelaide.

BUZZ BOOK

The Buzz Book will be distributed at the end of this week. There are still a few permission forms to be returned. Please return your permission by this Thursday if you wish to be included in this year’s Buzz Book. (Forms sent home today if not already received.)

Thank you.

BUDGETTING COURSE

Course: Budget. Save. Spend
Cost: FREE
Starting: 11 June
Day: Thursdays
Time: 7:30pm-9:30pm for 3 weeks.
Venue: Loxton Uniting Church, corner Martha St and Bookpurnong Terrace, Loxton.
Run by: Loxton Uniting Church.
To register:
Phone Rebecca Whillas on 85841267
www.capmoney.org

UNIFORM SHOP

Term 2
Fridays – 2:00 – 3:00
or by appointment
between 9am – 2:00pm on Fridays.
Please email – jennyh@stalbert.catholic.edu.au
Uniforms are to be paid for prior to collection.

Jenny Hicks
Uniform Coordinator.
COMPETITIONS

Listed below is information for entry into the UNSW Global Australia student English and Mathematics competitions. Entry is optional and cost is to be borne by each family. The English competition is scheduled for Tuesday 28 July and the Mathematics competition for Tuesday 11 August.

They are not school competitions but are offered for your interest and will be administered through the school. Comprehensive reports are provided to parents and achievement certificates are awarded to all students at a range of levels; from Participation to High Distinction.

For more information about ICAS go to www.eaa.unsw.edu.au

RETURN NOTICE – ENTRY TO UNSW COMPETITIONS

I would like my child ………………………………………………to be entered into the following competition/s:

☐ Mathematics       ☐ English

Cost $8.80 per student per competition (incl. GST) if 3 or more students enter.
Cost $13.20 per student per competition (incl. GST) if only 2 students enter.
Cost $26.40 per student per competition (incl. GST) if only one student enters.

You will be advised of the cost, depending on entries received, prior to formal entry into a competition.

Signed………………………………………………… Date…………………………………

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Support your local Hospital

July 4, 2015

“Taste of Greece” night. 6:00pm till midnight.
2 course sit down dinner.
To be held in the Loxton Lutheran Peace Hall,
Tickets available from the Loxton hospital, 8584 8549.
Featuring Belly Dancing and Greek entertainment, bar facilities.
Tickets $40 per adult and $12 for children under 12.

(And if you would like to get a team together and book that would be fantastic!!!!!)

Loxton Hospital Complex
Country Health SA Local Health Network – Loxton SA

Address: PO Box 570. Loxton SA 5333 • 13 Geraldton Street, Loxton SA 5333
Phone: 08 85845110 • Email: info@stalbert.catholic.edu.au
www.stalbert.catholic.edu.au

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