Dear Parents / Caregivers and Friends of the Saint Albert’s Community

There are signs of new growth emerging from fruit trees out on the blocks and from the plants in the ground. Academic growth can also be seen in the classroom as we respond to feedback and opportunities outlined in our semester reports. A gentle, sustained and purposeful growth surrounds us and we are called to respond. There is new growth in the church, too. Next Sunday, August 23 @ 9am our Year 7s will reach a milestone as part of their spiritual journey within the Catholic Church. They are to be presented to Bishop Gregory O’Kelly SJ for the sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of The River Parish, Berri. This is a cause for great celebration as our students are now seen as ‘adults’ of our faith community. We wish each child, their family and sponsor every blessing as they prepare for this much venerated sacrament.

RIVERLAND PRIMARY SCHOOLS’ MUSIC FESTIVAL
Congratulations to Karen Cash and the choir on their shared success at the Riverland Primary Schools’ Music Festival last Thursday evening. It was a highly polished and most enjoyable occasion. There were moments of laughter and joy and moments that were profoundly moving; the Remembrance Song Cycle, featuring Howard Hendrick, for example. Considering we had representation at all levels of the Festival, St Albert’s certainly punched above its weight. I was so very proud. A feature article is included in this Newsletter.

SEMESTER REPORTS
At our most recent staff meeting, I gave teachers the opportunity of reflecting on the semester report writing cycle. I learned the current system has been operating for at least 15 years how and has become somewhat labour-some, while the computer program itself is at best, temperamental. The issue has also been discussed at School Board level and the feeling there is that many parents find the document overly ‘wordy’: a lot of information about what has been learned but not much in the way of ‘how’ it was learnt. To this end, the staff of Saint Albert’s will spend Term Three looking at reporting templates from primary schools across our region and also into Adelaide. By the end of the term we hope to have a new template available for discussion. A consultation process will request feedback from the Parents and Friends Association and the School Board before releasing an initial draft to the community early in Term Four.

CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE
I continue to be astonished at the pace of transformation as the Junior Primary Outdoor Learning Precinct begins to take hold. The paving and garden areas are now complete and as I write this Newsletter, irrigation pipes and sprinklers are strategically being placed.

The small parcel of land just in front of the library will now be a butterfly and fairy garden. It will be cordoned off with a white picket fence with access only from the library walk way. This surprise addition with again add that element of wonder and play, particularly for our girls where no such outdoor adventure garden currently exists.
Pavers
With the design of the road safety track, it will be difficult to incorporate some of the double, triple and quadruple pavers into the path (as shown on the paver template form). The main issue is with the thin black border around the multiple pavers. We may have to remove this border and print on 2, 3 or 4 of the single pavers (depending on how many you ordered). This will come at no extra cost to families and it will be much easier for us to incorporate them into the road safety track. Please be assured that multiple family pavers will still be grouped together so they are easily identified, however, they will be laid horizontally along the path, rather than vertically, for example...

AWAD
There are still plenty of seats available for our Auction With A Difference this Saturday evening at the Loxton Sporting Club! My costume arrived last week and I can’t wait to walk the plank with ya’ll as we raise piece of eight for our mighty school. There will be lashings of rum, food, fun and cheer as the auction comes down at 7pm. Be warned, I have a long list of ‘dad-type’ pirate jokes...for example: which school do English pirates like to go to? Haaaaaarvard! And, What do old pirates have a lot of? Scaaaaars! (...sorry)
NO BUS RUN
Please note there will be no St Albert’s bus run on Thursday, August 27 owing to a school excursion.

IMPORTANTDATES FOR TERM TWO
- Saturday, August 15: Auction With A Difference
- Tuesday, August 18: SAPSASA District Athletics Day
- Friday, August 21: Year 4/5 Assembly
- Sunday, August 23: Sacrament of Confirmation, OLOR @ 9am
- Monday, August 24: Book Week – books light up our world
- Tuesday, August 25: Year 6/7 Mass @ 2pm
- Thursday, August 27: Parents and Friends Gathering (7pm)
- Thursday, August 27: St Albert’s bus run cancelled

Sincerely

Brett Czechowski
Principal

R.E. NEWS

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION
August 15

This feast is one of the two holy days of obligation in the Catholic Church, the other being Christmas Day, apart from the Sabbath celebrations of the Eucharist on a weekly basis! The Feast of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary is the one holy day of obligation that is observed in honour of Our Lady, while Christmas is the holy day observed in honour of Our Lord.

The Feast of the Assumption commemorates the death of Mary. Little is known about her life after the time of Pentecost. Tradition holds that she spent her last years in Ephesus. In 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption – in which Mary was assumed into heaven, body and soul – as a dogma of faith. Today’s feast declares that Mary is already enjoying the fruits of the redemptive work of her Son.

The Assumption of Mary is a sign, for all of us, of union with Christ at the end of our life.

One of the aspects of the Virgin Mary which it is popular to emphasise today is that of Mary the disciple. By pondering the words of Jesus and joining with the rest of the Christian community in prayer, Mary is a model of true and faithful discipleship. Mary is the first disciple and she is an example of how to follow Jesus, be with him and to minister in his name.

Today, our R/1 Class prepared Mass for us in honour of Mary, Our Mother in Heaven.
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Please continue to pray for Confirmation candidates who will be confirmed by Bishop Gregory O’Kelly SJ on August 23 in St Mary’s Church, Berri during 9am Mass.

Laura Alm
Seth Fitzpatrick
Eleni Fogden
Erin Hughes
Sophie Lipman
Brodie Milich
Ehi Oyugbo
Ben Rogerson

Raelene Edwards
Assistant Principal Religious Identity & Mission

Our Lady of the River Parish
Loxton Sunday Masses
YEAR OF THE FAMILY
16 August – 11:00am.
23 August – 9:00am.
23 August - Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Gregory O’Kelly SJ

LITTLE ALBEE’S PLAYGROUP

THURSDAYS
9:00am – 11:00am.
All welcome

Just a reminder that we have a Facebook page called ‘Little Albees Playgroup’. Please ask to join and feel free to invite your friends or family. The more the merrier.

Kind Regards
Joanne Hondow
Playgroup Coordinator

UNIFORM SHOP

TERM 3
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.
COMMUNITY NOTICES

International Night

September 5, 2015
For Loxton Hospital Complex

3 course served meal
6:30pm

Cost: Adults $35 Children $15
Where: at the Loxton Golf Club

Specialist Auctioneer
Please bring an unwrapped item to be auctioned.

Bookings:
Please book your table by August 28
by telephoning 85848549.
Tickets available from
the Administration office at the Hospital.

Loxton high School presents:
THE ADDAMS FAMILY
a new musical.
At the Loxton Community Centre
Thursday 20 August 6:30pm
Friday 21 August 7:30pm
Saturday 22 August 7:30pm
Tickets can be purchased from Totally Exposed, East terrace, Loxton
$15 Adults - $10 concession.

2015 SA VARIETY BASH is coming to Loxton.
Saturday 15 August - East Terrace (Main Street)
Cars arriving at 3:00pm.
Come and join in the family friendly festivities.
Give-aways for the kids, and see all the Bash cars and characters

Woolworths Earn and Learn 2015

Until Tuesday September 8, .................
- simply collect stickers at the checkout and place stickers straight into the St Albert’s collection box at Woolworths; or
- place the stickers onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet (sheets available from school office) and place the sheet into the St Albert’s Collection Box at your local Woolworths or deliver the sheet/s into the school office. THANKYOU!

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ADMINISTRATION NOTICES

ABSENCES: Please advise the school office by telephone, email or Skoolbag App. prior to 9:30am on the day of the absence, if your child/ren will be absent from school and the reason for the absence. If your child/ren arrive later than 9:30am they are to report to the school office before joining their class.

EFTPOS: School accounts are to be paid in full by the end of this term, unless a regular direct repayment plan is in place. During August an EFTPOS facility is available in the school office for payments of fees and/or uniforms. This EFTPOS facility will also be available at the Auction on Saturday night; at the door and for purchasing lots, however there will be no cash out facility.

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Ahoy, me Hearties!
Weigh anchor and hoist the mizzen!

The venue will look awesome, with lots of treasures to be found!

AUCTION WITH A DIFFERENCE
SATURDAY AUGUST 15
AT THE LOXTON SPORTING CLUB

Book a table and individual bookings welcome
Telephone: 85845110 or Email: jennyh@stalbert.catholic.edu.au

Pay at the door on the night - $25 per person
Table platter, tea, coffee and sweets provided.

Theme – Pirates
Dress up in character optional.
We want you to come along, have a great time, grab a bargain
and support St Albert’s School’s major annual fundraiser.

Doors open and items available for inspection: 6:00pm
Hammer down 7:00pm.

Thank you to the Loxton and surrounding businesses
for their generous donations.