



# ST ALBERT'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL LOXTON

## NEWSLETTER

Term 2, Week 3  
12 May, 2020

### Important Dates



#### Tuesday, May 12

Newsletter

Board Meeting @ 7pm (Microsoft Teams)

#### Friday, May 15

R/1 Assembly (cancelled)

Lunchtime Music Concert via Facebook  
Live (1:15pm)

Calvin Halupka's Birthday

#### Monday, May 18

Volunteer Week

Billy Tsakarellos' Birthday

#### Wednesday, May 20

School Photo Day (as planned)

#### Monday, May 25

Reconciliation Week

#### Wednesday, May 27

Rylan Philp's Birthday

#### Thursday, May 28

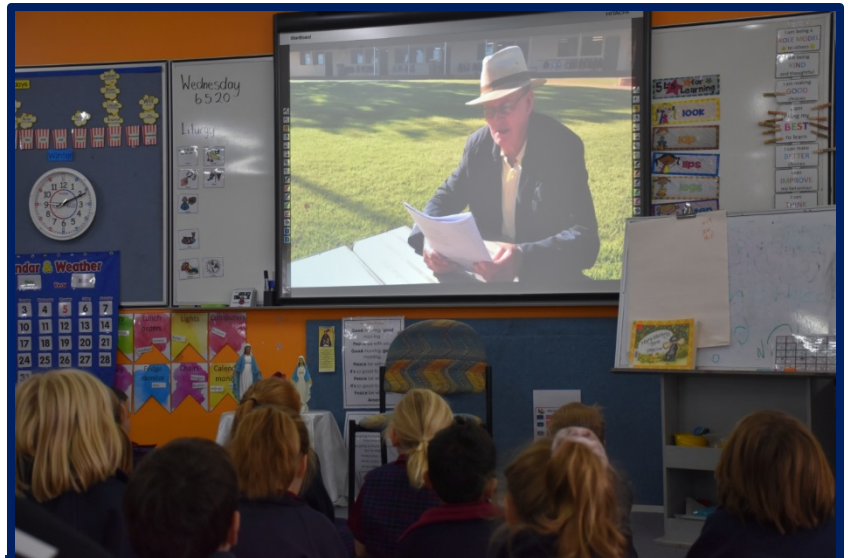
Jaxon Whyte's Birthday

#### Wednesday, June 3

Parents & Friends meeting

#### Friday, June 5

Pupil Free Day (Report Writing)



*A virtual Fr Paul reads the Gospel for our simultaneous liturgy*

## #CatholicEdWeek

It may have been a watered down event as mass gatherings were cancelled, but Catholic Education Week was an enjoyable experience this year as it had been previously. Fr Paul recorded the Gospel reading and Homily on YouTube for the simultaneous liturgy. This thoughtful action brought our cluster schools together in a special way and reminded us about how our school is connected to a larger world. With restrictions starting to ease and life slowly inching towards normality, we continue to focus on high quality teaching and bespoke intervention programs. Last year's NAPLAN results were released recently and I was delighted to learn our Year 3 data was one of the highest in the Riverland. Evidence that our Literacy Strategy and Intervention Programs are making a difference and setting our children up for success.

A shout out to all our Mother's on their special day on Sunday. No doubt you were well-spoiled as I'm sure the same attention also turned to your own mother and in turn, hers. We think especially of mother's who were unable to gather as perhaps they would like and the affection which was afforded them in different ways.

Finally, I extend my thanks to all who were part of the extraordinary effort to celebrate a milestone of my own last Friday. My birdies tell me that Jenny Ling, Alison Uren, Brogan Whitelaw and the Perre families may have had something to do with it! It really was incredibly moving and nothing like what I expected the day to be. I am grateful to you all.

Brett Czechowski  
**Principal**

# Our Lady of the River Parish



## Parish Priest

Father Paul Bourke  
Phone 0409 994 756

## Riverland Priest

Father Cletus Mloka  
Phone 0484 562 612

## Office email

[olor@bigpond.com](mailto:olor@bigpond.com)

## Pastoral Care Worker and Contact

Barb DeMichelis – 8584 7731

## OLOR Youth, Families and Young Adults

### Facebook Group

[www.facebook.com/groups/OLORYouth](https://www.facebook.com/groups/OLORYouth)

## LOXTON MASS TIMES, SUNDAYS

No masses until further notice.



## Pastoral Support

If any parents, carers or support persons would like to speak with me about anything regarding pastoral care and support, I'm at school every Monday. You may contact the school to make an appointment to call in or speak to myself direct on the phone on a Monday.

Take care

Erin Taylor

Pastoral Care Worker



## Catholic Education Week

We celebrated a simultaneous virtual liturgy and felt united with Fr Paul's Gospel reading and e-homily; a special message for all Riverland Catholic Schools. Lincoln and Imogen helped us to "switch off" by launching Earth Hour, which reminded us of our special responsibility as stewards of God's creation. School Captains Indee and Axel delivered care packages on behalf of the Year 5/6/7 class to local heroes at the Ambulance & Police Stations and the Loxton District Hospital. Random Acts of Kindness continued throughout the week giving joy and hope to those who needed it most, including the environment and the teacher's cars!

Team St Albert - "Bringing a Light of Fire to the World"



*School Captains Axel and Indee presenting a care package to our local Ambulance.*

## Music Concert Series

I have been talking with our Music Coordinator, Mrs Karen Cash about starting a lunch hour concert series to be held each Friday. Essentially our school choir is still rehearsing but with little or no opportunity to perform in the wider community. The concept is for our choir and a selection of solo artists to perform in the Parish Hall each Friday lunchtime. The performance would then be live-streamed on Facebook from 1:15pm. This Friday, the choir will perform "Spinning, Spinning" with solos from Nyah U and Anwen D. Soloist Reagan S will also perform Edvard Grieg's "In the Hall of the Mountain King" on the piano!



## School Lunches via Qkr! App

### PLEASE NOTE:

Although the transition to an online lunch ordering system has worked well, we are starting to encounter a recurring problem.

Some children are claiming they 'didn't receive their lunch order'. Parents need to check thoroughly on the App that each step of the process is completed correctly. The most common error, it seems, is the order being placed on the wrong day, items entered incorrectly, child's name not on the order, missing a step in the process or the order itself was not saved/processed.

At school we receive a print out of exactly what has been sent digitally to the Mini Mart. If the error is on the part of the business, we can fix it here at school. If the error is on the part of the parent then there's not much we can do, however, we do offer the child a basic sandwich so they don't go hungry, etc.



## Teaching and Learning

With the official return of face-to-face teaching at St Albert's, I wanted to pay tribute to our amazing staff who responded to the many demands placed on them in the closing weeks of Term One. There was so much uncertainty and so much change. Traditional teaching models were turned on their head and in a very short period of time, staff re-designed pedagogy and content to suit online delivery even though we had little to no experience with it, like most teachers across the country. We encountered some hiccups with the technology but quality teaching and learning prevailed. Your messages of support and encouragement during this time meant a lot; it kept us going and felt like a virtual pat on the back! We are very grateful to you.



*Year 5 students chat with their online friends during a brain food break*

## School Photo Day

With almost all families returning to St Albert's this term, I have decided to proceed with Photo Day, as scheduled, on **Wednesday, May 20**. We rang Focus School Portraits to confirm the date and I think they half expected us to cancel so hopefully the forms will arrive soon. Class Photos, Family Photos and Individual Photos will proceed as normal. The traditional whole-school photo won't be able to be taken in the customary way so we are trying to be creative with that one, while at the same time adhering to Government guidelines etc. More information via email and Skoolbag App as it comes to hand.

## Uniform Shop



### OPENING TIME:

TUESDAYS 2:15pm – 2:45pm.

### Term 2 – Winter Uniform

**PLEASE NOTE:** As I assist in the classrooms I am not available at a time other than the opening time above, however you may email your order and it will be packaged ready for collection **after payment**.

[jennyh@stalbert.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jennyh@stalbert.catholic.edu.au)

### Payment of uniforms –

Cash, cheque, EFTPOS

or direct in the School Uniform account –  
BSB 105 059 Account 037 078 340.

Jenny Hicks

Uniform Shop Manager

## Community Notice

### BRINGING UP GREAT KIDS Online Group

**Provider:** The Children and Parenting Service (CaPS) in the Riverland

Identify important message and how to convey these.

Understand the messages of your child's behaviour.

Develop strategies to manage your parenting approach in your busy world. Discover ways to take care of yourself and find support.

### Session details:

**Date/s:** During Term 2. Specific dates to be confirmed.

**To register interest** and put your name on the waitlist, please call the Berri office on 8582 4122 or email –

[berri.intake@rasa.org.au](mailto:berri.intake@rasa.org.au)

You will need access to a computer with a camera or smartphone with internet access to join the weekly GoTo online sessions. Developed by the Australian Childhood Foundation.

## COVID Measures

All schools have been directed to action the following safety and hygiene measures, for which St Albert's is fully compliant:

1. Student desks, doors and high access areas disinfected daily by the teacher;
2. All students to wash or sanitize hands before and after Recess and Lunch;
3. All students encouraged to wash or sanitize hands at discretionary times during the day;
4. Playground equipment to be sanitized daily;
5. Parents are not permitted to enter school grounds at drop off and pick up.

## Sport and Wellbeing

This term, St Albert's will be offering your child the opportunity to participate in an organised morning sport activity that is structured and catered for students of different year levels and varying sporting abilities. The morning activities will be altered each week, with an emphasis placed on Fundamental Movement Skills, Team Work and being physically active.

The voluntary morning sport activity will take place Thursday mornings, from 8:00 am to 8:30am. If your child is interested in participating, you will need to contact the school to notify us, as we will need to limit the number of participants to 30.

This is a great opportunity for students to increase their daily physical activity output, socialising with students from various year levels and social groups, as well as improving their Fundamental Movement Skills.

Activities that students will participate in include:

Week 4 – Circuit with a variety of activities being undertaken

Week 5 – Small sided soccer games

Week 6 – Target Games

Week 7 – Circuit with a variety of activities being undertaken

Week 8 – Yulunga Traditional Indigenous Games

Week 9 – Striking and Fielding Games

Week 10 – Circuit with a variety of activities being undertaken

If interested please contact the school via email or phone by Wednesday, May 20.

Thursday Morning Sport begins Week 4, May 21.

Brogan Whitelaw

**Wellbeing Coordinator**