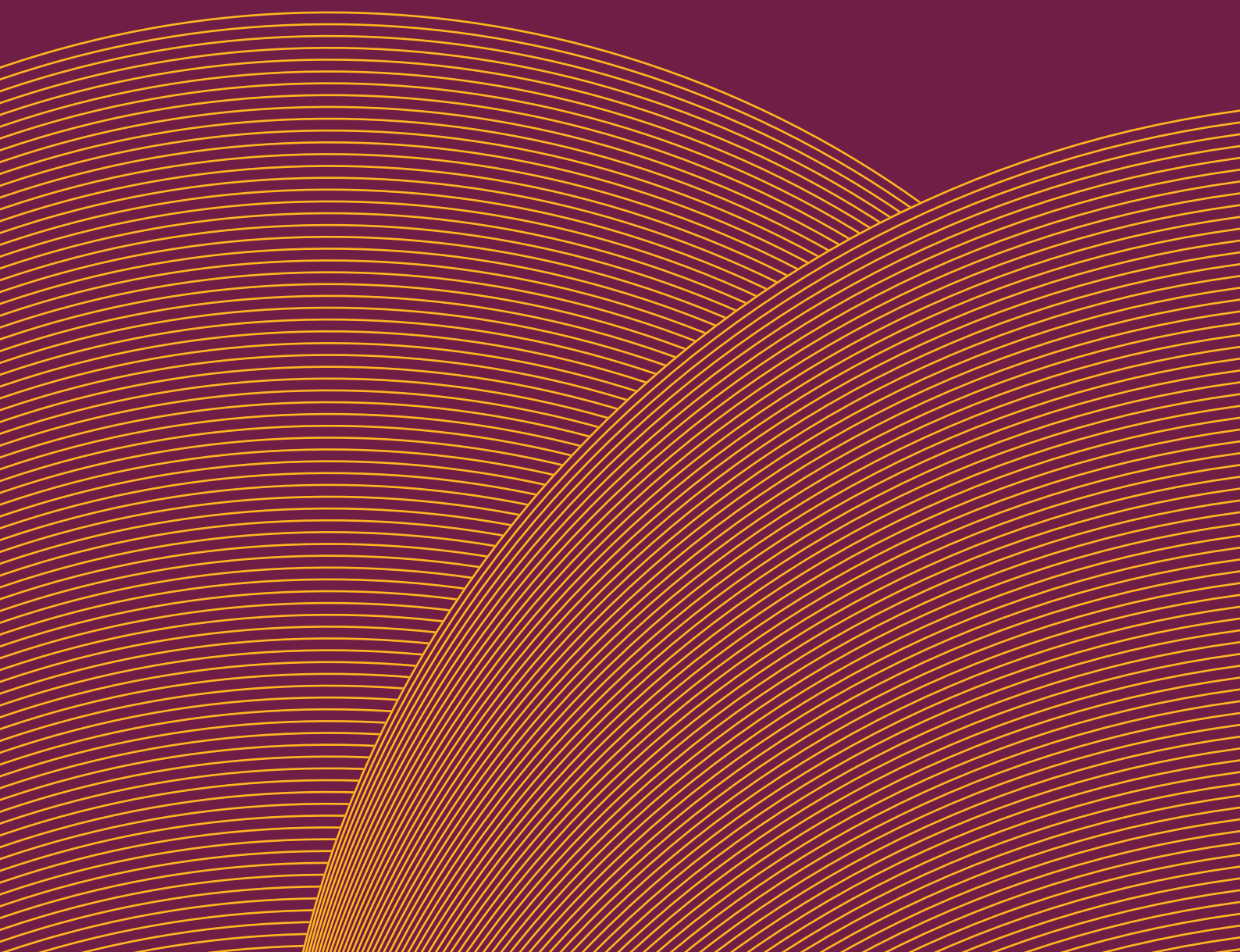


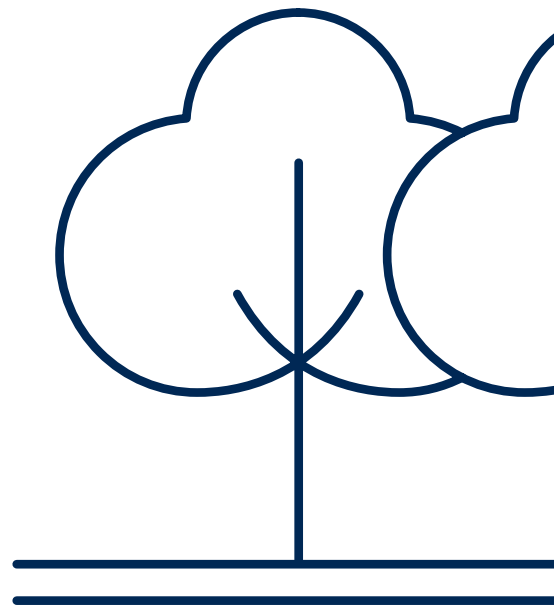


**ST ALBERT'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
LOXTON

Inspired by Faith

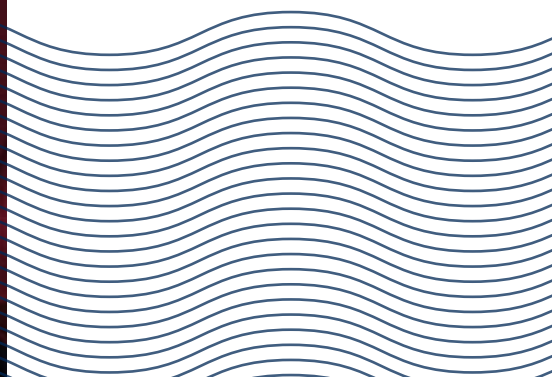
Respect || Compassion || Gratitude || Pride || Persistence





Welcome

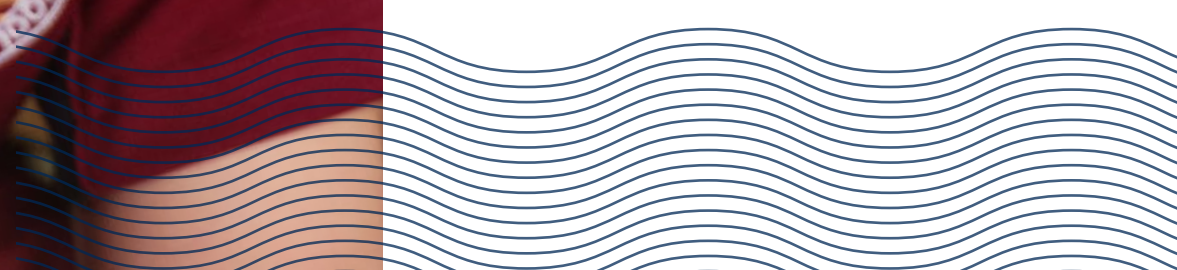
At St Albert's Catholic School Loxton, we have a deep love of God, a welcoming community, a commitment to social justice and a thirst for learning. We invite you to share in our supportive environment, where being the best that you can be is encouraged and celebrated.





Our commitment to you

St Albert's is committed to providing a quality education and preparing students to be successful learners within a rapidly changing world. We respect and value our past and continuously strive to improve our place of learning for future generations.





Our Story

St Albert's is named in honour of the Patron Saint of Scientists, 'St Albert the Great'. He was a brilliant natural scientist whose work concerning the earth and our environment is still appreciated by scholars today. St Albert also had a great devotion to his faith and inspired many of his students to find God in the mysteries and wonders of our world.

St Albert's convent and school was officially opened in 1956 with an enrolment of 74 primary and 6 secondary students. The original school building, consisting of two large rooms, was built of Mt Gambier stone and is still in use today. The convent accommodated six Dominican nuns who came from the Mother House of Cabra at the request of Bishop Gallagher. The Dominican sisters continued to serve St Albert's until the end of 1980, with the first lay Principal (Mr Arthur Paar) appointed by the Parish in 1981.

As a close-knit Catholic School we continue to meet the ever-changing needs of our students and their families through commitment and consultation. Together we have established five core values that underpin the management and teaching practices within our school community: Respect, Compassion, Gratitude, Pride and Persistence. We strive to live these out in our everyday interactions with each other.

Our Vision

St Albert's is a place where:

- God is named and witnessed, and the Eucharist is central to our teaching.
- We are a welcoming community consisting of: staff, children, parents, other parishioners and the wider community. We respect and value the dignity of all.
- We acknowledge and appreciate each other's gifts and talents.
- Students are encouraged to develop their ability to make responsible decisions and choices and to accept the consequences.
- We strive for each child to reach their individual potential and encourage excellence in a supportive and challenging environment.
- It is vital to be thoroughly professional. We strive to keep up to date with current teaching practices and prioritise the children's interests in all our decision making and actions.

What we offer

We are a welcoming community that is inclusive of families from all backgrounds and faith denominations. Our close-knit environment provides supported learning that ensures every child is recognised, valued and encouraged to reach their potential. Our focus is the whole child – not just their academic achievements. Our teachers and staff are committed to their personal, social, spiritual and educational development.

Keeping up to date with contemporary practices and providing the best education for your child is what we do. As educators we believe in using strategies that unpack a student's "virtual" schoolbag, allowing them to use what they know in their daily lives, as a springboard for further understanding.

We pride ourselves on small class sizes, providing children with maximum one-to-one interaction throughout their school day. We are fortunate to have quality specialist programs with expert teachers, creating individual learning opportunities for every student.

Transition from Preschool

At St Albert's we foster close relationships with our local kindergarten, coming to know each child prior to commencing school. Our Reception teachers and class visit the Loxton Preschool in the first few weeks of each Term and the Preschool children also visit St Albert's each Term.

All new children starting school the following Term are invited to attend four transition visits as a lead up to beginning school. The length of each session gradually increases to allow the children to eventually experience the reality of attending school for a full day.

Parents are invited to share morning tea with other parents from the Reception class and members of the school community on the mornings of transition visits.

Transition to High School

We also have a close working relationship with Loxton High School to ensure a smooth transition for our senior students. It's an exciting time in a student's life as they enter the next phase of their education. We ensure they are confident and well-prepared for secondary schooling.



Our teaching and learning program provides a broad and relevant education that is appropriate to the needs of each student, along a continuum of learning from Preschool through transition to High School.

Our unique learning experience

Our Curriculum

At St Albert's we follow the Australian Curriculum but find our approach is constantly evolving in response to the changing demands and educational developments of our community. Our learning environment is continually upgraded with new facilities, allowing us to cater for our growing numbers and the perpetual need for advanced technologies.

Religious Education

Our Religious Education program promotes the spiritual and moral development of students within the context of a Catholic Christian tradition. Our students learn about the Catholic Christian Story through Scripture, the experience of sacraments, liturgy, tradition and the lives of the people and world around us.

Students have the opportunity to participate in: classroom prayer, reflection, whole school and small group liturgical celebrations. We also support a range of social justice programs such as Project Compassion, Catholic Charities and Loxcare.

The Arts

Many experiences are offered though our Arts program encompassing Visual Arts, Performing Arts and Music. Students have opportunities to showcase their work as part of their regular classroom activities.

Music and Drama include: Choir, Nativity Plays, Passion Play, Riverland Music Festival, Carols by Candlelight, Family Masses, Catholic Schools' Music Festival, Loxton Lights Up and the Annual School Concert.

Design and Technology

Our well-equipped Technology Room enables staff to plan and implement activities that encourage exploring, and problem solving. Many of these tasks are also integrated into other learning areas throughout the curriculum.

Literacy

Our Teachers use a wide range of strategies to ensure your child reaches their potential in their reading, viewing, writing, speaking, spelling and listening skills. We aim to implement Literacy learning that is creative, holistic, contemporary, integrated and supportive.

A Key Literacy Teacher supports this program in the school, along with implementation of the Early Years Assessment and National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. We have Teachers trained in Reading Recovery, the Jolly Phonics program, the Rainbow Reading program and the Seven Steps writing program.

Health and Physical Education

Students participate in a Health and Physical Education lesson twice a week, which is conducted by a specialist Physical Education teacher. Students also enjoy daily physical activities with their class teacher. There is a strong emphasis on skill acquisition, game sense, fitness, a healthy lifestyle, personal development and group skills.

From time to time skilled instructors visit the school to extend students with alternative sporting instruction and opportunities.

History

This area develops knowledge about Australia, its people, its Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural and environmental heritage, its political, economic and legal systems, and its place in the world.

Language Other Than English (LOTE) – German

German is taught to all students in each year level. Emphasis is placed on conversational opportunities incorporating social, cultural and historical aspects of the language. A specialist teacher is employed to teach the LOTE curriculum.

Students have the opportunity to continue learning German when they move to Loxton High School.

Numeracy

From the earliest years, learning Mathematics is an active and engaging process for your child. At St Albert's we aim to develop knowledge, skills and understanding of mathematical concepts, by encouraging students to discuss alternative solutions, explain and apply their thinking skills. For students to achieve this goal, we place emphasis on providing frequent exposure to higher-level mathematical investigations, rather than routine procedural tasks.

Our students are well supported with a wide range of equipment and materials to assist in their development.

When leaving St Albert's our students will be confident problem solvers with a sound knowledge of numeracy and practical number skills applicable in real life.

Music

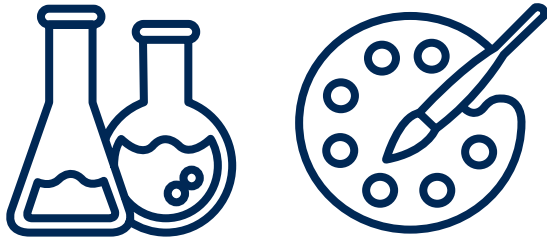
We are proud to offer a music enrichment program that encompasses all facets of musical learning including performing, creating and responding to music. Students learn to read and notate music developing an appreciation for styles from both Australia and other cultures. As they further progress, they can experience being part an ensemble that play at church, assemblies and in the wider community.

Private music teachers offer instrumental lessons, such as piano, guitar and drums, as well as specialist band tuition during and after school hours.

To complement our classroom music program we also have a senior choir that takes part in the Riverland Primary Schools' Music Festival (alternate years) as well as Carols by Candlelight.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

As educators of your child we believe that STEM, and Science in particular, is a process of discovery as well as the gaining of knowledge surrounding physical and biological environments. We acknowledge students' innate curiosity about their world and we support and extend this through an activity-based curriculum. Direct experiences, research and science based investigations will further challenge student's scientific discoveries and understandings.



Information Communication Technologies (ICT)

We are committed to the integration of ICT in all curriculum areas, leading students to be confident, creative and productive users of technologies.

We are very proud of our computing facilities. We ensure that every student in Year 4-7 has a laptop computer. Technology is incorporated as a way of enhancing the education experience at St Albert's, not replacing it.

Students in Years R-3 have access to iPads and desktop computers in their classrooms. In addition, there is a computer suite available to all students. These high-end computers are also used to teach coding and robotics as part of the Australian Curriculum.

Use of computer technology programs such as PowerPoint, Excel and Microsoft Word as well as specialised programs for specific subject areas are used extensively throughout the curriculum in all year levels. Responsible use of the Internet as a research tool and staying safe online is also a regular part of their learning.





A supportive environment

Allowing every student to experience ongoing success at their own level is a feature of the tailored learning programs we provide.



Learning Support Programs

Each child is an individual developing at a different rate. This needs to be considered when planning and evaluating their learning program.

Adaptive Education

Adaptive Education students are those who experience Literacy/Numeracy learning difficulties. One to one assistance or small group support is provided by either their classroom teacher or an education support officer. Should students be at risk of not reaching their respective achievement band, they are enrolled in our intervention program.

KidsMatter

An Australian mental health and well-being initiative for primary schools. The framework that helps children by:

- creating positive school communities;
- teaching children skills for good social and emotional development;
- working together with families.

Intervention Learning Programs

School Start Buddy

Used in partnership with Jolly Phonics, this learning tool is specifically designed for children who are in the early stages of their schooling. It is a tool used in partnership with families and comes complete with written and online resources. It has redefined our experience of Literacy at St Alberts.

Rainbow Reading

An audio facilitated program to consolidate reading skills.

Quicksmart

A Mathematics program aimed at assisting students who have learning difficulties in basic mathematic operations.

Gifted and Talented Program

Extension activities are provided that encourage and assist students who are capable of extended work. Students are selected upon class teacher recommendations. In some year levels students may move to the next grade for particular subjects.



Our outstanding contemporary facilities provide excellent opportunity for all children to reach their full potential.

Our Facilities

At St Albert's we have four well appointed classrooms that provide a comfortable and enjoyable environment for the children and staff. Each classroom has air-conditioning, fridges, data projectors and pods of computers or iPads. In addition to this, we also have an independent computer suite.

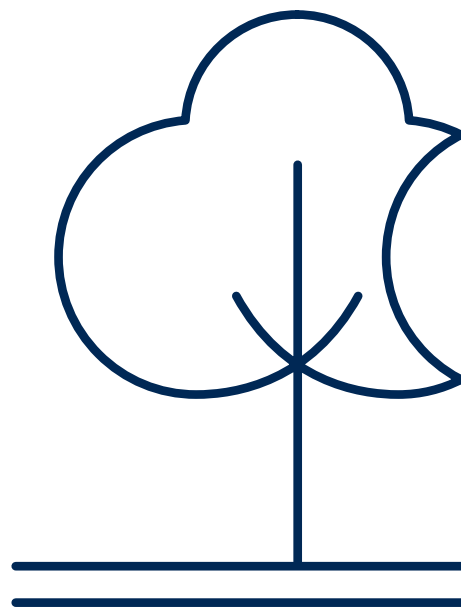
With assistance from the Australian Government (Building the Education Revolution) we have built two outstanding facilities and refurbished the senior primary classrooms throughout. We now have an outdoor basketball stadium with cushioned synthetic grass that can be used for basketball, netball, soccer, volleyball, hockey and cricket.

Our state of the art Resource Centre consisting of a library and ICT room is architecturally designed for flexible learning areas, with break out spaces outside for further studies. The Resource Centre is aesthetically linked to the Outdoor Learning Precinct.

The Parish Hall is our space for whole School assemblies, Drama & Music performances, and instrumental tuition.



So many opportunities



Sport

Annual Sports Day

Each year our school teams: Specht, Horan, Caffrey and Murphy, compete in a range of activities for the School's Championship shield. Our Sports Day includes a health hustle, tabloid events, team games and individual sprint races.

SACPSASA

Sporting Carnivals

SA Catholic Primary School's Amateur Sports Association (SACPSASA).

Children in Years 4-7 are encouraged to try out for representation of various St Albert's and Riverland sporting carnivals. Each year St Albert's competes at the Combined Catholic Schools' Athletics Carnival in Adelaide which is often a highlight of our sporting calendar.

Swimming Program

Children in Years Reception-5 participate in the school's annual swimming program, unless prevented for medical reasons. It is an Education Department Program convened at the local pool, with fully qualified instructors working with small groups of children.

SAPSASA Athletics

South Australian Primary Schools Amateur Sports Association.

Children in Years 4-7 are invited to nominate for a variety of sports as part of our District and State-wide competition.

Sports include, but are not limited to Hockey, Basketball, Soccer, Netball, Football, Athletics, Cricket and Swimming.

Co-Curricular

National Education

Assessment Competitions

Students have the opportunity to participate in a number of academic competitions throughout the year.

These competitions include English, Mathematics, ICT and Science.

Student Representative Council

Students are chosen from Reception to Year 7 to represent the school community of St Albert's. The children meet fortnightly with our Pastoral Support teacher and bring forward suggestions from their class meetings that are relevant to the SRC. They are encouraged in their role as responsible leaders to set an example for the other students in our school community.

Excursions/Performances

Excursions and performances are regularly planned to enrich the educational program at St Albert's. We believe that children's experiences beyond the classroom contribute to their growth and development, and also complement curricular expectations.

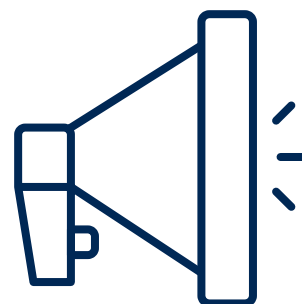
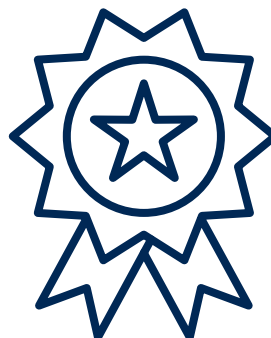
Camps and Enrichment Week

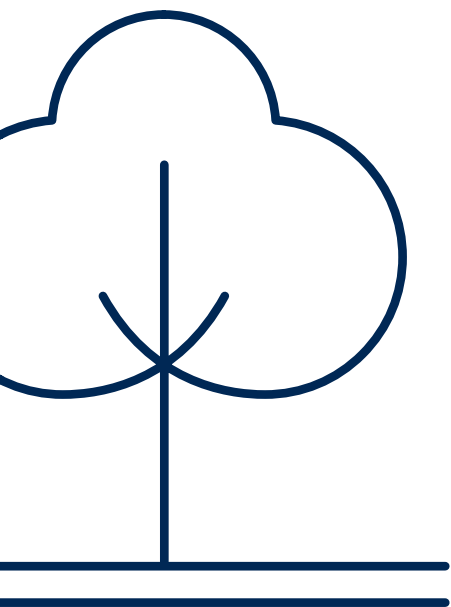
Each year our school has an Enrichment Week when students in Reception and Year 1 take part in a full day excursion.

Years 2 and 3 attend a sleep over at the school and take part in a full day excursion the following day in the local area.

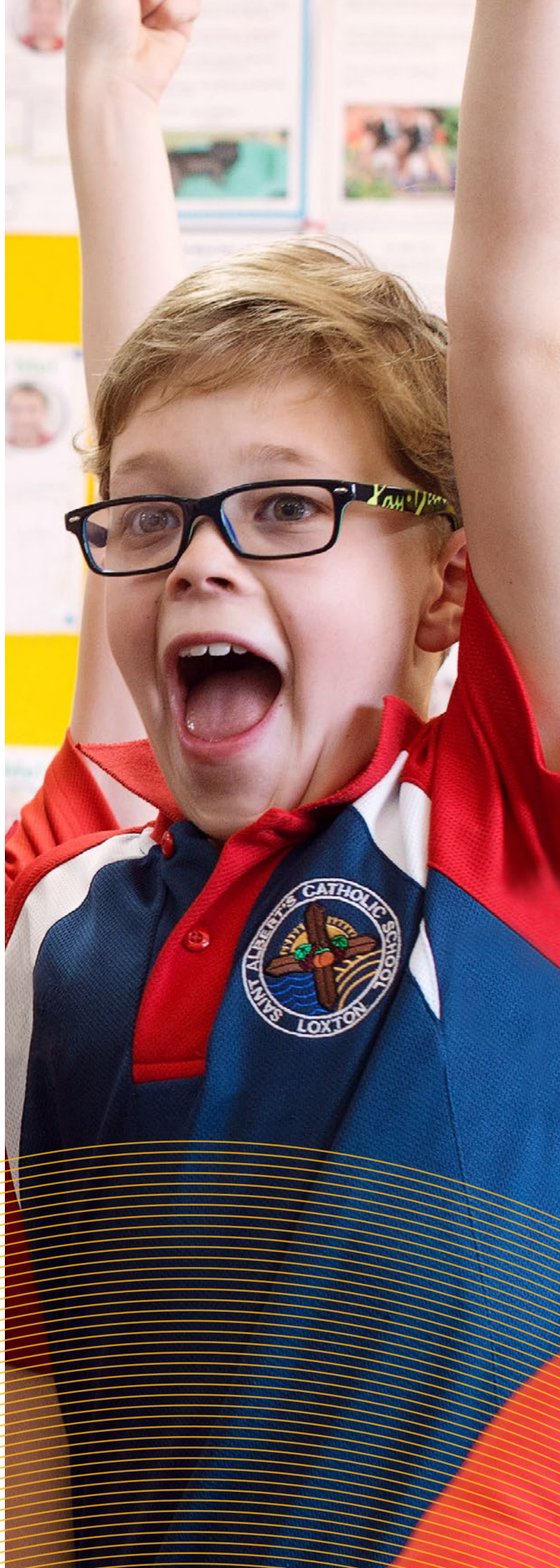
Students in Years 4-6 attend a (3 day 2 nights) camp during Enrichment Week, designed to build on the community and family atmosphere of the school. Greater interaction with each other is encouraged within a well structured activity program combining adventure, team building, and educational experiences which complement the classroom curriculum.

Final year students attend the combined Loxton Primary Schools' Canberra Trip at the end of Term 4, providing the opportunity for students to meet prior to their first year at Loxton High School.





We take pride in providing programs that fully complement the standard curriculum. Our dedicated staff also regularly contribute their time to create additional opportunities that the children might not otherwise enjoy.



St Albert's is much more than just a school. Ours is a rich, vibrant and inclusive community that comprises our Parish, staff, students, Playgroup, parents and families and wider circle of local friends and supporters, all working together to further the future of our children.

Our vibrant community

Parish

St Albert's Parish and school work together to be bearers of the Good News to one another and the wider community. We are an inclusive sacramental community who invite all people to strengthen their relationship with God, with one another and the world. We are a family drawing life from the Scriptures, the Eucharist and the Sacraments. Personal, family and communal prayer is encouraged and nurtured.

We have a strong Parish school Sacramental Program in which families work together with the school and Parish to prepare the children at this critical stage of their faith development.

All are welcomed, included and nourished in our school and Parish celebrations: Masses, Sacraments, Feast Days, welcoming families, Picnics and Excursions.

We are all empowered to use our personal gifts. Parishioners, parents, students and staff give their time and support to help one another's growth and journey towards wholeness.



Parents

We value parents as the first educators of their children and we strongly promote the development of teacher/parent relationships to support each child's learning. Parents are also actively encouraged to be involved in as many aspects of school life as possible.

Hearing children read, attending class and school functions, assisting class teachers with children's learning, coaching sports teams, getting involved in the Parents and Friends Association, and working bees, are just a few examples of the many ways parents share their expertise and become involved in the life of our school community.

We strive to provide an environment where parents feel welcome and which fosters the growth of a mutually beneficial partnership between parents, teachers and students. We believe that only then can a child receive the maximum benefit from his or her education.

The School Board and Parents and Friends Association are formally constituted groups with parent membership. You are welcome and encouraged to be a part of these groups or one of the sub-committees that contribute.

These parent groups play a vital and important role in building a strong sense of community at St Albert's.

Assessment and Reporting

Our Policy of Assessment and Reporting is reflective and supportive of the partnership that exists between the teachers, students, parents and caregivers at St Albert's. We believe that assessment is a dynamic and collaborative process of gathering information, in order to inform the most complete picture of your child's progress, achievement and development.

Keeping you Informed

Information nights are held at the beginning of each year, within the first three weeks of the Term. Parents, as a group, meet with their child's teacher and are introduced to the classroom curriculum, routine and expectations.

Curriculum overviews are sent home at the beginning of each Term. This is to help you as parents engage with your children in their learning.

Formal interviews between teachers and parents/children take place in Terms 1 and 4. Parents are invited to list agenda items they wish to discuss at these interviews.

Class teachers may speak to parents at other times during the year and teachers are always available to discuss your child's progress should you wish to.

A Progress Report is issued at the end of Terms 1 and 3. A Full Report is issued at the end of Terms 2 and 4.

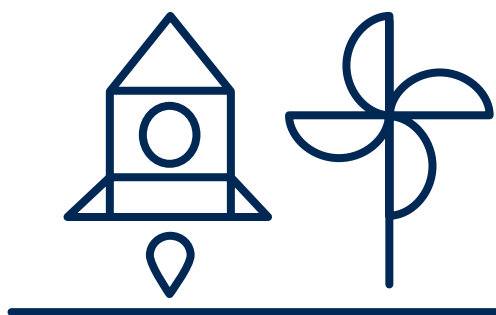
All children in their fifth Term of school are assessed using the Early Years Assessment to gather data about their early Literacy development.

Little Albee's Playgroup

St Albert's Playgroup, Little Albee's, was formed in 2009 and is affiliated and endorsed by Playgroup SA. It offers an ideal opportunity to learn through play for all Preschool children while also providing parents and caregivers with social support and friendships. Children experience interaction with others, forging new friendships and developing early social and emotional skills. Little Albee's provides experienced educators who foster literacy and numeracy skills. Parents, grandparents and caregivers are all invited to be part of the fun where learning happens in a safe and welcoming environment.

Out of School Hours Care (OSHC)

The Loxton District Children's Centre (Woodleigh), operate the OSHC service in the Schoolhouse at Loxton Primary School. Students are transported to OSHC on the St Albert's School Bus each day.





Come join us

St Albert's exists to provide a quality Catholic Education for primary students, and is inclusive of families from all backgrounds and faith denominations. Our school is an extension of the home where each child feels that he or she is a part of the wider community. Our environment ensures students are comfortable, secure and respected, building confidence and self-esteem at every stage of their learning.

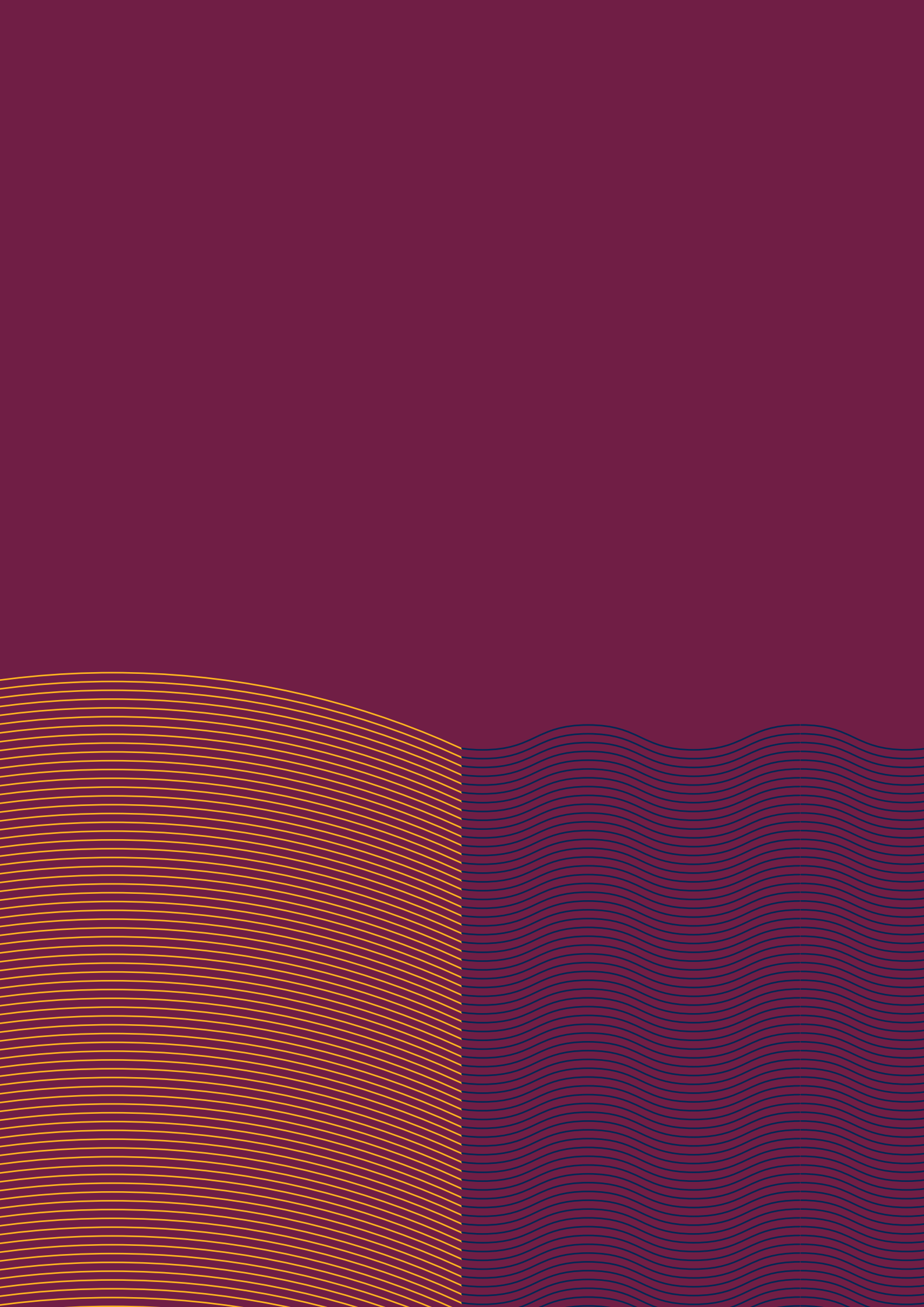
Enrolling Your Child

We offer two intakes per year, the first in Term 1 and again in Term 3 (subject to mutual accord with the class teacher, Kindergarten Director and Principal).

Our school fees are very affordable and our facilities and curriculum offerings are second to none.

We invite you to enrol your child at St Albert's and join our caring and welcoming community that is inclusive of all.







13 Geraldton Street
PO Box 570, Loxton SA 5333
T 8584 5110 **F** 8584 5133
E info@stalbert.catholic.edu.au
www.stalbert.catholic.edu.au
www.facebook.com/stalbertsloxtan