Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope all our families had the opportunity to rest and spend valuable time together. We especially welcome all our new families and our new Parish Priest, Father Paul Bourke to the Our Lady of the River Parish and School Community.

Father Paul Bourke has lived in the country his entire life and in the remote areas of the outback for over 14 years of his nearly 40 years of ministry as a Catholic priest. Fr. Paul will certainly miss the uniqueness of Sts. Peter and Paul’s underground Church in Coober Pedy and the characters of his former outback Parish community but I’m sure he will be warmly welcomed into the Riverland with open arms and the peacefulness of his new surroundings of vines, orchards and lush green golf courses.

I would also like to formally welcome our new staff, Miss Bianca Pandopulos, Year 5 classroom and Physical Education teacher and Mr Lance Gum, Education Support Officer and School Band Co-ordinator. They are both looking forward to working with the staff, children, their parents and carers.

It was wonderful to see the smiles and excitement of our new Foundation students who started yesterday. They loved exploring the learning stations in their newly refurbished classroom designed by Mrs Perre and making new friends. All our community are welcome to visit and see the transformation of what was our old library building for many, many years.

Pictured: Riverland Catholic School Staff Literacy will be a major focus for our school in 2015. Last Tuesday and Wednesday, the teaching staff of all the four Riverland Catholic Schools came together to discuss and develop inquiry questions around Literacy across the Australian Curriculum. This year there are planned whole group and cluster group meetings where the teachers will develop and discuss strategies of explicit teaching of literacy in the classroom, as well as ensure that all students are provided with a variety of access points to engage in the three areas of the English curriculum across all year levels.

Pictured above is our Foundation class. Welcome to our newest OLR students; Sierra, Edward, Buvnoor, Madison, Connor, Alexander, Amber, Paul, Reece, Nathan, Daniel, Jack, (front) Nate, Anastasia, Emma, (back) Sapthika, Anesu and Luke.

Important Reminders
Please Check these Updates

www.olor.catholic.edu.au or www.facebook.com/olorverrantce

SchoolStream App
The one stop shop for OLR information

UNIFORMS for 2015
Tri-state Renmark Stock is available
Please check on sizing as you may need to order for next year.

OLOR School Canteen
Fridays Only

NO CANTEEN THIS FRIDAY
Beginning Week 2
New canteen list and pricing available soon.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Please let the Front Office know if you are available to assist.

Thank You.
Assemblies and Masses
This year the school Masses will be held on Thursday mornings at 9.00 am in St Mary’s Church approximately once a fortnight unless there is Holy day of obligation or important feast day to be celebrated. School class assemblies will be held on Friday afternoons to conclude the day, every even week in the school gym/hall. These will begin at 2.45 pm. Please refer to the calendar attached to this newsletter with many of the planned dates and celebrations for this Term.

Traffic Reminders
I would like to draw your attention to some important issues that were highlighted in a separate note last year. Our school parking Kiss and Drop procedures and general movement of traffic around the school has worked well over the course of many years and it is important that we maintain a high degree of safety awareness particularly in the mornings and afternoons. Please enter and leave the school using the correct parking procedures for Kiss and Drop as well as parallel parking on Verran Terrace. Parents can choose to pick-up and drop off in the Church car park; however this area is not supervised by staff.

School Uniform
Our school uniform is also an important consideration as it represents the pride and identity of our school. This year all students are required to have the new uniform items for both sport and day wear. Consideration is given to the families who are waiting for stock to arrive at Tri-state in the coming weeks.

Newsletter
The school newsletter is available via email and through the SchoolStream app for touch phone and tablet devices. Only a few families have asked for a hard copy as they do not have access to the internet at home. Consent forms, calendars and reply slips will be sent home as a hard copy.

OLOR SCHOOL EDUCATION EXPO
Thursday 12th February - 6pm sausage sizzle tea till 8pm
It is commonly acknowledged that one of the most important components of student achievement and success is parent involvement. Today’s parents—and families—are bombarded with growing demands, but regardless of their background or circumstances, overwhelmingly parents want what is best for their children. Parents are vital partners in their child’s education and life success and the staff at Our Lady of the River acknowledge this.
Instead of the traditional ‘Parent Teacher Interviews’ the staff and I would like to ask all parents to come to our Education EXPO in which we would like to present to you the different programs and teaching strategies we use to help your child/ren learn. By passing on this information we hope to give parents valuable information that will support the partnership between home and school and benefit children’s learning even further. Throughout this term and during the year parents are encouraged to book a time, with their child’s classroom teacher to discuss any matter regarding their child/s learning. Teachers will also make sure they are touching base with families at least once a term.

Beginning School Mass – ASH WEDNESDAY
On Wednesday 18th February at a time after school (this will be announced) the school community is encouraged to attend the Ash Wednesday celebration. This is a Feast Day for all Catholics it will also be our, Presentation of Sacrament children for 2015, School/Sports Captains beginning year celebration and welcome to all our new families. Further information will be included in next week’s newsletter. It is very important that families who would like their child to receive a Sacrament in 2015 to please contact the front office a.s.a.p.
Dear Parents,
Greek School enrolments will be held this Thursday 29\textsuperscript{th} of January 2015 at Glossop Primary School from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm. Please come along on this night to enroll your child/children. Fees for this year are $100 per student for members and $150 per student for non-members.
Please enrol your children this week as lessons will start the following Thursday 5\textsuperscript{th} of February 2015 from 5.30 pm to 8.00 pm.
Thank you,
Athina Papametis