Dear Parents, Caregivers & Friends of OLOR,

Welcome back to our second term at OLOR for 2015! I hope everyone had the opportunity to spend some time relaxing with the children and enjoying their company. Again, this term promises to be buzzing with life and full of active learning. Ros is away on Long Service leave for the first three weeks of the term, so we wish her a well-earned rest and a safe return in Week Four. I will be Acting-Principal at OLOR during this time so please do not hesitate to call me if you have any concerns.

In Sunday’s Gospel reading we heard about Jesus being the ‘Good Shepherd’ who takes care of his flock. He clearly shows us also how to be shepherds to others in our lives, gently leading and taking care of our families and friends. We pray for our staff and students at OLOR who have the honour of shepherding and caring for one another at school. We pray for Fr Paul who serves and cares for our faith community, and we pray for you at home, who gently guide your family and tend your ‘flock’. It isn’t always easy but we should remember that we never do it alone; we can call on the help of the Holy Spirit whenever we need extra strength or wisdom for the task.

**Nepal Earthquake**

We have all heard about the devastating 7.9 magnitude earthquake that has rocked Nepal, leaving thousands dead and thousands more without shelter, food or water. Caritas Australia has launched the Nepal Earthquake Appeal to help our response alongside Caritas Nepal and the international Caritas network. Immediate relief activities will focus on providing families with temporary shelter, water and hygiene kits. Caritas needs our support and prayers urgently.

All classes will be given a Caritas collection box to give the children an opportunity to help the people of Nepal in their time of great need. At staff prayer this morning we lit candles and spent some time in silence to pray for the souls of Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran, and all facing execution or death by human hands. We prayed for all who die
seeking refuge. Especially in our prayers we remembered the thousands of people who are suffering in Nepal at this present moment.

Raelene Edwards

Riverland Catholic Schools Professional Learning
Yesterday all our Riverland Catholic School teaching staffs were given the privileged opportunity to gather together with Educational Consultants from Adelaide to participate in Professional learning on assessment, Literacy and the Australian Curriculum. Teachers looked at how tasks allow students to demonstrate evidence against the Australian Curriculum achievement standards, whether assessment conditions are suitable for all students and how the language suits the learner. Teachers studied work samples from the Australian Curriculum Website and were challenged in their thinking on teaching and learning. Ongoing professional learning throughout the year will indeed help teachers to put their learning into practice and benefit all students.

NAPLAN Tuesday, May 12 – Thursday, May 14

The dates for this year’s National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests are Tuesday, May 12 – Thursday, May 14. All students are encouraged to participate in the tests. Withdrawals are intended to address issues such as parental beliefs or philosophical objections to testing. These issues should be discussed with the Principal ASAP so that an appropriate course of action can be determined before the testing dates.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability
In today’s newsletter is a fact sheet for parents/carers provided by the Department of Education and Training.

From 2015 all government and non-government schools in Australia will be required to participate annually in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability. The data collection will provide all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with nationally consistent information about the number of school students with disability and the level of adjustment being made in schools to enable the students to access and participate in learning on the same basis as their peers.

No personal information that identifies students or schools is provided to the Department of Education and Training. Consistent with the information for parents/carers (fact sheet included in the newsletter), please contact the Principal if you don’t want to have your child’s information included in the national data collection.

COMMUNITY NEWS

BOAT LICENCE EVENING

A Boat Licence Night will be held on **Monday 15th June 2015** in the **Renmark Primary School Staff Room 7.00pm**.

Any interested persons can ring Renmark Primary School on 85865737 to make a booking. Cost will be $35.00 – payable before the night.

If you are 18 years or over bring:
- ID - passport or birth certificate
- Drivers licence
- Medicare card
- A pen

**Students under the age of 18 are to be accompanied by a parent and need to bring:**
- ID - passport or birth certificate
- Drivers licence
- Parents medicare card
- Letter from their teacher on school letterhead, indicating they attend the school
- A pen

To assist your study for the licence, the handbook “Recreational Boating Safety” is available at the school or you can get a copy from the Department for Transport and Infrastructure in Berri.

PEDEL PRIXT 2015 UniSA

Pedel Prix being held in Loxton on Sunday May 3rd

Event starts opposite Loxton Club at 10am and follows a circuit along Bookpurnong Terrace and East Tce. Event will conclude at 4.00pm.

Participants are from all over Australia with different age groups organized.

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Biggest Morning Tea function being held on Friday 8th May at Berri Town Hall.

10.00am to 2.00pm. All welcome.