Dear Parents, Caregivers & Friends of OLOR,
Hello everyone, it’s great to return to what I know as ‘normal’. I would like to express my gratitude to Mrs. Raelene Edwards for her willingness, time and dedication in taking on the Acting Principal role these past three weeks during my study leave. I also thank all of the ‘staff’ for supporting Raelene in her role and for continuing to work hard every day in making sure each family and especially the students are taken care of at Our Lady of the River School.

During the school holidays I had the privilege to travel to China and experience the country for a short period. I learnt so much by simply observing. I enjoyed all of the visits to schools and experiencing some of the Confucius and Chinese historical sites that gave me a rich perspective on the proud history of the country and the value the Chinese place on preserving this in the face of the modernisation and enormous change going on in their country.

The trip re-affirmed for me that it is so important to give the young people in our schools a sense of the traditions, culture and differences from other parts of the world away from what they know in Australia. We do live in ‘the lucky country’ and we can only truly appreciate this if we have a better cultural understanding and respect about other places and other people.

This learning is facilitated in our school through speaker visits and our online study of languages other than English, Mandarin (Chinese) with Mrs. Bonnie Singh. In the future, further connections with China will come with a proposed letter of intent to sign a sister school agreement from the talks I had with a principal from a Chinese school on the tour. This would allow direct online communication opportunities between our classes from both schools. How exciting!

Congratulations to the OLOR community, we raised $219.30 to go towards the NEPAL appeal.
CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK
The focus of Catholic Education Week for all the four Riverland Catholic Primary Schools shifted to our school site today. The day began in Our Lady of the River school hall where Father Paul Bourke celebrated Mass with concelebrants Frs. John Stuart-James and Medard Kunambi. It was a beautiful celebration with over 350 students, staff and friends from St Joseph’s, Renmark, St Joseph’s, Barmera, Our Lady of the River, Berri and St Albert’s, Loxton participating. After Mass, the sunny grounds of Our Lady of the River Catholic School was filled with happy children in different uniforms all sharing in the music, play activities and enjoying lunch. Catholic Education Week celebrates the generous and dedicated service given by so many in the service of Catholic Education, especially those in the Port Pirie Diocese. A special thank you goes to Mr. Shaun Kelly for his organization and co-ordination of today and all the week’s activities being carried out at OLR this week.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Cluster Practice Friday May 22nd 2015
Berri Town Hall 9.30-1.30
Year 4 and 5 choir members will meet at the Multipurpose room at 9.00am with their music book, fruit, recess, water bottle and hat in their school bag. At this rehearsal Italo Vardaro will be taking the official choir photo that will appear in the programme. Best school uniform needs to be worn – OLR jumper, long grey trousers for boys and skirt or pinafore for girls, black shoes. We will walk to the Town Hall. Berri schools will arrive by 9.30 to set up chairs and get their photo taken. By this rehearsal the students are expected to be able to sing all the songs well, aiming to know the words to a few songs without using the book. Kind regards and happy singing. Jenny Segui

BOOK CLUB
A reminder that Scholastic Book Club Orders are due in this Friday, 22nd May. If you would like to place an order, please send correct payment by cheque (made to OLR) or cash. Credit card payments can be made by following the instructions on the bottom of the order form. Please remember to clearly write your child’s name and class on the order form and send to school in an envelope marked “Book Club”. Regards, Sandy

SPECIAL NEWS

IMPORTANT PUPIL FREE DAYS 2015
Monday 20th July
First Day Term 3
Monday 12th October
First Day Term 4
Monday 23rd November
Week 7 Term 4

Thursday 21st May 3.00pm Assembly
Wednesday 27th May
Special Tuck Year 6/7 Hot Dog Day
Orders have been sent home to families
Friday 29th May Year 6/7 Assembly

2015 RE News
Fr. Paul Bourke: 85821894
Fr. Medard: 85866239
Fr. John Stuart James: 85882452 ~ 0419176514

MASSES TERM 2
Thursdays 9.00 am
St Mary’s Church
Week 6: Foundation & Yrs 1/2
Week 8: Year 5
Week 10: Leaders Mass