Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of OLOR,

As we near the Christmas holidays we enter into the season of Advent. Advent is a period covering the four Sundays before Christmas, during which we prepare to celebrate Christ’s birth and anticipate his coming again at the end of time.

On the First Sunday of Advent a new liturgical year begins in the Catholic Church. Advent is the season of new beginnings during which time we are invited to enter into a time of transformation and hope. It is the season of longing and light. Week by week, in our Sunday Masses candles are lit on the Advent wreath signifying our longing for the light of Christ, as the time of his birth draws near.

There are a number of traditions associated with the Church’s celebration of Advent, one of which is the Advent Calendar on which one can mark the days of Advent. These calendars usually have a door or window to open each day to reveal an image or a prayer. The days of Advent vary each year, so store-bought Advent calendars usually have 24 doors, one for each day in December leading up to Christmas. If you are making your own calendar it may link with the symbols from the Jesse Tree or the prayers for lighting the Advent Wreath.

Ros Oates

Graduation

Graduation Mass and Presentation night is tonight at 7pm in St Mary’s Church and School Hall. All families please try to attend this annual school event. After Mass there are speeches, supper (BYO food and social drinks) at the tables provided.

STUDENTS ARE ASKED TO WEAR THEIR SUMMER UNIFORMS.

School Magazines

These will be available for sale next week on the last day of school. Please get your order into Bernie and payment of $18 before Friday would be appreciated.

2016 Diary Dates

SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS WILL BE HELD IN WEEK 1, (Tues-Frid) 2016 for Foundation to Year 4 classes at the Berri swimming pool. The school will transport students by bus to and from the venue.

Year 3/4: 10-10.45
Year 2: 10.45 – 11.30
Year 1: 11.130 – 12.15
Foundation: 12.15 – 1.00 pm

AQUATICS CAMP: Years 5/6/7 Aldinga – 29th February – 3rd March

Good luck to our Year 5 class who left for camp early this morning. They will return from Mylor this Friday.
2016 Fees and Levies – All families will receive a copy of the fees and levies schedule for 2016 next week. Please remember that direct debit facilities are available and also the opportunity for you to negotiate payment options with the Principal, Ros Oates.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL
Thank you for all your donations to our annual St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal so far. There is still time to donate non-perishable goods, please bring them to the front office.

On Monday 7th December, the children will be given the opportunity to buy an ice-cream in a cone for a gold coin donation. The ice-creams have been kindly donated by Tammy and Dean Endemann. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated and all proceeds will go to those in need this Christmas Season in our local Riverland community.

Staff News
Congratulations to Miss Bianca Pandopulos on her new appointment as the Year 4/5 teacher at Bordertown Primary School next year. We wish her all the best in her new appointment.

School Working Bee
THANK YOU TO THOSE FAMILIES WHO ASSISTED ON SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER.

Our Lady of the River School Wins! Category #3: Education: 2015 Smarter Digital Regional Awards last Thursday the 26th November at the Pike River Function Centre.

Press statement: Economic Manager for the RDAMR Inc, Mrs Nicolle Jachmann said “the Awards are about rewarding and recognising businesses and organisations who have adopted and excelled with the use of digital technology, proving that regional businesses can compete at levels equivalent to their city counterparts.

OLOR’s winning entry was for bridging the gap by using Digital Technology to provide an online language program to students. With the implementation of the mandatory language program OLRO school was unable to source or employ a teacher to deliver the Australian Curriculum. Innovative pedagogy was explored and now through the use of smart digital technology the students at OLOR experience a 25 minute lesson to their classroom weekly, from a Chinese teacher based in Beijing over video conferencing technology. Coupled with allied resources such as workbooks, videos and YouTube clips, students can also communicate with their Chinese teacher via email, photos and video clips related to their learning. The benefits returned are an affordable and cutting edge program that engages all learners in the Chinese language and culture. We thank your community for their financial support in assisting with the implementation of this program into the future.

SPECIAL NEWS
IMPORTANT DATES
Please update your diaries

Year 5 Camp 2nd, 3rd, 4th December @ Mylor Adventure Park

Friday December 4th
Glossop High Transition

Friday 11th December
School Concludes 2.20 pm

FINAL OOLOR ASSEMBLY
Friday 11th December
- Farewells
- School Magazine
- Major Raffle Draw
Starts @ 2.00pm

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

PARISH MASSES
Sunday 9.00 am & 6.00 pm
MASSES TERM 4

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES
Christmas Eve
Barmera 6.00pm
Renmark 7.00pm
Waikerie & Loxton 8.00pm
Berri 10.00pm

Christmas Day
Berri & Renmark 9.00am
Morgan 11.00am