



OLOR

RESPECT  
QUALITY  
CARE  
COMMUNITY  
SELF ESTEEM

Verran Terrace, Berri 5343  
South Australia  
Telephone: 08 8582 1128  
Principal: Mrs. Ros Oates



The children in Year 2 enjoying their swimming lesson this week.

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students, Welcome back. It was wonderful to see all the smiling and excited faces as children and families arrived to begin the 2017 school year. Our Lady of the River is a vibrant and welcoming school. It is very evident that family – school partnerships are a vital part of this community. A very big welcome to our new families, some of which their children are beginning school for the first time and others are new to the OLOR and Berri community. We also welcome two new staff members to our school community this year, Miss Cobie Drogemuller who is teaching the Year 2 class and Miss Ashlee Reichelt assisting in the Foundation class. In the coming weeks there will be opportunities to meet with the teachers at our Information sessions, as well as parents and caregivers having the opportunity for individual meetings with the teachers later in the term. The attached article at the end of this newsletter talks about the importance of the school and home, working closely together.

Over the school holidays a range of facility improvements occurred, the school grounds were improved and work has started on updating the 3/4 classroom and senior library. In the next two weeks the work on all the classroom environments will continue with updated technology, new furniture and pin-boards will be installed. Thank you to all our local trades for their work and especially the donated stones from Santos in our newly fenced front garden.

#### PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

On Wednesday, 15th February, parents are invited to a parent information evening. The purpose of the information evening is to provide parents with an opportunity to meet their child's teacher, see the classroom and hear about some of the expectations each teacher has for their students. One of the greatest influences in your child's learning progress is the family. The more interest you as a parent show in what is happening at school, the more influence you have on your child's learning.

Invitation is from 6.00pm. Each class teacher will run two sessions: Session 1 is from 6.00pm; Session 2 is from 7.15pm. Each session is the same. This gives parents who have children in more than one class the opportunity to visit each class. Between sessions, at approximately 6.45 pm all parents are invited to have a light supper and hear from Ros, the Principal, in the junior primary court yard (weather permitting) regarding school priorities for the 2017 year.

#### NEWSLETTERS

Our newsletters will continue weekly and be on the school website and App each week, as well as being emailed to parents. If you wish to receive a paper copy could you please request this through writing a request in your child's school diary.

#### OLOR Website/Facebook and App

A reminder to families that information and especially photos regarding the school can be accessed via

#### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/olorverrantce/>

**Website:** [www.olor.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olor.catholic.edu.au)

**School App:** The App can be downloaded at the App Store under 'School Stream'. Once downloaded search for Our Lady of the River School and then select. Please let me know if you require assistance.

Ros Oates  
Principal

## SPECIAL NEWS

### IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

*Please update your diaries*

School Fees for 2017 will be included with your fee statement. This will be distributed via post next week. Fees have a minimal increase in 2017 due to the successful fundraising efforts of our school community in 2016.

Families who wish to apply for School Card reductions are to see Ros Oates.

#### Week 2:

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Riverland Basketball Carnival

#### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>

Commissioning Mass 6.30pm  
St Mary's Church

#### Week 3:

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Port Adelaide FC visit

#### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

#### Week 4:

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> Feb  
School Photos

## BEFORE and AFTER SCHOOL (WASP – Workshops After School Program)

In 2017, Our Lady of the River School will trial supervision for children from 7.30 am till 8.30 am Monday to Friday, with breakfast club included for parents who are required to be at work during that time. Parents will need to fill in the reply slip form attached to this newsletter indicating the time your child/ren will be dropped off at school.

WASP – is provided by Mr. Roger Cross, a volunteer parent from 3.15 pm till 5.30 pm Monday to Friday. Parents will need to book in for these sessions with the front office staff. If these sessions are required periodically parents are required to book in a session before 1 pm daily. There is a cost per hour.

## SCHOOL CHOIR

All year 4-7 students, have the opportunity to be a member of the school choir, your child will be expected to;

- Attend all rehearsals at school. Choir will be timetabled during the week for 45 minutes on Thursdays (12.15 pm)
- Attend rehearsals with the Festival Choir. There will be up to 4 rehearsals where we will need to travel by bus or walk to a venue for a half-day rehearsal with other schools.
- Be available to perform at the Chaffey Theatre: Wk. 2 of Term 3 (1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug)

The cost associated with being a choir member is \$30.00 plus travel expenses and a festival t-shirt. This fee is non-refundable. This fee assists us in covering the cost of Songbook, CDs, music and association fees. Year 3 students are not permitted to perform at the Chaffey Theatre but are welcome to join in all practices, sing at school assemblies, St Catherines and Petticoat Lane, Fundraiser. A Fee of \$25.00 is required for the songbook and CD. Please do not send any money now, Lyn will invoice choir members this term. Please complete and return the form attached to this newsletter a.s.a.p. Thank you

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Commissioning Mass:** The school community is invited to attend a welcoming 'Commissioning Mass' at St Mary's Church on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm. This is a special celebration to welcome new staff and students to our community.

**Beginning School Mass:** This year we ask all families to attend our Ash Wednesday Mass on 1<sup>st</sup> March at **7.00 am** in St Mary's Church. This will be followed by a shared breakfast of 'scrambled eggs' with toast and a cuppa.

**Riverland Basketball Carnival:** Our Lady of the River School will be running a fundraising canteen on the weekend of Friday 10<sup>th</sup> till Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February. If you are able to assist with cooking or working in the canteen that would be most appreciated.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### JUNIOR GOLF

Come and have FUN and learn NEW SKILLS.

WHERE Berri Golf Club - WHEN Each Sunday morning

(Starting on 12th Feb.) TIME 9.00am-10.00am

COST \$5.00 each session. Golf sticks are provided for the children to use if needed.

For further information please contact Lynn Smith on 85823753 or 0418411491

### NATIONAL KARATE ACADEMIES

[www.nationalkarate.com.au](http://www.nationalkarate.com.au)

TUESDAY NIGHTS - OLOR Primary School Hall - McIntosh Street, Berri

JUNIORS: 6PM – 7PM

SENIORS: 7PM – 8:30PM

FOR INFORMATION: INSTRUCTOR - SCOTT MITCHELL - 0417827517

E-MAIL: [nsmith@bigpond.com](mailto:nsmith@bigpond.com)

### FREE FIRST LESSON

Learning self defence and discipline in a  
FAMILY FRIENDLY Martial Arts

### Berri Greek School News 2017.

The Berri Greek School will be operating again this year. Any student wanting to study Greek from years 1 to 7 is welcome. Enrolment will be this Thursday the 2nd of February from 6-7 pm at the Glossop Primary School site. Normal lessons will commence the following Thursday the 9th of February from 5.30pm till 8pm. Fees are \$100 per student per year for members of the Greek Orthodox Community of Berri and \$150 for non members. For further information, contact Athina Papametis at Renmark High School or on 0417821310.

## Important Reminders Please Check these Updates

[www.olor.catholic.edu.au](http://www.olor.catholic.edu.au) or  
[www.facebook.com/olorverrantce](https://www.facebook.com/olorverrantce)

### SchoolStream App

The one stop shop for OLOR  
information

### Winter Uniform Stock Tri-state Renmark

Please check that your child/ren have the correct sizing for this winter. New stock of jumpers, tracksuit pants and long sleeved shirts are now available. Please allow time for personalised printing on the jumpers.

### New School Timetable

8.30: Children arrive at school  
8.50: Classes begin & Fitness  
**11:35: Early Lunch (10mins)**  
**11.45: Lunch Play**  
12.15: Classes resume  
**1.45: Afternoon Break (10mins)**  
**1.55: Afternoon Play**  
2.15: Classes resume  
3.00: Pack-up/clean-up  
**3.15: Dismissed**



## 2016 RE News

**Fr. Paul Bourke: 85821894**

**Fr. John Stuart James:**

**85882452 ~ 0419176514**

## MASSES TERM 4

**Thursdays 9.00 am**  
**St Mary's Church**

### New Weekend Mass Times

**Weeks 1,3 & 5 Sundays of the Month**  
Berri 9am, Waikerie 11am, Loxton 11am,  
Barmera 6pm

**Weeks 1,3 & 5 Saturday night**  
Morgan 6pm and Renmark 6.30pm

**Weeks 2 & 4 Sundays of the Month**  
Renmark 9am, Morgan 9am, Barmera  
11am, Loxton 6pm

**Weeks 2 & 4 Saturday night**  
Berri 6.30pm and Waikerie 6pm

## Why are family-school partnerships is important

Families are the first educators of their children and they continue to influence their children's learning and development during the school years and long afterwards. Schools have an important responsibility in helping to nurture and teach future generations and families trust schools to provide educational foundations for their children's future. At the same time, schools need to recognise the primary role of the family in education. This is why it is important for families and schools to work together in partnership.

Research demonstrates that effective schools have high levels of parental and community involvement. This involvement is strongly related to improved student learning, attendance and behaviour. Family involvement can have a major impact on student learning, regardless of the social or cultural background of the family.

Family involvement in schools is therefore central to high quality education and is part of the core business of schools.

These partnerships:

- view each partner as making equally valuable contributions, while respecting different contributions;
- respect student needs and preferences;
- address barriers to involvement in schools by families and actively help previously uninvolved families to become involved;
- create better programs, opportunities and learning for students;
- give families appropriate opportunities to contribute to school.

Developing family-school partnerships may not always be easy but the results will be significant. Families that understand the education system and the difficulties schools face are a valuable source of support which schools cannot afford to underestimate. Schools that engage families in their children's learning are tapping in to a rich source of information and expertise and can help build communities.

From *"FAMILY - SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORK"* (Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations)

We welcome all parent help and volunteers at Our Lady of the River School to assist us with learning experiences for our students as well as provide valuable support in running our school canteen on Fridays and many fundraising events.

A reminder that any parents or family members wishing to participate in daily school activities or volunteer for canteen are required to have a Catholic Education Police Check. This process can take up to 3-4 weeks to be completed, so we urge parents, grandparents and family members who wish to act as parent help, take part in excursions, camps and coach sporting teams to complete this process. **The cost as of 2017 is \$30 (50% off the price as school will subsidise the rest) and it will last for 3 years.** To begin the application process please see Bernie in the front office. A reminder to those members of our community who currently have a Catholic Education Police Check to please check your renewal dates.

## OLOR School Canteen - Routines

**There is no canteen Week 1 of Term 1.** We intend canteen to begin in Week 2 but without a parent volunteer weekly, the school will be forced to close Friday canteen in 2017. This is a major contributor to our fundraising each year and we hope that the return slip attached to this newsletter will see some new and old faces continue to willingly provide their time for just 2 hours (10 am till 12pm) Fridays. Training for new volunteers will be provided.

A reminder to families if canteen resumes that you need to place your orders written clearly on a brown paper bag and bring to school with the correct money on **THURSDAYS for a Friday delivery. NO orders will be available after 12.30 pm on Thursdays. PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT STAFF TO PLACE AN ORDER AFTER THIS TIME.**

**Important Beginning of Year reply-slips  
(please cut off required form/s and return immediately)**

**Our Lady of the River School Choir**

I give permission for my child/ren to join the OLOR choir in 2017.

Name/class: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/class: \_\_\_\_\_

Name/class: \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that there will be a costs associated with this program.

Parent/Guardian .....

**Canteen Volunteers**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers are needed for Term 1. Could you please indicate (tick a box) the date that you are available to assist.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April

Please indicate if you require some training before your nominated time.

**Riverland Basketball Carnival – 10<sup>th</sup> till 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. OLOR Gym**

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteers are needed to assist with cooking the barbecue, preparing food and working in the canteen. Could you please indicate (tick a box) the time/s that you are available to assist.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February – 6pm till 9pm

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March – 7am till 10 am

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February – 8am till 11 am

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March – 10am till 1 pm

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February – 11am till 2pm

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March – 1pm to pack-up approx. 3pm

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February – 2pm till 5pm

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February – 5pm till 8pm

**Before School Care – 7.30 am till 8.30 am**

Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_

If you require care for your child/ren before school could you please indicate below the day and time/s you would like to use this service. The sessions are restricted to 10 students and will be supervised by an OLOR staff member.

Monday (time) \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday (time) \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday (time) \_\_\_\_\_ Friday (time) \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday (time) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_