Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

This week we have welcomed Ms Scarlett Luke to the staff of St Joseph’s School, Barmera. We are thankful for the contributions that Ms Ros Braham has made to our school community. In talking with a couple of families regarding the change of teacher, it has caused me to reflect upon the school and why is it that students are able to be successful here.

I often talk to the staff about St Joseph’s School being a village – this means that no child is enrolled into a class and they are enrolled into the school. Every member of staff is responsible and contributes to the learning and development of each child. Of course the classroom teacher tends to spend the most time with a child but there are many opportunities for other staff to connect and contribute – specialist teaching, Sports Day and other whole school events, yard duty etc.

As the Principal of the school, I ensure that the capacity of the school is built and that the structures, support and the culture of the school is not dependant of my leadership. I absolutely value the work of classroom teachers but the reality is, they too share the belief that we are a village and acknowledge that we all contribute to the success of each child in the school.

This week, Ms Scarlett Luke will begin teaching in the classroom and she also has the understanding that we are a village. She will smoothly align with the culture and beliefs of the school and as a village we will embrace and support her to ensure that the success of every child in the school will continue to occur.

It is important to acknowledge that as parents of the school, you too are part of our village. The support and care that we give to your child is also extended to families. It was pleasing to see many families attend the Parent Teacher information evenings, this is symbolic of the partnerships that was formed at the time of enrolling your child in the school. As you may have noticed, and was definitely mentioned at the AGM by the Koskinas family, family is really important to me and the family feeling the school has is noticeable. I enjoy seeing families attend whole school events and the opportunity to share a meal.

I understand that this won’t make me “local” but as I enter into my fifth year of Principal, I thought I should have an understanding and appreciation of “harvest”. On Tuesday night I attended my first harvesting experience which has opened my eyes to what many of the school families are involved in. I was able to ride on the harvester, see how the collection bins work and even got to go on the truck to take the grapes to the winery. I was also fortunate to have a walk through and explanation of each station. Thank you to the Chabrel family for giving me this opportunity. Who knows, maybe next year I will be able to say I have been involved in harvest rather than just being a spectator.

School finishes next Friday at 12.30pm. I am pleased to let you know that the Bishop will be visiting the school on the same day at 10.45 till 12.15pm and he will be able to attend the whole school assembly at 11.30am. I hope to see as many parents as possible for the assembly.

Take care,

Mr Lee Abela
I often try to imagine what it would have been like to be one of the women who went to Jesus’ tomb that morning to find the stone rolled away. The women, who were sad about Jesus’ death did not stay home but instead “rose” and went out early that morning to perform a work of Mercy, taking the perfumed ointments to the tomb. The stone in front of the tomb was rolled aside, not so Jesus could come out, but so that they could look inside and see that he was indeed gone. The angel spoke to the women, “Why do you seek the living among the dead?” The women were frightened.

Within their sadness and fear the women also felt something else: new hope. Without hope life cannot be found. Jesus opened his tomb so we may enter. Let us open our sealed tombs so that Jesus may enter our hearts. He is the beacon of hope that grants us life.

I am the stone that was rolled away
No power on earth could make me stay
For mightier forces than those known to man
Were leaving the tomb and would soon shake the land
Edward Potts

The Project Compassion Doors of Mercy concluded on Holy Thursday with the opening of the thousand dollar door. The Project Compassion Doors of Mercy have enabled students to make real life connections and gain a deeper understanding of what it means to reach out to others. They learned that when you support Project Compassion you are enabling children and adults to gain opportunities, learn new skills, build relationships and have hope for the future. The connection between the Year of Mercy and Project Compassion has contributed to the fundraising amount whilst allowing students to understand that they can make a difference. The total amount our students raised this Lent for Project Compassion is an amazing $1162.65, well above the target amount. A huge thank you goes out to everyone who has contributed.

Holy week was brought to life in our school as the students re-enacted Palm Sunday, Washing of the feet, the Last Supper and Stations of the Cross. This year we tried to look at the Stations of the Cross through three different lenses. One lens that sent us back to the actual time of Jesus, one lens that looked at what Jesus’ story means in our world today and one lens that takes Jesus’s story into our own daily lives. The students created photo stories to make a connection to Jesus’ walk up Calvary and their own lives today in 2016. The Stations of the Cross are displayed in the library and you are very welcome to come in and have a look if you haven’t done so already.
We dressed up. I was a soldier and at home we ate Easter eggs.

**By Kane Martin - Reception**
Angus was Jesus and he got nailed to the cross. Some of his friends saw him. Jesus looked at his mother Mary and we made crosses for our mums and dads.

**By Meg Kassulke - Year 1**
Jesus died on the cross and then he rose from the dead. We dressed up in costumes and carried the cross.

**By Joshua Butler - Year 2**
Blake carried the cross, we had to follow him. At each station there was a ribbon. Blake collected the ribbon. He put them on the tree in the library. The ribbons represented all the people in the world.

**By George Patsis - Year 3**
The 3/4/5’s re-enacted the Last Supper and I was a disciple. We performed out the front of the school. When Jesus got arrested the disciples had to run into the audience. I liked acting my part.

**By Lachlan Cooper - Year 4**
Mr Abela washed all of our feet on Holy Thursday. He did it to do something for us without getting anything in return. This is what Jesus taught his disciples. I thought it was really good for Mr Abela to do this. It made me feel really happy.

**By Andy Karluki - Year 5**
The 6/7 class re-enacted when Jesus walked into Jerusalem. Thomas played Jesus and Ashleigh was the donkey and Gavin, Massimo, Adrian and myself were the disciples.

**By Mitchell Rayner - Year 6**
During Holy Week our school had Stations of the Cross. All the classes had a number of different plays they had to do when Jesus got nailed to the cross. Mitchell, Kaleb and I had to read what the station was about and a prayer after that. I enjoyed watching everyone act out everything.

**By Kristen Kanakaris - Year 7**
Mr Abela took Jasper and I to Berri for cross country. We had to do a warm up and then I had to run the 3km track. I was really good, I did not stop running and I finished 9th in my race. At the end I was nearly dead but it was good.

By Harley Schapel - Year 5

Cross country was a heck of an experience. It involved great persistence and high determination. At the end of the race my face was as red as the t-shirt I was wearing.

By Jasper Harding - Year 7

Hertz Riverland

Our school has a customer discount number, if you require this service contact the school to get preferential members rates and benefits. You can rely on our Award Winning Service, Modern fleet, Easy delivery, Convenient one way rentals, GSP units, Australian certified car seats, Air conditioned comfort. - 0448 533 884

Kayak Klub - School Holiday Program

Looking for Holiday Fun for kids? Suggested ages are 8-15 years old. Learn Kayak skills, safety instructions, games and explore a creek. 20th and 27th April, 9am—12 noon. Bring hat, sunscreen, water shoes, shorts, long sleeve rashie, and snake and a drink. 835 Murtho Road, Paringa. $20 per child ($15 for second child). For more information contact website: www.canoetheriverland.com or email: contact@canoetheriverland.com

Gymnastics Holiday Program

When: Tuesday 19th April. Where: BDYC Clubrooms, Wilkinson Street, Berri (tin shed by the swimming pool) Cost: $20 per child (pay on the day) Session times: 9am—12noon for ages 6-10 years, 1pm—4pm for ages 11-17 years. Wear: T-shirt and shorts/leotard etc. Long hair must be tied up. (No skirts, jeans, buckles, belts or jewellery) Bring a water bottle - 3 HOUR PROGRAM 1 hour gymnastics session with our qualified coaches, snacks and drinks for each child, free gymnastics movie. LIMITED SPACES SO BE QUICK!! To register email Jane McFarlane (dgycgymnastics@hotmail.com). Please include parent name, contact number, name and age of child, list food allergies, medical conditions or disabilities etc. Participants do not need to be members of the club or have any gymnastics experience.
BARMERA OSHC VACATION CARE

For Children aged 5-12 years. Children from all areas are welcome.

Vacation Care opening hours and sessions fees are as follows: 8.00am-6.00pm
*Excursion days $45.00
*Full Days at Oshc $36.00
*Half Days $20(excludes excursion days.)

After School Care runs from 3.20-6.00pm Monday to Friday
$15.00 session includes afternoon tea. Vacancies are available. Please ring in and book at your fist early convenience to avoid disappointment.
Fees will be substantially reduced with child care benefits. Please inquire for more information. Are you looking for care or respite for yourselves.
Please call us on 0408839709 or email us on barmera.oshc602@schools.sa.edu.au. BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. Come on enroll your child for them to join in all the fun!!

**PLEASE NOTE** that you will need to read the program very carefully of the food that OSHC is or not providing. If there is no mention of any meals on a day please bring your own lunch & snacks for your child. OSHC still will provide extra snacks ie: fruit & veg and crackers for extra hungry children.

Also Remember that from now on all meals& snacks need to be provided on **EXCURSION DAYS** unless stated.
Also another reminder children need to pack a hat, drink bottle and a change of clothes if needed all labelled please.
Some activities provided will be on the provision of weather permitting, sometimes we may have to alter or change an activity or excursion. We will allow due notice to families if this occurs.

Due to OSHC becoming extremely busy if families could provide more meals OSHC staff will have more precious time to spend program planning and making your child’s time at OSHC more enjoyable.
Thank you. Management and Staff at OSHC hope to see you all in the April Vacation Care 2016.
## BARMERA OSHC VACATION CARE APRIL 2016

**FOR BOOKINGS OR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CALL 0408 839 709 BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday – 18th</th>
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<th>Wednesday – 20th</th>
<th>Thursday – 21st</th>
<th>Friday – 22nd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paper plane invention day!</td>
<td>Zootopia at Chaffey Theatre in 3D</td>
<td>Art &amp; Craft Day</td>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
<td>Electronics Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prizes for the fastest and the most creative plane. Making kites also will be provided plus more!</td>
<td>Leave: 1.40 Return: 4.15 approx.</td>
<td>Dream catchers Foam ball octopus Minion stick puppets Zootopia animals plus heaps more!!</td>
<td>Leave: 10.30 Return: 12.30</td>
<td>You may bring your favourite electronic gadget today with parent/guardians permission. Please be aware OSHC is not liable for any damages.</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.Y.O Lunch &amp; Snacks</td>
<td>BYO Lunch &amp; Snacks</td>
<td>(LUNCH ONLY SUPPLIED) B.Y.O snacks</td>
<td>B.Y.O Lunch &amp; snacks (LUNCH ONLY SUPPLIED) B.Y.O snacks pls</td>
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<tr>
<th>Monday – 25th</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</strong></td>
<td>Funky Monkey Renmark Please bring a snack for the afternoon. Leave: 10.00 Return: 1.00 P.M.</td>
<td>Bruce Oval Today we are playing basketball, football, soccer plus more. We will have trials and competitions. Leave: 10.00 Return: 2.00</td>
<td>Wheels Day Bring your own bike, skateboard etc. NO HELMET NO PLAY! Please bring any padding you require.</td>
<td>AM: Speedway car making. We are also going to make a track for the cars to race around. P.M. Drawing competitions cartoons, sketching, black &amp; white drawings also. A Surprise nerf game with a twist!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ANZAC DAY</strong></td>
<td>P.M. Art &amp; craft also for Anzac Day. (SNACKS &amp; LUNCH IS PROVIDED)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(LUNCH ONLY SUPPLIED)</td>
<td>B.Y.O Lunch &amp; Snacks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please remember to pack a hat, drink and lunch unless stated. SOME LUNCHES AND AM/PM SNACKS ARE PROVIDED. PLEASE READ THE PROGRAM CAREFULLY FOR THIS INFORMATION. NO MEALS ARE PROVIDED ON EXCURSION DAYS.