Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students,

This Term has been filled with many rich learning opportunities for both students and staff. You would have heard me say this before, but when you fit so much into a term, many events feel like they happened so long ago or you forget everything that was done.

This term we have been involved in:

- Year 6/7 CSIRO Workshop
- Mini Relay Fundraisers
- Mini Relay
- St Mary MacKillop Day
- Year 3-7 Just Add Water Presentation
- Bush Kinder
- School Photos
- Gala Night
- Yr 7 Glossop Transition visits
- Staff Retreat & School Visits
- Book Week
- Barmera Library Visits
- School Musical
- Whole School Masses & Liturgy
- Year 3-7 Environmental Expo
- YEL presentation at Environmental Expo
- YEL Workshop
- Ag Art Boot Competition
- R-2 Adelaide Zoo Excursion
- New Reception Enrolments
- Whole School Assemblies
- Students attending Celebration Mass for Fr Ramel
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- Hosting 2 Work Experience students
- And more

All this is in addition to the great learning opportunities our students access on a daily basis.

One of the challenges as a Principal at this time of year is to have their head over two years. Currently, I am still working through 2016 but at the same time, I am setting up 2017. This means planning of events, working through transition programs, reviewing class structures, staffing and more.

One of my ongoing goals is to ensure stability in the school. We are currently in a situation where the school has two permanent teaching positions available which have to be advertised. This can be a time of uncertainty for staff, students and families. Posing questions of; will that teacher be here next year, who will be my child’s teacher, I hope my child’s teacher is here next year.

I can assure you, this isn’t an easy process and is one that I take seriously. Out of the applicants that the school receives, it is my job, along with a panel, to find the best person to teach your child. I encourage you not to let this process worry you and know that we will find the best person for the job. If you have any questions or concerns, please come and see me about them.

Our school is in exciting times! Next term we will start our transition program for students preparing them for the year ahead. In Term 4 we will welcome 9 children from the kindergarten for their 7-week transition program. This will mean that we have a group of 11 Reception...
students next year which will include 7 new families to the school. Starting in week 2, these children will be at the school on Wednesdays. The first 4 weeks will be for a half day visit followed by 3 full day visits.

On the Wednesday transition days, all classes will be involved in the transition process. For example, the year 5 students will join the year 6/7 class. Over the holiday period, I will be reviewing our classroom structures and ensuring it still caters for the learning needs of our students whilst keeping class sizes manageable. Given the good numbers we have for Reception next year and the years ahead some change may be necessary.

The last aspect about the Term 4 transition program is that Physical Education with Ms Drogemuller will be moving from Wednesday to Monday. This is designed to minimise any disruption to the program. This will mean that in Term 4, students will wear their PE uniform on Mondays and Wednesdays and will be in normal blue summer uniform on Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays.

It would be great to see all students in correct uniform throughout Term 4. As this term has been coming to a close, we have seen a variety of incorrect socks and shoes particularly. Even though this might not seem as important to some, being part of our community is important to me and ask that this is addressed. In saying that, there will always be time where we are caught out but this should not be a regular occurrence.

Early next term you will receive a copy of the term calendar. You will notice there are a number of events in this term including; Year 3-5 Monarto Zoo Camp, Year 6/7 Mylor Camp, Sports Day and a Student Free Day. There are still some dates still to be confirmed.

The Term 4 student free day will be our fourth one for the year. Most school will access the entitled 4 student free days per year. Over the last couple of years, our school has only utilised three of the four. Each year, staff need to update their Work, Health and Safe requirements, for example, voice care, manual handling of furniture & equipment etc. This will be an opportunity to have these requirements met.

Thank you for your support and kindness over the Term. It has been great having past students Dimitri and Brenton complete their work experience with us. I have also heard about some of our past students picking up sporting awards and being mentors at high school for their transition programs.

Look forward to catching up next Term (Monday 17th October).

Take care,
Mr Lee Abela

### Term Dates For 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>1 Feb - 15 April</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>2 May - 8 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>25 July - 30 Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>17 Oct - 16 Dec</td>
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### Happy Birthday to....

| 30th September | Kaleb Ivanovic |
| 6th October | Chelsea Smith |
| 11th October | Kevin Sutton |
| 12th October | Gavin Centofanti |
| 14th October | Kristen Kanakaris |
| 15th October | Joshua Gilgen |

### Religious Identity + Mission

*Speak out on behalf of the voiceless,*

*and for the rights of all who are vulnerable.*

*Speak out in order to judge with righteousness*

*and to defend the needy and the poor.*

* Proverbs 31:8-10*

I want to scream. I want to scream really loud! I want to squeal, I want to cry out. I want to yell so loud I wake everyone up! But I can’t. I have lost my voice!

Don’t worry it is not anything serious, just an unwanted flu like virus. It is hard to explain to friends and family, as their first reaction is that I have obviously been yelling at kids too much in the classroom.

Was I at school then? Yes, of course I was at school. Especially now I was at school. It is the end of term 3, the weather is wanting to turn its dial to Spring but just doesn’t seem to get there. The end of term 3, when every human body in the building feels and looks tired. When attitudes turn to “snappy” and “cranky”. When little things become big things really quickly and when “simple” becomes “difficult” at the blink of an eye. It is during this effort to keep each other on track that the exchange of viruses takes place. Yes, I was at school! When it is the end of term 3 and the students need me the most, I stay.

The kids in my class are singing a song while doing their work. I wanted to sing too but I had lost my voice. So I sat and wondered if the pilots who bombed the Syrian city of Aleppo sang songs as they did their work. Everyone has seen how they pulled children alive from the rubble of bombed buildings in Aleppo on
the news. I immediately wondered what would come from the little girl who became an orphan in this one moment.

I want to scream, but I can’t. I have lost my voice.

The dentist orders me to make an appointment to get a tooth filled as soon as possible.

The lady at the front desk says:

“Well, we only have a gap next year in April.”


“Oh, it is crazy here at the moment!” she says.

“What do you mean by crazy?” I ask.

“We only have one dentist here and we can’t handle the workload.” The tv screen above her desk changes to:

“National Dentist Day, make sure you say “Thank You” and show appreciation to your dentist.”

I want to say something, but I have lost my voice.

A parade of politicians on my tv screen openly spreading intolerance to followers about their fellow humans. Do they courageously uphold the right of freedom of speech in our democratic society? Without much choice we become the audience of these politicians, as they stumble onto the stage into the spotlight, stuttering words that divide rather than unite. As far as I am concerned they can say those words in their own homes, but leave others out of it. As far as I am concerned they can stop trying to get me on their team. Stop trying to sell their cheap talk!

The accidental audience stays quiet. Why is nobody is screaming these people off the stage?

Everyone has lost their voices.

The whole world has the flu.

It is time to rest, reset and recharge.

_Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light._

~Matthew 11:28–30~

Wishing you all restful and safe holidays!

Nanda de Winter

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**Student Learning and Wellbeing - Premiers Reading Challenge**

_Congratulations to the following students who have completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge for 2016.

These students have successfully finishing the challenge and followed the clues to break the code which has unlocked their PRC door in the library._
Our Lady of the River Parish
Youth and Family Ministry Team present:

FAITH FEED FUN

Join us for a gathering of youth in Renmark.
Shared Subway lunch provided
Movie at the Chaffey Theatre ‘Pete’s Dragon’

on: Wednesday 5th October, 2016 (school holidays)
time: beginning at 12.30pm, pick up by 4.00pm
meet and pick up at the lawn area opposite the Chaffey Theatre car park
at: Chaffey Theatre, Seventeenth St, Renmark
for: shared lunch and movie
cost: $15 for students - $20 for adults
This is a Youth and Family event - All invited
RSVP: Friday 7th October to your school office or local parish representative (listed below) to help with transport and catering.

Barmera Louise Stavrou 0417 827 634
Berri Nicolete Roberts 0413 221 782
Loxton Carina Nicholson 0418 841 693
Renmark Reina Sotto 0467 267 150
Waikerie Louise Stavrou 0417 827 634

A child safety/photo permission form will need to be filled out and signed by parents/guardians for each participant to attend this event. Please contact your representative for more details.

• IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE TO START KINDY NEXT YEAR
If your child’s date of birth is between 1/5/2012 and 30/4/2013, they are eligible to start at the beginning of the 2017 school year. To ensure your child is secured a place, visit Barmera Kindergarten and collect an enrolment pack and return ASAP. Kindergartens will be sending out round 2 offers in week 10 of Term 4.

• Bangarra Dance Theatre - Regional Workshops
This workshop is dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth. It is an opportunity to provide assess and interaction between Bangarra and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, giving back to the communities that inspire our stories and in turn assist us to reach our goal of discovering and nurturing the next generation of cultural leaders and storytellers.
Workshop to be held in Renmark on Friday 18th November at 2.00pm. Workshop is FREE and goes for 75 minutes. Suitable for school aged indigenous youth. Register your interest to workshops@countryarts.corg.au.

Barmera Kindergarten

R E A T I S H P I S E G A RITY A pace were chidre fid their way

BARMERA’S MEGA GARAGE SALE
Do you have goods to sell and want to raise some cash?
Not enough for your own sale?
Don’t want it at your home?
COME AND JOIN US AT BARMERA’S MEGA GARAGE SALE!
Register your interest in October 15th school at Barmera’s Mega Pageant Fund
For more details
Contact Helen 08 8552 2209
at the Barmera Water Centre

BARMERA’S MEGA GARAGE SALE
Do you have goods to sell and want to raise some cash?
Not enough for your own sale?
Don’t want it at your home?
COME AND JOIN US AT

Barmera School holiday fun & games on the river!
Participants (8-15yrs): $20
7th, 11th & 14th OCT
9am - 12
835 Murtho Road, Paringa
Phone Jim or Ruth 0475 754 222 to book

KIDS KAYAK CLUB

ROMEO THE TORNADO

Alice in Wonderland

PERFORMERS CREW DESIGNERS

 TERMS OF SERVICE PRIVACY POLICY

relationships, learning and community - a place were children find their way