Welcome back to Term 2. I’m sure you would agree that the first term has been a great start to the year. I actually think it has been the best Term 1 I have experienced at the school over the 5 years. I would contribute the success to the culture we have developed at the school, the opportunities that students are provided with and the activities that we do.

I am sure this success will continue into the rest of the year and into the future. In week 3 this term we will be celebrating Catholic Education Week. This is a time to reflect and celebrate all the good things that your child experiences being part of our school community. The theme for this year is “Where every child matters”, which aligns nicely with the school as St Joseph’s School, Barmera is a place where children find their feet and are able to be successful. Enclosed with this newsletter is a program for the week which includes Twilight Carnival on the Monday and Grandparent/Special Person Morning Tea on the Friday.

You may have noticed driving past the school that the posts for the sun sails have been installed. Four sails will be installed in the coming weeks – 2 over the jumping pillow, 1 over the sand pit and 1 over the hammock station. These sails will provide sun protection for our students and will add to the look of the school grounds. The school community has worked hard to be in a financial position to be able to purchase the sails as well as manage the upgrades and improvements done at the end of last year. I understand that there still is a stigma in the community that sending your child to St Joseph’s School, Barmera is expensive. Our school is one of the lowest fee paying catholic schools in the state and the school fees have only gone up once in 5 years (in 2013) and by only 3%. I am currently looking at updating some of the information on the school website, I worked out the following;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>Levies</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Approximately (per week over 52 weeks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Child</td>
<td>945</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>1480</td>
<td>28.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Children</td>
<td>1745</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>2595</td>
<td>49.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Children or more</td>
<td>2405</td>
<td>1165</td>
<td>3570</td>
<td>68.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School card Discount**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>Levies</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Approximately (per week over 52 weeks)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Child</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>14.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Children</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>1196</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Children or more</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>1599</td>
<td>30.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: in both tables, the fourth child enrolled at the school is free.
As a father of 4 children, I can appreciate the costs related to having a family. The school is always trying to provide the best at a cost that is affordable for families. I would encourage you to respond to people that you might come across in our community that think that our school is too expensive to send their child to and inform them that it does not cost as much as people thing and invite them to contact the school.

Over the holiday period, Nanda, Trish and I attended a course lead by the Queensland Education Leadership Institute. The course aligned with my belief on leadership already - the fact that all staff are leaders in the school. For me this extends on to the students, every child is a leader in the school. Over the year, Nanda, Trish and I will be exploring the leadership of the school further, we will keep you posted on how this travels.

Finally, next week NAPLAN testing across the State will occur for students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN is a form of testing that is imposed on schools and a test that is only a day’s snapshot of a child’s learning and is also only for targeted information. There is a lot about your child the NAPLAN doesn’t tell us. I have been talking to students about not “freaking out” about the test and to just relax and try their best. If you have any questions regarding the NAPLAN test please contact me as soon as possible.

Have a great weekend

Mr Lee Abela

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**Term Dates For 2016**

**Term 1**
1 Feb - 15 April

**Term 2**
2 May - 8 July

**Term 3**
25 July - 30 Sept

**Term 4**
17 Oct - 16 Dec

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**Religious Identity + Mission**

*Gratitude is a flower that blooms in noble souls* - Pope Francis

A couple of years ago I came across a powerful video on the web. The video was part of “the World’s Toughest Job” campaign made by Mullen and Lowe advertising agency for American Greetings, a postcard company. The agency’s challenge was to persuade people to craft a Mother’s Day card with American Greetings card store at a time when research showed that only half of people bought Mother’s Day cards. The obvious aim from American Greetings was to increase their profits. However, what Mullen and Lowe created for them was a deeply inspiring piece of advertising that celebrated mothers so creatively that it would go on to win a North American Effie and a Silver Lion in Film at the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity.

Mullen and Lowe started by posting a fake classified ad online and in newspapers to fill a “Director of Operations” position at a place called Rethom (which is mother spelled backwards). They received 24 responses from real people despite some of the crazy job requirements in the ad, like no vacation, no pay, 24 hours a day, long periods of standing up and bending over.

In the video a series of applicants are interviewed for the job via a webcam with a man (an actor) on the other end explaining the role they’re expected to fulfil. Each of the interviews starts out normally, until the interviewer elaborates on the details of the job:

“We’re really looking for someone that has a degree in medicine and the culinary arts. You can have lunch, but only when the associate is done eating their lunch. You will be expected to work 24 hours a day, and sometimes you’ll have to stay up with an associate throughout the night. If you had a life, we’d ask you to sort of give that life up.”

The interviewer justifies the demands by explaining, “The meaningful connections that you make and the feeling that you get from helping your associate are immeasurable.” The interviewees all respond with disbelief, rolling their eyes, frowning and scoffing.

Finally, the interviews take a turn when the interviewer says: “What if I told you that there’s actually someone that holds this position right now? Billions of people actually…. MUMS.

This video caused people to reconsider Mum as the amazing professional she is and acknowledging her with gratitude.

The message in this video makes me think about Mary and the “job interview” she was given by God before accepting the job of becoming the mother of Jesus. In Mary’s case, the interviewer came in the form of an angel. And like the interviewees in the video Mary responded with disbelief. But as the angel went on to explain to her that she would carry the Son of God, Mary eventually responded with a whole hearted “Yes”, taking on this most important but uncertain role. The narrative in Luke’s Gospel explains three things about Mary; the fear in Mary’s heart, the wonder in Mary’s mind and the submission in...
Religious Identity + Mission continued . . . .

Mary’s spirit; three things all mothers will understand and embrace.

God be with the mother.
As she carried her child may she carry her soul.
As her child was born, may she give birth and life and form to her own, higher truth.
As she nourished and protected her child, may she nourish and protect her inner life and her independence.
For her soul shall be her most painful birth, her most difficult child, and the dearest sister to her other children.
Amen.

Happy Mother’s Day!

Nanda de Winter

You can watch the video on Youtube by searching for “World’s Toughest Job”.

Student Learning and Wellbeing - Book Fair

A St Joseph's book fair will be held during week 4 this term and we are looking forward to seeing you there.

Our Book Fair is a special event that celebrates books and reading. Children, parents, teachers and community members can purchase quality books while raising funds for our school.

The children will get the opportunity to visit the fair on Tuesday 24th May and will fill out their own Wish List which they will bring home to share with you.

The fair will be open for all parents to come and visit in the Library on:
Wednesday 25th May and Thursday 26th May at:
Morning - 8.30 am till 12 noon (end of lunch)
Afternoon - 3.00 pm till 3.30 pm

This gives all parents the opportunity to visit the fair with their children.

During the event we also invite you to help build our resources by purchasing books and donating them back to our school Library.

Every purchase at the book fair entitles students to enter the draw to win a $40 Voucher to be spent at the fair and every poster on display and all the items in the variety box will be raffled.

There will also be fun activities for the children to be part of to win prizes during the fair.
Student Learning and Wellbeing - Science with 3/4/5's

Coming Events...

Week 2
Tuesday 10/5 and Wednesday 11/5
NAPLAN testing

Friday 13/5
SAPSASA Soccer

Week 3
CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK

Monday 16/5
Twilight Carnival

Wednesday 18/5
Combined Schools Mass @ OLOR

Friday 20/5
Walk to School Day, Grandparents Morning Tea and Assembly

• Mega May Auction presented by the Riverland Field Days. Your opportunity to buy or sell. Sunday 22nd May at the Riverland Field day site. Auction starts 9am. Goods to be delivered to the site Saturday 21st May 9am-5pm. For more information www.riverlandfielddays.com.au

Community

Cikidz are coming to Berri!
In celebration of National Youth Week, Cikidz are partnering with Riverland Youth Theatre, Berri Barossa Council and Riverland Youth Club to present 2 days of free workshops on May 14th and 15th with a public performance and celebration on the Sunday.

There are very limited places for the workshops so get booking now!

Book for the TOWER (5-8year old) workshops here:
https://nyfwa.sa.edu.au/events/tower-cikidz-holiday-program-5-8-year-old/

Book for the TWENTY (9-12 year old) workshops here:
https://nyfwa.sa.edu.au/events/twenty-cikidz-holiday-program-9-12-year-old/

Book for the TEENZ (13-17year old) workshops here:

Please contact Riverland Youth Theatre with any questions.
Ph: 8556 3437

Introducing “Plus Fun” classes!

For the more casual students and parents who cannot commit to performances and outside shows.

These sessions are great for individuals and families of all ages.

For more information, please contact Rosie Clark: 8556 3437 or rosie@clarkandco.com.au

Classes also available:
• Classical Ballet
• Contemporary
• Hip Hop
• Jazz
• Musical Theatre

Cikidz are the leading dance school in Berri, South Australia, offering classes to students from 3 to 17 years old.

Educating Tomorrow’s Leaders Today