A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, aged five and Ryan, three. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson so she said, "Now boys, if Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake. I can wait.'"

Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus."

Although this story is quite funny, how true is it of our lives? We often want what we want and we want it immediately! When this doesn't happen, we can't understand why God hasn't answered our prayers. It doesn't matter how major or minor these requests are, we WANT RESULTS and we want them now. We may be asking for good marks in a test, winning a competition, winning a job promotion, full recovery from an illness or injury or even winning the lottery.

As I commence my last year as a teacher, I know that I have been, and am still, guilty of wanting immediate positive results to my prayers. When I began teaching over 40 years ago, as an inexperienced and somewhat over-confident classroom practitioner, I always had it in the back of my mind that my ultimate goal was to become a Principal. Reflecting back, that it eventually happened to me is a true blessing, but there were times when I missed out and was passed over for jobs I believed I should have been offered. As a result I was often angry, disappointed and frustrated, too frequently wallowed in the self-pity of "Why me?"

The truth is God had a plan for me, and that plan had me waiting to achieve what I wanted. God doesn’t give us His reasons, He simply provides us with an answer to our wants in His own time and in His own way.

It is easy to become discouraged at times because results do not come as rapidly as we would desire. However the results in the form of personal growth and strength in waiting are often greater than the end, so impatiently longed for. In the Bible, the Apostle Paul had time to realise this as he lay in prison. Moses must have asked, ‘Why?’ many times during the years and years in the wilderness on the way to the Promised Land. Jesus himself experienced the discipline of delay in His silent years before His great public ministry began.

When we are discouraged, we must remember we’re not alone. What we need to do is to ask the Lord to renew our hearts and desires and give us a fresh filling of strength to wait on His perfect timing. Good things come to those who WAIT!

Submitted by Terry Sawade
Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2017 school year, one which promises to be both exciting and challenging. For those children and families who are returning for another year at Loxton Lutheran School we say, “Welcome back, it’s great to see you again.” For those new to our school, we extend a very warm welcome and hope and pray that your time with us will be educationally, spiritually and socially fulfilling.

New Staff Members

This year we have been blessed with employment of two new staff members. Former student of the school, Renee Fielke, joins us as our new ELC Director, replacing Rachel Hentschke, who is taking leave from the position. Former school assistant (LSO), Leonie Bradtke, now a qualified teacher, has been employed to share a Year 5/6 class with Joanne Hondow.

We warmly welcome these two people into our midst and hope that their time at Loxton Lutheran School will be professionally, spiritually and socially fulfilling.

Staff Role Changes

There have been a number of role changes for teachers in the school this year

- Vicki Williams moves from a Year 2/3 class to teaching a Year 1/2 class.
- Karl Klose moves in to teaching a Year 2/3 class (previously Year 3/4).
- Leonie Sheffield has a dual role of Year 4 classroom teacher and Adaptive Ed. Teacher / coordinator – sharing her class with Leanne Reichstein.
- Librarian Margaret Wormald now shares her time as school librarian, with teaching in the Year 1/2 class on Fridays and working in Adaptive Education.
- Loryn Taylor this year is teaching a year 5/6 class (she had a Year 4/5 class in 2016).
- Joanne Hondow shares a Year 5/6 class with Leonie Bradtke after last year being the PE and Health specialist teacher.
- Tom Knauer (Previously a Year 6/7 class teacher is now our PE/Health and Science Specialist teacher.
- Andrea Athanasopoulos and Beck Loxton share a Year 7 class after taking a Year 6/7 class
- Terry Sawade will spend the equivalent of one day a week working with Adaptive Education children.

New Children & Families to the School

This week we welcome the following new families to the school

- Aaron Swart and Kylee Higgs and their children Bailey (Year 7) and Declan (Year 1)
- Selveraj Kingson and Parameswari Pannerselvam and their children Jerlina (Year 3) and Paulston (Year 1)
- Jess Moio and her son Seth (Year 1)
- Emma and Haydn Jones and son Caleb (Reception)
- Sarah and Jamie Kruschel and their daughter Emma (Reception)
- Desiree and Timothy Matthews and their son Angus (Reception)
- Kathleen and Daniel Obst and their son Lucas (Reception)
- Lee and Catarina Santini and their daughter Isabella (Reception)
- Margot and Tim Smythe and their son Hugh (Reception)
- Leah and Jarred Uren and their daughter Sienna (Reception)

New Reception children of existing school families are:

- Lara Ebert
- Riley Freer
- Ezra Reichstein
- Patrick Sander
- Noah Scholz
From the Principal

By Terry Sawade

Parent Volunteers

Loxton Lutheran School takes great pride in the high level of parent participation in school and class activities. All parents are once again encouraged to become involved in our school as a volunteer.

People wishing to be involved with working in classes and assisting with child related activities in 2017, will be required to have –

- A current National Police Certificate (NPC)
- Read the volunteer handbook and signed a volunteer declaration
- Completed an online Valuing School Communities (VSC) awareness training session

Parents and friends who have completed the three abovementioned requirements in 2015 or 2016 are not required to update their status.

If you are unsure of what you need to do to become eligible to be able to be involved as a volunteer this year, please contact the school office for clarification.

If you need to complete the online VSC training, also please contact Tracy or Lily at front office for information about login details.

Parent Information evenings

The annual class Parent Information Evening will be conducted on Monday February 6th. Times will be staggered to allow parents with more than one child to attend each of their children’s sessions.

Times are as follows –

5.30pm
Reception Class - Mrs Wright
Year 7 - Mrs Athanasopoulos / Mrs Loxton

6.00pm
Year 1/2 - Mrs Williams / Mrs Wormald
Year 4 - Mrs Sheffield / Mrs Reichstein

6.30pm
Year 2/3 - Mr Klose

7.00pm
Year 5/6T - Mrs Taylor
Year 5/6 HB - Mrs Hondow / Mrs Bradtke

Teachers will be introducing themselves and focussing on class routines, work expectations (including the new draft Homework Policy), camps/ excursions planned, parent assistance and any special projects.

Staff Blessing / Induction of 2017 Student Leaders / New Staff Installation

The annual blessing of the school staff, induction of the 2017 student leaders, and induction of new staff is planned for the school Chapel service to be held on Friday February 24th in the LIFE Centre.

Presentation of Bibles to our year 3 students, and any new students to the school above that year level, will also take place at that service.

All members of the school and church communities are encouraged to attend the service to show their support for our school staff and the 2017 Captains and Vice-Captains.

2017 Class/School Excursions and Camps

As was the case in 2016, all parents are invited to express an interest in participating in class camps and excursions for 2017. Your interest will be documented and, as the times for excursions/ camps approach, you will be contacted by the organising teacher(s) as to your availability for an event/activity.

While it is our intention to provide the opportunity for as many parents as possible to participate in these activities, an expression of interest does not guarantee involvement. Criteria, such as that listed below, will help teachers determine which parents are involved in an activity.

- Previous involvement in camps & excursions
- Special talents (eg bus driver)
- Supervisor gender balance
- Specific needs of individuals

Two year level camps have already been arranged; the Year 7 Canberra Trip which will take place from...
Sunday December 3rd to Friday December 8th; and the Year 5/6 Aquatics camp at Scott’s Creek (near Morgan) which is planned for Week 1 of Term 2, from Wednesday May 3rd until Friday May 5th.

Planning for the remaining Year level / Class camps is currently underway and will be completed soon. **All expressions of interest for parent participation in camps and excursions must be made to the school office by Friday Feb. 24th.**

**Communication**

The most effective way of overcoming issues that arise is through open and honest face to face communication. Parents are reminded that they have an open invitation to discuss any matters relating to the schooling and well-being of their children with teachers and administration staff. We do ask that any discussions/meetings take place via appointments first made by contacting the school office.

Teachers will inform parents of their preferred means of school to home and home to school communication at their ‘Parent information Sessions’ to be held on Monday February 6th.

**iPads – Setting Parent Restrictions / Controls**

Parents often ask for assistance in setting restrictions and controls on their child’s iPad. While for many people, this may be a fairly straight forward task, for most of us, it is not. To assist you in doing this please refer to the instructions on the school’s website, face-book page and Skoolbag App or type the following link into your browser.


This is a step by step tutorial that will guide you through the process.

**Homework Policy Trial**

This term the staff will be trialling a **Reading Only Home-work Policy.** There are numerous reasons for this change which includes research that there is a greater need for work/relaxation balance for children.

Such a change may, for many parents, raise some concerns and questions. For this reason, a Parent Information session is planned for **Monday February 20th** beginning at 7.30pm in Room 12. At this event the trialled policy will be explained and discussed extensively, as will the reasoning behind the proposed change.

We look forward to as many parents as possible attending that session.

**Uniform Update**

**Uniform Policy**

Parents are advised that the policy introduced in 2016, of the Sports Uniform being worn on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday of each week, and formal uniform being worn on Wednesday and Friday, will continue for 2017.

**Uniform Shop**

Please note the following changes to the uniform shop opening times for Term 1 2017.

- **Monday** 8.45am to 9.15am
- **Tuesday** 8.45am to 9.15am
- **Thursday** 8.45am to 9.15am

May God continue to shine upon all in our school community as we look forward to an outstanding 2017 at Loxton Lutheran School.

**Yours in Christ,**

Terry Sawade

Principal
Administration

DECD STUDENT TRAVEL ALLOWANCE

Attention: Parents of bus children who are approved to travel on Department Buses.
The Government of South Australia allows families who live more than 5kms from
their closest bus stop to make a claim for car travel to their bus stop. If you think you may
qualify for this and do not already claim, forms are available at the front office.

NUT POLICY REMINDER

Loxton Lutheran School has a duty of care to provide a safe work and play environment for
all, by catering for the unique health requirements of ALL members of its community.
The following guidelines are in place to minimise the risk to those allergic to nuts or nut
products.

PLEASE NOTE: Foods which contain the manufacturer’s statement on their packaging:
"May contain traces of Nuts"- ARE PERMITTED

Many foods contain traces of nuts, therefore it is important for you to
become familiar with reading labels.

NOT PERMITTED

♦ Nuts: All varieties - tree nuts and peanuts
♦ Nut butters e.g. peanut butter, hazelnut spread (i.e. Nutella)
♦ Prepared commercial foods containing nuts or nut ingredients, such as biscuits, muesli
  bars, nut chocolates and chocolate bars etc.

News from the Business Manager

Welcome back for another school year.

SCHOOL FEES:

Our annual Financial Audit is Monday and Tuesday of next week, therefore school fee invoices
for 2017 will be issued mid next week. If you would like to start paying your fees, you can via
the front office, or bank deposit.

Our bank details are as follows: BSB 105 059  Acc No: 035474640.

Thank you to those families that have set up a payment arrangement with me. If you would
like me to debit fees from your account monthly or twice monthly, please let me know ASAP,
it’s still not too late.

BUS RUNS:

There have been changes to our bus runs over the holidays. Thank you for your
patience whilst we finalise details and run times.

UNIFORM SHOP:

Our uniform shop administration is now computerised in order for us to control stock
better. We are still at set-up stage and we apologise for any delays with processing your
orders.
SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
(Normally every second Friday)

NEXT WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY:
Friday March 3rd
2:30pm in the LIFE Centre

SCHOOL WORSHIP
Chapel services are normally held at 9:15am, every Friday in the LIFE Centre. ALL WELCOME.

Friday February 3
NO CHAPEL due to Opening Chapel Service

Friday February 10
Chapel will be held at 9:15am in the LIFE Centre. It will be led by Pastor Dean and the Year 1/2 Class.

Please join us for a cuppa and catch up after the service.

PRAYER CORNER
This week we are praying for :-
· Ruby Altschwager
· Emmanuel and Lydia Amaechi
· Caitlin Andrews
· Amelie and Lila Arnold
· Erin Battams
· Tayla Beswick
and Mrs Loryn Taylor
Year 5/6 Teacher

CHURCH SERVICES

St Peter’s Lutheran Church
February 5 8:30am HC
10.30am HC
February 12 8:30am
10:30am

Concordia Lutheran Church
February 5 10.00am
February 12 10:00am HC

ELC News By Renee Fielke

Today (Tuesday) is our first day back at the Early Learning Centre for 2017. This term we welcome 22 new students and their families to the ELC and also have nine students returning from last year. Dana and Nicole will continue at the centre (Dana will be with us on Mondays and Tuesdays and Nicole on Fridays). I have been fortunate enough to take on the role as Director of the ELC for 2017. I have been teaching for nine years in a variety of schools and Kindergartens. I have most recently been teaching in a junior primary class and I am looking forward to getting back into an Early Learning setting. I will be working Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

We were lucky enough to receive some donations during the holidays, a big thank you to Rexel for the kind donation of a light box and the Loxton Lights Up committee for their donation of craft materials.

This fortnight we have set up the centre with activities around the children’s interests with information gathered from the ‘All About Me’ sheets that parents filled out. This is designed to help the children feel comfortable and learn using toys and materials that are familiar to them. As we begin the year we are working on establishing routines and building independence within these routines.

We are looking forward to sharing the learning journey with the children at the ELC and watching their confidence grow as the term progresses.

Have a wonderful fortnight!

Biblesong
H2H

Monday Ministry
- “Little Ones” (Birth – Year 2)
- Bible Song (Year 3 – Year 5)
- Head to the Heart (Year 6 – Year 8)
- 4U Sr. High (Year 9 – Year 12)

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM in Peace Hall

Starting back Monday 6th February

Join us on Monday 13th at 5.30pm for pizza and info evening

RSVP to the Ministry Centre 8584 5522
Community Carols Choir
At the end of last year about 20 LLS students of all ages sang at the Loxton Community Carols. Throughout the holidays, I have been stopped by people up the street, as well as receiving written messages from people who attended, to say how much they enjoyed the students’ high quality performance. The students involved were self-motivated, committed and very talented and deserve these high accolades. Thank you to the children who took part and to the parents who supported them. It was a special contribution to the community and you were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Riverland Primary Schools Music Festival Choir
At the end of last year, a number of students from Years 5 to 7 put their name down to participate in the Festival Choir in 2017. A two day training workshop for choir co-ordinators is being held in Adelaide in Week 2 and regular school rehearsals for the students will begin, in earnest, in Week 3. This year choir rehearsals will take place one lunchtime per week, so that students can enjoy being a part of the choir without interrupting their lessons in class.

Library days
This year, class teachers will organise their own regular library day for students in their class to borrow books. They will inform you of this through class newsletters and the Parent Information Night. To help protect our books, we require that all students from Reception to Year 3 use a library bag. This is especially important, as we no longer have a ready supply of plastic bags for children who don’t have a library bag.

Please also make sure that water bottles are properly watertight, to avoid water damage to books.

If books are damaged, please do not attempt repairs at home, but send them back to us for fixing.

Help Wanted!!
Do you have a spare hour or half hour in the mornings? Do you like getting your hands on books? We’re looking for some more people to help put books away on a reasonably regular basis (although incidental help is always much appreciated as well). If you are interested, or would like to find out more, please contact us.

Book Club
At intervals, Book Club brochures are sent home with students, for the benefit of those of you who wish to order through this service. The first catalogue will go home this week. The school receives reward points for each order placed and this greatly helps us buy books to supplement our library collection.

Please send orders for Scholastic in money envelopes, clearly marked with your child’s name. If paying cash, please enclose the correct amount of money as, with more people paying online by credit card, change is not always readily available.

If the items are intended as a gift for your child and you want to keep it a secret from them, please write your name (instead of your child’s) and your phone number on the order form, and we will contact you when the items arrive.

Due dates for orders:
Scholastic: Friday 17 February
Premier’s Reading Challenge

Loxton Lutheran School is again participating in the Premier’s Reading Challenge this year. The Premier’s Reading Challenge has been devised to encourage and reward children’s reading, and to encourage them to enjoy quality literature.

**What is the Challenge?**
The Challenge is for every child in the school to read, or share in reading, 12 books before 8 September, 2017.

8 books need to be from the Premier’s Reading Challenge booklists. The other 4 books can be their own choice. They can choose all 12 books from the list if they would like to. Books on the list will be found in our library. These books have a special sticker on the spine (Red = Receptions–Yr 2, Green = Yr 3–Yr 5, Yellow= Yr 6–Yr 9).

**What do they get for doing the Challenge?**
Certificate - completing the challenge for the first time
Bronze medal - completing the challenge for the second time
Silver medal - completing the challenge for the third time
Gold medal - completing the challenge for the fourth time
Further awards are given for each year after this.

**What can you do to help?**
Just read to or with them. Read and discuss the books that your child brings home from the library. If they have a coloured label, write the name of the book and the author on the Student Record, and initial the entry.

Children in Reception to Year 2 are not expected to be able to read these books by themselves. If you read to them, that’s perfectly OK. (Of course, if they can read them by themselves, that’s great!)

Class teachers have a recording sheets for each student and are encouraging the students to be involved and complete the challenge. Books from the Public Libraries can be put on your child’s list too, if they are on the list. Books on the list that you have at home can go on the record, too.

We, as a staff, believe reading is so important that we expect all students to participate. Please do everything you can to encourage and assist them to complete the Challenge. We want all students to achieve success.

Students progress through the Premier’s Reading Challenge levels continues throughout their High School years.

If you want to find out more, or want to browse the booklists, you can go to the website:

http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au

or you can contact us.
School Chaplain News  
By Trudy Battams

Welcome to the new school year for 2017. I hope you all had a refreshing and relaxing break over the holidays. For those of you who are new to our school, my name is Trudy Battams and I am the Loxton Lutheran School Chaplain.

Loxton Lutheran School is a community with a focus on being supportive to all students, families, staff and volunteers involved within our school.

My aim is to:
- Show God’s love by being caring and supportive.
- Encourage and create opportunities for friendship between students and among families.
- Identify and respond sensitively and practically to the needs of the students, families and staff in our school community.

My key responsibilities are:
- Provide information and support for students and their families on a variety of issues and needs, such as spiritual needs, grief and loss, friendship issues, anxiety or social concerns.
- Organise lunch time activities for students.
- Support teachers by withdrawing individuals or small groups of children to develop and strengthen resilience, problem-solving and healthy thinking and relationship skills.
- Being aware of needs and referring students and families to outside agencies when required.
- Deliver services in a way that respects the range of spiritual views and cultural traditions in the school community.

I am extremely passionate about the well-being and good mental health of others, especially children. So my hope for the future is for all children to meet their life challenges, by growing stronger through personal coping skills, so they have a healthy respect for themselves and that they know that God’s love is unconditional and everlasting.

Making contact

Informal: Students and parents are welcome to make contact when you see me in the school yard throughout the day.

Formal: Students may make formal contact by filling out a ‘Talk with Trudy’ note which is located at the rear of the Administration room. Parents are more than welcome to ring the school and talk with me or leave a message for me to contact them.

Referrals

Students may refer themselves to me. I will then assess and discuss with the class teacher (where appropriate) whether the issue can be handled at a classroom level or needs individual time with the student.

Class teachers may refer students to me where a concern is seen. Parents may also contact me on behalf of their child or themselves.

Confidentiality together with the safety and well-being of a child or individual is given the highest priority.

For my school Chaplain role, I am at school on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s 9.30am – 3pm. I am also the Canteen Manager where I work Monday, Wednesday and Friday. So if you have an immediate need or concern I can be contacted anytime during the school week. Blessings to you.
Community Noticeboard

Tacker Attack!

Kids obstacle course
Saturday Feb 11th kids night run
Sunday 12th February - 8am to 12pm
At Loveday 4X4 Adventure park at Barmera
Unlimited fun for only $18 per child
www.dirtwarssurvivor.com

Website:

Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/LoxtonLutheran