Communication: A strong positive relationship through good communication between the school and families is very important. We encourage you all to visit your child’s classrooms and get to know their teacher/s and also to get important information about your child. Our Newsletter is another important way we communicate with families which we rely on to get important messages to everyone in our school community.

If you prefer an emailed newsletter please give your email address to Joy or Adrian at the Front office. Many of you have already taken up this option. The newsletter is also posted on our Barmera Primary School Facebook page. We welcome any feedback about the newsletter.

Start of the day: Just a reminder that the school day begins at 8:30am with a bell to let children know that they can enter the school grounds and go to their classroom.

Children must wait outside the school grounds until that 8:30 bell. Please do not drop your child/children off too early as they are unsupervised until that 8:30 bell.

Swimming: Please note that our swimming weeks have been changed by the instructor in charge at the Berri pool as they are having difficulty finding enough instructors to deliver the swimming program to all of the local schools this term. In South Australia swimming is a required program for all Primary children from Reception to Year 5. Our Year 6 and 7 students participate in the one day Aquatics program at Lake Bonney. Please see the events calendar to check your child’s swimming week. Class teachers will send out more detailed information.

Mentoring program: Barmera Primary School has run a very successful mentoring program for many years. Currently five community members mentor some of our individual children. We thank them for their generosity in the time they give to our kids. Ron has been running the pottery group for many years; Terry has done animation with some children. Many are cooking or sewing, sharing their skills with the children. If you or anyone in the community that you know of have skills in mentoring or a particular interest that could be shared with a child please contact the school to discuss the possibility of joining our Mentoring team. Our Pastoral Care worker (Erin Harrald) & School Counsellor (Cate Robins) organise our mentoring program.
Dear Parent,

The best gift any parent can give a child is the love of good books and the joy and benefits of good reading. Children who read at home, or are read to, have a head start on reading success in school. Our school is participating in Scholastic Book Clubs this year. During the year we will send home a Club catalogue with a different selection of books offered. You'll find award-winning books, as well as old and new favourites. The books span a wide range of children's reading levels and interests (some books cost as little as $2). It is easy to order. Either fill out the order form in the centre of the booklet or use the online LOOP ordering system.

This Issue’s catalogue is accompanying this newsletter. Just look over the catalogue with your child, select the books you want, mark them on the order form on the back of the catalogue, and return the order form to the front office with payment by Wednesday 17th February. The books will arrive around two weeks after we send the class order to Scholastic. Owning your own books is something special! I hope that you will encourage your child to order books this year. Each order helps earn free books and teaching materials for our school, however there is never any obligation to order.

Glenys Matthews (Teacher Librarian)

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We are looking for some more helpers to join our wonderful team of volunteers to cut up fruit for the students on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The volunteers start at 8:45 and finish by 10:00am. If you are happy to help, please speak one to some in the front office. Thank you.

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You are invited to attend Barmera Primary Schools BINGO Fundraiser next Tuesday 1st March. To make this a worthwhile fundraiser your help is needed :-

- We would like donations of Sandwich fillings (sliced meat, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese) (please see Joy in the front office in regards to food donations)
- Donations of small prizes for the raffle table.
- Your attendance on the night.

We would like to see as many parents, grandparents and friends attend.

**7:00pm** at the Barmera Monash Football Club

Donations can be left in the front office by Tuesday morning.

*Thank you, Fundraising Committee*
Congratulations: To the following students on receiving an award at last week's assembly.

Science Awards
Clarissa & Nathaniel

Phys Ed Award
Tanielle

Super Students
Steven, Reagan, Sumer, Stephanie, Alana, Jesse, Mason C, Mason M, Jeremy and Naomi

FAB FIVE WINNERS
At our last assembly the following names were drawn out of the “Green Card” Box. They have all won a $2 voucher for the school canteen.

Congratulations to:
Alana Finn, Wade Greig,
Stasi Efstratiou, Benji Wardle, Isla Milard

Are you a Parent or Carer of Child/ren with special Needs?

MyTime is a FREE Program for mums, dads, grandparents and anyone caring for a child up to the age of 16 with a disability, chronic medical condition or special needs. FREE CRECHE Available for children 0-5 years.

Tuesdays during school terms.
11:00am to 1:30pm
1 Jellet Road, Berri (located at the Vine Community Church)
For further information please phone Tracy Minogue on 04879316416.