Dear Parents and Families, Staff and Children

In yesterday’s Gospel Jesus spoke about his most important commandment – “You must love each other, just as I have loved you. If you love each other everyone will know that you are my disciples”. (John 13: 34) How did Jesus love others? We can find the answer to this question in the Gospel.

Jesus loved everyone equally. He did not care whether they were rich or poor, or judge them on the wrong things they had done. Jesus was not interested in people’s family or racial origins. Nor did he care what they looked like or what language they spoke or what foods they ate. Jesus was only interested in people’s hearts because Jesus knew that all people are God’s children, created in God’s image, and have the potential to do good.

Jesus showed his love by accepting everyone, by forgiving those who had done wrong or hurt him, and by a great compassion for all who were suffering or in any kind of need. Jesus commands us to do the same – to love others in the way that he loves us.

We know that the early Christians understood this and put the command of Jesus into practice. There is a very important sentence in the writings of an historian named Tertullian which proves this: “See how these Christians love one another”. His writings date back to the second century. This would not have been easy for the early Christians because they lived in a society with rigid class structures that excluded groups and individuals. It was a society that was very unforgiving of those who did wrong, and a society that had little compassion for the poor and disadvantaged. However, they clearly overcame these challenges because they believed in Jesus and his Gospel.

We pray this week for the grace and strength to embrace the commandment of Jesus and be an example to others of what it means to be a Christian – accepting, forgiving, compassionate and inclusive. We can do this if, like Jesus, we look into the hearts of others and believe that there is the potential for goodness no matter what our personal feelings may be.
May Jesus and Mary bless all members of the Ltyentye Apurte family here at Santa Teresa.

Yours sincerely

In JMJ

Br Daniel

**Principal**

**Congratulations**

Congratulations to the children who received awards at the Assembly last Wednesday:

**Anzac Awards for Generosity**: Chelsea Oliver; Ruth Oliver; Jonine Hayes; Jonick Conway; Farron Gorey; Shaquiel Young; Vicki Gorey; Rhys Ullamari; Terence Conway; Shania Williams.

Class Awards for **Keeping Everyone Safe and Happy**: Tahneya Ronson; Shekeya Kopp; Verona Hayes; Device Ronson; Kaliesha Young; Georgina Williams; Pat Murphy; Scott Young.

**Welcome**

Welcome to Shon & Svet from Baa Boom who will be working with the classes during this week and next week. They will also be preparing the Drummers for their coming tour to Melbourne

**Monday May 6th Public Holiday in the Northern Territory for Labour Day**