Dear Parents and Families, Staff and Children

In the story of yesterday’s Gospel, the sinful woman at the home of Simon the Pharisee, Jesus has two important messages for us. The woman knew Jesus to be a good man and she was sincere in her desire to show respect to him and seek his forgiveness for her wrong doing. The Pharisee, on the other hand had invited Jesus to his home out of curiosity, and by not welcoming him in the traditional way had shown little respect for Jesus.

The first lesson Jesus teaches us is about acceptance and forgiveness. Jesus did not judge anyone by their actions or external appearance but rather by what was in their heart. Jesus saw in the woman someone who knew her own weaknesses, who was sorry for any hurt she had caused others, and who sought only to try to be better. Jesus did not judge her. Jesus did not admonish her. Jesus did not seek to humiliate or punish her in any way. She received from Jesus what she had been denied by some many others – acceptance and forgiveness. In our Christian lives we are called to do the same, and it is not always easy but it is what Jesus teaches us to do.

The second thing that Jesus is emphasising in this story is the centrality of faith in our lives. Jesus points to faith shown by the woman; faith in her own self, faith in Jesus, and faith in God. The woman believed in her capacity to improve, and overcome her failings. If this was not the case there would be no point in her seeking forgiveness. The woman also had faith in Jesus, and that is why she could approach him in a place where she knew she would not be welcome, but where she believed Jesus would not turn her away or condemn her. And finally the woman had faith in God whom she believed to be all loving, and so all accepting, and all forgiving. She was not disappointed. Jesus exhorts her faith with the words: “Because of your faith you are now saved. May God give you peace”. Faith too, can empower us to overcome our weaknesses and to turn to God in complete trust knowing that God will never abandon us.

We pray this week for the grace to seek forgiveness, and for the courage to be forgiving and accepting of others in the same way that God is forgiving and accepting of us.

Yours sincerely

In JMJ

(Principal)
Welcome – Annual School Review

Welcome to the following who are visiting today to meet with Br Daniel, Imelda, & Ali to discuss the school’s Annual Plan: Sharon Duong (CEO Deputy Director Teaching & Learning); Greg O’Mullane (CEO Deputy Director School Services); Gerry McCarthy (CEO Senior Education ICCS); David Reilly (CEC).

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following children who received awards at the assembly last Wednesday: Jordan Wilyuka (Caught Being Good); Ciara Bloomfield, Rekita Smith, Claudia Oliver, Erin Murphy, Lesharna Young (Being on Time).

Congratulations to the staff who won the Trivia Night in Alice Springs on Saturday Evening: Wighto, Katie-Jayne, Leticia, Oprah, Zoe, Peter, Barbara, Elizabeth Milne (CEO) & Kaye Tracey (CEO). (This was a fundraiser for the Alice Springs Hospital Children’s Ward and organised by Southern Cross Television)

Desert Storm Athletics (Ali Gallio – School Co-ordinator)

Last Friday, 25 students travelled to Alice Springs to compete in the Desert Storm athletics carnival held at the Rhonda Diano oval. They were involved in running, throwing and jumping events. Everyone gave their best effort and showed good sportsmanship throughout the day. Well done to the following team members who all received ribbons for placing in events: Shereece King, Daniella Ryder, Charlize John, Claudia Oliver, Cornelia Ronson, Vicky Gorey, Nadine Oliver, Kaliesha Young and Geoffrey Ronson. Thank you to Barbara, Oprah, Miriam, Matto, and Alanah for contributing to the success of the day.

Semester Holiday Break

Holidays begin this Friday June 21st and school resumes for the children on Tuesday July 16th. Monday July 15th is a Professional Development Day for all staff. The children return on Tuesday July 16th.

Year Eight Bush Trip – June 11th 2013  Year 4/5 Breakdancing – June 13th 2013