July 28th 2014

Dear Parents and Families, Staff and Children

In his teachings Jesus often spoke about the Kingdom of God. In yesterday's Gospel read at Mass Jesus compared the Kingdom of God to a 'treasure hidden in a field', to a 'pearl of great price', and 'to a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind'. All three images speak about something rich and precious, something we would all like to possess.

It is important to understand that when Jesus speaks about the Kingdom of God Jesus is not referring to a place as we sometimes imagine. Jesus is referring to a way of being and a way of living. It is an attitude or state of mind and not a place. It is something completely different from this life and the world as we know it.

In his writings Saint Paul explains the Kingdom of God using the word righteous. This word means something that is right and good and people are 'right with God'. The Kingdom of God is found wherever and whenever people are acting in a right and good way. It is the world as God planned it to be – a world where God’s way is the only way, a world free from conflict and division, a world that is founded on and built on love. The Kingdom of God is the world at the dawn of creation before people turned away from God and sought to take control.

We can experience the Kingdom of God when we act with love and respect in our relationships with others and when we acknowledge God as the source of all life and the giver of all wisdom. This is why Jesus also said on another occasion when asked about the Kingdom of God that ‘the Kingdom of God is within and among you’.

We pray this week for the grace to be righteous in all our actions so that we can be a means of building up the Kingdom of God in our families and in our community. We pray for the humility to remember that God is the giver of all gifts and that God’s way is the only way to peace and happiness within ourselves and in our world.

Jesus and Mary bless all Santa Teresa families.

Yours sincerely
In JMJ

Br Daniel
Principal

JESUS SAID: "THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS NOT COMING WITH SIGNS TO BE OBSERVED; NOR WILL PEOPLE SAY 'LOOK THERE IT IS' OR PEOPLE SAY 'LOOK IT IS HERE'; FOR BEHOLD THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS IN YOUR MIDST". (LUKE 17: 21-22)
Welcome
Welcome to the students and teachers from Catholic College in Sale who are visiting the school and wider Santa Teresa community during this week.

Congratulations
Congratulations to the following children who received awards at the assembly last Wednesday: Jonine Hayes (Numeracy); Ashton Ware (Excellent Attendance and Effort in all Curriculum Areas); Gordon Pararoultja, Rekita Smith, Claudia Oliver, Jacinta Wallace, Keilan Davis (Clean & Tidy).

Magic Words
Gold: Freda Davis & Ciara Bloomfield. Red: Savannah King.
Orange: Carl Ronson-Palmer Violet: Geoffrey Ronson & Anthony Wilyuka.
Anti Flash White: Josiah Douglas.

Completed 300 Words: Joel Cavanagh.

Staff members from Australian Hearing are visiting Santa Teresa on Monday and Tuesday this week. They are in the school today (Monday) and will be available at the clinic on Tuesday.

School Attendance Officers
The School Attendance Officers are an initiative of the Federal Government and work to help families and children so that the children are able to come to school regularly and on time. The School Attendance Officers want what is best for the children and are working to give them the best chance for success in life by helping them get to school. Everyone is asked to respect the School Attendance Officers and co-operate with them. Some of the children have not been co-operating with these good people, and when corrected for doing the wrong thing have not shown respect. We have spoken about this at the assembly last week and we request that parents also speak with their children about the important work the School Attendance Officers are doing, and the importance of respect and co-operation to members of the community who are trying to help them.

Monday August 4th – Public Holiday (Picnic Day) School closed
Friday August 8th – Staff Development Day – Children do not attend School
Monday September 8th – Father’s Day Celebration at School

Poster painted by staff and children during the NAIDOC celebration on July 18th