Monday 25th May 2015

Dear Parents and Families, Staff and Students,

With Imelda Palmer and now Br Daniel both absent from school and community due to illness, the need to look out for or “Pray for One Another” is greater than ever. These are challenging times but we must never forget our purpose in life - or - our focus at school. This week’s spiritual focus comes from our Assistant Principal for RE, Bern Christensen. I'll provide you with a news update on Page 2. Many thanks.

Justin Colley (Deputy Principal)

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Come Holy Spirit I need you
Come sweet Spirit I pray
Come in your strength and your power
Come in your own gentle way

Thank you Holy Spirit for coming
Thank you sweet Spirit for your presence
Thank you for your strength and power
Thank you for own gentle way

Ngkarte utnenge ngkwinhe lyete yernaye
Tyerrtye anwernekenhe mwarre ilaye
Utnenge ngkwenhele angkwerrriwaye
Anwerneke werne atyenpe apetyaye

Pentecost Sunday signals the end of Easter time in the Church’s year. At Mass we heard from John’s gospel that the disciples were gathered when Jesus appeared to them to bring the Holy Spirit as he had promised. The story of Pentecost is tense and filled with amazing symbols – closed doors, roaring winds, tongues of flame and Jesus appearing even though he had died not long before! As I listened to the song at Mass I was reminded of both that story and of the Holy Spirit that is already at work in our community.

It’s easy to see the work of God’s Spirit every day in Ltyentye Apurte – in the many people who give their best for others and use their particular gifts, in the warm winter sun, gentle breeze and colours of the landscape and in the relationships we see and experience here. There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit is alive and all around us in Santa Teresa. Each of us might find God in our own private prayer but God is also very real and present in our classrooms, our staffroom, the workshop, canteen, office and playground.

On Monday the Australian church remembers Mary our mother in a particular way, as Our Lady Help of Christians. Although we only pray to God, we do honour Mary, ask for her intercession and have a special place for her in our hearts. Here at school there is not a day that goes by without the Hail Mary being said by many adults and children.

Jesus and Mary, bless all Santa Teresa families.

In JMJ

Bern Christensen (APRE)
SCHOOL NEWS

LAST WEEK:

● On Monday, Year 2/3 and Katie were joined by Bern Knight, who is from Tamworth, NSW and studying to be a teacher. She’ll be working with us until the end of Term 2 and we hope that her time here is successful.

● Our Celebration Assembly Award Winners were, Yr. T/1: Lathan Ryder, Chelsya Oliver and Talisha Douglas – for being strong, trying hard and joining in. Yr. 2/3: Roland Hayes and Shaniqua Smith – for working hard and listening. Yr. 4: Hayesle Hayes and Joel Palmer – for being strong and doing good work. Yr. 6/7 L: Keilan Davis and Kefon Alice – for being respectful and Yr. 6/7 V: Kerry-Ann Smith – for being strong and trying her best. Yr. 8/9: Kiesha Davis – for being strong, joining in and trying her best in circle-time and sport.

● On Thursday, Br Daniel was admitted to Alice Springs Hospital for further tests. In recent weeks he has been unwell with a virus. Over the weekend, I visited Imelda Palmer AND Br Daniel in hospital and was pleased to see both of them looking better. On behalf of the school, I thank everyone in the community for their prayers for Imelda. They have clearly helped. I now ask everyone to pray for Br Daniel, who also needs and deserves our support. We pray that he will get better and return to school… but ONLY when he is ready.

● Ltyentye Apurte School has ‘Grown’ another teacher… CONGRATULATIONS to Viv Pettit, who graduated on Thursday at Charles Darwin University in Darwin. He was joined at the ceremony by his mother, Wighto and Dr. Al. Over the years I’ve heard many good things said about the job that teachers do, but none as good as this: ‘To teach is to touch a life forever’. Viv has already ‘touched the lives’ of the students he teaches. He is dedicated, hard-working, a great teacher and… we are PROUD of him. Well done Viv! See pictures below.

THIS WEEK:

● We welcome back Holly-Ann, who’ll be doing the Safe4Kids Program, which is about child protection. She’s been here before and does a great job.

● We’ll be sending home a Permission Form about the school’s Facebook page. Please fill it in and return it to school.

Have a great week, everyone.

Yours sincerely,

Justin Colley (Deputy Principal)