



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Week 1 28 April 2025

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 1

Friday

**Polding Winter Trials
(Hockey, League,
Netball and Soccer)
(Bathurst)**

NEXT WEEK 2

Monday

**WF Diocesan Cross
Country (Parkes)**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to all our students, families and staff! It is wonderful to see everyone looking very smart in their winter uniforms and settling quickly back into class routines today.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Laura Cook, who joins our teaching staff this term. Mrs Cook will be taking over Year 4, replacing Mrs Wheeler. Mrs Cook will be a wonderful addition to our Holy Family community.

A special welcome to Jordyn Flaxman (4W), Savannah Kelley (KC), Kiyarah Bennett (3N), Neena (2CR) and Noah (2CR) Ford and Meilani Kennedy-Dugan (5/6B) who have commenced their journey with us this week.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the ANZAC March last Friday. Our school captains represented us with great pride at the Dawn Service. All children were beautifully dressed in their winter uniforms and showcased the spirit of Holy Family on this significant day.

Good luck to the following students representing the Diocese at the Polding Winter Trials in Bathurst on Friday: Nate Calabro, Arlo Cassidy, Max Dwyer Mulligan, Harper Edmonds, Elizabeth Toomey and Jonti Lee. We are proud of your achievements and wish you all the best.

We are excited to host the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival next Monday. Good luck to our 48 students who will be competing on the day. A reminder that our Parents and Friends (P&F) Association will be running the canteen. If you can assist with an hour shift, please contact the school office as soon as possible.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Pope Francis during the school holidays. Pope Francis was a beloved leader of the Catholic Church, dedicating his life to faith, compassion, and humility. His values of love, service, and care for the marginalised resonate deeply with our school community. Let us keep his teachings in our hearts as we continue to live out our faith in our daily lives.

Thank you for your continued support as we embark on an exciting Term 2.

Denise Gersbach
Principal

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK
[Holy Family Parish School Parkes](https://www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyParishSchoolParkes)





★ Star of the Week ★

Lillian Townsend is the Star of the Week for demonstrating our Core Values (In Praise, Love, and Trust) and for always actively participating in all school activities.

Interview with Lillian



What is your favourite subject?	History
	
In your free time, what do you like to do?	Play the bass guitar
What is your favourite food?	Grapes
What do you like most about our school?	The friendly teachers
	Art, music and baking
What would you like to be when you grow up?	An astronomer

Term 2 Week 1: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - TRUST)

❖ **Build and maintain trust through honesty and reliability.**

This fortnight's challenge is to conduct some research and fill in the correct answers.

<p>1. What do we celebrate on Easter Sunday?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) The birth of Jesus - B) The resurrection of Jesus - C) The Last Supper - D) The arrival of the Three Wise Men
<p>2. What is the period of 40 days leading up to Easter called?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Advent - B) Pentecost - C) Lent - D) Epiphany

<p>3. What kind of meal did Jesus have with his disciples before he was crucified?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Breakfast - B) Lunch - C) The Last Supper - D) A picnic
<p>4. Which day of the week did Jesus rise from the dead?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Friday - B) Saturday - C) Sunday - D) Monday
<p>5. What do we call the Sunday before Easter?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Palm Sunday - B) Good Sunday - C) Passover Sunday - D) Holy Sunday
<p>6. What did people lay down in front of Jesus as he entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Flowers - B) Rocks - C) Palm branches - D) Blankets
<p>7. What do Christians often do during Lent?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Give up something they enjoy - B) Celebrate with a feast - C) Decorate Christmas trees - D) Go on vacation
<p>8. What symbol is often associated with Easter and represents new life?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Christmas tree - B) Easter egg - C) Birthday cake - D) Valentine's heart
<p>9. What is the name of the garden where Jesus prayed before his arrest?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Garden of Gethsemane - B) Garden of Eden - C) Garden of Olives - D) Garden of Peace
<p>10. What does the Easter Bunny traditionally bring to children?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A) Flowers - B) Chocolates and eggs - C) Toys - D) Books

If there are multiple winning entries, your name will go into a draw. The winners will be drawn out of a hat and receive a prize at our School Assembly. Please write your name and answer on a piece of paper and hand it to me any time this week.

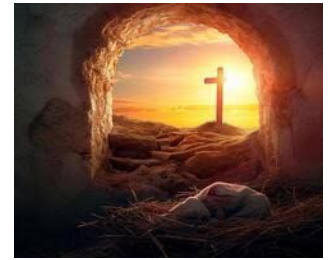
I hope everyone has a great week.

Andrew Berger

Religious Education

Second Week of Easter

Welcome back to a new term. May this new term bring us lots of joy in all our endeavours. May it bring to us Easter blessings of peace and love.

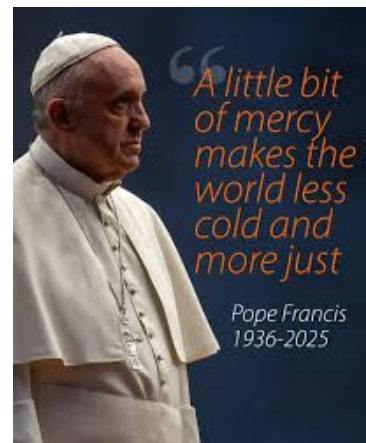


Pope Francis' Easter Message

As we mourn the loss of Pope Francis, a great leader of the Catholic Church, a champion for the poor and marginalised, a wonderful advocate for the environment and peace, we keep in mind his Easter message which he delivered just before he died. May his soul Rest in Peace.

Please find it in the link below-

["Urbi et Orbi" - Easter 2025 | Francis](#)



Term 2 Liturgies & Masses

- ★ Mother's Day Liturgy- Friday, 9th May, 12:30pm Stage 1 (HFS Hall)
- ★ Catholic Schools Week Mass- Thursday 15th May, 10.00am (Hall)
- ★ Feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat Whole School Mass (Stage 3) Friday, 6th June, 9:45am (Hall)
- ★ Sacrament of Confirmation - Friday, 13th June, 6.00pm Holy Family Church
- ★ NAIDOC Liturgy- Thursday, 3rd July, 12.15pm AECG

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!

If your child would like to altar-serve please fill in [this form](#).

Have a wonderful week!

Beverly Berger

Religious Education Coordinator

Assembly Awards

Week 10

AWARD	CLASS	STUDENT NAME
Student of the Week	KJC	Jack McCabe
	KC	Jackson Jordan
	1S	Joel Hazelton
	2CR	Mavis Jordan
	3N	Tessa Dugan
	4W	Ashton Albert
	5/6B	Emerson Kaden
	5/6HR	Bentley Murray
Recognition of Learning Award	Infants - 2CR	Morgan Wykes
	Primary - 5/6B	Ceinwyn Farrell
Consistently Following School Rules (based on Manner of the Week, Environment and Uniform)	Infants - KJC	Mikayla Sibanda
	Primary - 3N	Nitara Suji
Playground Behaviour Award	Infants - KC	Abigail Smee
	Primary - 4W	Sophie Wood
Leadership Award	Infants - 1S	Iris Burt
	Primary - 5/6HR	Max Hackett
Living the Gospel Values	Infants - 2CR	Reuben Cook
	Primary - 5/6B	Mia Malherbe

P&F News



Holy Family P&F Movie Night

When: Friday 16th May - From 5pm to 8pm (Movie Starts at 6pm)

Entry: Gold Coin Donation

Where: HFS School Hall

Movie: Moana 2

Bring: Bean Bag or Comfy Chair

Catering: BBQ Dinner, Drinks and Snacks for sale.

Please RSVP via the link below by Thursday 15th May for catering purposes.

[RSVP Here](#)

Helpers Needed – Diocesan Cross Country Canteen

Monday May 5th

The P&F need your help at the Dio Cross Country Championships on Monday 5th May. If you can spare an hour to help out in the canteen that would be most appreciated. We are also looking for donations of Cakes, Slices & Soups. Donations can be dropped off on the day prior to 9am please. All funds raised go back into P&F initiatives to enhancing your children's education and overall schooling experiences.

If you can spare an hour or two (especially if your child is competing) please drop your name into the roster. If you can donate cakes, slices or soups please contact the office.

Volunteer Roster Dio Cross Country Canteen	Monday 5 th May					
	Volunteer 1	Volunteer 2	Volunteer 3	Volunteer 4	Volunteer 5	Activity
7-8						Setup & Cooking B&E Rolls
8-9						Sales
9-10						Sales
10-11						Sales
11-12						Sales
12-1						Sales
1-2						Packup

Many Thanks

HFS P&F Committee

Notes



 Holy Family School Parkes

KINDERGARTEN TRANSITION

KICKSTART YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING JOURNEY.

Our 2026 Transition Program is now available from Term 1 to Term 4 for children starting Kindergarten in 2027.

PROGRAM FEATURES: [Register Here](#)

- **FREE - NO COST**
Children will also be provided with a FREE Holy Family sports shirt for the program.
- **PROGRAM ALIGNS WITH SCHOOL HOURS**
Starts Term 1 - 18th March 2026
Finishes Term 4 - 9th December 2026
On EVERY Wednesday 9 am - 3 pm
- **CANTEEN LUNCH AVAILABLE**
Term 4 attendance are for students who are enrolled for 2027 Kindergarten

📞 6862 1610 ✉ admin.parkes@wf.catholic.edu.au 📍 37A High Street, Parkes

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Friday 9th May 2025

8.00am to 9.00am

School Hall

All mums are invited to attend the breakfast

The P&F will be running a Mother's Day Stall where children can go shopping for gifts.

We look forward to seeing all our wonderful mums.

NSWCPS Girls 7s Rugby (MacKillop and Polding)

Date: 16th May 2025

Venue: Santa Sabina College

Eligibility: 11 Years - 12 Years

*Please check for mandatory size/weight ratios on the website

Register via the csnsw.sport/ portal before 7 May 2025



We are seeking expressions of interest for 6 students in Yr 2 - 6 to take group guitar lessons during lunchtime on Thursdays in Term 2.



GUITAR LESSONS AT SCHOOL

Enquire today!

✉ DAVE@FORBESGUITARLESSONS.COM.AU

📘 [FACEBOOK.COM/FORBESGUITAR](https://facebook.com/forbesguitar)

🌐 WWW.FORBESGUITAR.COM.AU



Notes



ROBOTICS CLUB

@ PARKES



FRIDAYS AFTER SCHOOL

The Robotics Club meets for seven weeks each school term. A formal sequenced program enables students to continue developing their skills in design, building, coding, problem solving and teamwork. In the future, there may also be opportunities for students enrolled in our Robotics Club to participate in robotics competitions.

PARKES JUNIOR ROBOTICS

- Fridays 3.45pm - 4.45pm
- Years 1 to 5 at school
- \$210 per term

PARKES INTERMEDIATE ROBOTICS

- Fridays 5.00pm - 6.30pm
- Years 4 to 10 at school
- \$315 per term

TERM 2 CLASSES COMMENCE 9 MAY

Venue:

Marramarra Makerspace Studio
Parkes Library
25 Bogan Street Parkes

For details and to book online:

www.westernenrichment.com.au



OUR ROBOTICS CLUB CLASSES:

LITTLE ENGINEERS (ORANGE ONLY)

These classes introduce students in Kindergarten to Year 2 at school to simple machines to prepare them for future robotics learning. Uses LEGO BrikQ Motion Essential and LEGO Spike Essential kits. No previous experience required. Maximum 8 students per class. Available at Orange only.

JUNIOR ROBOTICS

These classes introduce students in Years 1 to 5 at school to robotics, coding and machines in a fun teamwork environment. Our sequential program using LEGO Spike Essential kits is suitable for children with no previous experience with robotics or coding, as well as those with basic experience with Scratch coding. Maximum 16 students per class.

INTERMEDIATE ROBOTICS

These classes are for students in Years 4 to 10 at school to expand their skills in problem solving, design, robotics and coding in a fun teamwork environment. Our sequential program using LEGO Spike Prime kits is suitable for children with some previous experience with robotics or Scratch coding. We will also accept students with no previous experience. Maximum 16 students per class.

ADVANCED ROBOTICS (ORANGE ONLY)

These classes are for students in Years 5 to 10 at school to expand their skills in problem solving, design, robotics and coding in a fun teamwork environment. Our sequential program using LEGO Spike Prime kits is suitable for children with previous experience with robotics and Scratch or Python coding, and competence in building with LEGO Technic elements. Lessons will be designed around completing First Lego League (FLL) challenges from previous years in preparation for establishing a WELL FLL team for 2025 or 2026. Maximum 8 students per class. Available at Orange only.

Venues:

Bathurst: Wednesdays After School
Dubbo: Thursdays After School
Parkes: Fridays After School
Orange: Saturday Mornings

For details and to book online:

www.westernenrichment.com.au



STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student attendance is recorded each day. As a parent or caregiver you are responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day unless your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- is sick, or has an infectious illness.

If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, please discuss this with the school principal.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, please **update this within 7 days** on the Compass Parent Portal or explain the reason by phone, e-mail or written note as soon as possible. Late arrivals and/or early departures can only be entered via the Compass Kiosk at the office.

After 7 days, the absence will remain as 'Unexplained' and cannot be changed (NSW Education Act 1990).

MON

TUES

WED

THU

FRI

every learner every day

ABSENCES ADD UP!



MISSING MORE THAN

1 YEAR OF LEARNING IN **12** YEARS

DID YOU KNOW



1 IN **6**

PRIMARY STUDENTS ARE NOT ATTENDING SCHOOL REGULARLY?

WHAT PARENTS CAN DO



- BE FIRM.** Send your child to school every day unless they are sick.
- Develop good sleep and morning routines.
- Schedule appointments after school.
- Avoid taking holidays during term time.



EACH DAY MISSED:

- Puts your child behind and makes it harder for them to catch up.
- Can lead to lower achievement in reading writing and numeracy.
- Can lead to gaps in learning and social connections.

GOOD HABITS BEGIN EARLY



Good attendance starts in Kindergarten and sets students up for success in their school life.



SCHOOLS ARE THERE TO HELP

If you are having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address it.

every learner every day 



CATHOLIC EDUCATION
WILCANNIA-FORBES

Term 2 - Parent Calendar 2025

Term 2 2025 Planner - Parents

	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun	
Apr/May	1	28 First Day - Term 2 (Staff and Students)	29	30	1	2 Polding Winter Trials (Bathurst)	3/4	
May	2	5 WF Diocesan Cross Country (Parkes)	6	7 RBCC Visit - Year 6 Life Ed - Healthy Harold P&F Meeting - 6pm	8 Life Ed - Healthy Harold	9 Mother's Day Breakfast Athletics Trials 9-11 Mother's Day Liturgy 12:30pm HFS Hall Stage 1 Assembly - 2.45pm	10/11 Mother's Day - Sun 12th May	
	3	12 Life Ed - Healthy Harold	13	14	15 Catholic Schools Week Mass 10.00am (Hall) Recess for all families outdoors 10.45am-11.20am Open classrooms	16 Athletics Trials 9-11 National Walk Safely to School Day P&F Movie Night	17/18	
	Catholic Schools Week							
	4	19	20	21	22	23 Athletics Trials 9-11 Assembly - 2.45pm	24/25	
May/Jun	5	26 Reconciliation Week National Sorry Day WF Diocesan Rugby Union (Parkes)	27 AECG Meeting - Junior and Senior (Parkes High) CWA Oxley Group Public Speaking Competition	28 School Committee Meeting - 7.30pm	29	30 Athletics Trials 9-11	31/1	
Jun	6	2 Parent/Teacher Interviews 1-6 (School Hall)	3 HFS Spelling Bee Year 2 - Year 6	4 P&F Meeting - 6pm	5 Athletics Trials 9-11 Assembly - 2.45pm	6 Feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat (Stage 3) Whole School Mass - 9:45am (Hall)	7/8	
	7	9 King's Birthday (PH)	10 Pupil Free Day	11 Polding Cross Country (Sydney)	12 School Disco - 6.00pm	13 Confirmation - 6.00pm Holy Family Church	14/15	
	8	16	17	18	19 Athletics Carnival	20 Assembly - 2.45pm	21/22	
	9	23 'The Twits' Excursion (K-2) - 12:30pm Orange	24	25	26	27	28/29	
July	10	30 Polding Rugby Union (Forbes)	1 NAIDOC Day Celebrations	2	3 Polding Touch Football (Port Macquarie) NAIDOC Liturgy 12.15pm AECG Assembly - 2.45pm	4 Last Day of Term 2	5/6	