



# HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 10- 15th December 2025

## EVENTS

**THIS WEEK 10**

**Monday**

**School Assembly  
12.30pm**

**Year 6 Assembly - 2pm**

**Thursday**

**Last Day - Term 4**

**Year 6 Hat Toss -  
3.15pm**

**2026 Term 1 Dates**

**Mon, 2nd February  
Year 1-6 Commence**

**Wed, 4th February  
Kindergarten Students  
Commence**

**Mon, 9th March  
Pupil Free Day**

**Wed, 18th March  
Kindergarten  
Transition Commences**

**Fri, 2nd April  
Last Day of Term 1**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write the final newsletter for 2025, I find myself reflecting on what an amazing year it has been for our school community. It's often said that time flies when you're having fun, and this year has absolutely flown by! The dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our students and the support of our families have made this year truly special. Congratulations to everyone on another successful and fulfilling year at Holy Family School!

Last night, we were treated to a beautiful performance by Mrs Berger and our talented school choir at Carols in the Park. Their incredible voices filled the air, and it was lovely to see such a large and appreciative crowd enjoying the festive spirit. A big thank you to Mrs Berger and our students for their hard work and for representing our school community with such grace and joy.

Today, we come together for our final assembly of the school year at 12:30pm, followed by the Year 6 Assembly at 2:00pm, which will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and farewell our graduating students as they prepare to embark on the next exciting chapter of their journey. We warmly invite all parents, carers and friends to join us for these special events as we honour the achievements and growth of all our students this year.

This evening, our P&F Committee will hold their final meeting of the year at the Coachman Hotel at 6:00pm. This will be the last official event of the year, and we would love to see as many of you there as possible. The P&F has been instrumental in supporting our school community throughout the year, and we are so grateful for their tireless efforts.

As we approach the end of the term, I would like to remind everyone that school will officially conclude on Thursday for both staff and students. I encourage you all to take this opportunity to enjoy quality time with loved ones and take a well-deserved break.

On behalf of all the staff at Holy Family School, I would like to wish you a very happy and holy Christmas, filled with love, joy and the peace of Christ.

We look forward to welcoming you all back in 2026 for another exciting year of learning, growth and community.

Wishing you a safe and joyous holiday season.

*Denise Gersbach*

Principal



**CONTACT US**

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(02) 6862 1610

[admin.parkes@wf.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin.parkes@wf.catholic.edu.au)



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK**



**Holy Family Parish School Parkes**

## ★ Star of the Week ★

Noah Ross is our Star of the Week for being an enthusiastic learner, a kind friend, and a role model of fair play and sportsmanship, consistently living out our core values of Praise, Love and Trust.

### Interview with Noah



What is your favourite subject? 	Mathematics
In your free time, what do you like to do?	Draw
What is your favourite food?	Strawberry Nutella Waffles
What do you like most about our school?	The playground
	Soccer
What would you like to be when you grow up?	A builder

**Term 4 Week 10: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - TRUST)**

**Encourage others and trust that they can succeed.**

**This fortnight's challenge is about Saint Joseph.**

1. How did Joseph learn God's message to protect Mary and Jesus?	A. From a book B. In dreams C. From the king D. Through a letter
2. Who was Saint Joseph?	A. A king in Egypt B. Jesus' earthly father C. A fisherman D. A shepherd

3. Who told Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife?	A. A soldier B. A neighbour C. An angel D. A prophet
4. What town did Joseph live in with Mary and Jesus?	A. Nazareth B. Jerusalem C. Rome D. Athens
5. What feast day celebrates Saint Joseph?	A. March 19 B. December 25 C. April 1 D. August 15
6. Why did Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem?	A. To go on holiday B. To visit family C. For the census D. To find new work
7. What animal is often shown with Joseph in Nativity scenes?	A. Lion B. Camel C. Donkey D. Eagle
8. What is Saint Joseph the patron saint of?	A. Fishermen B. Carpenters and families C. Kings D. Sailors
9. Where did Joseph take Mary and Jesus to keep them safe?	A. Australia B. Egypt C. Rome D. Nazareth
10. What was Saint Joseph's job?	A. Doctor B. Carpenter C. Farmer D. Soldier

**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

## Third Week of Advent

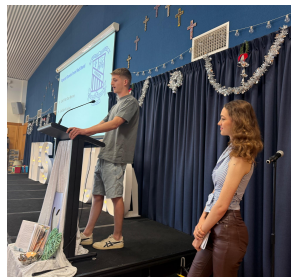
Congratulations to our Year 6 students who participated with reverence at their Year 6 Retreat. Their day began with some words of advice and encouragement from two of our ex-students, Lachlan Kupkee and Leah Van Der Merwe, who have just finished their high school. Thank you to Lachlan and Leah who were very inspirational.



A big Thank You to Mr Michael Gibbons who ran the Reflective Session on-

- My First Memories
- Teamwork
- Me, Myself & I
- Influencers- who has had a large influence in our lives
- Change
- The Parable of the Sower
- Our Gifts and Talents

Mr Gibbons will be coming back on Wednesday, 17th December, to complete the Session. All the Year 6s thoroughly enjoyed the session and were very cooperative and receptive.



**\*Christmas Vigil Mass- 24th December, 6:00pm**

**Holy Family Parish Church, 29 Currajong St Parkes NSW 2870**

**Children participating should be there by 5:30 pm and report to Mrs Gersbach inside the church.**

**\*Carols In The Park 2025-**

On Sunday, 14th December, at 7:00pm

Our Holy Family School Choir performed 'Do You Hear What I Hear' at Cooke Park. They were fantastic!

**\*Vinnies Christmas Appeal**

Thank you to all who donated towards our Christmas Appeal.

Have a Blessed Christmas

Beverly Berger

Religious Education Coordinator

# Notes

COMING SOON.....

## HOLY FAMILY PLAY AND GROW PLAYGROUP



10-11am

Every Friday Morning  
Holy Family School Hall



## LEARN TO SWIM

REASONS YOUR CHILD SHOULD  
LEARN TO SWIM

- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Confidence
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Enjoyment



CALL US TODAY  
(02) 6862 1206

or  
[info@parkespools.com](mailto:info@parkespools.com)

### School Reports

School reports were published last Friday. Please contact the office to make an appointment, if you would like to discuss your child's report.

### School Zones

A reminder to all our parents ahead of the break at the end of Year, that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families.

School zones operate on all gazetted school days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

### PUPIL FREE DAYS 2026

#### TERM 1

Mon, 9<sup>th</sup> March

#### TERM 2

Fri, 8<sup>th</sup> May  
Tue, 9<sup>th</sup> June

#### TERM 3

Thur, 24<sup>th</sup> September  
Fri, 25<sup>th</sup> September

# Notes

youth only  
age 12-22

Parkes Library and Cultural Centre

## VIBRANT SUMMER FUN FOR YOUTH

Join us for some unforgettable sessions filled with energy, creativity, and entertainment.

Music – Art –  
Robotics – Friends!

**Robotics with  
Anthony from WELL**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January  
12.00pm–2.30pm  
Marramarra Makerspace

**Gel Plate printing  
with Karen Ritchie**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January  
10am–12.30pm  
Marramarra Makerspace

**Feel the beat with  
Rob Shannon**

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January  
10am–12.30pm  
Marramarra Makerspace



Bookings essential  
through Humanitix

Proudly funded by



YEAR 2 –  
YEAR 6

Parkes Library and Cultural Centre

## JUNIOR ROBOTICS

Robotics – Friends!

### Robotics with Anthony from WELL

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January  
9.45am–11.15am  
Marramarra Makerspace

Join Anthony from WELL and work in pairs using  
LEGO Spike Essential robotics to create and code  
your robots in a range of fun scenarios.



Bookings essential  
through Humanitix



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.

Please note that Term 3 and 4 attendance are limited to students who are enrolled for 2027 Kindergarten at HFS.

### PROGRAM FEATURES:

● 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

☎ 6862 1610

✉ [admin.parques@wf.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin.parques@wf.catholic.edu.au)

📍 37A High Street, Parkes

# Assembly Awards

## Term 4 - Week 10

AWARD	CLASS	STUDENT NAME
<b>Student of the Week</b>	KJC	Millie McIntyre
	KC	Jorawar Singh
	1S	Amity Cotter
	2CR	Abraham Al-Maliky
	3N	Reed Wild
	4W	Mary Drooger
	5/6B	Ceinwyn Farrell
	5/6HR	Layla Al-Maliky
<b>Recognition of Learning Award</b>	Infants - 1S	Isabel Malherbe
	Primary - 5/6HR	Florence Crawly-Watson
<b>Consistently Following School Rules (based on Manner of the Week, Environment and Uniform)</b>	Infants - 2CR	Blaire Crisp
	Primary - 5/6B	Emerson Kaden
<b>Playground Behaviour Award</b>	Infants - KJC	Arjun Jodder
	Primary - 3N	Kendall Hartwig
<b>Leadership Award</b>	Infants - KC	Abigail Smee
	Primary - 4W	Michael Jehan
<b>Living the Gospel Values</b>	Infants - 1S	Evie Byrnes
	Primary - 5/6HR	Aava Dhakal

## Helpers Needed

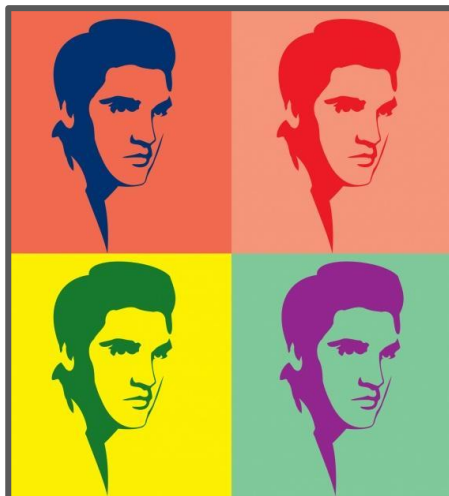
### Elvis Caravan Park – January 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>

Once again, the P&F will be turning the school oval into a Caravan Park for the Elvis Festival. This is a great fundraiser for the school, but we will need your help.

Helpers are needed to check in vans & daily cleaning of the amenities and checking site bins.

Date	Volunteer (Site Check Ins) 2pm-4pm	Volunteer (Bathroom Cleaning / Bin checks) Timing Optional
Monday 5/1		
Tuesday 6/1		
Wednesday 7/1		
Thursday 8/1		
Friday 9/1		
Saturday 10/1	•	
Sunday 11/1		
Monday 12/1		

Many hands make light work; it doesn't take a lot of time and is a great fund raiser for the school. Please contact the school office or Mike Wood on 0418 818 372 if you are able to help out.



# Term 1 -2026- Parent

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
Jan/Feb	1 26 School Holidays Australia Day (PH)	27 School Holidays	28 School Holidays	29 Staff Commence	30 Staff Planning Day	31/1
Feb	2 Year 1-6 students commence Kindergarten Assessments	3 Kindergarten Assessments	4 Kindergarten students commence P&F Meeting - 6pm	5 Swimming Carnival	6 Polding Basketball/ Tennis Trials (Tamworth)	7/8
Feb	9	10	11 Induction of School Leaders Mass - 9.45am - HF Church	12	13	14/15 Sat 14/3 Family Mass 9.30am
Feb	16	17 Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Breakfast 8:15am Central Cluster Swimming (Forbes)	18 Ash Wednesday Stage 1 Liturgy - 12.30pm Parent Information Night (Kindergarten) - 6.00pm	19	20 Assembly - 2.45pm	21/22
Feb/Mar	23	24 AECG Meeting- Junior and Senior (HFS)	25 School Committee Meeting - 7.30pm	26	27 WF AFL Trials (Hay)	28/1 1/3 First Holy Communion 9.30am
Mar	2	3	4 Parent Meeting (RE Room) - First Holy Communion - 5:15pm P&F Meeting - 6pm	5 Assembly - 2.45pm	6 WF Diocesan Swimming (Parkes)	7/8
Mar	9 Pupil Free Day - Marist Spirituality	10	11 NAPLAN Writing	12 NAPLAN Reading	13	14/15
	NAPLAN Window					
Mar	16	17 St Patrick NAPLAN Conventions of Language	18 Kindergarten Transition Commences NAPLAN Numeracy	19 St Joseph Caritas Mufti Mission Stalls - 11.00am	20 Harmony Day Celebration Assembly - 2.45pm	21/22 Sun
	NAPLAN Window					
Mar	23	24 WF Touch Trials (Parkes)	25 Annunciation of the Lord WF Diocesan Winter Trials (Parkes)	26 World of Maths Incursion K-6 (School Hall) School Disco - 6.00pm	27 School Cross Country Assembly - 2.30pm	28/29 Palm Sunday
	NAPLAN Window					
Mar/Apr	30 School Public Speaking Competition - Year 3-6	31 Upstage K-6	1 NSWCPS Swimming P&F Meeting - 6pm	2 Easter Hat Parade - 9.15am Holy Thursday Stage 3 Liturgy - 12.30pm Holy Thursday Last Day of Term 1	3 Good Friday (PH)	4/5 Easter Sunday (5)