



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 9 - 8th December 2025

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 9

Monday

**Presentation Night -
6pm (Hall)**

Wednesday

**Kindergarten
Transition Graduation
2.30pm (Hall)**

Thursday

**Primary Swimming for
Sport**

**P&F Meeting 6pm
(Coachman Hotel)**

Friday

Year 6 Retreat

NEXT WEEK 10

Monday

**School Assembly
12.30pm**

Year 6 Assembly - 2pm

Thursday

Last Day - Term 4

**Year 6 Hat Toss -
3.15pm**

Dear Parents and Carers,

A friendly reminder that tonight is our Annual Presentation Night – a highlight of the school year where we come together to celebrate the achievements, talents and efforts of our students and staff.

When: Tonight, starting at 6:00 pm sharp

Where: School Hall

Important: All children are to be seated on the floor in their designated positions by 5:45 pm.

This event is always a special time for our Holy Family community, as it provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the year that has been and acknowledge the incredible contributions and successes of our students. I look forward to seeing all families in attendance to celebrate this wonderful occasion together.

A huge congratulations to Emrys Cassidy, who was recognised at the NSW Catholic Schools Sports Awards at the Sydney Cricket Ground last week. Emrys was presented with a CSNSW Maroon Sports Award for his outstanding achievements in sports this year. This is a remarkable accomplishment, and we are so proud of Emrys for his talent, dedication and hard work.

Last week, our Year 2 Intensive Swimming Program came to a successful conclusion. It was wonderful to see our students participating so enthusiastically and improving their skills with each session. Thank you to all the staff members who supported and guided our students throughout the program – your efforts are appreciated.

This Wednesday marks the final day of our Kindergarten Transition Program for the year. We are so proud of our future Kindy students and all they have achieved during this program. The day will conclude with a special graduation ceremony to celebrate their readiness to officially start Kindergarten next year. We can't wait to welcome them as full members of our Holy Family community in 2026!

On Friday, our Year 6 students will be participating in a special retreat to mark the end of their primary school journey. This will be a meaningful opportunity for them to reflect on their time at Holy Family and look ahead to the exciting new chapter of their educational journey in secondary school.

As we prepare for the many events and celebrations this week, let us take a moment to give thanks for the blessings of this year and the joy of coming together as a school community.

I look forward to seeing you this evening at Presentation Night!

Denise Gersbach

Principal



CONTACT US

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Family Parish School Parkes

★ Star of the Week ★

Georgie Harris is our Star of the Week for her dedication to her learning, her kindness towards others, and the consistent way she lives out our values of Praise, Love, and Trust.

Interview with Georgie



What is your favourite subject?



Science

In your free time, what do you like to do?

Solve puzzles

What is your favourite food?

Rice paper rolls

What do you like most about our school?

The nice teachers and the many friends I have to play with.



Spelling

What would you like to be when you grow up?

A zoologist

Term 4 Week 9: 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.

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

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

Second Week of Advent



Congratulations to our Year 6 students who participated with reverence at their Graduation Mass last Thursday. We wish them a bright and successful future as they transition to high school in 2026.

Many students have volunteered to participate in the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass on 24th December, 6pm at Holy Family Parish Church. They will be practicing at school to do the readings, take up the Offertory, enact the story of Jesus' birth and perform a liturgical dance.

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

Holy Family Parish Church, 29 Currajong St Parkes NSW 2870

Children participating should be there latest by 5:45pm and report to Mrs Gersbach

NEWS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON-

- **ADVENT- 30th November 2025**
- **Carols In The Park 2025- Sunday, 14th December, 7:30pm**

Our **Holy Family School Choir** will be singing the Christmas card **'Do You Hear What I Hear'**.

Where- Cooke Park

When- Sunday, 14th December

Parkes Shire Band will play from 6.30pm

Start Time: 7.30pm Community/School Choirs & Carols

(HFS Choir needs to be there by 7:10pm (meet Mrs Berger near the stage).

Dress- Choir will wear school Summer uniform

(Children can wear gold or silver tinsel wreaths on their heads)

- **Vinnies Christmas Appeal**

Christmas is the Season of Giving, and we are asking our Holy Family Community to donate non-perishable foods or toys for those who will face Christmas alone or in poverty. All donations can be brought to our Giving Tree in the school foyer.

***Upcoming Masses, Liturgies & Retreats**

- ★ Year 6 Retreat- Friday, 12th December, 9:00am-1:00pm HFS Hall

Have a wonderful week!

Beverly Berger

Religious Education Coordinator



Assembly Awards

Term 4 - Week 8

AWARD	CLASS	STUDENT NAME
Student of the Week	KJC	Wraith Sloane
	KC	Savannah Tarry
	1S	Peyton Sloane
	2CR	Noah Ford
	3N	Sophie Ross
	4W	Ceff Anasta
	5/6B	Nina Jiang
	5/6HR	Erica Malherbe
Recognition of Learning Award	Infants - KC	Harvey Williams
	Primary - 4W	Matilda McGrath
Consistently Following School Rules (based on Manner of the Week, Environment and Uniform)	Infants - 1S	Archer McWilliam
	Primary - 5/6HR	Isaac Siju
Playground Behaviour Award	Infants - 2CR	Dave Jeffress
	Primary - 5/6B	Daniella Anasta
Leadership Award	Infants - KJC	Jack McCabe
	Primary - 3N	Amelia Gersbach
Living the Gospel Values	Infants - KC	Toby Slaven
	Primary - 4W	Davyd Mamulashvili

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

PUPIL FREE DAYS 2026

TERM 1

Mon, 9th March

TERM 2

Fri, 8th May
Tue, 9th June

TERM 3

Thur, 24th September
Fri, 25th September

Gather

Gather · Together · Reflect

Please join us in the Holy Family School
Religion Room on Tuesday, 9th December
at 8.40am, as we Gather Together and
Reflect for the final time in 2025.

... and then stay for a cuppa and a chat.

Thank you for your support throughout
2025. I have truly enjoyed every one of our
GTR sessions that we have shared
together.

Merry Christmas and blessings for the
New Year.

Miss Gillian Lee
Holy Family School
Family Engagement Coordinator



Notes

HOLY FAMILY PARISH SCHOOL,
PARKES, NSW

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Please donate generously towards a good cause.

Our school community is coming together to donate non-perishable items of food and toys for those who will be lonely and those who live in poverty this Christmas.

Please send your donations to our Giving Tree in the school foyer.



HOLD YOUR CHILD'S HAND

As pedestrians, children can be easily distracted and are often too small to be seen by drivers. They may be unable to predict or identify dangers and tend to act impulsively.

Talk with your child about safe behaviour on the footpath – it's not a safe place to play as it is near the road and vehicles may be entering or exiting driveways.

Until your child is at least eight years old, hold their hand on the footpath, in the car park and when crossing the road.

Up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.

If you can't be with your child, organise for another trusted adult to accompany them.

After school, meet your child at the school gate. At the end of the school day children may be excited, distracted or tired and often not concentrating on their own safety.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on safetytown.com.au

Term 1 -2026- Parent

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
Jan/Feb	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
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 22/3 First Holy Communion 9.30am
			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)