



# HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 3 - 9th February 2026

## EVENTS

### THIS WEEK 3

#### Monday

P&F Meeting 6pm  
(Coachman Hotel)

#### Wednesday

Induction of School  
Leaders Mass 9.45am  
(Holy Family Church)

#### Sunday

Family Mass 9.30am  
(HF Church)

Dear Parents, Carers, and Students,

Welcome back to a new school year at Holy Family School! It has been an absolute pleasure to see the joyful and enthusiastic return of our students this week. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our students on a wonderful first week back. It has been wonderful to see our children so settled and ready to engage in learning from the very beginning. Their enthusiasm and positive attitude have been inspiring.

Our playground has been alive with laughter and friendship, and I want to commend our students for their excellent behaviour. It has been particularly pleasing to see the way in which they have been so inclusive and caring toward our new students. This reflects the values of kindness, respect and community that we hold dear at Holy Family School.

A huge congratulations also goes to all students for their outstanding participation in our recent swimming carnival. It was such a joy to witness the determination and enthusiasm of students as they gave their best in the pool. The support and encouragement shown by the students for their house teams and fellow competitors was fantastic. Well done to everyone who participated! We now have a strong school team of swimmers who have been selected to represent Holy Family School at the Central Cluster Carnival in Forbes on 17th February. We wish them the very best of luck!

Looking ahead, we have some special events to mark on your calendars:

On Wednesday, we will come together as a school community for our Opening School Mass at Holy Family Church at 9:45am. During this special celebration, we will induct our 2026 School Leaders, who I am confident will lead with faith and compassion. All parents, carers and friends are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate the beginning of the school year and pray for a successful and fulfilling year ahead.

This Sunday at 9:30am, we invite all our families to attend our Family Mass at Holy Family Church. It would be wonderful to see as many of our students as possible taking part in this special occasion. A note will be sent home today to confirm your child's participation. We hope you can join us for this beautiful opportunity to come together in faith as a school community.

*Denise Gersbach*

**Principal**

### CONTACT US

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**FIND US ON FACEBOOK**

[Holy Family Parish School Parkes](#)



# ★ Star of the Week ★

## Star of the Week

Hunter Wythes is our Star of the Week for being a quiet achiever and a kind friend who consistently lives out our core values of Praise, Love and Trust.

## Interview with Hunter



What is your favourite subject?

Art



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

Read a book

What is your favourite food?

Chicken nuggets

What do you like most about our school?

My friends and the engaging learning activities



I am good at being quiet and I enjoy writing.

What would you like to be when you grow up?

A builder

Term 1 Week 3: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - PRAISE)

**Acknowledge good choices and always remember to say thank you**

**This fortnight's challenge is about the Winter Olympics 2026.**

1. Where will the 2026 Winter Olympics be held?	A) Beijing, China B) Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy C) Tokyo, Japan D) Vancouver, Canada
2. What do the athletes do at the start of the Olympics to show peace and friendship?	A) Play games together B) Share food C) Take part in the Opening Ceremony and parade with their countries D) Race each other

3. Which of these sports is part of the Winter Olympics?	A) Ice Hockey B) Ski Jumping C) Figure Skating D) All of the above
4. What is something unique about the Winter Olympics?	A) They only happen in countries that have snow B) They always take place in summer C) They have water sports D) They use swimming pools for the events
5. In ski jumping, what are athletes trying to do?	A) Jump the farthest B) Jump the highest C) Jump through a ring of fire D) Jump without falling
6. How many people are in a team for the bobsleigh event?	A) 1 or 2 B) 2 or 4 C) 3 or 5 D) 5 or 6
7. What is the name of the object that players slide across the ice in curling?	A) Puck B) Stone C) Block D) Disc
8. Which famous Winter Olympics sports person is known for winning three gold medals in speed skating in 2022?	A) Shaun White B) Chloe Kim C) Erin Jackson D) Suzanne Schulting
9. When did the first Winter Olympics take place?	A) 1924 B) 1936 C) 1950 D) 1964
10. The Olympic symbol features 5 rings. What do the 5 rings represent?	A) 5 sports in the Winter Olympics B) 5 continents of the world C) 5 colours of medals D) 5 Olympic mascots

**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

## Fifth week in Ordinary Time

This Wednesday, 11th February, we have our 2026 School Leaders Induction Mass. We pray for our school leaders as they embark on a year of leadership and responsibility and that they follow Jesus' core teaching on leadership, which is **to serve** rather than to be served. Jesus demonstrated this servant leadership by washing His disciples' feet, which was usually the job of the lowest servant in a household. In Mark 10:45, He said, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve". Humility is an attribute of Christian leadership.

### SHROVE TUESDAY: 10th February

*Pancakes available at the canteen!*

We look forward to some important liturgical celebrations this term-

❖ School Leaders Induction Mass-  
Wednesday, 11th February, 9:45 am at Holy Family Catholic Church

❖ Ash Wednesday- Season of Lent  
Wednesday, 18th February, Whole School Liturgy, 12.30pm,  
Holy Family School Hall

❖ Sacrament of Eucharist- First Holy Communion Mass-  
Sunday, 1st March, 9.30am at Holy Family Catholic Church

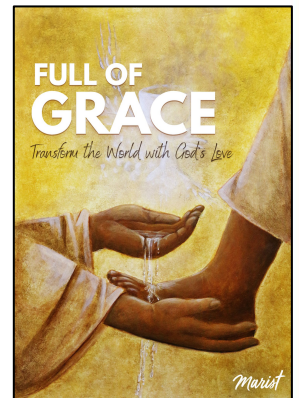
★ Year 3 Catholic students will have the opportunity to make their First Holy Communion. Information Notes will be sent home shortly.

➤ SEASON OF LENT 2026-  
Wednesday, 18 February 2026 – Thursday, 2 April 2026

➤ Easter 2026- Sunday, 5 April 2026

MARIST THEME 2026-Full of Grace – Transform the World with God's Love.

I hope everyone has a wonderful week.  
Beverly Berger



# Notes

Starting the 27<sup>th</sup> February!!  
**HOLY FAMILY PLAY AND GROW  
PLAYGROUP**



**10-11am**  
**Every Friday Morning**  
**Holy Family School Hall**



We are celebrating  
Shrove Tuesday

**PANCAKE TUESDAY**



Please join your child at Holy Family School for a  
Pancake Morning Tea (Recess)

**TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 11.00 AM**

**\$2.00 EACH**

**ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TO  
Project Compassion**

## Family Mass

Holy Family Catholic Church

29 Currajong St, Parkes NSW 2870

9.30am, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are pleased to inform you that we are having a  
Family Mass on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February at 9.30am  
at Holy Family Catholic Church.

We would like to extend an invitation to all families in  
our school to attend our special mass.

It is wonderful that many students have volunteered  
to read, altar serve and take up the Offertory. Please  
join us as we come together as a school community.

With gratitude,  
Holy Family Staff and Students

In Praise, Love and Trust

# Gather

Gather • Together • Reflect

Please join us in the Holy Family  
School Religion Room on  
Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> Of February at  
8.40am as we Gather Together  
and Reflect!

...then stay for a coffee and a  
chat



# Notes

## HFS Breakfast Club



The HFS Breakfast Club urgently needs additional volunteers to continue running at full capacity. This much-loved program has been operating three mornings a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday) for several years, helping give our children the best possible start to their day.

Without more volunteer support, the program will unfortunately be reduced to just two days a week. Volunteering requires only a 30-minute commitment, and every extra pair of hands makes a real difference. If you're able to help, please contact the office. Many hands truly do make light work.

An advertisement for Musica Arioso. At the top, a gold banner reads "TAKING ENROLMENTS TERM 1 NOW!". Below this, the name "Musica Arioso" is written in a large, elegant, cursive font. Underneath, it lists "Singing, Piano, Keyboard, Guitar, Brass & Drama classes in Parkes" and "Singing & Drama classes in Forbes". The background is a textured, golden-brown color with various musical instruments and notes scattered around, including a trumpet, a piano, a guitar, and a microphone. At the bottom, it says "For more information and to enrol please visit [www.MusicaArioso.com.au](http://www.MusicaArioso.com.au) or call Gail on 0414 478535".

## DELIVERY OF MEDICATION TO THE SCHOOL

Wherever possible, medication should be provided to the school by parents on a daily basis. If the parent is unable to deliver the medication to the school, it is advisable that a responsible person nominated by the parent to deliver it. If a student is given the responsibility of delivering the medication to the designated area, a proper assessment of the risk will be conducted. Factors to be taken into account when assessing the risk are:

- the maturity and capacity of the student
- parental consent
- any additional safety issues

### **Self-administration**

Parents/Guardians need to inform the school regarding students taking medication at school. With the exception of the use of an asthma reliever, self-administration of medication by Primary aged school students is **not appropriate**.

# You're Invited!

Come along and parade your finest Homemade Easter Hat

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026

Start : 9.15am

Parents and Friends are welcome to attend.

Children are to wear casual clothes



# Term 1 - Parent Calendar

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 P&F Meeting - 6pm	3 Kindergarten Assessments	4 Kindergarten students commence	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 Sun 15/3 Family Mass 9.30am
Feb	16	17 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Recess 11am 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 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) AECG Meeting- Junior and Senior (HFS)	25 School Committee Meeting - 7.30pm	26 Parent Meeting - First Holy Communion - 5pm	27 WF AFL Trials (Hay) 5/6B Chapel/Mass - 9.45am	28/1 1/3 First Holy Communion 9.30am
Mar	2 P&F Meeting - 6pm	3 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) NRMA / Kindergarten Bus Safety 9.30am	4 Parent Meeting (RE Room) - First Holy Communion - 5:15pm	5 Assembly - 2.45pm	6 WF Diocesan Swimming (Parkes)	7/8
Mar	9 Pupil Free Day - Marist Spirituality	10 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room)	11 NAPLAN Writing	12 NAPLAN Reading	13 5/8HW Chapel/Mass - 9.45am	14/15
Mar	16	17 St Patrick GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) NAPLAN Conventions of Language	18 Kindergarten Transition Commences NAPLAN Numeracy Year 2 Liturgy 12:30pm	19 St Joseph Caritas Mufti Mission Stalls - 11.00am Back to School Bash & Disco (School Hall) - 6.00pm	20 Harmony Day Celebration Assembly - 2.45pm 4WR Chapel/Mass - 9.45am	21/22 Sun
Mar	23	24 WF Touch Trials (Parkes) GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room)	25 Annunciation of the Lord WF Diocesan Winter Trials (Parkes) 3N Chapel/Mass - 9.45am	26 World of Maths Incursion K-6 (School Hall)	27 School Cross Country Assembly - 2.30pm	28/29 Palm Sunday
Mar/Apr	30 School Public Speaking Competition - Year 3-6 P&F Meeting - 6pm	31 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) Upstage K-6	1 NSWCPS Swimming Year 1 Liturgy - 12:30pm	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)