



# HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 6 - 2nd March 2026

## EVENTS

### THIS WEEK 6

#### Monday

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

#### Tuesday

**GTR Meeting 8.40am  
(RE Room)**

#### Thursday

**Assembly 2.45pm**

#### Friday

**WF Diocesan  
Swimming Carnival  
(Parkes)**

### NEXT WEEK 7

#### Monday

**Pupil Free Day (No  
School for Students)**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to our students who made their First Holy Communion at Holy Family Church on Sunday. All the children were beautifully presented and displayed great reverence as they received this special sacrament for the first time. This is such an important milestone in their faith journey, and we thank their families, teachers, and Fr Barry for supporting their preparation.

This week, I will be attending the Diocesan Principals' Conference in Forbes alongside other principals from the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese. During my absence, please contact Mr Berger for any matters requiring immediate attention.

Last week, Miss Lee facilitated our very first playgroup in the school hall, and I am delighted to share that it was a great success! Thank you to all the families who attended. I encourage any mums, dads and carers in our community with young children to join the playgroup, which will run each Friday in our school hall. It's a wonderful opportunity for children to play, learn and make new friends.

We wish the very best of luck to our swimmers who will be competing in the Diocesan Swimming Carnival in Parkes this Friday. The first three placed students in each event will qualify for the Polding Carnival in Sydney later this term. May you give it your best effort and enjoy the experience!

A reminder that there will be a P&F Meeting tonight at the Coachman Hotel starting at 6:00 pm. All families are warmly invited to join us as we discuss exciting plans for the school year. Your input and support are invaluable to the success of our school community.

Please note that next Monday will be a Pupil Free Day at Holy Family School. On this day, our staff will be participating in a Marist Spirituality Day facilitated by Marist Schools Australia.

A special welcome to Risika, Pulitha, Kinula Da Silva who commenced in Year 4, 5 and 6 respectively today.

*Denise Gersbach*

**Principal**



### CONTACT US

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**FIND US ON FACEBOOK**  
[Holy Family Parish School Parkes](#)

## ★ Star of the Week ★

Braith Stevenson is our Star of the Week for demonstrating our core values of Praise, Love and Trust. He consistently follows school rules, shows kindness to others, and completes his classwork to an exceptionally high standard.

### Interview with Braith



What is your favourite subject?	Mathematics
	
In your free time, what do you like to do?	Play with train sets
What is your favourite food?	Chicken nuggets
What do you like most about our school?	We get to play after we've had our recess and lunch
	Soccer, footy and mathematics
What would you like to be when you grow up?	A train driver or professional soccer player

### Term 1 Week 6: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - LOVE)

- *Be patient* - Sometimes, showing love means waiting your turn or giving others a chance.

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

1. Sushi comes from which country?	A. China B. Japan C. Thailand D. Korea
2. Tacos are a traditional food from:	A. Spain B. Italy C. Mexico D. Brazil

3. Pizza was first made famous in:	A. France B. Italy C. USA D. Greece
4. Croissants are commonly eaten in:	A. Germany B. France C. Belgium D. Sweden
5. Bratwurst sausages are traditional in:	A. Austria B. Switzerland C. Germany D. Poland
6. Paella is a traditional dish from:	A. Portugal B. Spain C. Argentina D. Peru
7. Dim sum is commonly eaten in:	A. Japan B. Vietnam C. China D. Mongolia
8. Lamingtons are a famous treat from:	A. New Zealand B. Australia C. Canada D. South Africa
9. Poutine is a popular dish from:	A. Canada B. USA C. Ireland D. Scotland
10. Falafel is often eaten in:	A. Greece B. Egypt C. Middle Eastern countries D. Turkey

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 in Lent

Congratulations to the ten children who made their First Holy Communion on Sunday, 1st March, 9.30am at Holy Family Catholic Church. The children participated with reverence all through the Mass. They received their First Holy Communion certificates and enjoyed a delicious cupcake after the Mass.



Our Family Engagement Coordinator, Ms Gill Lee, organised a special ***Gather Together and Reflect*** session in the school RE room on Wednesday, 25th March at 5pm, for all the parents whose children were receiving the Sacrament of Eucharist. During the session they made a Rosary with an assortment of beads and crosses provided, to take home for their child. It was wonderful to see parents engaged and involved in the faith formation of their children.



I hope everyone has a wonderful week.  
Beverly Berger

## Homegrown Parkes Markets

Your P&F will be running a stall selling Homemade cakes, Fruit & Vegetables & hotdogs at the homegrown markets on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March**. This is a fantastic opportunity to raise some funds and showcase our school to the wider community.



**SAVE THE DATES FOR 2026!**  
**SATURDAY, 21 MARCH**  
**SATURDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER**

Stallholder and Food Vendor EOI for the March event will be released in November 2025. For other enquiries, email [homegrownparkes@gmail.com](mailto:homegrownparkes@gmail.com) or 0418 611 053.



Volunteer Roster Homegrown Parkes Markets		Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March				
	Volunteer 1	Volunteer 2	Volunteer 3	Volunteer 4	Volunteer 5	Activity
7-8						Setup
8-9						Setup
9-10						Sales
10-11						Sales
11-12						Sales
12-1						Sales
1-2						Sales
2-3						Packup

If you can spare an hour or two to help on the stall or are able to donate cakes and slices or fruits & vegetables from your garden, please put your name in the roster in the attached link or contact the office. Any donations of cakes, slices or fruits and vegetables can be dropped off on the day, prior to 9am please.

# Notes

## Holy Family P&F Annual General Meeting

Monday 2nd March, 6pm, Coachman Hotel (and Online)

**All Welcome. Come and support your school. Many hands make light work.**

Includes election of the following positions;

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Communications Officer
- Grants Officer
- Committee Members

**Meeting is also available online to allow everyone the opportunity to attend**

[HFS P&F AGM Online Meeting Link](#)



**BOOK NOW!**

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HOLY FAMILY P&F

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## Kindergarten Transition PROGRAM

**KICKSTART YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING JOURNEY**

Our 2027 Transition Program is now available from Term 1 - 17th March 2027 to Term 4 - 8th December 2027 for children starting Kindergarten in 2028.

\*Please note that Term 3 and 4 attendance are limited to students who are enrolled for 2028 Kindergarten at HFS.

- FREE - No Cost
- Program aligns with school hours
- On EVERY Wednesday 9 am - 3 pm
- Canteen lunch available
- FREE Holy Family sports shirt for the program.

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# Notes

Welcome to CaTheR

## Who You Share It With

The Lord delights in His people. Psalm 149:3



Please join us in the Holy Family School Religion Room on Tuesday morning at 8.40am, as we

**Gather - Together - Reflect**

**Theme: To highlight that joy is found in those with whom we share life's moments.**

All Parents, Carers, Toddlers and Parishioners are welcome!

### YOUR GUIDE TO DRIVING AND PARKING SAFELY NEAR SCHOOLS

The beginning and end of the school day are busy times for pedestrians and vehicles outside the school. That's why you need to take extra care in 40km/h school zones.

- Park safely and legally, even if it means walking further to the school gate. Parking signs are planned with children's safety in mind.
- Slow down to 40km/h in the school zone and stay aware of crossings.
- Always park and turn legally around the school.
- Never double park as it puts children at risk.
- Manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns are dangerous.
- Never park in a bus zone or in the school bus bay.
- Make sure your children use the Safety Door (rear footpath side door) to get in and out of the car.
- At a supervised crossing, observe the directions of the school crossing supervisor.
- Model safe and considerate behaviour for your child – they will learn from you.

Remember to always give way to pedestrians particularly when entering and leaving driveways. Don't park across the school driveway or the entrance to the school car park. It's always a good idea to use the drop off and pick up area suggested by your school. This will help keep all children as safe as possible during the busiest times of the school day.

For more information on keeping our kids safe around schools visit the parents section on [safetytown.com.au](http://safetytown.com.au)

## OPEN DAY SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Explore all the College has to offer! 10am to 1pm



Questions? Contact our Enrolments Officer: [tiffanynicholls@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tiffanynicholls@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au)

Please join us on Friday March, 6th for another session of

**PLAY AND GROW**  
A HAPPY PLACE TO GATHER



WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE FOR SOME FUN, STORIES, CRAFT AND A SNACK

WHEN: Fridays from 10am – 11.00am

WHERE: Holy Family School Hall

WHO: Children aged 0-5yrs with parents/carers

WHAT TO BRING: Morning Tea for your child



# Notes

## 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



## 2026 Parkes Catholic Debutante Ball

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM PARENTS FOR A 2026 COMMITTEE



MEETING TO BE HELD: MONDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH - 6.30PM - COACHMAN HOTEL PARKES

A photograph of a group of young rugby players in black and red uniforms, some with their arms raised in celebration on a grassy field.

**REGISTER NOW!**

**AGES 4 - 16**

**TRY RUGBY 2026**

**REGISTER NOW**

5:30 - 6:30

Fridays in March

Spicer Oval

\$20 per child

A square QR code located at the bottom right of the registration section.

## 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.

# Term 1 - Parent Calendar

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 P&F Meeting - 6pm	3 Kindergarten Assessments	4 Kindergarten students commence	5 Swimming Carnival	6 Folding 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 Back to School Bash & Disco (School Hall) - 6.00pm	20 Assembly - 2.45pm	21/22
Feb/Mar	23	24 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) AECG Meeting- Junior and Senior (HFS)	25 Parent Meeting (RE Room) - First Holy Communion - 5:15pm	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	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 School Committee Meeting - 7.30pm	12 NAPLAN Reading	13 5/8HW Chapel/Mass - 9:45am Caritas Mufti Mission Stalls - 11.00am	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 NAPLAN Window	19 St Joseph 4WR Chapel/Mass - 9:45am	20 Harmony Day Celebration Assembly - 12:15pm	21/22 Sun Home Grown Markets 21/3 - P&F stall
Mar	23 NAPLAN Window	24 WF Touch Trials (Parkes)	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	10 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)