



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 8 - 16th March 2026

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 8

Tuesday

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

**NAPLAN Conventions
of Language**

Wednesday

**Kindergarten Transition
Commences**

NAPLAN Numeracy

Year 2 Liturgy 12.30pm

Thursday

**4WR Chapel/Mass
9.45am**

Friday

**Harmony Day
Celebration:**

**Lunch with Students
1pm**

**Harmony Day
Assembly 2pm**

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge congratulations to all our students for their incredible efforts during last Friday's Mufti Mission Day! Together, we raised an impressive amount of money for Caritas Australia, which will go directly towards supporting those in need. It was wonderful to witness the active participation and enthusiasm from both our students and families.

This week, our Year 3 and Year 5 students will continue their NAPLAN journey. They will be completing the Conventions of Language and Numeracy assessments on Tuesday and Wednesday.

We are thrilled to announce that our two Transition classes will commence this week on Wednesday. It is always a joy to welcome new students to the Holy Family School community. We look forward to getting to know our newest learners and supporting them as they begin their exciting school journey.

This week, we come together as a school to celebrate Harmony Week, a time to embrace and celebrate the diversity of our community. We have some special events planned:

- Harmony Week Liturgy: Led by our Year 2 students, join us on Wednesday at 12.15pm in the chapel.
- Harmony Day Assembly: Celebrate with us on Friday at 2pm for this special assembly.

We warmly invite all families to join us in these wonderful events as we reflect on the importance of inclusivity, respect and belonging.

A reminder that our Parents and Friends (P&F) Association will be hosting a stall at Cooke Park this Saturday for the Home Grown Markets. Your support is greatly appreciated, whether by visiting the stall or volunteering a little of your time on the day. This is a fantastic opportunity to connect with our local community and support the school.

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 ★

Savannah Kelley is our Star of the Week for demonstrating our core values of Praise, Love and Trust. She is a valued member of her classroom, always displaying respect and responsibility. She has a friendly attitude, works well in class, and wears her uniform with pride.

Interview with Savannah



What is your favourite subject? 	Maths
In your free time, what do you like to do?	Dance
What is your favourite food?	Chicken burgers
What do you like most about our school? 	I get to learn and also play sport Writing and running
What would you like to be when you grow up?	A teacher

Term 1 Week 8: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - TRUST)

Trust is earned by actions.

This fortnight's challenge is on- Capitals of the World

1. What is the capital city of Australia?	A. Sydney B. Melbourne C. Canberra D. Brisbane
2. What is the capital of the United States?	A. New York B. Washington, D.C. C. Los Angeles D. Chicago

3. What is the capital of New Zealand?	A. Auckland B. Christchurch C. Wellington D. Hamilton
4. What is the capital of France?	A. Rome B. Paris C. Madrid D. Berlin
5. What is the capital of the United Kingdom?	A. London B. Manchester C. Dublin D. Glasgow
6. What is the capital of China?	A. Shanghai B. Hong Kong C. Beijing D. Guangzhou
7. What is the capital of Italy?	A. Milan B. Venice C. Rome D. Naples
8. What is the capital of Canada?	A. Toronto B. Vancouver C. Montreal D. Ottawa
9. What is the capital of Germany?	A. Munich B. Berlin C. Frankfurt D. Hamburg
10. What is the capital of Brazil?	A. Rio de Janeiro B. São Paulo C. Salvador D. Brasília

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



Fourth Week in Lent

Our Mufti Mission Day on Friday, 13th March, was a great success, thanks to the generosity of our school community. Thank you to our parents, staff and students for donating items for sale, running the Mission Stalls and visiting the school to support our fundraising effort. We were able to raise \$1385 for Project Compassion.

Our students demonstrated excellent leadership by helping their teachers to set up and run the various stalls.



***4HR will attend Mass in the Chapel- 9:45am on Thursday, 19th March.**

Important Feast Days coming up-

***Tuesday, 17th March-SAINT PATRICK**

***Thursday, 19th March-SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

***Masses & Liturgies**

***Year 2 Liturgy - Wednesday, 18th March, 12:30pm- Chapel**

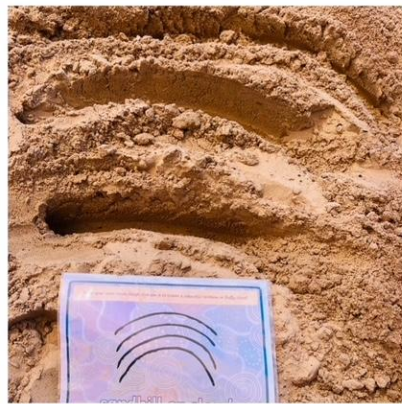
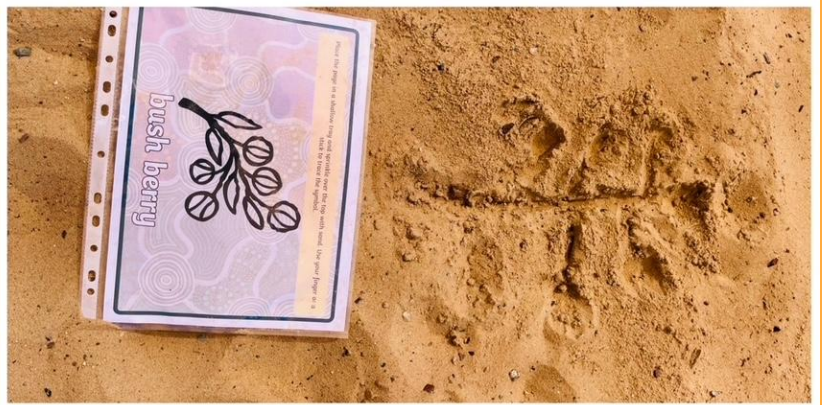
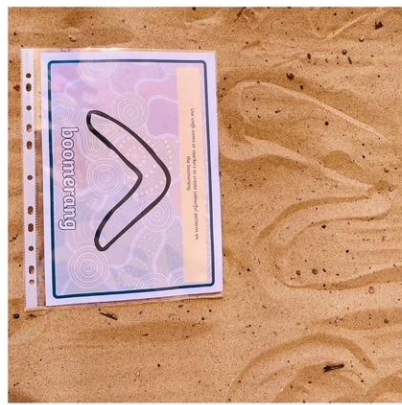
***Year 1 Liturgy - Wednesday, 1st April, 12:30pm- Chapel**

***Stage 3 Holy Thursday Liturgy- 2nd April - 12.30pm- HFS Hall**

I hope everyone has a wonderful week.

Beverly Berger

Wiradjuri



In Wiradjuri lessons, Year 4 students learned about Indigenous symbols and then practised drawing them in the sand.



Homegrown Parkes Markets

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



Volunteer Roster Homegrown Parkes Markets		Saturday 21 st March				
	Volunteer 1	Volunteer 2	Volunteer 3	Volunteer 4	Volunteer 5	Activity
7-8						Setup
8-9						Setup
9-10	Tanya Phlllips	Elizabeth T				Sales
10-11	Tanya Phlllips	Elizabeth T	Jasmine Jose			Sales
11-12	Tanya Phlllips	Elizabeth T	Jasmine Jose			Sales
12-1		Elizabeth T	Jasmine Jose			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



*We Belong to
Each Other*

A Reflection for Harmony Day

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

Gather - Together - Reflect

All Parents, Carers, Toddlers and Parishioners are welcome!

'If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other.

Mother Teresa



Harmony Day



Celebrating Harmony

Friday 20th March 2026

We will be celebrating Australia's cultural diversity and inclusivity at Holy Family School on this day. Students can wear traditional cultural clothing or orange clothing or add a touch of orange to mufti (plain) clothes. Our classroom activities on the day will be focused on culture and belonging.

Parents and friends are warmly invited to:

- Attend a Harmony Day Assembly that will be held at 2 pm with a special performance by the students.
- Join the students for lunch before assembly.
- Order a Special \$10 Harmony Day Lunch (order via Compass and orders closes on Wednesday)
- REGULAR CANTEEN MENU UNAVAILABLE ON THIS DAY

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO...



Fridays from 10am - 11.00am
in the Holy Family School Library for
children aged 0-5yrs with parents/carers.
Don't forget your own snacks!



ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN FOR 2027

Apply now via www.redbendcc.nsw.edu.au



Questions? Contact our Enrolments Officer: tiffanynicholls@redbendcc.nsw.edu.au

APPLICATIONS CLOSE APRIL 1, 2026

HENRY PARKES CENTRE

OPEN DAY

Saturday, 11th April 2026
9:00 am - 3:00pm
66 -78 Peak Hill Rd, Parkes



EXPERIENCE THE HENRY PARKES CENTRE

Explore the museums, dive into local history and culture, enjoy demonstrations, taste local produce, browse unique gifts, and meet the passionate team who bring these stories to life. A great chance for locals and visitors to discover Parkes.

- The King's Castle Elvis Exhibit
- Henry Parkes Museum
- Motor Museum
- Moat Cottage
- Gates of Graceland
- Vehicle Displays
- Demonstrations
- FREE BBQ
- Coffee Van
- Local Produce Tastings
- Face Painting
- Live Music
- Giveaways
- FREE Entry
- Bring your family & friends



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visitparkes.com.au

Visit **PARKES** REGION
Wiradjuri Country

You're Invited!

Come along and parade your finest Homemade Easter Hat

Thursday 2nd April 2026

Start : 9.15am

Parents and Friends are welcome to attend.

Children are to wear casual clothes



SUPPORTING HEALTHY TECH USE as your child transitions into secondary school



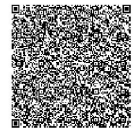
Join the eSafety Commissioner's expert education and training team for a FREE live webinar for parents

Wednesday
18 March 2026
7.00pm – 7.45pm

As your child moves into high school the influence of peers intensifies and online social connections become increasingly complex, but there is plenty you can do to support them.

For parents and carers of young people in upper primary and Year 7 REGISTER:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4678258588802870818>

This 45-minute webinar explores the social pressures, peer influences, and technological challenges young people face as they transition into secondary school. It also offers practical strategies for navigating online friendships and connections to help minimise negative experiences. It's suitable for parents and carers of children in upper primary school (ages 11 to 12) and Year 7.



eSafety Commissioner ccsp.catholic.edu.au esafety.gov.au

HFS Breakfast Club



The popular HFS Breakfast Club currently runs three days a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday). We would love to extend this popular program to five days a week so that all children can start their school day with a healthy breakfast every day.

To make this possible, we need your help. If you are able to spare just half an hour on any weekday morning, we would love to hear from you. Breakfast Club starts at 8:20am and finishes by 8:55am.

If this is something you can help with, please contact the school office. Many hands make light work! 😊

Notes

WEARING HELMETS AND RIDING SAFELY

Wearing helmets

Your child must wear a helmet when riding a bike in any public place – it's the law. The helmet must comply with the Australian and New Zealand standards and needs to be securely fitted and fastened on your child's head. It should be buckled firmly so it fits without wobbling or slipping to the sides. Always remember to check that your child is wearing a helmet whenever they're playing or riding on wheels:

- Bikes
- Foot scooters
- Roller Skates
- Skateboards
- Rollerblades.

Riding safely

Although children quickly learn to pedal, steer and brake, they aren't ready to cycle near traffic or on the road. Until they are at least 10 years old, your child should ride off-road away from vehicles and driveways.

The safest places to ride bikes, scooters and skateboards are within fenced areas. This helps your child from riding or falling onto the footpath or the road. Children under 12 and their accompanying supervising adult riders may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting cycling. Riders need to take special care at driveways where vehicles may be driving in or out.

At intersections, riders must dismount and wheel the bicycle across the road as a pedestrian, following the STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK! procedure.

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



Kindergarten Transition PROGRAM 2027

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 (During School Terms)
- Canteen lunch available
- FREE Holy Family sports shirt for the program.



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



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HOLY FAMILY P&F

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 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 - 9pm	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 5/6HW 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	19 St Joseph 4WR Chapel/Mass - 9:45am	20 Harmony Day Celebration Assembly - 2pm	21/22 Sun Home Grown Markets 21/3 - P&F stall
Mar	23	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	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)