



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 1 Week 9 - 23rd March 2026

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 9

Tuesday

**WF Touch Trials
(Parkes)**

Wednesday

**WF Winter Trials
(Parkes) - League,
Soccer, Hockey, Netball
3N Chapel/Mass 9.45am**

Thursday

**World of Maths
Incursion K-6**

Friday

**School Cross Country
Assembly - 2.30pm**



Dear Parents and Carers,

What an exciting week it has been at Holy Family School!

Last Friday, we had a truly wonderful celebration for Harmony Day. It was wonderful to see so many families joining us during lunch and for our very special Harmony Day assembly. The dancing, the vibrant costumes and the beautiful singing were a testament to the talent and diversity of our students. I would like to commend all the children for their participation and enthusiasm. A special thank you goes to Mr Berger and all of our dedicated teachers who prepared the children so well for the day. It was a joyous occasion that highlighted the rich multicultural community we are so blessed to have at our school.

Looking ahead to next week, we have some exciting events planned:

- Tuesday, 24th March: We wish our students competing at the Diocesan Touch Trials the very best of luck.
- Wednesday, 25th March: Good luck also to our students participating in the Diocesan Winter Trials. Your hard work and commitment to sport is inspiring, and we look forward to hearing about your efforts.
- Thursday, 26th March: We are thrilled to host the World of Maths Incursion in our school hall. Mathematics is a key focus area in our School Improvement Plan this year, and this interactive event will give students a hands-on opportunity to engage with problem-solving and mathematical concepts in a fun and exciting way.
- Friday, 31st March: Our School Cross Country will be held at Northparkes Oval. Students aged 5-7 years will run 1km, those aged 8-10 years will run 2km, and our 11-13 year-olds will tackle 3km. We will walk to the oval at 9am, so please ensure your child has a packed recess, a drink bottle, and is wearing their full sports uniform, including their hat and sports jumper. Parents are warmly invited to attend and cheer the children on during their races.

A very special thank you to our P&F for their incredible efforts at the Home Grown Markets in Cooke Park last Saturday. Our stall was a huge success, offering home-cooked goodies, popcorn, drinks and hot dogs. We are so grateful to the staff, students and parents who volunteered their time to work shifts throughout the day.

Last Wednesday saw the commencement of our Transition Program. We are delighted to have two classes this year, with all children having a wonderful first day getting to know the routines of 'big school'.

Denise Gersbach

Principal

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Family Parish School Parkes

★ Star of the Week ★

Marley Cox is our Star of the Week for demonstrating our core values of Praise, Love and Trust. She shows a growing love of learning and is adjusting wonderfully to primary school. She is a conscientious student who listens carefully and follows instructions, always approaching tasks with a positive and friendly attitude.

Interview with Marley



What is your favourite subject?

Maths



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

Play with dolls

What is your favourite food?

Grapes & chocolate

What do you like most about our school?

The way we learn in class



What would you like to be when you grow up ?

Writing

A doctor

Term 1 Week 9: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - LOVE)

Respect and celebrate people's differences.

This fortnight's challenge is on- Harmony Day

<p>1. When is Harmony Day celebrated in Australia?</p>	<p>A. 1 January B. 21 March C. 25 April D. 26 January</p>
<p>2. Harmony Day encourages students to:</p>	<p>A. Be kind and respectful B. Ignore others C. Compete with friends D. Stay quiet all day</p>

<p>3. Which of these is a good Harmony Day message?</p>	<p>A. Only my culture matters B. Everyone should be the same C. Everyone belongs D. Differences are bad</p>
<p>4. Harmony Day is celebrated mostly in:</p>	<p>A. Australia B. Canada C. Japan D. Brazil</p>
<p>5. Harmony Day is about respecting:</p>	<p>A. Only people from Australia B. Only people who speak English C. People from all cultures D. Only people in your class</p>
<p>6. What colour is most commonly worn on Harmony Day?</p>	<p>A. Blue B. Green C. Orange D. Purple</p>
<p>7. The date 21 March was chosen because it is the:</p>	<p>A. First day of winter B. International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination C. Australia Day D. A public holiday</p>
<p>8. Harmony Day recognises that Australia is a:</p>	<p>A. Small island B. Multicultural country C. Farming country D. Sports country</p>
<p>9. Harmony Day encourages people to:</p>	<p>A. Ignore differences B. Celebrate cultural diversity C. Only follow one culture D. Compete with each other</p>
<p>10. What does “diversity” mean?</p>	<p>A. Everyone being exactly the same B. People having different cultures, languages and backgrounds C. Only speaking one language D. Living in one place</p>

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 Lent

Year 2 prepared and participated in a beautiful liturgy. Thank you Mrs. Caldwell and Mrs. Rice for organising a liturgy with a focus on Harmony Week, praying especially for peace and harmony in our world. The children sang *I'd like to Teach the World to Sing in Perfect Harmony* at the end, which left us all with smiles on our faces and warmth in our hearts.



*Upcoming Masses & Liturgies

***Stage 3 Holy Thursday Liturgy-**

2nd April - 12.30pm- HFS Hall

All are welcome to attend.

Join us in commemorating Jesus' Passion (the short final period before the death of Jesus).

Watch the videos about Palm Sunday with your child/children

[What is Palm Sunday? 🌴 All About Palm Sunday for Kids!](#)

[Jesus and Palm Sunday | God's Story](#)



[Holy Week & Easter Mass Times at Holy Family Parish Church](#)

Palm Sunday- 29th March

Masses: Saturday 28th March - 5.00pm, Sunday 29th March - 9.30am, Sunday 29th March - 5.00pm

Holy Thursday-2nd April

Mass at 6.00pm (Adoration until 8.00pm)

Good Friday-3rd April

Stations of the Cross - 10.00am

Celebration of the Lord's Passion - 3.00pm

Easter Saturday-4th April

Vigil Mass at 6.00pm

Easter Sunday-5th April

Mass at 9.30am

All Easter Masses at the Church

NO MASS SUNDAY EVENING

I hope everyone has a wonderful week.

Beverly Berger

Assembly Awards

Term 1 - Week 8

AWARD	CLASS	STUDENT NAME
Student of the Week	KJ	Ivy Pettit
	KC	Jedda Stevenson
	1C	Savannah Kelley
	2CR	Preston Stevenson
	3N	Dave Jeffress
	4WR	Tyler McPhee
	5/6B	Austin Vlores
	5/6HW	Aava Dhakal
Recognition of Learning Award	Infants - 1C	Harvey Williams
	Primary - 5/6B	Seth King
Consistently Following School Rules (based on Manner of the Week, Environment and Uniform)	Infants - KC	Lola Wright
	Primary - 4WR	Tessa Dugan
Playground Behaviour Award	Infants - 2CR	Kolby Pope
	Primary - 5/6HW	Mia Townsend
Leadership Award	Primary - 3N	Georgie Harris
Living the Gospel Values	Infants - 1C	Evie Acret
	Primary - 5/6B	Olivia Culhane

Notes

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



ATTENTION JUNIORS

🗓 Registrations due!

Please make sure your child is registered before this date. Early registrations help us:

- ✓ Nominate the correct age-group teams
- ✓ Confirm we have enough players for each squad
- ✓ Decide if we need to combine age groups clubs
- ✓ Lock in coaches and training schedules
- ✓ Order the right number of jerseys and equipment

If you're planning to play this season, please register now so we can build our teams with confidence!

Thanks for your support — let's get ready for a great rugby year!

Calling all 11-14yr old Boys and Girls... Are you looking for something different to do this Winter sports season?

Then Rugby is the sport for you! Building confident kids on and off the field, everyone is welcome! Contact myself (Tara Adam) on 0429336115 or send me a message via messenger for any questions you may have!

Don't forget we have our last Try Rugby session for kids 4-16yrs this coming Friday so feel free to pop up to Spicer oval to check it out and have a chat



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL PARKES

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.

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



FREE ENTRY

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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HOLY FAMILY P&F

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! 😊

HOP ON OVER FOR OUR

Easter Egg Hunt

and

Church Service

5 April at 9am
 Cooke Park

FREE EGGS FOR CHILDREN
FREE COFFEE FOR ADULTS
FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE FOR EVERYONE

Generosity Church | Parkes

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 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 - 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 5/6HW Chapel/Mass - 9:45am Caritas Multi 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 - 2pm	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)