



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 2 Week 5 - 18th May 2026

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 5

Monday

WF Rugby
(Postponed)

Tuesday

AECG Meeting

CWA Public
Speaking

Competition (Parkes)

Friday

Walk Safely to
School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Catholic Schools Week last week was a wonderful celebration of our great Holy Family School. It was pleasing to see so many family members visiting our classrooms, enabling our students to proudly share their learning and the wonderful work happening each day across our school. Thank you to our staff and families for the way you support our children and strengthen our community.

Dads in School Day last Friday was also a great success. It was terrific to welcome dads and special father figures who joined their children for games, painting and a range of activities. These moments of connection help build our strong communities of belonging and remind us that families are our children's first educators.

Good luck to Curtis Arndell who is representing Polding at the NSWPSA Hockey Championships in Bathurst this week.

Last week we concluded our athletics trials in preparation for our upcoming carnival. Qualifying students for each field event will be notified this week. Congratulations to the placegetters in the 1500m event, which was run last Wednesday. It was pleasing to see such large nominations of children competing, and I commend all students for their effort and sportsmanship.

Our Spelling Bee finalists have now been decided and are listed in this newsletter. Congratulations to all finalists who will compete in our Spelling Bee on Wednesday 27th May.

Finally, best wishes to Ashton Albert, Max Crowe, Finley Gibbons and Arshi Jodder who will represent our school at the CWA Public Speaking Competition on Tuesday. We are proud of you and know you will be wonderful ambassadors for Holy Family School.

Wishing everyone a wonderful week!

Denise Gersbach

Principal

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

[Holy Family Parish School Parkes](#)



★ Star of the Week ★

Mavis Jordan is our Star of the Week for demonstrating our core values of Praise, Love and Trust. She strives to do her best at all times and actively participates in activities. Mavis encourages others to join in and shows great enthusiasm.

Interview with Mavis



What is your favourite subject?



Art

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

Draw with friends

What is your favourite food?

Strawberries

What do you like most about our school?

The teachers are really kind



Sport

What would you like to be when you grow up ?

An artist

Term 2 Week 5: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - PRAISE)

Choose love—be kind, include everyone.

This fortnight's challenge is on- Mathematical terminology

1. What does the word “sum” mean?	A. Subtraction B. Addition C. Division D. Multiplication
2. What is the correct word for “-”?	A. Add B. Multiply C. Minus D. Equals

3. What does “product” mean?	A. The answer to addition B. The answer to subtraction C. The answer to multiplication D. The answer to division
4. What does “difference” mean?	A. The answer to addition B. The answer to subtraction C. The answer to multiplication D. The answer to division
5. What does “quotient” mean?	A. The answer to addition B. The answer to subtraction C. The answer to multiplication D. The answer to division
6. What does the symbol “=” mean?	A. Not equal B. Greater than C. Equals D. Less than
7. What does “total” mean?	A. The answer after subtraction B. The answer after addition C. The answer after division D. The answer after multiplication
8. What does “estimate” mean?	A. An exact answer B. A close guess C. A formula D. A measurement tool
9. What does “remainder” mean?	A. The answer in addition B. The amount left over after division C. The product of multiplication D. The difference in subtraction
10. What does “numerator” mean?	A. The bottom number in a fraction B. The top number in a fraction C. The answer to multiplication D. A type of shape

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

SEVENTH WEEK OF EASTER



Well done to the staff and students of Stage 3 for preparing and organising the beautiful Catholic Schools Week Liturgy last Monday. It was wonderful to see our school community come together to celebrate Catholic schools, especially our lovely school.

The Month of May is traditionally dedicated to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Catholics honour Mary by praying the Rosary daily during the month of May.

[During May, the Rosary will be prayed at 9.15am every Sunday before Mass at Holy Family Parish Church.](#)

You can watch this video with your family if you would like your child/children to know how the Rosary is prayed.

[The Holy Rosary, for kids! - YouTube](#)

There are also some very important feast days coming up.

Upcoming Feast Days

May 17 - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (The Ascension is a liturgical Solemnity celebrated by all the Christian Churches. It falls on the fortieth day after Easter Sunday).

May 24- PENTECOST (Celebrated 50 days after Easter, it marks the Holy Spirit's descent upon Jesus' apostles in Jerusalem, empowering them to spread the gospel and marking the birth of the Christian Church).

May 24- OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

May 31- THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (Celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost It honours the central dogma of the Trinity: one God in three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).

Wilcannia-Forbes Diocesan Theme for 2026- Peace in our hearts. Peace in the World

"What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family." Saint Teresa of Calcutta

I hope everyone has a wonderful week.

Beverly Berger



**Congratulations to the following finalists for the
Holy Family Parish School
Spelling Bee
Wednesday 27th May 2026**

Year 2: Archer McWilliam, Jhaan Joshi, Joel Hazelton, Tully Cassidy, Jax Purcell, Navy Edwards

Year 3 : Mimi Sibanda, Georgie Harris, Frankie Clarke, Molly McCabe, Braith Stevenson, Mavis Jordan, Everleigh Albert, Sawyer Dengate. Aarnav Gautum

Year 4: Arshi Jodder, Elsie Galvin, Finley Gibbons, Tessa Dugan, Amelia Gersbach, Emrys Cassidy, Aiyshu Thammitalage

Year 5: Curtis Arndell, Jack Burt, Roy Clyburn, Mary Drooger, Mia Townsend, Sophie Wood

Year 6: Jasper Vigurs, Aava Dhakal, Max Crowe, Ethan Richings, Arlo Cassidy, Layla Al-Maliky, Olivia Culhane

Notes

**HELPERS
NEEDED!**

HOLY FAMILY *Athletics* CARNIVAL



THURSDAY, 4TH JUNE

If you are able to assist with timekeeping, field events, canteen or distributing morning tea please add your name via the Helpers Registration link below

[Helpers Registration](#)

ACTIVE KIDS ARE HEALTHY KIDS



JOIN US
FRIDAY 22 MAY 2026

TO ALL AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND LOCAL COUNCILS

Now in its 27th year, National Walk Safely to School Day encourages primary school children, their parents and carers to walk safely and regularly to school.

Walking every day builds confidence, improves concentration and establishes healthy habits for life - while making our roads safer and our air cleaner for everyone.

Research shows that children who are active before school are more focused, more productive and perform better in the classroom.

**BETTER HEALTH • IMPROVED ROAD SAFETY • CLEANER AIR
REDUCED CAR-DEPENDENCY • INCREASED USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

GET INVOLVED

- Ask every student to wear a tattoo on the day to help promote this important community event
- Use the Teachers' Tool-Kit and publish WSTSD information in your school's newsletter
- Display the poster on your noticeboard and print additional posters at walk.com.au
- Host a Healthy Breakfast - ask your P&C, council or local supermarket to sponsor it
- If you can't walk all the way, combine a walk with public transport
- If you must use the car, try leaving it a good distance from school and walk the rest of the way
- Register your school as a WSTSD Ambassador at walk.com.au



**Until they're ten, children must always hold
an adult's hand when crossing the road**



[@nationalwalksafelytoschoolday](#) [@natwalktoschool](#) [@natwalktoschool](#) #WSTSD
WALK.COM.AU
SUPPORTED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL STATE, TERRITORY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



PLAY AND GROW A HAPPY PLACE TO GATHER



The Holy Family School Play and Grow Playgroup on this Friday from 10AM - 11AM. See you there!



CALL ME WHEN YOU GET HOME

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

Gather - Together - Reflect

This week's GTR theme is: *we matter to each other and we matter to God.*

"We are made for connection, for relationship, for belonging."
Brené Brown

All Parents, Carers, Toddlers and Parishioners are welcome!



Healthy Harold's Colour Run



When: Wednesday 20th May, 2026

Where: Keast Park,
Hooley Street, Parkes NSW

Time: 3.30pm - 5.00pm

Cost: FREE

Join Healthy Harold for a colourful afternoon of fun! Plus, explore interactive booths for valuable community information on health, safety, and wellbeing.

All families and community members welcome!

Free BBQ provided for all & exciting giveaways throughout the event.



order your school photos now

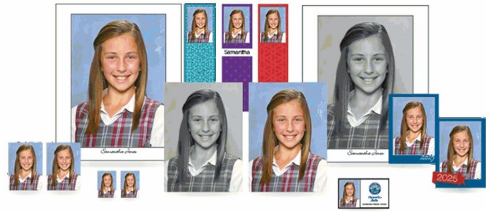
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HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL PARKES

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.

6862 1610

admin.parkes@hf.catholic.edu.au

37A High Street, Parkes

WORKING BEE



LET'S CLEAN UP TOGETHER!

HELP US CLEAN UP THE
P&F SHED

AT
HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL

SUNDAY
31ST MAY

8AM

Breakfast
PROVIDED!



RSVP TO THE OFFICE ON **6862 1610**
(FOR CATERING)

HELPING CHILDREN ON AND OFF THE BUS SAFELY

Your children are most at risk in the minutes after getting off the bus. Here are some ways you can reduce this risk:

- Always meet your child at the bus stop. Never meet them on the opposite side of the road and call them across.
- Wait until the bus has gone, then choose a safe place to cross the road. Remember to Stop! Look! Listen! Think!
- If you cannot meet your child, organise for another trusted adult to take your place.
- Wait at the bus stop and stand at least one step back from the edge of the road.
- Always wait until the bus has gone, then use a safe place to cross.
- Buckle up if the bus has seat belts.

Model safe pedestrian behaviour. Children learn safe road user habits from you and will continue them later on when they are old enough to travel alone.

Until your child is at least eight years old, hold their hand on the footpath, in the carpark and when crossing the road. Up until at least 10 years old, supervise your child very closely, holding their hand when crossing the road.

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

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Student attendance is recorded each day. As a parent or caregiver you are responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day unless your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- is sick, or has an infectious illness.

If you are having difficulty getting your child to attend school regularly, please discuss this with the school principal.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, please **update this within 7 days** on the Compass Parent Portal or explain the reason by phone, e-mail or written note as soon as possible. Late arrivals and/or early departures can only be entered via the Compass Kiosk at the office.

After 7 days, the absence will remain as 'Unexplained' and cannot be changed (NSW Education Act 199

Term 2 - Parent Calendar

	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
Apr	1	20 First Day - Term 2 (Staff and Students)	21	22	23	24 Henry/Yeo League Stars Challenge	25 / 26 ANZAC Day (25 -PH)
Apr/May	2	27 ANZAC Day (Public Holiday)	28 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room)	29 Athletics - High Jump Event	30 Healthy Harold	1 Polding Winter Trials (Bothurst) Healthy Harold Assembly - 2.45pm	2 / 3
		NSW PSSA Swimming (28th)					
May	3	4 WF Cross Country (Parkes) Healthy Harold	5 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) Red Bend Visit - Year 6	6 Mother's Day Liturgy 12:30pm HFS Hall Stage 1 P&F Meeting - 6pm Action Club Public Speaking Competition 6pm	7 Mother's Day Breakfast 8am Assembly - 2.45pm	8 Pupil Free Day	9 / 10 Mother's Day (10)
May	4	11 Catholic Schools Week Mass 09:30am (Hall) Open classrooms - 10:20am Recess for all families outdoors 11am-11.30am Musica Viva - 2pm	12 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room)	13 Athletics -1500m Event	14	15 Polding Girls Rugby 7's Dads in School (Kindergarten) National Walk Safely to School Day	16 / 17
		Catholic Schools Week					
May	5	18 WF Rugby (Parkes)	19 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) AECG Meeting- Junior and Senior (venue TBC) CWA Primary Public Speaking Competition - Parkes	20	21	22 National Walk Safely to School Day	23 / 24
May	6	25	26 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) National Sorry Day	27 Reconciliation Week (27/5-3/6) HFS Spelling Bee Year 2 - Year 6	28 Assembly - 2.45pm	29	30 / 31
Jun	7	1 School Photo Day Parent/Teacher Interviews K-6 (School Hall)	2 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) Kindergarten Library Visit 12pm - 1pm	3 P&F Meeting - 6pm	4 Athletics Carnival	5 Feast of Saint Marcellin Champagnat (Stage 3) Whole School Mass - 9:45am (Hall)	6 / 7
Jun	8	8 King's Birthday (PH)	9 Pupil Free Day	10 Backup Date - Athletics Carnival	11 Bright Future STEM Program - Year 5/6 - School Hall	12 Polding Touch (Port Macquarie) Assembly - 2.45pm	13 / 14
Jun	9	15	16 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room)	17	18 School Disco - 6.00pm	19	20 / 21 Sun 21/6 Family Mass 9:30am
Jun	10	22	23 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room)	24 Polding Cross Country (Sydney)	25	26 Assembly - 2.45pm	27 / 28 Polding CSP Rugby (Forbes) - 28th
Jun/Jul	11	29 Polding Rugby Union (Forbes)	30 GTR Meeting 8.40am (RE Room) NAIDOC Day Celebrations and Activities	1 P&F Meeting - 6pm	2 NAIDOC Liturgy 2.30pm AECG	3 Last Day of Term 2	4 / 5