



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 3 - 3rd August 2026

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 3

Monday

**Todd Woodbridge Cup
Stage 2 (Forbes)**

**ICAS Digital
Technology**

Tuesday

**Australian
Mathematics
Competition**

Wednesday

ICAS Writing

**P&F Meeting-6pm
(Coachman Hotel and
Online)**

Friday

**Mary MacKillop
Liturgy - Stage 1
12.30pm (Hall)**

Dear Parents & Carers,

Another busy and exciting week lies ahead at Holy Family, with wonderful learning taking place across the school and a range of exciting activities planned for our students.

We wish our Stage 2 Todd Woodbridge Team all the very best as they represent our school today in Forbes. Good luck to Emrys Cassidy, Charlie Crowe, Sawyer Dengate, Finley Gibbons, Morgan Wykes, Kendall Hartwig, Mavis Jordan, Molly McCabe and Piper Slaven. We know they will represent Holy Family with pride, determination and excellent sportsmanship.

This week also marks the beginning of the ICAS assessments for students who have chosen to participate in these nationally recognised competitions. We wish all of our participants every success and encourage them to do their very best.

Our Stage 1 teachers and students have been busily preparing for the Mary MacKillop Liturgy, which will be celebrated on Friday, 7th August. We warmly invite all parents, carers and family members to join us for this special celebration.

As part of Local Government Week, our Stage 3 students will visit the Henry Parkes Centre on Thursday, 6th August. This excursion, supported by Parkes Shire Council, will provide students with the opportunity to explore one of our region's premier cultural and tourism destinations while learning about the important role local government plays in preserving local history, supporting community facilities, and promoting tourism and education within our region. During their visit, students will explore the Parkes Motor Museum, The King's Castle Elvis Exhibit, and Moat Cottage, gaining a deeper appreciation of our local heritage.

Last week, our Year 5 students participated in an Inclusion Awareness Education Program. The presenters were extremely impressed by the students' respectful behaviour, thoughtful contributions and enthusiastic participation throughout the sessions. We congratulate our Year 5 students on the mature and inclusive way they represented our school.

Congratulations also to our Holy Family students who competed at the Cluster Athletics Carnival in Trundle last Thursday. We are incredibly proud of the effort, determination and sportsmanship they displayed throughout the day. Thank you to the staff and families who supported our students and helped make the day such a success.

Andrew Berger

Assistant Principal

CONTACT US

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Family Parish School Parkes



★ Star of the Week ★

Sophie Ross is our Star of the Week for consistently living our school motto of Praise, Love and Trust. She is always gentle, kind and respectful towards her peers and teachers, creating a positive and caring classroom environment. Sophie consistently follows school rules and her teacher's instructions, demonstrating responsibility and self-discipline. She approaches every task with a positive attitude, always tries her best, and takes pride in her learning. Sophie is a wonderful role model who should be very proud of her efforts.

Interview with Sophie



What is your favourite subject?



Art

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

Draw

What is your favourite food?

Vanilla cake

What do you like most about our school?

Everyone is really kind



Long distance running, dancing and art

What would you like to be when you grow up ?

A teacher

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

Praise builds others up—look for opportunities to encourage someone today.

This fortnight's challenge is on- The 2026 Commonwealth Games

1. Which city hosted the 2026 Commonwealth Games?	A. Melbourne B. Gold Coast C. Glasgow D. Birmingham
2. In which country is Glasgow located?	A. England B. Wales C. Ireland D. Scotland

3. Approximately how many nations and territories compete in the Commonwealth Games?	A. 25 B. 40 C. 74 D. 100
4. Which Australian swimmer won gold in the men's 400m freestyle?	A. Kyle Chalmers B. Elijah Winnington C. Sam Short D. Flynn Southam
5. Mollie O'Callaghan won gold in which event at Glasgow 2026?	A. 100m Butterfly B. 200m Freestyle C. 200m Backstroke D. 400m Individual Medley
6. Which Australian athlete won gold in the women's 10,000m athletics event?	A. Jemima Montag B. Jessica Hull C. Rose Davies D. Claudia Hollingsworth
7. Which sport did Georgia Godwin win a gold medal in?	A. Swimming B. Athletics C. Cycling D. Artistic Gymnastics
8. Which Australian athlete won gold in the men's discus?	A. Kurtis Marschall B. Matt Denny C. Rohan Browning D. Lachlan Kennedy
9. Mackenzie Little won a gold medal in which event?	A. Long Jump B. Shot Put C. Javelin D. Discus
10. Which Australian athlete won gold in the men's pole vault?	A. Matt Denny B. Kurtis Marschall C. Peter Bol D. Cameron Myers

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

This week we will be celebrating the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. There will be a whole school liturgy on Friday, 7th August, 12:30pm, HFS Hall. Stage 1 staff and students have been preparing for the liturgy.



Saint Mary MacKillop- Australia's first saint.

Mary Helen MacKillop (1842-1909) was born on 15 January 1842 in Fitzroy, Melbourne.

Mary and Father Julian Tenison Woods co-founded a school in South Australia to educate poor and underprivileged children. This led to the establishment of Australia's first religious order, the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart, who became affectionately known as the "Brown Joeys". Dedicated to serving the poor, Mary and her Josephite sisters lived amongst the communities they served. Mary MacKillop died on 8 August 1909. In 1992 Mary was beatified by Pope John Paul II at Randwick Racecourse in Sydney. On 17 October 2010, Pope Benedict XVI canonised Mary of the Cross MacKillop in Rome.

***Sacrament of CONFIRMATION -**

Friday, 28th August, 6pm, Holy Family Parish Church

***Sacrament of CONFIRMATION**

Information Session- There will also be an **Information Session on the 20th of August, 5pm, in the school RE Room** for the parents of the children making their Confirmation.

Upcoming Masses & Liturgies

***Feast of Saint Mary MacKillop Liturgy (Stage 1)-Friday, 7th August, 12:30pm, HFS Hall**

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

I hope everyone has a wonderful week.

Beverly Berger



Assembly Awards

Week 2

AWARD	CLASS	STUDENT NAME
Student of the Week	KJ	Jesse Flaxman
	KC	Sonny Lock
	1C	Jorawar Singh
	2CR	Evie Byrnes
	3N	Blaire Crisp
	4WR	Wanuja Arumand Hewage
	5/6B	Tatum Staines
	5/6HW	Kaleb Howse
Recognition of Learning Award	Infants - 1C	Colton Ingram
	Primary - 5/6B	Layla Al-Maliky
Consistently Following School Rules (based on Manner of the Week, Environment and Uniform)	Infants - KC	Jedda Stevenson
	Primary - 4WR	Ava Byrnes
Playground Behaviour Award	Infants - 2CR	Noah Ross
	Primary - 5/6HW	Prince Karki
Leadership Award	Infants - KJ	Grace Edwards
	Primary - 3N	Braith Stevenson
Living the Gospel Values	Infants - 1C	Harvey Williams
	Primary - 5/6B	Max Crowe

Wiradjuri



On Tuesday afternoon, our Year 1 students enjoyed learning outdoors in the sunshine with Mrs Payne during a Wiradjuri culture lesson. Working collaboratively in pairs, the children explored traditional Wiradjuri symbols used in Indigenous art and storytelling. Using sticks, they carefully created symbols and images in the sand before sharing their own stories with a partner, using the symbols to represent ideas and events. It was a wonderful hands-on learning experience that encouraged creativity, collaboration and a deeper appreciation of the rich storytelling traditions of Australia's First Nations peoples.

Notes

WE NEED YOU! VOLUNTEERS Needed!

DIO ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

HELP OUT IN THE

CANTEEN



THURSDAY
13TH AUGUST



7:00AM - 2:00PM

Any time you can give
- even just an hour
makes a big difference! ♥



VENUE:
NORTH PARKES OVAL

Many
hands make
light work!

YOUR HELP
SUPPORTS
OUR SCHOOL
COMMUNITY!

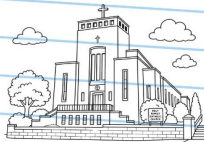


THANK
YOU! ♥



PLEASE VOLUNTEER
& MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Sign up at the school office
or contact the P&F Association.
Thank you for your support! ♥



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH
SUNDAY 9:30AM MASS

All children are warmly welcome to attend! Children will leave during Mass to hear the Gospel in a child-friendly way, take part in activities, and reflect on God's message before returning to the congregation.

Children under 4 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, please contact:
Mrs Wheeler at Holy Family School

Sacrament of Confirmation

MASS

August 28, 2026 • 6 PM

Holy Family Catholic Church
29 Currajong St, Parkes NSW 2870

BOOK WEEK PARADE



SYMPHONY OF STORIES

PARENTS AND FRIENDS COME JOIN US FOR OUR SCHOOL
BOOK PARADE

THURSDAY 27TH AUGUST AT 9.00 AM

COME ALONG AND SEE OUR STUDENTS PROUDLY PARADE IN
THEIR FAVOURITE BOOK CHARACTER COSTUMES.

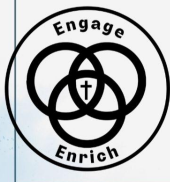
Notes

Gather

Gather • Together • Reflect

We warmly invite all parents, carers, grandparents, and parishioners to join us on Tuesday, 4th August 2026, at 8:40 am in the Holy Family School Religion Room as we Gather Together and Reflect.

Take a moment to pause, reflect and connect with others in our school community. Everyone is welcome. Afterwards, stay for a coffee and a chat. We would love to see you there!



Walking together safely to and from school

Walking to school and back home again is a great way to spend time with your children and encourage safe and healthy behaviours.

Here are a few things you can do to help keep your children safer as a pedestrian:

- Talk with your children about being alert in the road environment.
- Plan and practice your trip to school so you use pedestrian crossings where possible.
- Always hold your child's hand. Children need your help to spot dangers such as vehicles coming out of driveways. They can also be easily distracted and wander into traffic.
- Meet your child near the school gate and don't call them from across the road.
- Explain why the place you have chosen is the safest place to cross.
- Remind your child to STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK! every time they cross the road and keep checking until safely across.

national science week

THE BIG think



YOUTH LOCK IN: MAKERSPACE

Youth are invited to spend an evening in the Makerspace, diving into hands-on creativity and tech. Think podcasting, 3D printing, laser cutting and more not to mention plenty of pizza.

Tuesday 4th August, \$5, 5pm - 7pm, year 7 - year 12

CONSTRUCT AND CONQUER

THE GREAT STEAM CHALLENGE: Form small teams and tackle hands-on challenges. With prizes up for grabs, it's a fast paced, problem-solving adventure designed to spark teamwork, innovation and fun!

Saturday 15th August, FREE, 9am - 11.30am, year 5 - year 10



MAKERSPACE IN MOTION

See the Makerspace come alive with tools, tech and creativity. Experience STEAM in action with live demos in 3D printing, laser cutting, Robotics and more. This event is aimed at adults and youth. Children under 12 must be supervised at all times.

Thursday 20th August, FREE, 4pm - 6.30pm, adults and youth

LET'S TALK SCIENCE

John Sarkissian, Operations Scientist at the CSIRO Parkes Observatory, will present "Challenging Concepts: How well do we know what we think we know?"

Thursday 20th August, FREE, 6.30pm - 7.30pm, all ages



Venue: Marramara Makerspace
25 Bogan St Parkes

Bookings are essential
For all enquiries - Parkes Library 6861 2309

PLAY AND GROW

A HAPPY PLACE TO GATHER



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

Notes

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



KEEP KIDS SAFE THIS TERM

UNDERSTANDING PARKING SIGNS AROUND SCHOOLS

Help make school drop-off and pick-up safer by following the parking signs around your school.

Remember:

- 'No Parking' zones are for drop-off and pick-up only (maximum two minutes). The driver must remain within three metres of the vehicle at all times.
- 'No Stopping' zones mean you cannot stop at any time.

Correct use of school parking zones improves traffic flow, reduces congestion and helps keep children safe.



Scan the QR code to learn more



Term 3 - Parent Calendar

	Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
Jul	1	20 First Day - Term 3 (Staff and Students)	21	22 NSW PSSA Cross Country	23	24 Grandparents' Day Mass Stage 2 12.15pm - Hall	25 / 26 Sts Joachim & Anne (26/7)
Jul/Aug	2	27	28	29	30 Central Cluster Athletics (Trundle)	31 Assembly - 2.45pm	1 / 2
Aug	3	3 Todd Woodbridge Cup - Stage 2 (Forbes)	4 ICAS Digital Technologies (TBC)	5 ICAS Writing (TBC) P&F Meeting - 6pm	6	7 Mary MacKillop Liturgy Stage 1 12:30pm - Hall	8 / 9 St Mary of the Cross MacKillop (8/8)
Aug	4	10 ICAS English (TBC)	11	12	13 WF Diocesan Athletics (Parkes)	14 Year 3-6 Touch Football Development Sessions	15 / 16 Assumptio n of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Aug	5	17 Bullying No Way: National Week of Action (17-21 Aug) Polding Golf (Blackheath) ICAS Science (TBC)	18 AECG Meeting- Junior and Senior (venue TBC)	19 ICAS Spelling Bee Mercy Mass - RBCC (Captains)	20 Confirmation Parent Information Session 5pm (RE Room)	21 Assembly - 2.45pm	22 / 23 Book Week (22-28 Aug) Sun 23/8 Family Mass 5.00pm - Chapel
Aug	6	24 ICAS Mathematics Holy Family's Got Talent - Auditions	25 Holy Family's Got Talent - Auditions	26 Holy Family's Got Talent - Auditions	27 Book Week Parade 9am	28 Lois Jones/Rex Smith Interschool Hockey Assembly - 2.45pm Confirmation - 6.00pm Holy Family Church	29 / 30
Aug/Sep	7	31 Australian Teacher Aide Appreciation Week (31/8-4/9)	1 ½ Day Public Holiday - Parkes Show	2 P&F Meeting - 6pm	3	4 Father's Day Liturgy Stage 2 12.30pm HFS Hall Father's Day Breakfast (8am)	5 / 6
Sep	8	7 <i>Indigenous Literacy Day</i>	8 Assembly - 2.45pm	9 Holy Family's Got Talent - Grand Final	10	11 Polding Athletics (Clendale)	12 / 13
Sep	9	14	15	16 Holy Family - Times Table Challenge Final - 11.30am	17 School Disco - 6.00pm	18 St Vincent de Paul Liturgy 10.15am Multi Mission Day Stalls	19 / 20
Sep	10	21 Assembly - 2.45pm	22	23 Last Day of Term 3 - Students	24 Pupil Free Day	25 Pupil Free Day Last Day Of Term 3 - Staff	26 / 27