



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 6 - 24th August 2026

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 6

Monday

ICAS Mathematics

HFGT - Audition 1

Tuesday

HFGT - Audition 2

Wednesday

HFGT - Audition 3

Thursday

Book Week Parade
9am

Friday

Lois Jones/Rex Smith
Interschools Hockey

Assembly - 2.45pm
(Hall)

Confirmation - 6pm
(Holy Family Church)



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to see so many families join us for our Family Mass last night in the chapel. Our children participated wholeheartedly and are to be commended for the reverence they showed throughout the liturgy. Moments like these strengthen our communities of belonging and our shared call to authentic witness.

On Friday, it was a wonderful occasion to officially celebrate the opening and blessing of our refurbished student toilet facilities, led by Father Barry Dwyer. The project was principally funded by the Australian Government under the Capital Grants Program. We sincerely thank the Australian Government for its support and acknowledge Ian Westcott and his team for their efforts in facilitating and overseeing the building works.

This week we begin auditions for Holy Family's Got Talent! We are very excited to see the gifts our students will bring to the stage this year. Good luck to all participants. Parents and carers are warmly welcome to join us for auditions at lunchtime on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Our Book Week Parade will be held at 9.00am on Thursday. Children are encouraged to dress up and join in the fun as we celebrate the joy of reading for Book Week.

On Friday evening at 6.00pm, our Year 6 students will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at Holy Family Church. The children have been preparing through class lessons; please keep them and their families in your prayers this week.

Finally, good luck to our hockey team competing in the interschool Rex Smith/ Lois Jones Cup on Friday. We wish you a fun day filled with strong teamwork and great sportsmanship.

Denise Gersbach

Principal

CONTACT US

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Family Parish School Parkes

★ Star of the Week ★

George Wright is our Star of the Week for showing wonderful effort, kindness and determination throughout the week. He has approached his learning with enthusiasm and has been willing to challenge himself and try new things.

It has been lovely to see George making thoughtful choices and being a positive role model in our classroom. His caring nature and willingness to help others make him a valued member of our class. Well done, George!

Interview with George



What is your favourite subject?



English

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

Kick a football

What is your favourite food?

Mashed potato with crumbed chicken and vegetables

What do you like most about our school?

Everything is fun



Adding numbers

What would you like to be when you grow up?

A football star

Term 3 Week 6: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - TRUST)

Small Acts, Big Impact

The Bullying No Way Week theme encourages students to recognise that small actions — such as including someone, speaking up, showing kindness and supporting others — can make a big difference

This fortnight's challenge is on- Anti-Bullying

1. What is bullying?	A. A friendly disagreement B. Repeated behaviour that hurts or intimidates someone C. Playing a different game D. Making a mistake
2. What should you do if someone is bullying you?	A. Fight back B. Keep it a secret C. Tell a trusted adult D. Bully them back

3. Who could you tell if you are being bullied?	A. A teacher B. A parent or carer C. Another trusted adult D. All of the above
4. Which is a safe online strategy?	A. Keep your passwords private B. Give your password to everyone C. Accept every friend request D. Share private information publicly
5. Which is an example of cyberbullying?	A. Playing an online game B. Sending repeated hurtful messages online C. Watching a video D. Sending a friendly message
6. Why is it important to report bullying?	A. So adults can help keep students safe B. So the bully can be embarrassed C. So everyone can hear about it D. So you can get revenge
7. What is a good response to an unkind comment?	A. Make an even meaner comment B. Stay calm and seek help if it continues C. Start a fight D. Tell everyone to dislike the person
8. What should you do if a friend tells you they are being bullied?	A. Laugh at them B. Tell them it is their fault C. Listen and help them talk to a trusted adult D. Tell everyone at school
9. Which action shows good anti-bullying behaviour?	A. Including others and treating people with kindness B. Making fun of someone who is different C. Leaving people out on purpose D. Joining in when someone is being teased
10. Why is it important not to forward hurtful messages?	A. It can spread the bullying and cause more harm B. It makes the message disappear C. It helps the person being bullied D. It automatically reports the bully

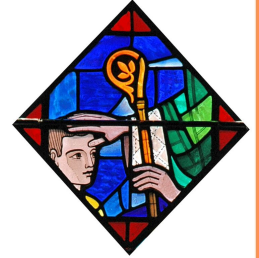
If there are multiple winning entries, your name will go into a draw. The winners will be drawn out of a hat and receive a prize at our School Assembly. Please write your name and answer on a piece of paper and hand it to me any time this week. I hope everyone has a great week.

Andrew Berger

Religious Education

TWENTY-FIRST WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A

Thank you to all the children who participated in the Family Mass on Sunday, 23rd August. The children were reverent throughout the Mass and participated respectfully and enthusiastically, as they did the readings and offertory. It was wonderful to see families show their support in their children's faith journey.



This week, on Thursday, 27th August, one of our students of Year 6, Florence Crawley-Watson, will receive the sacraments of Baptism, Penance (First Reconciliation) and Eucharist (First Holy Communion). Flo will receive these sacraments in the Chapel during the 9:45am Mass. She will then receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, 28th August, with the other Catholic students in Year 6. Well done Flo!

*The Sacrament of CONFIRMATION Information Session on 20th of August, was well attended by the parents of the Confirmation candidates.



Upcoming Masses & Liturgies

***Sacrament of CONFIRMATION - Friday, 28th August, 6pm, Holy Family Parish Church**

(students to be there by 5:45pm)

***Fathers' Day Liturgy- 4th September, 12.30pm HFS Hall (Stage 2)**

I hope everyone has a wonderful week.

Beverly Berger

Holy Family's Got Talent Audition Timetable ~ Auditions begin at 1:15pm

Monday 24th August	Tuesday 25th August	Wednesday 26th August
MC: Max & Aava Stage: Isaac, Hayden, Nate & Rhys	MC: Bill & Jasper Stage: Kaleb, Seth, Prince, Ethan & Hunter	MC: Layla & Harvey Stage: Jonti, Flo, Olivia & Tatum
Eyecons Singing & Dancing Amelia & Kendall	Sophie Rose Singing Sophie	Mad Scientists Experiment Jax, Archer & Archie
Peyton Singing Peyton C	Sparkle Girls Dancing Tully & Iris	Iconic Isla Singing Isla
Super Girls Dancing Ruby, Farrah, Nazzy, Matilda & Allegra	Tessa Singing Tessa	MJI Dancing Mary, Jordan & Indigo
The Fruits Dancing Navy, Emmerson & Ellie	The Jackson IIs Dancing Arlo, Nate, Hayden, Jonti, Rhys, Harvey, Piper, Tatum, Flo, Layla & Olivia	Sing Singing Roop Preet Kaur
Magic Magic/Card, Coin & Finger Tricks Wanuja & Sanuja		Freeze Dance Dancing Sonny & Charlie
Smooth Vibes Dancing on Hoverboard Joel	Try My Best Singing Ivy	Piano Artist Playing Piano Sydney
Arshi Singing Arshi	Sk8er Girl Playing Keyboard Aava	Katseye Trio Dancing Ava, Hope & Aiyshu
Headlights Playing Headlights by Allan Walker on Piano Aarnav	Therapy!! Acting Max & Isaac	A Little Bit Bad Singing Hunter
The Bestie Club Dancing Peyton S & Naveah	The Cowboys! Playing Guitar & Singing Toby, Harvey & Zoe	Twinkling Little Stars Singing Marli & Jedda
Karate Karate Demonstration Kolby	Guitar Girls Playing Guitar & Singing Molly, Piper, Georgie & Mavis	Billie Jean Singing Braith
Hit It Playing Drums Joey	Rollin' Down Town Singing Roy & Mason	Girls Just Wanna Have Fun Dancing Isla, Chelsea & Millie
Thriller Harper		

* Assembly Award

AWARD	CLASS	STUDENT NAME
Student of the Week	KJ	Sanuja Arumand Hewage
	KC	Chloe Cooper
	1C	Wraith Sloane
	2CR	River Harmer
	3N	Harrison Wythes
	4WR	Aiyshu Thammitalage
	5/6B	Louie Cook
	5/6HW	Sophie Wood
Recognition of Learning Award	Infants - 2CR	Archie Thomson
	Primary - 5/6HW	Mia Townsend
Consistently Following School Rules (based on Manner of the Week, Environment and Uniform)	Infants - KJ	Ellie Wykes
	Primary - 3N	Piper Slaven
Playground Behaviour Award	Infants - 1C	Toby Slaven
	Primary - 5/6B	Jonti Lee
Leadership Award	Infants - KC	Marli Jayet
	Primary - 4WR	Roop Preet Kaur
Living the Gospel Values	Infants - 2CR	Iris Burt
	Primary - 5/6HW	Aava Dhaki

Notes

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.

Holy Family's Got Talent
Save the Dates

Monday 24th August - 1.15pm

Tuesday 25th August - 1.15pm

Wednesday 24th August - 1.15pm

Grand Final

Wednesday 9th September - 1pm

*Holy Family School Hall
Family and Friends welcome*

FATHER'S DAY *Breakfast*

FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER

Time: 8am

Where: School Hall

While the dads enjoy their bacon and egg rolls the children have an opportunity to pick out the perfect Father's Day gift from the P&F Stalls

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Gather

Gather · Together · Reflect

We warmly invite all parents, carers, grandparents, and parishioners to join us on Tuesday, 25th 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!

Notes

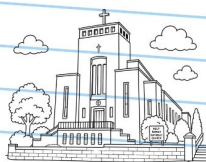
Sacrament of Confirmation

MASS
August 28, 2026 • 6 PM
Holy Family Catholic Church
29 Currajong St, Parkes NSW 2870

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!



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

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.

Aboriginal Families as Teachers (AFaT)

Families are a child's first and most important teachers.

The Aboriginal Families as Teachers (AFaT) program supports Aboriginal children to get the best start in life, building their confidence, promoting cultural connection, and supporting early education.



A fun and free program

AFaT is a fun and FREE program for Aboriginal families that supports learning in the early years (0-5 years) before school.

How does it work?

When you join AFaT in Orange, Parkes, or Dubbo, you will have the opportunity to join in weekly playgroups, meet with other families, learn about your child's development, and connect with other services and activities in your community.

Call 1800 580 580 today!

Please contact us to find out more about the AFaT program, or contact the service provider below.

Tara Bennett
AFaT Facilitator – Parkes

Phone: 0437 867689
Tara.Bennett@livebetter.org.au

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance at school for every student is essential if students are to maximise their potential. Schools, in partnerships with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. While parents are legally responsible for the regular attendance of their children, school staff, as part of their duty of care, monitor part or whole day absences. Schools, in providing a caring teaching and learning environment, which addresses the learning and support needs of students, including those with additional learning and support needs or complex health conditions, foster students' sense of wellbeing and belonging to the school community.

Parents are responsible for:

- enrolling their children of compulsory school age in a government or registered non-government school or registering them with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for home schooling;
- ensuring that their children attend school every day the school is open for their instruction;
- explaining the absences of their children from school promptly and within 7 days to the school;
- working in partnership with the school to plan and implement strategies to support regular attendance at school, including communicating with the school if they are aware of issues impacting on their child's attendance or engagement with school.

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 Interschol 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 (Glendale)	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 Mufti 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