



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 8 - 7th September 2026

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 8

Monday

**Indigenous Literacy
Day**

Tuesday

Assembly 2.45pm

Wednesday

**Holy Family's Got
Talent - Grand Final
1pm**

Friday

**Polding Athletics
(Glendale)**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Last week we hosted a Central Cluster Principals and Administration Staff Conference. The principal group had the opportunity to visit all classrooms at our school. They were thoroughly impressed with the calmness of our students, the high quality teaching they observed and the classwork on display. Congratulations to all of our staff and students!

Thank you to all the dads and grandparents who joined us for our Father's Day Breakfast last Friday. It was a wonderful morning of connection and celebration, and it was lovely to see our children sharing that special time with the important people in their lives. A big thank you also to our P&F for running the Father's Day Stall, giving students the opportunity to purchase thoughtful gifts for their dads.

We are very excited for the Grand Final of Holy Family's Got Talent this Wednesday. Congratulations to all our finalists — what an achievement to reach this stage. Thank you to the staff who have organised and supported this competition for our students. We warmly invite all parents and friends to join us for this showcase of talent.

On Friday, we will have 19 students representing Holy Family at the Polding Athletics Carnival in Newcastle. We wish all our athletes the very best as they compete with pride and sportsmanship.

A reminder that our Week 8 Assembly will be held tomorrow at 2:45 pm. We look forward to seeing families there.

Denise Gersbach

Principal

CONTACT US

37A High Street, Parkes

(02) 6862 1610

admin.parkes@wf.catholic.edu.au



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

[Holy Family Parish School Parkes](#)

★ Star of the Week ★

Marli Jayet is our Star of the Week for always trying her very best! She listens carefully, shows kindness to others, and is always willing to help. Marli consistently demonstrates a positive attitude and sets a wonderful example for her classmates. Well done, Marli!

Interview with Marli



What is your favourite subject?



Art

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

Colour in

What is your favourite food?

Chocolate

What do you like most about our school?

The playground



Doing cartwheels

What would you like to be when you grow up?

A teacher

Term 3 Week 8: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - LOVE)

Choose understanding over judgment.

This fortnight's challenge is on - My town

1. Which Australian state is Parkes located in?	A) Victoria B) New South Wales C) Queensland D) South Australia
1. What is Parkes best known for internationally?	A) Its beaches B) Its gold mines C) Its radio telescope D) Its rainforest

1. What is the Parkes radio telescope commonly nicknamed?	A) The Dish B) The Bowl C) The Satellite D) The Eye
1. What year did the Apollo 11 Moon landing take place?	A) 1965 B) 1967 C) 1969 D) 1971
1. Which organisation operates the Parkes radio telescope?	A) CSIRO B) NASA C) ESA D) Bureau of Meteorology
1. What type of telescope is located at Parkes Observatory?	A) Optical telescope B) Radio telescope C) Solar telescope D) X-ray telescope
1. Which film was inspired by the Parkes radio telescope?	A) The Castle B) The Dish C) Red Dog D) Rabbit-Proof Fence
1. Which famous rock-and-roll singer is celebrated at the Parkes Elvis Festival?	A) Johnny Cash B) Elvis Presley C) Buddy Holly D) Roy Orbison
1. What is one important role of the Parkes radio telescope?	A) Predicting earthquakes B) Receiving and studying radio signals from space C) Measuring ocean tides D) Monitoring bushfires
1. Parkes is located in which part of New South Wales?	A) Far North Coast B) Central West C) South Coast D) Northern Rivers

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-THIRD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A

A big THANK YOU to Stage 3 staff and students for organising a lovely Father's Day Liturgy last Friday. The children participated with reverence, reading so well and singing beautifully. It was wonderful to have some fathers and grandfathers attend.

Diocesan Initiative-



Go M.A.D. – Go Make A Difference with Kindness, Compassion and Peace

Over the next three weeks, our school will be joining all Catholic schools across **Catholic Education Wilcannia–Forbes** in the **Go M.A.D. – Go Make A Difference with Kindness, Compassion and Peace Campaign**.

Inspired by Pope Francis' invitation to "**let our hearts grow bigger**," students will explore how simple acts of kindness and compassion can make a real difference in the lives of others. Through classroom activities, prayer, community outreach and family challenges, we hope to foster a culture where kindness becomes part of everyday life.

We warmly encourage families to join us through the **#GoMAD@Home Family Challenge**. Please keep an eye out for your **Go M.A.D. Family Pack**, which will be sent home this week. It contains everything you need to take part together as a family, including daily kindness challenges, a family reflection and prayer, and simple activities to help spread kindness at home and in our community.

Together, let's **Go M.A.D. with Kindness, Compassion and Peace** and discover how even the smallest act of kindness can make a big difference.

Upcoming Masses & Liturgies

Friday, 18th September- St Vincent de Paul Liturgy 10.15am followed by Mufti Mission Day Stalls

I hope everyone has a wonderful week.

Beverly Berger

HFGT 2026

GRAND FINAL PROGRAM
WEDNESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER

1:00 PM



Performers Entrance, MC Welcome & Introduction

1. *The Fruits*
2. *Try My Best*
3. *Girls Just Wanna Have Fun*
4. *Peyton*
5. *Iconic Isla*
6. *Sparkle Girls*



1. *MJI*
2. *A Little Bit Bad*
3. *Sk8er Girl*
4. *Eyekons*
5. *Headlights*
6. *Katseye Trio*
7. *Hit It*

Notes



Holy Family School Parkes



HELPERS NEEDED!

for the Holy Family School Stall



**Saturday
12th September**



10am – 2pm
Parkes Homegrown Markets

We are looking for volunteers to help on our stall.
Even an hour of your time makes a big difference! ♥

DONATIONS NEEDED ♥

We would love donations of:

- Baked goods (cakes, slices, biscuits, muffins etc)
- Homegrown produce (fruit, vegetables, herbs, plants etc)

♥ All contributions are greatly appreciated!

DROP OFF DETAILS

Donations can be dropped off at the stall on Saturday before 10am.

Thank you for your support! ♥

♥ Please contact the school office if you are able to help ♥
☎ 6862 1610



Good Food Bright Futures ♥

SUPPORT LOCAL SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL ♥

SMALL HANDS ♥ BIG IMPACT ♥ STRONGER TOGETHER

PARKES NAIDOC 50 YEARS DEADLY

FAMILY FUNDAY

Everyone Welcome!

A DAY FOR COMMUNITY TO COME TOGETHER AND CELEBRATE OUR CULTURE

SATURDAY 31ST OF OCTOBER

10AM TILL 1PM

BUSHMANS HILL WIRADJURI AMPHITHEATRE

What's On ON THE DAY

AWARDS PRESENTATION

LOCAL PERFORMANCES

ARTS & CRAFT

DANCE WORKSHOP

STALLS

FREE BBQ

FACE PAINTING

SUPPORTED BY:








SYMPHONY OF STORIES

BOOK WEEK 2026

WRITING & DRAWING COMPETITION



Prizes to be won!

FOR STUDENTS IN K - 6

Step into a Symphony of Stories!

Enter our Book Week writing and drawing competition.

HOW TO ENTER

Write a short story on the theme 'Symphony of Stories'. Limit of 3 pages.

OR

Draw a picture on the theme 'Symphony of Stories'

Submit your entries to
library@parkes.nsw.gov.au

Include Child's Name, Age, School, Class, Phone and Email

ENTRIES ACCEPTED UNTIL 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

Gather

Gather • Together • Reflect

We warmly invite all parents, carers, grandparents, and parishioners to join us on Tuesday, 8th of September 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!




EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO...

PLAY AND GROW

A HAPPY PLACE TO GATHER



Resumes next week
Friday 18th September.

“Catholic education is the intentional formation of the whole child in faith, knowledge, and character. It prepares our students to know and love Christ. We believe each student has been created with unique gifts, talents, and a God-given purpose.

Annemarie Marr, Principal, St. Francis Xavier Catholic School, Brunswick

Read more reflections from school leaders in the August 2026 issue at southerncross-sav.org



Crazy

(HAIR, MAKEUP, CLOTHES)

DISCO



THUR, 17 SEPTEMBER 2026
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

STARLIGHT ROOM
UPSTAIRS AT PARKES
SERVICES CLUB

\$3 ENTRY
SNACKS FOR SALE
CHILDREN ARE TO BE DROPPED OFF AND PICKED UP FROM UPSTAIRS
IN THE STARLIGHT ROOM.



50 YEARS DEADLY
PARKES NAIDOC
FAMILY FUN DAY 2026

STALL HOLDER
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

BE PART
OF OUR
BIGGEST
COMMUNITY
EVENT!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF THIS YEAR'S
PARKES NAIDOC FAMILY FUN DAY?

We are now inviting community groups, organisations, businesses, food vendors, market stalls and information services to submit an Expression of Interest to host a stall at our 2026 Parkes NAIDOC Family Fun Day.

THIS IS A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO:

- Showcase your organisation or business.
- Connect with the local community.
- Celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.
- Support one of Parkes' biggest community events.

EVENT DETAILS

SATURDAY,
31 OCTOBER 2026
PARKES NAIDOC
FAMILY FUN DAY

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HAVING A STALL,
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST:

parkesnaidoc@gmail.com | 0418 611 053

EOIs CLOSE: WEDNESDAY,
16 SEPTEMBER 2026

COME AND HELP US CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF NAIDOC WEEK
AND CREATE ANOTHER MEMORABLE DAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

PLEASE INCLUDE:

- Organisation/Business name
- Contact person
- Phone number and email
- Type of stall (food, market, information, activity, etc.)
- Any power or site requirements

CENTRAL WEST
LACHLAN
LANDSCAPE

This initiative is made possible by the NSW Landscape Enabling Program, a collaboration of local Land Services and Landcare NSW supported by the NSW Government.

SUPPORTED BY:





50 YEARS DEADLY

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2026 PARKES NAIDOC AWARDS

Do you know of someone who has been contributing positively to indigenous culture and inclusion in our community?

AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AT PARKES NAIDOC FAMILY FUN DAY ON SATURDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2026

NOMINATION CLOSE AT 9AM ON WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

YOUTH - PRIMARY & SECONDARY | ELDER | NON-INDIGENOUS | SPORTSPERSON | CREATIVE TALENT | CARING FOR COUNTRY & CULTURE | EDUCATION | INNOVATION | ANNETTE SLOANE

STEPS FOR NOMINATING:

- Scan the QR Code for the Nomination Jotform
- Download the Privacy Form, Category Overview and Selection Criteria and ask the person that you would like to nominate if they would accept the nomination. If they will, sign the Privacy Form and scan/photograph the Form ready to upload.
- Complete each section of the Jotform Application, Upload your Privacy Form and SUBMIT. We encourage school aged nominations to include an additional letter of support from a school staff member, preferably the Principal.



Copies of the Privacy Form are also available via school offices or the Parkes Library or to download from the Central West Lachlan Landcare website at www.centralwestlachlanlandcare.org

SUPPORTED BY:



Aboriginal Affairs



Parkes Shire Council



Evolution



NSW

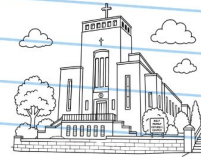


Landcare



This initiative is made possible by the 100% Landcare Endowment Program, collaboration of local Land Services and Landcare NSW supported by the NSW Government.

Contact parkesnaidoc@gmail.com or 0418 611 053 for further information.



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**

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 Interschool Hockey 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 Indigenous Literacy Day	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