



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 8 - 7th September 2026

EVENTS

THIS WEEK 9

Wednesday

**Times Table
Challenge Final -
11.30am**

Thursday

School Disco - 6pm

Friday

**St Vincent de Paul
Liturgy 10.15am**

**Mufti Mission Day
Stalls**

NEXT WEEK 10

Wednesday

**Last day of Term -
Students**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to all finalists in the final of Holy Family's Got Talent! What a wonderful show it was last Wednesday, with so much energy and talent on display. Congratulations to our award winners, who are listed in today's newsletter.

Last Friday, 19 students represented our Diocese at the Polding Athletics Carnival with outstanding results. Congratulations to Emrys Cassidy (silver 800m and 1500m), Nate Calabro (gold 800m and 1500m), Nazzarine Payne (gold 800m and 1500m), Dave Jeffress (gold long jump, silver discus and bronze shot put) and our senior boys relay team (Jack Burt, Nate Calabro, Hayden Jones and Arlo Cassidy – silver). These students will now represent Polding at the NSWPSA Carnival next term. We are very proud of your effort, sportsmanship and perseverance.

This week we will hold the final of the Times Tables Challenge. Good luck to all of our mathematicians who have qualified for the final—may you be calm, confident and accurate as you show what you know.

A reminder that our Term 3 Disco will be held at 6 pm on Thursday night at the Ex-Services Club. The theme is "Crazy". Sincere thanks to our P&F for coordinating this evening for our students.

On Friday we will hold a Mufti-Mission Day to raise money for the Dollar for Dusty cause as well as for our local St Vincent de Paul. The day will commence with a special liturgy in our hall at 10.15 am, followed by our Mission Day stalls. Parents are warmly invited to join us on the day.

Denise Gersbach

Principal



CONTACT US

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Holy Family Parish School Parkes

★ Star of the Week ★

Pulitha De Silva is the Star of the Week for always being a responsible and well-mannered student. He has settled into our school very well and has quickly become a valued member of our classroom community. Pulitha strives to do his best at all times and approaches his learning with a positive attitude. His respectful behaviour, thoughtful nature and willingness to help others make him a wonderful role model for his classmates. Well done, Pulitha, and congratulations on being our Star of the Week!

Interview with Pulitha



What is your favourite subject?



Mathematics

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

Watch TV

What is your favourite food?

Pizza

What do you like most about our school?

I have lots of friends

**WHAT ARE
YOUR STRENGTHS?**

Running

What would you like to be when you grow up?

A doctor

Term 3 Week 9: 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-FOURTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A

On Friday, 18th September, 10:15am, there will be a **Saint Vincent de Paul Liturgy** followed by **Mufti Mission Stalls**. All proceeds will go to the **St Vincent De Paul Society** and **A Dollar for Dusty**.

During the Liturgy **5 students from Stage 3 will be commissioned as the Mini Vinnies Leadership Committee**. They are students who have displayed the Vinnies quality of See, Think & Do. They **see a need, think about how they can help and do their best to assist**.

The Mini Vinnies student (all students in Years 5 and 6) will receive a Mini Vinnies certificate for their participation in Mini Vinnies.

Diocesan Initiative-



Topics covered in Class-

Week 8- The Beauty of Kindness

Week 9- Compassion in Action

Week 10- Kindness Everyday



Living the Works of Mercy helps students see that faith is not only something we believe, but something we do. Through simple, everyday acts of kindness, we continue Jesus' mission of love, bringing hope, peace and dignity to others.

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

HOLY FAMILY'S *Got Talent* AWARD WINNERS

Infants

Winner: Sparkle Girls – Iris Burt & Tully Cassidy

Runner-up: Ivy Pettit

Primary

Winner: Joey Hazelton

Runner-Up: Aava Dhakal



Encouragement Award

Aarnav Gautam / MJJ – Mary Drooger, Jordan Flaxman, Indigo Gillingham

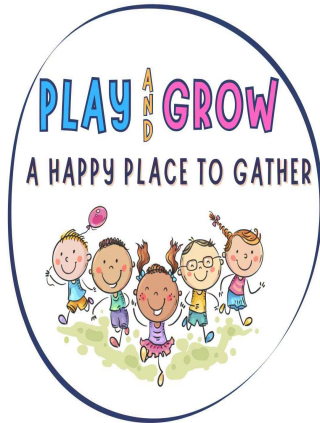
People's Choice Award

Jackson II's – Arlo Cassidy, Nate Calabro, Hayden Jones, Rhys Hetherington, Piper Newham, Florence Crawley-Watson, Olivia Culhane, Tatum Staines, (Jonti Lee, Harvey Gray, Layla Al-Maliky)



Notes

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!



BOOK WEEK 2026

WRITING &
DRAWING
COMPETITION

SYMPHONY OF
STORIES

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!





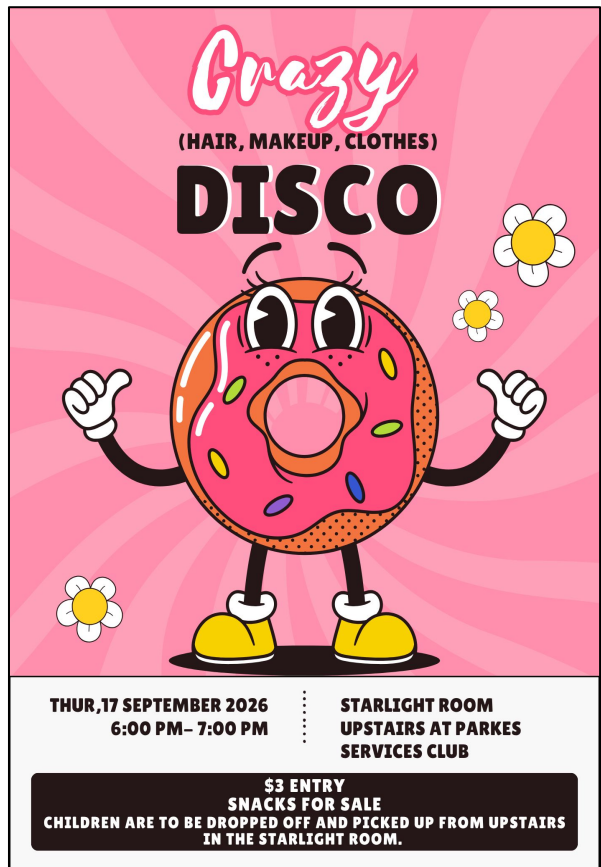
PAINT THE TOWN WITH MUSIC

Friday 16th October 2026
Cooke Park
9:30 am to 12 pm

Neighbourhood CENTRAL

Paint Parkes READ
Birthplace of Paint the Town Read

For more information contact Shonel 6862 1872



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.



Entries Now Open

2026 November TRIATHLON & AQUATHLON CHAMPIONSHIP

NSW ALL SCHOOLS

Entries close 21 Oct 2026

The 2027 NSW All Schools Triathlon and Aquathlon teams will be selected from this event. Year 6 students are invited to enter the individual events to gain selection in the 2027 NSW All Schools team.

Wed 4 Nov 2026 - Individual triathlon and aquathlon events for secondary & Year 6 students
Thur 5 Nov 2026 - Team triathlon events for secondary students

Entries are now open for the 2026 November NSW All Schools Triathlon & Aquathlon Championship. For further information, including how to register for the event, please visit the event website: 2026 November NSW All Schools Triathlon & Aquathlon Championship



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

PLEASE INCLUDE:

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

EOIs CLOSE: WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

SUPPORTED BY:

Aboriginal Affairs, Parkes Shire Council, Evolution, NSW, Central West Lachlan Landcare



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.

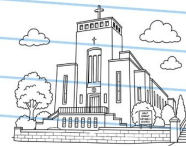


Copies of the Privacy Form are also available via school offices or the Parkes Library or to download from the Central West Lachlan Landcare website at www.centralwestlachlanlandcare.org

SUPPORTED BY:



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

HELMET SAFETY

Helmet STAR - Safety Testing and Assessment Ratings

In NSW, bicycle riders must wear an approved helmet that is correctly fitted and fastened. [Helmet STAR](#) can help you choose the safest helmet.

All bicycle helmets sold in Australia must comply with an approved [Australian or overseas standard](#) for bicycle helmets. Helmet STAR awards a star rating from 1 to 5 based on how well they protect a rider's head in a crash.

Helmets rated 5 stars are exceptional in crash protection and exceed the recognised helmet standard. Helmets rated 1 star meet the crash protection required of a recognised standard.

Why are helmets important?

Helmets are designed to cushion and protect your head from the impact of a crash. Wearing a helmet reduces the chance of suffering a preventable brain injury. Research shows bicycle helmets can reduce head injuries by about 70% and reduce fatal head injuries by 65%.

Road safety



Wearing helmets and riding safely

Wearing helmets

Your child must wear a helmet when riding a bike in any public place – it's the law. The helmet must comply with the Australian and New Zealand standards and needs to be securely fitted and fastened on your child's head. It should be buckled firmly so it fits without wobbling or slipping to the sides.

Always remember to check that your child is wearing a helmet whenever they're playing or riding on wheels –

- Bikes
- Foot scooters
- Rollerskates
- Skateboards
- Rollerblades.

Riding safely

Although children quickly learn to pedal, steer and brake, they aren't ready to cycle near traffic or on the road. Until they are at least 10 years old, your child should ride off-road away from vehicles and driveways.

The safest places to ride bikes, scooters and skateboards are within fenced areas. This helps your child from riding or falling onto the footpath or the road. Children under 16 and their

accompanying supervising adult riders may ride on the footpath, unless there are signs specifically prohibiting cycling. Riders need to take special care at driveways where vehicles may be driving in or out.

At intersections, riders must dismount and wheel the bicycle across the road as a pedestrian, following the **STOP! LOOK! LISTEN! THINK!** procedure.

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

Messages to share with your children in Kindergarten to Year 4

- Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate
- Ride your bike away from the roads

Messages to share with your children in Years 5 and 6

- Always wear a helmet when you ride or skate
- Ride your bike away from busy roads

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