



# HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 1 - 12th October 2026

## EVENTS

### THIS WEEK 1

#### Tuesday

**Eco Schools Day  
(Year 5)  
8.45am Departure**

#### Wednesday

**Great Aussie Bush  
Camp - Year 5/6**

#### Thursday

**Great Aussie Bush  
Camp - Year 5/6**

#### Friday

**Kindergarten -  
Reading Day (Paint  
the Town ReAd)**

**Great Aussie Bush  
Camp - Year 5/6**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 4! I hope all families enjoyed a lovely Spring holiday break. It was wonderful to see our students return today looking very smart in their summer uniforms, and so positive as they settled back into classroom learning.

We have a very busy Week 1 ahead with many activities and learning opportunities. Tomorrow, our Year 5 students will attend Eco Schools Day at the Parkes Racecourse, joining Year 5 students from other schools across Parkes, Forbes and Eugowra. On Wednesday, our Year 5/6 students head off to the Great Aussie Bush Camp for a three-day excursion across Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The excitement is high, and we look forward to this wonderful opportunity for challenge, growth and teamwork. On Friday, our infants students will participate in the Parkes Reading Day in Cooke Park.

This week we also warmly welcome Mrs Sarah Neilson, who is commencing at Holy Family School on Wednesdays and Thursdays as an Allied Health Assistant, employed by Royal Far West. Mrs Neilson will be supporting our students who access telecare programs through Royal Far West, and we are grateful to have her join our community.

As we begin this final term of the school year, I look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure it is a productive and rewarding time for every child at Holy Family School.

*Denise Gersbach*

Principal

#### CONTACT US

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**FIND US ON FACEBOOK**

Holy Family Parish School Parkes

## Term 4 Week 1: Manner of the Week (From our Core Value - LOVE)

### ***Include Others and Speak with Kindness***

#### **This fortnight's challenge is on My State - NSW**

|                                                           |                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. What is the capital city of New South Wales?           | A) Melbourne<br>B) Sydney<br>C) Brisbane<br>D) Canberra                                                 |
| 2. Which famous opera house is located in Sydney?         | A) Sydney Opera House<br>B) Royal Opera House<br>C) Harbour Opera Centre<br>D) Australian Theatre House |
| 3. What is the longest river in NSW?                      | A) Hawkesbury River<br>B) Clarence River<br>C) Murray River<br>D) Parramatta River                      |
| 4. Which mountain range runs through much of eastern NSW? | A) Great Dividing Range<br>B) Blue Mountains Range<br>C) Australian Alps<br>D) MacDonnell Ranges        |
| 5. What is the highest mountain in NSW?                   | A) Mount Warning<br>B) Mount Kosciuszko<br>C) Mount Victoria<br>D) Mount Blue                           |
| 6. Which ocean borders NSW to the east?                   | A) Indian Ocean<br>B) Southern Ocean<br>C) Pacific Ocean<br>D) Atlantic Ocean                           |
| 7. What is the official state flower of NSW?              | A) Golden Wattle<br>B) Waratah<br>C) Flannel Flower<br>D) Banksia                                       |
| 8. Which famous beach is located in Sydney?               | A) Surfers Paradise<br>B) Bondi Beach<br>C) Bells Beach<br>D) Cable Beach                               |
| 9. Which famous bridge crosses Sydney Harbour?            | A) West Gate Bridge<br>B) Story Bridge<br>C) Sydney Harbour Bridge<br>D) Anzac Bridge                   |
| 10. Which river flows through Sydney?                     | A) Murray River<br>B) Parramatta River<br>C) Darling River<br>D) Murrumbidgee River                     |

# Religious Education

TWENTY-EIGHTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME / YEAR A

Term 4 brings some very special liturgical celebrations for our students. We begin with the Year 2 Catholic students making their **Sacrament of Penance (First Reconciliation)** on the 19th of November. It will be their second sacrament after Baptism. They will be prepared by their teachers during their RE lessons in class.

The Kindergarten students will also be preparing for their first liturgy which will be on the 2nd of December. The **Kindergarten Advent Liturgy** is always a memorable day for both the students and their parents.

As the **Year 6** students come to the end of their primary school education, they will celebrate their achievements and receive special blessings at their **Graduation Mass** on the 3rd of December and participate in a reflective **Year 6 Retreat** on the 11th of December.

♥ *Further information/details regarding the Sacrament of Penance (First Reconciliation) will be sent home shortly.*

## Upcoming Masses & Liturgies

***Sacrament of Penance (First Reconciliation)- Thursday, 19th November, 6pm Holy Family Church***

***Family Mass-Sunday, 15th November, 9:30am, Holy Family Church***

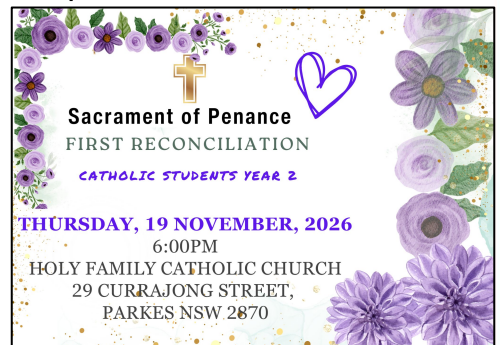
## Feast Days-

1 November ALL SAINTS

2 November THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS)

*I hope everyone has a wonderful week.*

Beverly Berger



# Notes



## Book Fair

The Book Fair will be held in the Hall next week on **Tuesday and Wednesday 20th and 21st October.** Morning 8.30 am - 9.00 am  
**Afternoons - 3.15pm - 4.15 pm.** Cash and EFTPOS facilities are available.

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!



**Get ready to run wild with Monty! It's here - Monty the Monstar Fun Run!**

**Jump in now! Set up your child's My Profile Page – it's quick, easy and super fun.**

**We also have some amazing bonuses up for grabs:**

- Every student gets rainbow sunglasses and a headband!
- The class with the most profiles at the end of week one will win an ice block party!
- Receive donations on four different days and go into the draw to Slime a teacher!
- Raise \$20 and go into the draw to win a tuckshop voucher!

**Together, we can achieve amazing results for our school!**

# PARKES JUNIOR TOUCH 2026 COMPETITION



COMMENCING  
WEDNESDAYS,  
FROM 14 OCTOBER



FROM  
5PM



VENUE:  
CHENEY  
PARK

## AGE GROUPS

MINI TOUCH - KINDY, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2.....\$90.00

YEAR 3 & 4 - BOYS / GIRLS.....\$105.00

YEAR 5 & 6 - BOYS / GIRLS.....\$105.00

PLEASE READ 

PARKES TOUCH  
ASSOCIATION  
FACEBOOK PAGE

FOR MORE DETAILS,  
ANSWERS TO  
FAQ AND LINKS

REGOS CLOSE  
30TH SEPTEMBER

REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

[parkes.nswtouch.com.au/get-involved/](http://parkes.nswtouch.com.au/get-involved/)



# Gather

Gather · Together · Reflect

We warmly invite all parents, carers, grandparents, and parishioners to join us on Tuesday, 13 October 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!



# PARKES NAIDOC FAMILY FUNDAY

50  
YEARS  
DEADLY

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:



Aboriginal  
Affairs



Parkes  
Shire Council



Evolution  
Northparkes



NSW



Landcare

CENTRAL WEST  
LACHLAN  
LANDCARE

This initiative is made possible by the NSW Landcare Trusting Program, a collaboration of local and national landcare organisations, and supported by the NSW Government.

# PAINT THE TOWN WITH MUSIC

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



Neighbourhood CENTRAL

Paint Parkes Read  
Birdplace of Parkes the Town Read

For more information contact Shonel 6862 1872

## MEDICATION IN SCHOOLS

### **Antibiotics**

In the case of antibiotics, generally a written request from a parent to the school in relation to the administration of antibiotics will be sufficient. Staff should be aware that some antibiotics require refrigeration.

### **Over the Counter Medication**

Over the counter medication including panadol must not be administered by school staff unless a written request is received from the student's parent, with the medication in the original labelled container. The exception is reliever puffers for the emergency treatment of asthma.

### **Parents are responsible for:**

- Obtaining the relevant medication forms from the school and arranging for their completion and return
- Providing the medication in the original labelled container to the nominated staff member
- Ensuring the medication is not out of date and has an original pharmacy label with the student's name, dosage and time to be taken
- Providing a request by parents and written instructions from a medical practitioner for prescription medication, indicating:
  - Name of student
  - Condition for which the medication is required
  - Guidelines for administration



BOOK WEEK 2026

**WRITING & DRAWING COMPETITION**

FOR STUDENTS IN K - 6

**SYMPHONY OF STORIES**

Prizes to be won!

**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](mailto:library@parkes.nsw.gov.au)

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

ENTRIES ACCEPTED UNTIL 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

## 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 4 - Parent Calendar

|         | Week | Monday                                                                                  | Tuesday                                                          | Wednesday                                                                                                                           | Thursday                                                                                                                                                     | Friday                                                                                                                                                                             | Sat/Sun                                                    |
|---------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct     | 1    | 12<br><b>First Day - Term 4<br/>(Staff and Students)</b>                                | 13<br><b>Eco Schools Day -<br/>Year 5</b>                        | 14<br><b>Year 5/6 Excursion -<br/>Great Aussie Bush<br/>Camp</b>                                                                    | 15<br><b>Year 5/6 Excursion -<br/>Great Aussie Bush<br/>Camp</b>                                                                                             | 16<br><b>Year 5/6 Excursion -<br/>Great Aussie Bush<br/>Camp</b><br><br>Kindergarten -<br>Reading Day (Paint the<br>Town ReAd) 9.30am                                              | 17 / 18                                                    |
| Oct     | 2    | 19                                                                                      | 20<br><b>Book Fair</b>                                           | 21<br><b>Book Fair</b>                                                                                                              | 22                                                                                                                                                           | 23<br><b>Assembly - 2.45pm</b>                                                                                                                                                     | 24 / 25                                                    |
| Oct/Nov | 3    | 26                                                                                      | 27                                                               | 28<br><b>Athletics - SOPA</b>                                                                                                       | 29                                                                                                                                                           | 30<br><b>Socktober Day</b>                                                                                                                                                         | 31 / 1<br><b>All Saints<br/>(01)</b>                       |
| Nov     | 4    | 2<br><b>All Souls</b>                                                                   | 3<br><b>WF Diocesan Cricket -<br/>Boys (Parkes) TBC</b>          | 4<br><b>Central Cluster Times<br/>Tables Challenge Final<br/>- Parkes</b><br><br><b>P&amp;F Meeting - 8pm</b>                       | 5<br><b>Assembly - 2.45pm</b>                                                                                                                                | 6                                                                                                                                                                                  | 7 / 8                                                      |
| Nov     | 5    | 9                                                                                       | 10<br><b>AECG Meeting- Junior<br/>and Senior (venue<br/>TBC)</b> | 11                                                                                                                                  | 12<br><b>Mini Vinnies Central<br/>West Gathering -<br/>School Hall</b>                                                                                       | 13<br><b>Colour Run<br/>2.00pm-3.15pm</b>                                                                                                                                          | 14 / 15<br><b>Sun 15/11<br/>Family<br/>Mass<br/>9.30am</b> |
| Nov     | 6    | 16                                                                                      | 17                                                               | 18<br><b>School Committee<br/>Meeting - 7.30pm</b><br><br><b>Assembly - 2.45pm</b>                                                  | 19<br><b>First Reconciliation -<br/>Year 2 - 6.00pm<br/>HF Church</b><br><br><b>WF Diocesan Cricket -<br/>Girls (Dubbo) TBC</b>                              | 20<br><b>WF Diocesan Tennis &amp;<br/>Basketball (Dubbo)<br/>TBC</b><br><b>Primary Swimming for<br/>Sport</b>                                                                      | 21 / 22                                                    |
| Nov     | 7    | 23<br><b>Year 5 captain<br/>speeches - 9.15am</b>                                       | 24<br><b>Central Cluster<br/>Spelling Bee -<br/>Narromine</b>    | 25<br><b>CPS Aquathon<br/>(Maroubra)</b>                                                                                            | 26<br><b>School Disco - 6.00pm</b>                                                                                                                           | 27<br><b>Primary Swimming for<br/>Sport</b>                                                                                                                                        | 28 / 29<br><b>First<br/>Sunday of<br/>Advent<br/>(29)</b>  |
| Nov/Dec | 8    | 30<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b>                                              | 1<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b>                        | 2<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b><br><br><b>Kindergarten Liturgy<br/>Chapel 12:15pm</b><br><br><b>P&amp;F Meeting - 8pm</b> | 3<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b><br><br><b>Polding Cricket Trials<br/>(Dubbo)</b><br><br><b>Year 6 Graduation<br/>Mass - 6.00pm (HF<br/>Church)</b> | 4<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b><br><br><b>Assembly - 2.45pm</b><br><br><b>Primary Swimming for<br/>Sport</b><br><br><b>Deadly Science - Year 3<br/>and Year 4 (Hall)</b> | 5 / 6                                                      |
| Dec     | 9    | 7<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b><br><br><b>Presentation Night -<br/>6.00pm</b> | 8<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b>                        | 9<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b><br><br><b>Last Day -<br/>Kindergarten<br/>Transition</b>                                  | 10<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b>                                                                                                                   | 11<br><b>Year 2 Intensive<br/>Swimming</b><br><br><b>Primary Swimming for<br/>Sport</b><br><br><b>Year 6 Retreat -<br/>9.00am - 1.00pm</b><br><br><b>Assembly - 2.45pm</b>         | 12 / 13                                                    |
| Dec     | 10   | 14<br><b>Year 6 Assembly -<br/>2.00pm</b>                                               | 15                                                               | 16                                                                                                                                  | 17<br><b>Last Day for Students</b>                                                                                                                           | 18<br><b>CEWF SDD Day 8<br/>Can be traded</b>                                                                                                                                      | 19 / 20                                                    |