



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION**  
**DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG**

Serving Catholic systemic school communities in the  
Illawarra, Macarthur, Shoalhaven & Southern Highlands



**CatholicCARE**

**DIOCESE OF  
WOLLONGONG**

*hope begins with us*

26 March 2018

Dear Principal

**NATIONAL FAMILIES WEEK - 15-21 MAY 2018 – MAKING MOMENTS MATTER**

Catholic Education and CatholicCare in the Diocese of Wollongong, are proud to again partner to promote ***National Families Week*** in our Catholic schools.

National Families Week encourages students, parents and school staff to reflect on their own families; the role that families play in enriching and supporting us in our personal growth and goals; and what it means to be part of a caring, nurturing community.

This year's theme is *Making Moments Matter*, recognising that even within the busy schedules of parents and children, it is absolutely vital to consciously take time and make the most of family life and celebrate the meaning and importance of family.

Together, it is our hope that school communities will engage with, and utilise, the resource toolkit to demonstrate their shared commitment to the mission of building stronger families and resilient communities.

The material complements the various age groups and curriculum. Activities for primary aged students focus on reflecting on time spent with family and aims to stimulate ideas to encourage more activity with the family. For older students, National Families Week aims to educate them on the differences in the types of families and how they can contribute and participate positively in the wider community.

As Directors of the two agencies of the local Diocesan Church concerned with Catholic education and Catholic social welfare, we recommend the use of the National Families Week Toolkit to principals and teachers, and suggest that parents/carers be informed about the Parent Hub. It could be as simple as using one of the provided prayers in the classroom, or using one of the suggested activities. The toolkit is available at

<http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/ccare/index.php/events>

**DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS**

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*Lighting the Way*  
through faith and learning

If you have any queries about National Families Week or require further information, please contact Trish Cooney, Manager - Mission and Community Relations at CatholicCare on (02) 4254 9318 or email [trishc@catholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:trishc@catholiccare.dow.org.au) .

To assist us evaluate the effectiveness of these resources for schools, we kindly ask that you complete a short survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/familiesweek18>. All schools who provide feedback in the survey will go into a draw to win a \$250 voucher for educational resources and supplies.

Thank you in advance for your support of National Families Week 2018.

Yours sincerely



Peter Turner  
Director of Schools  
Diocese of Wollongong



Michael Austin  
Director of CatholicCare  
Diocese of Wollongong