

Schools honour Reconciliation Week

Tongala's two primary schools — Tongala Primary School and St Patrick's Primary School — have both embraced the spirit and message of Reconciliation Week, participating in activities that promote truth-telling, unity, and respect.

At **Tongala Primary School**, Young Leaders took part in the Campaspe Shire Reconciliation Walk in Echuca on May 27, joining in a smoking ceremony and flag raising. Back at school, students created a mural featuring their handprints in traditional Aboriginal colours as a symbol of unity. A special smoking



ceremony was also held in the school's Indigenous Sensory Garden, led by Aunty Neva from Echuca. Aunty Neva shared the meaning behind Welcome to Country and smoking ceremonies with students, staff, and families, making it a meaningful morning for all involved.

St Patrick's Primary School also participated in the Reconciliation Walk, with FIRE Carrier students joining others under this year's theme "Bridging Now to Next." Students marked National Sorry Day with classroom learning about the Stolen Generations and the ongoing impacts of past injustices on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. A reflective classroom

activity used symbolic reconstruction to show that even when things are repaired, they are never quite the same — a powerful message about truth, healing, and reconciliation.

As part of their ongoing commitment, St Pat's will soon induct new Grade 5 FIRE Carriers, who will join current Grade 6 leaders in championing cultural understanding and reconciliation. Michael Chisholm, Aboriginal Education Lead from Catholic Education Sandhurst, will lead the induction and provide an education session to deepen their knowledge. Together, both schools continue to walk the path of reconciliation with care, courage, and compassion.



Information Session: A community led initiative
Find out how you can get paid
for supporting your local community or
get help to stay living at home

Join Mable and the Tongala Community Centre to hear about locally-led care with social, economic and health benefits for the whole community.

Tongala Community Activities Centre
Thursday 19th June, 4:00pm - 5:30pm



Provide help with cleaning, lawn mowing, meal preparation, transport, care or companionship.



Choose when you work, what you offer and your pay rate.



Get help with invoicing, payments, admin and insurance.



Support your locals, choose your own clients and services you want to provide.

For more information or to RSVP contact
 Leanne on 0437 469 585 or Linda at Mable on 0482 173 151

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