



TYALLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Media Release: A Smile in Any Language

A smile is a smile in any language was the theme adopted by Tyalla Primary School in celebrating International Harmony Day this week.

Joint Harmony Day Coordinator at Tyalla Primary School, Mrs Kym Sanders says "students really demonstrated their understanding and appreciation of the differences in our international community - which is a key part of International Harmony Day celebrations."

The school chose to celebrate the day on a different day to 21 March, as this fell on Good Friday and students dressed in mufti orange - the anti-racism colour. The money raised by mufti donations will be donated to the Red Cross School Breakfasts program.

Kym Sanders says "the school is lucky to have students from very diverse backgrounds to share their own international experiences with their classmates and this helps students to gain awareness of different cultural practices."

Students were keen to sample the orange food provided by the school canteen, especially orange-flavoured jelly.

"One of the highlights for one Tyalla class this Harmony Day was a new student arriving from another country this week and seeing the classmates experimenting with different ways of communicating with the newcomer and their friendly fascination with a novel lunchbox," Mrs Sanders said passionately.

Celebrations on the day included a special school assembly, with entertainment from the Orara High School drumming band and a Tyalla kindergarten performance of local Gumbaingirr song; 'Galee Burrum.' Ms Sanders paid tribute to the team effort of staff and students behind the success of today's celebrations; especially Kerry Neill, Amanda Chelman and Fiona Spooner.