On May 26, our School staff and students attended a Liturgy in St Patrick's Church to commemorate National Sorry Day. This Australia wide event, held on this day each year, gave the school community an opportunity to join voices together as part of the WA Catholic Education community, to speak out against injustice and speak up for Reconciliation. It was a time to remember the Stolen Generation and the sadness and damage events from the past have had on Aboriginal peoples. Sorry Day gives people the chance to come together and express sorrow.

Earlier in the week, each student made a ‘hand’ as an acknowledgement to Reconciliation Week. Students planted their hands around the flag pole to form a ‘Sea of Hands’ as they walked into Church.

In the Church, Aliyah, Farley, Tristan, Wes, Tristan, Emilie and Christelle, welcomed all with an Acknowledgment to Country.

The Liturgy began with the placement of symbols on the Prayer Table in front of the Altar by Christelle, Aden, Grace and Isabelle. A rock; as a symbol of strength, but also of hardness in people’s hearts. A Native Hibiscus flower; the national emblem of the Stolen Generation.
A reading of the Gospel from Matthew 5:1-12 was read to the school community by the students.

Ebony and Wes then read a pledge to help be the change in our world, and to work towards Reconciliation.

The school community then walked quietly from the Church to the song ‘My Shepherd’. All gathered in front of the school’s flag pole to watch the Australian and Aboriginal flags being raised together by Student Leaders.

Later that day students attended the first Community National Sorry Day observance in the Katanning Town Square, where they had been invited to sing ‘We are Australian’ in Noongar language.

They certainly did our school proud!